



PRESENTS

AN AGI ORSI PRODUCTION in association with KRASNOFF/FOSTER ENTERTAINMENT

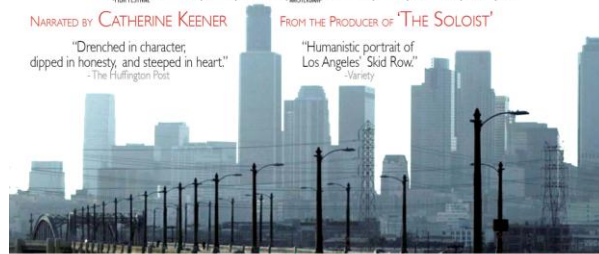


NARRATED BY CATHERINE KEENER

FROM THE PRODUCER OF 'THE SOLOIST'

"Drenched in character, dipped in honesty, and steeped in heart."
-The Huffington Post

"Humanistic portrait of Los Angeles' Skid Row."
-Variety



LOST ANGELS

SKID ROW IS MY HOME



COMING TO THEATRES

A CINEMA LIBRE STUDIO FILM BY AGI ORSI PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH KRASNOFF/FOSTER ENTERTAINMENT "LOST ANGELS"
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY WALTER WERZOWA EDITED BY TYLER HUBBY EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SEAMUS MCGARVEY & FORTUNATO PROCCIO & CHRISTOPHER GOZCH CO-PRODUCERS CECY BANGEL AND TYLER HUBBY CHRISTINE TRAND
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GARY FOSTER, JOE WRIGHT, SUSAN KLUS PRODUCED BY AGI ORSI WRITTEN BY CHRISTINE TRAND DIRECTED BY THOMAS NAPPER

WWW.LOSTANGELSFILM.COM

LOST ANGELS: SKID ROW IS MY HOME

A Film by Thomas Q. Napper
Narrated by Catherine Keener

Documentary | Unrated | 75 minutes

DCP | 5.1 Sound

****Shot on the RED****

PRESS NOTES THEATRICAL VERSION

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SYNOPSIS:

LOST ANGELS: SKID ROW IS MY HOME takes an uncompromising yet life-affirming look at the lives of eight remarkable individuals, people who have found a way to make a life for themselves within the community of homelessness. The film shows how their descent into society's basement has been exacerbated by the forces of gentrification and the increasing criminalization of homeless people, while exposing the draconian changes to the mental health care system that have brought us here.

With the support of a vast array of advocates, especially the services of LAMP, the mission featured in the Jamie Foxx/Robert Downey Jr. film, **THE SOLOIST**, many residents of Skid Row have found a way to stick together and fight back. Narrated by actress Catherine Keener, **LOST ANGELS** demonstrates how proactive approaches to homelessness—most specifically that of providing housing—are helping many to recover from mental illness and substance abuse and to find stability. For many, Skid Row is, improbably, the last place to find refuge and build a life of meaning...proving that sometimes home is where the help is.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES:



WINNER OF THE 2011 VOICE AWARD FROM SAMHSA
(Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

GHETTO AWARD – Radar Hamburg International Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – Los Angeles Film Festival (Premiere)
OFFICIAL SELECTION – IDFA International Documentary Festival Amsterdam
OFFICIAL SELECTION – Big Sky Documentary Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – Oaxaca Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – Human Rights Watch Film Festival (London)
OFFICIAL SELECTION – La Femme Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION – One World Human Rights Film Festival Prague
OFFICIAL SELECTION – Leeds International Film Festival

PRODUCED WITH SUPPORT FROM:

The film was financed by DreamWorks Pictures, Universal Pictures and Participant Media on the heels of **THE SOLOIST**, which was released in 2009 by Paramount Pictures and Universal Pictures.

Additional material support was provided by the CSH (Community Supportive Housing), Hilton Foundation, Frees Foundation and Funders Together.

AND THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT:



Funders Together
HOMELESSNESS ENDS HERE

KEY CREDITS:

A CINEMA LIBRE STUDIO RELEASE OF AN AGI ORSI PRODUCTION PRESENTATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH
KRASNOFF/FOSTER ENTERTAINMENT "LOST ANGELS"

ORIGINAL MUSIC BY WALTER WERZOWA EDITED BY TYLER HUBBY CINEMATOGRAPHY SEAMUS
McGARVEY & FORTUNATO PROCOPIO & CHRISTOPHER GOSCH

CO-PRODUCERS CECY RANGEL and TYLER HUBBY, CHRISTINE TRIANO

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GARY FOSTER, JOE WRIGHT, SUSAN KLOS Produced by AGI ORSI

WRITTEN BY CHRISTINE TRIANO DIRECTED BY THOMAS NAPPER

LONG SYNOPSIS:

2010. Los Angeles. As many as 10,000 mentally ill people live on the streets or in low-income housing all within one-square mile of Downtown, in an area known as Skid Row. Like the hundreds of thousands of other such individuals in every city in America, they live all around us, many without hope and without support. These are the human beings we routinely choose not to see on our streets, outside the store and sleeping on benches.

Director Thomas Napper's **LOST ANGELS: SKID ROW IS MY HOME** takes the viewer on an uncompromising and life-affirming chronicle of the journeys of eight such remarkable individuals - people who have somehow found a way to make a life for themselves in this unique community....**Lee Anne**, once a Southern Mom, now compelled every night to feed the stray cats of Skid Row....**K.K.**, a charismatic ex-boxer, Lee Anne's protector and fiercely eloquent area historian...**Bam Bam**, the transgender self-styled "freak", whose flamboyant style and sheer physical presence masks a deep and articulate understanding of mental illness...**Detroit**, the mother of three who walked from her family, before finally finding a life without a roof over her head, still trying to heal herself ...**O.G.**, dedicated street sweeper, committed chronicler and unofficial "lord mayor" of the neighborhood...**Linda Harris**, socially outcast due to a rare congenital skin condition, yet possessed of an inner grace that shines in the place she calls home...**General Dogon**, the radical ex-convict, who has forged an army of community co-workers to protect civil rights on Skid Row...and **Danny Harris**, a former Olympic athlete, who hit rock bottom in the missions yet bravely got back up, on the Row.

LOST ANGELS also shows a neighborhood besieged by gentrification and a police force under orders to criminalize homelessness, whilst exposing the draconian changes to the mental health care system that led us here. With the support of a vast array of advocates and organizers devoted to protecting the rights of society's castaways, the residents of Skid Row have found a way to stick together and fight back. Narrated by actress Catherine Keener, **LOST ANGELS** gives a platform for the proactive approaches that *are* working to help many recover from mental illness and substance abuse. For many, Skid Row is, perhaps improbably, the last place to find refuge and build a life of true meaning....proving that sometimes, home *is* where the help is.

ABOUT THE FILM:



COMPANY TOWN

THE BUSINESS BEHIND THE SHOW

[« Previous](#) | [Company Town Home](#) | [Next »](#)

On Location: Skid row finds new home in 'Lost Angels' documentary [updated]

October 11, 2011 | 5:18 pm



Photo: Agi Orsi, left, producer of the documentary "Lost Angels," and Karen Gilbert, associate producer and location manager, greet Terri "Detroit" Hughes and Linda Harris, subjects of the documentary about people living on Los Angeles' skid row. Credit: Genaro Molina / Los Angeles Times

Downtown Los Angeles has been a favored filming location since the days of the silent movies. But rarely do filmmakers get a chance to shine a spotlight on people who actually live on its streets, especially in a 50-block area known as skid row.

All that changed when Karen Gilbert and other crew members collaborated on "Lost Angels: Skid Row Is My Home," a 75-minute documentary featuring wrenching stories of the men and women who live downtown and are struggling to turn around lives ravaged by mental illness and drug abuse.

The film, which has yet to be released in theaters, has been screening at festivals and conferences around the country and recently won a prestigious national award for promoting awareness of mental health issues.

It shows a less glamorous side of L.A. that is rarely seen on the big screen and is one of the first films to depict life from the point of view of people who live in a place often called the homeless capital of America.

The documentary is also unusual in that many of the crew worked with little or no pay for a passion project that grew out of the 2009 movie "The Soloist," starring Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey Jr. That film was based on stories by Los Angeles Times columnist Steve Lopez about Nathaniel Ayers, a homeless musician who was trained at Juilliard.

Whereas "The Soloist" focuses on Ayers, "Lost Angels" highlights the life stories of several other former and current skid row residents, most of whom appeared as extras in the DreamWorks/Paramount Pictures' feature film. They include a former Olympic runner, an eccentric cat lover who collects trash, and a transgender punk rocker from New York named Bam Bam.

"Everybody should see this film because it's about our back lot," said Gilbert, who worked as a location manager and associate producer on "Lost Angels." "This is where we film and these people live there and they could be anybody we know."

The catalyst for the project was its director, Thomas Napper, who served as a second-unit director on "The Soloist." The idea occurred to him when the extras met with the cast during an acting session and took turns sharing their stories.

"We just sat in a circle and went round the room and in that moment I realized there was more work to be done and that there was a film just in this group of people," Napper recalled.

A tall, baldheaded Englishman, Napper stood out on skid row, but struck up a rapport with a number of its residents, who would later be featured in the documentary. Among them was Danny Harris, a former track and field star whose successful career was derailed by drugs. He turned his life around and now works at the Midnight Mission.

Napper also befriended Kevin Cohen, known as K.K., a soft-spoken 6-foot-7 ambassador for skid row who served as an advisor.

The director initially tried filming discreetly on skid row with a small hand-held camera until a stranger threatened to shoot him if he didn't stop. Napper ended up using a much larger, more conspicuous camera and enlisted the help of Cohen and others to provide security. The end of production was marked by tragedy when Cohen was shot to death on Easter Sunday in 2009.

"It was the most amazing journey and when K.K. got murdered it was a terrible end to the process," Napper said. "It broke my heart."

The film was shot over 24 weeks in late 2008 and early 2009 on locations that included San Julian Street, Broadway (during the Downtown Art Walk), the Church of the Nazarene, the Midnight Mission and at buildings owned by Lamp Community, a nonprofit organization that helps the homeless.

“Lost Angels,” initially conceived as a bonus feature that would accompany the DVD release of “The Soloist,” was produced on a shoestring budget of about \$300,000. The bulk of the financing came from DreamWorks, Paramount, Participant Media and Universal Pictures, but contributions from groups like the Hilton Foundation helped complete the project.

Others who worked on the documentary with little or no pay included actress Catherine Keener, who narrated the film, composer Walter Werzowa, who deferred payment for his musical score, and Susan Klos, who served as an executive producer and supplied her production offices and editing facilities.

Napper also tapped documentary veteran Agi Orsi, producer of the acclaimed 2001 film “Dogtown and Z-Boys.” Orsi acknowledges that it has been tough to get the movie into theaters, but is optimistic that she’ll soon find a distributor.

“It’s got humor, it’s full of hope and there are great characters,” Orsi said. “It’s a film that can really make a difference and open people’s eyes.”

Although “Lost Angels” is partly a polemic — it says the Safer City anti-crime initiative of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and then-Police Chief William J. Bratton unfairly targeted homeless and low-income residents — Napper said his goal was to let skid row residents speak for themselves.

“To a nimble Englishman, who knew nothing about the place and was terrified to walk its streets when I arrived in January 2008, I can say from my heart that I ended up in a place of unconditional love for the people and the place.”

-- Richard Verrier, Los Angeles Times

FACTORS FOR SKID ROW'S HOMELESSNESS AS PRESENTED IN LOST ANGELS:

MENTAL ILLNESS

The predominant population on the Row is the homeless mentally ill. Obviously many of them are also involved with addiction and, and sometimes you can't figure out which came first, and that doesn't even matter. The fact is, they've got mental illness, serious mental illness...and the mental institutions don't exist anymore. In many ways, it's (Skid Row) an open asylum for the mentally ill. We don't have closed asylums anymore, except for our jails and our prisons. L.A. County Twin Towers Jail is the largest mental institution in the United States. Because we no longer hospitalize our mentally ill, so we criminalize them, because of their behavior on the streets. – Mollie Lowrey, Founder & Former Director, LAMP Community

Reagan closed down all of those places. And they took all the mental people and they, and they, they gave 'em to society. And then where do we go? We don't need more jails, we need more mental institutions, and we need more doctors to come down here, instead of more people passing out sandwiches. That's what we really need. And we need more understanding. We need the awareness that we're not all drug addicts. – Albert “Bam Bam” Olson, formerly homeless

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

One of the other important things to understand about Skid Row is that it's not primarily a homeless population, and people tend to think it is. And it's really critical people understand that because if you think of Skid Row as primarily a homeless population, that's one set of issues with one set of solutions.

Then you build large shelters, and if you do it the way some people at City Hall would like it, you'd build them out in the desert. But that's not what Skid Row is. Skid Row is principally a endangered low-income residential community.

In the 50 blocks of Skid Row, there are 65 what we call single-room occupancy housing. Without this housing, people in the area would have nowhere to go. Who in the private or the public sector builds housing for a single adult, whose total income is a \$223 general relief check? - Alice Callaghan, Director, Las Familias del Pueblo

GENTRIFICATION

We lost a thousand units in about a three or four year period, from about 2000 to 2004. (ON) It took the city a long time to respond with a moratorium on losing that housing. - Becky Dennison, Co-Director, LA Community Action Network (LACAN)

Gentrification is the process by which new people come in and they have higher income levels, and then economically the older people are forced to leave. – Kevin Michael, Former Lawyer and Homeless

SAFER CITIES INITIATIVE (aka BROKEN WINDOWS THEORY)

The same tactics that was used-- and the Broken Windows theory in New York—(Los Angeles Police Department Chief William) Bratton brought that same concept out here. The same way he gentrified New York is the same way he plans on gentrifying California. – General Dogon, Homelessness Activist

That theory which has been widely criticized by academics and folks in the community, says that if you put a lot of resources into fighting very minor crimes, what they call, you know, "Broken Windows," that you will then impact serious crime. That theory has been proven not to be true, numerous times. But it particularly wouldn't be true in this community, where we had very little serious crime, ever, historically. - Becky Dennison, Co-Director, LA Community Action Network (LACAN)

SAFER CITIES INITIATIVE: In September 2006, the Los Angeles Police Department, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, and City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo launched the Safer Cities Initiative (SCI) in the Skid Row community. Although SCI was promoted as a means to improve public safety and bring additional homeless services to the community, police enforcement has been the most significant and consistent element of the initiative.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

It really means so much to have **LOST ANGELS: SKID ROW IS MY HOME** honored in this way and it gives me a chance to publicly thank LAMP for their incredible levels of trust right from the beginning. We were given the gift of access to work with the clients at Lamp. Without that we would never have met with Linda Harris, Detroit (Terri Hughes), Lee Anne (the Cat Lady), Bam Bam, OG or KK, (Kevin Cohen). Through those relationships we met Danny "The Olympian" Harris at The Midnight Mission & General Dogon and all at LACAN.

These are our LOST ANGELS in the film, but they have all been my teachers from the beginning, they showed me what it is to recover, to find grace and to become of service. I did not expect to have a life changing experience making this film, but that is exactly what happened. I am forever in the debt of these people because they have shown me through their strength & experience that we do recover, and that we can repair our broken hearts and heads.

The idea right from the beginning was to let the people of Skid Row speak for themselves, and we were blown away by:

- Their dignity,
- Their resilience,
- Their honesty and,
- Their stories about life dealing with mental illness and addiction on Skid Row. We set out to show the poetry in the person with schizophrenia and the wisdom in the heart of a person trying to break a crack addiction.

But **IRONICALLY** it was their journeys into mental health units, supportive housing, into therapy, into recovery, into activism and social action that became the journey of the film. That is why we added the line **SKID ROW IS MY HOME** to the film's title.

These stories are individually full of hope but they give all of us hope, because drug addiction and mental illness are part of life wherever we are, and we have to face these issues together, find help from each other. It became very clear that beneath the surface there was a vibrant and incredible community on Skid Row and that there were hundreds if not thousands of volunteers, care-workers, mental health workers, lawyers & activists working to sustain and improve life of the people on Skid Row.

- Thomas Napper, October 2012

FEATURED IN THE FILM:



Kevin 'KK' Cohen - KK found his home on Skid Row twenty-five years ago. He found a place where everyone accepted him for who he was. He knew everyone, every flim flam, every corner; he was of and from the streets. He loved horses from childhood in semi rural Compton, but he was drawn to the unconventional and bucked against authority in all its forms. He was kindest but he was also a survivor, he knew how to get by and he saw the game for what it was. He read people in an instant; he had a special gift when it came to understanding the needs of others.

He worked at the LAMP ranch for many years with LAMP founder Mollie Lowery. He loved LAMP and truly understood mental illness. His profound sense of understanding led him to Lee Anne who became his friend, and his 'fiancé'.

He spoke truth to power and treated the homeless, advocates and the mentally ill with the same humanity and humor. He loved truth; it pleased him to hear 'real talk'. Which is why the community was stunned when he was murdered in 2009 in a skid row lodging house.

Says director Thomas Napper, *"Absolutely no one who met him did anything other than love him instantly, he made you feel very safe, anywhere we went, and he was very polite. He was charming, street smart, a good listener and full of good ideas. His laugh still echoes in my mind, he was an alley cat with the heart of a lion."*

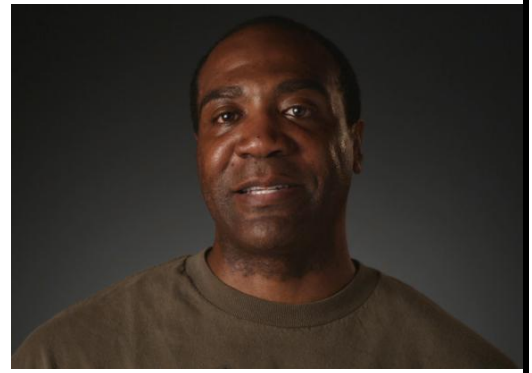
Manuel 'O.G.' Compito - On the run for eight years before getting extradited back to Los Angeles, he found himself on skid row having lost everything. He lost everything after this, losing his home and getting involved with drugs. Fed up with the trash on the streets, he began giving back to his community by organizing a volunteer street sweeping brigade: The Skid Row Brigade is a special unit of OG's N Service Association. O.G. continues to clean the streets of Skid Row.



Linda Lorraine Harris—When recalling the experience of participating in the film and documentary **LOST ANGELS**, Linda speaks fondly of the film crew members who made her feel accepted by establishing a sense of communication that made her feel special and comfortable. More importantly, Linda shared that although her disability would not categorize her as the typical glamour girl found on television or film, she was still able to make her childhood dream of being an actress come true even if it wasn't the way she had originally imagined it.

Presently, Linda is still a resident of Skid Row and has aspirations of one day singing on live television. Linda is an active member of Lamp Community for the last eleven years, has remained clean and sober for 19 years, attends church regularly, and can honestly admit that she has honed the ability to love herself just as she is.

Danny ‘The Olympian’ Harris – One of the top track and field athletes of his generation, Danny Harris was born and raised in Los Angeles. Originally recruited to Iowa State University on a football scholarship, he became an instant star on the track after securing a place on the 1984 US Olympic team at the end of his freshman year and subsequently winning silver in the 400m hurdles at the Los Angeles Games.



Harris' track and field career continued to soar. During his three years as a Cyclone he broke the World Junior Record (which still stands today), received All-American honors 12 times, garnered 16 Big 8 Championship titles and 3 Division 1 NCAA Championships and was undefeated as a collegiate athlete (37-0) in the 400m hurdles. Harris' professional career saw him win numerous titles on the international stage. He once again took silver at the 1987 World Championships in Rome and achieved a #1 World Ranking in 1990. Harris is perhaps most famously known for ending the 122-race winning streak of the legendary Edwin Moses in 1987.

Although Harris' talent on the track was undeniable, earning him lucrative endorsement contracts and the lifestyle of a famous athlete, his career ended abruptly in 1996 when he tested positive for cocaine and was banned from the sport. The next decade of his life would be spent fighting the demons of drug addiction.

Harris first walked through the doors of The Midnight Mission in downtown Los Angeles in June of 2007. He credits this time at the Mission as a turning point in his life and addiction recovery, renewing his faith in himself and what he was capable of. The following year, Harris had an opportunity to participate on the production side of the DreamWorks film, "The Soloist", based on the life of Nathaniel Ayers. On the heels of "The Soloist" he was asked to assist director Thomas Napper on the production of a documentary about life on Los Angeles' Skid Row. "Lost Angels" premiered at the 2010 Los Angeles Film Festival.

In the fall of 2008, Harris returned to Iowa State to complete the undergraduate degree he had begun 25 years earlier and assist with the sprints and hurdles team. In May 2010, with degree in hand, he was recruited to coach the men's sprints and hurdles team at the University of Northern Iowa for the 2010/2011 season. Harris returned to Los Angeles in 2011 when an opportunity arose for him to be of service to The Midnight Mission, only this time on the executive side. He is currently the Assistant to the President, and resides with his wife in Pasadena.



Terri ‘Detroit’ Hughes—Terri had the opportunity to participate in the film production of *THE SOLOIST* and later in *LOST ANGELS*. Although she was still homeless and using drugs, Terry recalls her participation in both projects with great fondness. Terri felt accepted and able to be noticed for whom she really is, and she was made to feel like 'royalty'. After obtaining housing, Terry felt able to leave her dark place and stopped using drugs altogether.

Currently Terri is living in Downtown Los Angeles and has remained clean and sober. She is a trained Peer Supporter at Lamp and continues to have aspirations of becoming an actress. When asked about her experience and thoughts about Skid Row Terri shared, "Skid Row is about wants or needs. You're in the wrong place if you have neither. Today I'm in Skid Row, not on it."

Lee Anne Leven - In 2009, Lee Anne had the opportunity to participate as an extra in the film *THE SOLOIST* and the documentary *LOST ANGELS*. That was the same year that marked the end her twenty year episode of homelessness as Leanne was moved into the Lamp Lodge apartments.

Presently, Lee Anne is still a Lamp member; she remains housed, and continues to assume responsibility for the stray cats she tries to feed on a regular basis. Leanne shared that as a child she had dreamed of becoming a doctor but that perhaps what her real dream was simply to help those that couldn't help themselves.



When asked what her future aspirations are, Leanne shared that she plans to continue feeding her cats, educate people on weight loss methods, and eat chocolate cake.

Mollie Lowrey M.A., Founder and former Executive Director of Lamp Community – Mollie Lowrey has worked with poor and homeless persons since 1975. As Executive Director of the Ocean Park Community Center (OPCC) in Santa Monica, she was a founder of Sojourn Battered Women's Shelter, Stepping Stone Youth Crisis Shelter, Turning Point Homeless Shelter, in addition to organizing several city and county-wide coalitions for the homeless.

In 1985, Mollie Lowrey founded and developed Lamp Community on Skid Row, a drop-in center and 30 bed crisis shelter (safehaven) for adults diagnosed with serious mental illness, who are homeless, 80% of whom are addicted to or abusing drugs and/or alcohol, and 15% of whom are diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.

Pioneering the "harm reduction"- model of intervention and building a strong, life-long, supportive community, Mollie guided the development of Lamp Community's 48 bed Village Residence, four business enterprises, Lamp Lodge- a fifty unit apartment building, and over 75 additional units of permanent housing through partnership/master lease. By 2003, Lamp Community had grown into a fully contained, "non-linear" continuum of housing, recovery and employment services with a staff of 120, 50% of whom were prior or current members of Lamp Community.

In February 2005, after twenty years, Mollie left Lamp Community. Since then, she has worked as an independent consultant and trainer in the areas of mental health, addiction treatment, homelessness, and housing. In 2007, she initiated the Home First and Mobil Integrated Service Team for Housing Works- providing street and shelter outreach to chronically homeless individuals and families, assisting them into permanent supportive housing, and on-site services to help them sustain their housing and thrive in their new community. Home First also accepts referrals from housing providers- tenants-at-risk of losing their housing- eviction prevention work.

Albert 'Bam Bam' Olson – A former electrician and self-described "punk New Yorker," Bam Bam was a resident of Skid Row for two years. His mental health disorders include bipolarity, schizophrenia, PTHD, and a gender identity disorder. His mental instability led to a series of crises which led to having his child taken from him, which was the last straw for him and he slipped into homelessness. With the help of LA's health services agencies, he was able to get his Section 8 housing and now he is off the streets, sober and med compliant. He has re-forged a relationship with his daughter and is living with HIV.





Steve 'General Dogon' Richardson - A former gang member, and ex-felon, General Dogon returned to Skid Row after an 18 year stint in a California state prison, with the promise to fellow inmates to give back for the wrongs he had done. After witnessing the injustices perpetrated upon the homeless by authority types, General Dogon joined LACAN (Los Angeles Community Action Network) where started volunteering to help protect and serve the community of Skid Row. He continues to serves his community with L.A.C.A.N.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS:

DIRECTOR – Thomas Q. Napper

Director Thomas Napper has grown to know many residents of Skid Row through his work on the feature film *THE SOLOIST*. Not only were hundreds of homeless people cast as extras for the film, many found work in supporting roles and in production. Several members of LAMP, told their stories in a drama workshop and it was these 'stories of the streets' that were the direct inspiration for *LOST ANGELS*. It was their unbridled honesty combined with their resilience and humor that led Thomas to explore why exactly Skid Row was their Home. Thomas realized that Skid Row was a community, and a community under siege. All the interviewees wanted to talk about 'Safer Cities', and the over-policing of the 50 blocks that they call home. Using found footage the film explores the impact of Chief Bratten's zero tolerance approach to poverty and homelessness.

The documentary chronicles the journey of the people who live and survive in this unique community and lets them speak for themselves. *LOST ANGELS* is a film that really allows the community of Skid Row to tell their own stories in their own words. By focusing on the individuals who have found hope, redemption, and a sense of belonging in a place most would never willingly enter. *LOST ANGELS* illuminates the grave crisis in the U.S. surrounding our treatment of the mentally ill. In making the film, Thomas set out to show the poetic in the person with schizophrenia and the wisdom in the heart of a person trying to break a crack addiction. Venturing inside the heads and lives of these characters, and in so doing breaking down some prejudice and cast some light on the darkest streets of Los Angeles.

Thomas has established a reputation as a natural director of beautifully stylish and evocative imagery from his work as a commercial director through H.S.I, his recent work includes campaigns for BT & SKY ATLANTIC. His work displays an instinctive feel for mood and atmosphere. He has worked with his friend Joe Wright as 2nd Unit director on four films: the award winning *ATONEMENT*, *PRIDE & PREJUDICE*, *THE SOLOIST* and *ANNA KARENINA*. Thomas has also collaborated with Joe on three films for Chanel, two for Coco Mademoiselle with Keira Knightly and recently Chanel No.5 with Brad Pitt.

Thomas was one of the founders of THE LOMOGRAPHIC SOCIETY in LONDON. Working with the designer Fabian Monheim together they staged many exhibitions in some of the most famous museums and galleries in London, Vienna, New York & Tokyo. As a creative team they wrote & designed books and generally forced people to take pictures without looking. Their seminal book "DON'T THINK, JUST SHOOT" is a practical & joyous guide to modern street photography.

Thomas worked for several years as a Music Video Director through THE OIL FACTORY in London, picking up awards for his work with GOTAN PROJECT, MANIC STREET PREACHERS & ROBBIE WILLIAMS. He is a graduate of St Martin's School of Art, and the *Ecole Nationale des Arts Decoratif* in Paris. He lives in London and is a very keen gardener.

NARRATED BY– Catherine Keener

Catherine Keener is an Oscar nominated actress for her roles in the independent films [Being John Malkovich](#) (1999) and [Capote](#) (2005). Acclaimed in her community for her quirky roles in independent film and mainstream such as [The 40 Year Old Virgin](#) (2005), Keener got her start as a casting director in New York City.

Originating from Hialeah, Florida, Keener attended Wheaton College in New Hampshire. She began taking acting classes when she was unable to sign up for a photography class. After graduating, Keener managed a McDonalds in New York City before becoming an assistant casting director and soon relocating to Los Angeles.

Not long after, Keener told her superior of her aspirations for acting and she landed a one-worded role as a waitress in [About Last Night...](#) (1986). Two years later, she landed a role in a film called [Survival Quest](#) (1988), where she met her future husband, [Dermot Mulroney](#). After struggling for years in the industry, Keener landed a role in an independent film, opposite the unknown [Brad Pitt](#), in [Johnny Suede](#) (1991). Her ascent in independent film began as she starred in [Living in Oblivion](#) (1995) and [Walking and Talking](#) (1996) before her mainstream break with [Being John Malkovich](#) (1999) in 1999, which earned Keener her first Oscar nomination. Since then, Catherine Keener has starred in several critically acclaimed films. (From IMDB)

PRODUCER – Agi Orsi

Born in Budapest, Orsi developed a lifelong curiosity about language and culture. After graduating from the Paris' Sorbonne University with a Master's Degree in French literature, she founded AOP Productions.

Fluent in French and Hungarian, early clients included the French Center for National Cinema, the Hungarian Film Studios, and working as the liaison for U.S./Hungarian productions and various production roles on European shoots for CBS, NBC, HBO and Warner Brothers.

Earlier productions include **BASHKAUS: HARD LABOR IN SIBERIA** Discovery Channel, chronicling the first joint US-Soviet river expedition in Russia's Altai Mountains won the Grand Prize at the Telluride Mountainfilm Festival, **CURTAIN ICE** for the Discovery on the first on water crossing of the Bering Strait, reuniting Eskimo relatives separated by 40 years of the cold war.

Since then, Orsi has developed a strong reputation as a producer of award-winning feature documentaries with theatrical release. She teamed up with director Stacy Peralta on **DOGTOWN AND Z-BOYS**, which won both the Audience and best Director Award at Sundance Film Festival, followed by **RIDING GIANTS**, the first documentary ever to open the Sundance Film Festival. Both films were released by Sony Classics. This was followed by **PIPELINE MASTERS**, about the famous big wave competition on the North Shore of Oahu. **ONCE IN A LIFETIME** the feature documentary on the rise and fall of the N.Y. Cosmos, the soccer team that brought Pele to America, directed by Paul Crowder, followed and was released by Miramax/Pathé. **AMAZING JOURNEY: THE STORY OF THE WHO**, another Crowder film, was produced by Spitfire Pictures, and released by VH1 and Universal. Then **NO ROOM FOR ROCKSTARS**, The Vans Warp Tour 2012 release by Shout Factory, iTunes and Cinedgim Digital Theatrical was met with great success.

Among some of her development projects Orsi will produce the fiction feature, **IN SEARCH OF CAPTAIN ZERO** which she set-up at Ted Fields' Radar Pictures. Presently Orsi is working on the upcoming Dave Grohl directed **SOUND CITY** about the legendary recording studio in Los Angeles.

In addition to **LOST ANGELS**, Orsi is looking forward to the upcoming ESPN release of her **HAWAIIAN: THE LEGEND OF EDDIE AIKAU**.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER – Gary Foster

A 1983 graduate of the University of Southern California, Gary Foster began his career as a producer in the mid 1980s. At the age of 25, he produced his first film, *SHORT CIRCUIT* and the success of the film put the young producer's career in full swing. In 1993, Foster produced the Oscar® and Golden Globe-nominated hit *SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE*, which grossed more than \$300 million worldwide.

Foster served as president of Lee Rich Productions from 1993-1995 and produced *JUST CAUSE*, *AMAZING PANDA ADVENTURE*, and *BIG BULLY*. In 1996, he made *Tin Cup* with Ron Shelton and John Norville.

In 2001, Foster produced *THE SCORE*, which brought together the talents of Robert De Niro, Edward Norton and Marlon Brando. Frank Oz directed the crime thriller, which was the last film of Brando's legendary career.

In 2003, Foster produced *DAREDEVIL*, which was followed in 2005 by *ELEKTRA* starring Jennifer Garner, and most recently, *GHOST RIDER* starring Nicolas Cage.

Foster's feature credits also include: *GLORIA*, *DESPERATE MEASURES*, *LOVERBOY* and *SIDE OUT*.

In 2009, he produced *THE SOLOIST* starring Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey, Jr. and directed by Joe Wright. Based on the true story of Steve Lopez and Nathaniel Ayers, the film shows a unique look into the unlikely friendship between a LA Times journalist and schizophrenic musician who resides on Skid Row in Los Angeles. *WHEN IN ROME*, a comedy with romance starring Kristen Bell and Josh Duhamel, was released January 2010. This year, Foster Executive Produced *GHOST RIDER: THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE* for Sony.

Foster is an Executive Producer of the NBC/Sony Pictures Television comedy series 'COMMUNITY' starring Joel McHale and Chevy Chase.

Foster is currently in production on *EMPEROR* starring Matthew Fox and Tommy Lee Jones. Peter Webber direct this story set amidst the tensions and uncertainties of the days immediately following the Japanese surrender at the end of World War II. Fox is portraying Gen. Bonner Fellers, charged with reaching a decision on whether Emperor Hirohito be tried and hanged as a war criminal. Tommy Lee Jones is General Douglas MacArthur.

Currently, Foster is partnered with former head of Sony Television Russ Krasnoff. Working in both the feature film and television worlds, Krasnoff/Foster Entertainment develops material for both the big and small screens.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER – Susan Klos

Susan Klos came from New York in 1975 to attend the American Film Institute as a fellow in cinematography, but put her budding career behind the camera on hold when she started a family. In 1978, she formed Big Time Picture Company, Inc., her post production business which grew into Los Angeles Westside's first independent post production facility including editing suites, a 35mm and digital screening room, Avid and Final Cut digital equipment rentals, Apple computer sales and digital post production technical support and consulting.

Several hundred films have posted at Big Time over the years including Oliver Stone's Academy Award winning "Born on the Fourth of July," John Frankenheimer's "Ronin," Sam Raimi's "A Simple Plan," the Farrelly

Brothers “There’s Something About Mary,” Nancy Meyers’ “What Women Want,” and the documentary classics, “Dogtown” and “Riding Giants.”

Susan has written the dramatic feature screenplay “Voices” to help her come to terms with her daughter’s diagnosis of schizophrenia. It has won many screenwriting competitions including first place in the New Hampshire Film Festival and Chicago ScriptWorks. She is working to package “Voices” as an independent film. Susan also recently completed the UCLA Professional Program in Screenwriting creating two new comedy screenplays, “Cesar and Max Hit the Road” and “I Hate You...A Love Story.”

Susan is an associate member of the American Cinema Editors, member of the AFI Alumni Association, Film Independent, Women In Film, the Alliance of Women Directors. She is also a graduate of the UCLA Anderson School Management Development for Entrepreneurs Program.

Susan often volunteers in Punta Gorda, Belize helping local Mayan people develop business and marketing skills to bring ecotourism to the region.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER – Joe Wright

Joe Wright is an English film director best known for *PRIDE & PREJUDICE*, *ATONEMENT* and *HANNA*. His current film, *ANNA KARENINA*, with Keira Knightly, Jude Law, and Aaron Taylor-Johnson will soon be released

CO-PRODUCER/WRITER - Christine Triano

Christine Triano is passionate about using stories to make better sense of our world. Beyond documentaries, she has worked as a writer, editor, TV producer, media consultant, and, currently, as a clinical social worker. Christine was associate producer on *DOGTOWN AND Z-BOYS* (2001), winner of the Sundance Film Festival Audience Award for Best Documentary. She has numerous television credits for both network and cable productions, and from 2004-2010, had the honor of being the scriptwriter for The Women’s Conference, an annual gathering of the most influential and inspiring women in the world hosted by former California First Lady Maria Shriver.

The former editor of AlterNet.org, an award-winning online news magazine, she is also a longtime member of the Board of Directors of the Independent Media Institute. Christine graduated with honors with a B.A. in Political Science from Tufts University, and in 2009 earned a Masters in Social Work from Cal State, LA. In a career shift inspired in large part by her work on *LOST ANGELS*, Christine currently works with adolescents at an inpatient psychiatric hospital in Los Angeles.

CO-PRODUCER – Cecy Rengel

A native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Cecy Rangel came to the United States to pursue a career in filmmaking and has since found a home in independent documentary.

Her effervescent and driven personality has led her to enjoy success on a string of prestigious feature documentaries, which she co-produced with Agi Orsi, such as: *RIDING GIANTS*, Official Selection, Audience Award winner and festival opener of the 2004 Sundance Film Festival; *ONCE IN A LIFETIME- THE EXTRAORDINARY STORY OF THE N.Y. COSMOS*, *PIPELINE MASTERS*, and *AMAZING JOURNEY: THE STORY OF THE WHO*. As a solo producer, Cecy made her debut with the film *THE ACHEIVERS: THE STORY OF THE LEBOWSKI FANS*, and most recently, *NO ROOM FOR ROCKSTARS* on the Vans Warped Tour.

MUSIC COMPOSER - Walter Werzowa

For nearly 15 years, Austrian born Walter Werzowa has been expanding upon a vision of creating music that is all at once unique, dynamic and memorable. Drawing upon a liberal arts education that includes architecture and music, he has built a vast array of compositions for film and television, as well as becoming a maverick in the new frontier of Audio Branding. Since beginning his career, Werzowa has worked with Fortune 500 companies, Top Hollywood Film Studios & Producers and International Conglomerates.

After completing USC's post-graduate program for Film and Television Scoring, Werzowa worked on trailers for the Walt Disney Company. In order to better develop his own audio aesthetic, Werzowa built a studio in his garage, investing in the most advanced audio equipment available. During that time companies such as Lifetime Television, Chevron and most notably, Intel, approached him to create a 3-note mnemonic for their respective brands. The intent: Strengthen the impression of their already established graphic logos.

Since then, the development of mnemonics has become one of Werzowa's strongest fortes. Working directly with each client, Werzowa focuses on their individual goals and customizes his persona approach of scientific research and creative interpretation to pinpoint sounds that will best define the brand within this incredibly short duration of time. Never afraid of the unconventional, Werzowa believes in offering his clients compositions that communicate the distinct personality of their companies, while achieving targeted success and recognition on both the conscious and sub conscious levels. It is not surprising that his resume of mnemonics showcases a diverse clientele, including: Samsung, LG, Red Bull, Delta Airlines, Comedy Central, Toyota, Sanyo, Electronic Arts, CNN / HLN and GM – with several exciting projects currently in production.

Werzowa has also expanded his expertise to include environmental applications, ringtones, UI sounds, and testing methodologies. He has worked with Intel, LG Electronics, Samsung, Red Bull, Delta, Sprint / Nextel, CBS Pictures, Apple, Comedy Central, TBS, TNT, Facebook, Scripps Network, among many others.

Werzowa has grown his operation from a one-man shop into a state-of-the-art boutique sound house located in the heart of Hollywood, CA, named Musikvergnuegen ("enjoyment of music"), which in German, reflects the pleasure always embodied in the company's process and product. With the additional assistance of an in-house team of composers, sound designers, as well as a network of freelance associates, Musikvergnuegen has been providing original music and sound design for film, television, and commercials for nearly 10 years.

Film credits include: Main Title for the feature film *Taking Lives*. Scores and Trailers have been composed for clients, such as: Disney (*High School Musical 3*, *Race to Witch Mountain*, *National Treasure 2*), Warner Brothers (*Batman Begins*, *The Polar Express*, *Troy*, *The Last Samurai*, *The Chronicles of Riddick*, *AI*, *Poseidon* and *Eraser*), MGM (*Cabin In The Woods*), DreamWorks (*Memoirs of a Geisha*, *Minority Report*), Paramount Pictures (*The Core*), and 20th Century Fox (*Kingdom of Heaven*, *Alien Vs. Predator*) New Line / Fine Line Cinema (*The Cell*, *Mortal Kombat* and *Wag the Dog*) and Dimension II Films (*Hellraiser: Inferno* and *Mimic II*). Additionally, he has collaborated with Director / Writers such as Wim Winders (*8: Person to Person*) and Sam Mendes (*The Jarhead Diaries*).

Television credits include: Network Promo and ID packages for clients: CNN / HLN, TBS, Fox, Showtime, Lifetime, Versus, MTV and Scripps Company of Network Affiliates. Promos have been done for ABC (*Dancing With the Stars*), Discovery Channel (*Frozen Planet*, *Science Channel*, *Life*, *Deadliest Catch*, *Storm Chasers*, *Hunting: The Lost Symbol*), TLC (*Hook*, *Line & Sisters*, *Four Weddings*), FX Network (*Rescue Me*, *The Shield*) and PBS (*Ken Burns: American Stories*, *Independent Lens*, *Super Why*, *Hooper*). (www.musikvergnuegen.com)

COMPLETE CAST & CREW:

Directed by Thomas Napper

Narrator by Catherine Keener

Producer Agi Orsi

Executive Producers Gary Foster

Joe Wright

Susan Klos

Co-Producer Cecy Rangel

Co-producers Tyler Hubby

Christine Triano

Associate Producers John Klos

Karen Gilbert

Cinematography by Seamus McGarvey

Fortunato Procopio

Christopher Gosch

Editor Tyler Hubby

Unit Production Manager Agi Orsi

Writer Christine Triano

Composer Walter Werzowa

Sound Recodist Eric Bautista

Assistants to Mr. Napper Danny Harris

Kevin Cohen

Assistant to Producers Rainbow Rachel

Additional Photography Ed Gutentag

General Dogon LACAN Camcorder

Associate Editor Randy Horte

Assistant Editor Stephen Brannan

Post Production Supervisor John Klos

Location Consultant Kevin Michael Key

Consultant David Langness

Festival and Distribution
Consultant Thomas Harris

Production Legal L. Richard Walton

Camera Assistants Michael Watson

Zac Sieffert

Carson Reaves

Alexandra Cason

Rob Gordon

Shannon Mita

Camera Utility Johannes von Kirschbaum

Cecy Rangel

Twyla Swensen

Caterer Rainbow Rachel Dolan

Production Assistant Johannes von Kirschbaum

Tyler Langness

"Apollo" Randy Van Hook

"Tito" Robin Wartell

Grip Equipment Griptrix

Herb Ault and Michael MacDonald

Lighting Equipment Randy "Woody" Woodside

Sound Design, Editorial, &
Mixing Provided by Kent Road Productions

Re-recording Facility Danetracks

Supervising Sound Editor Re-
recording Mix Paul Hackner

Sound FX Editor Ronny Mikkelsen

Dialogue Editors Trilby Kim Lowe
Sean Heissinger

Supervising Foley Editor Mark Anthony Goebel

Sound Editors Angela Hackner
Jithu Aravamudhan
Elisha Drons
Ryan Collins
Jay Taylor

Music Produced and Recorded Musikvergnuegen

Additional Sound Design Mark Messick

Singers Linda Harris
Michael Williams
Thomas Newman

Editing Suites and Production Big Time Picture Company Inc.
Offices

Titles Fabian Monheim

Online Editor and Colorist Thom Obarski

Online Facility The Company Digital

Transcription Services Tina Miranda Typing Plus

Archival Footage BuyOutFootage
Channel 35
Getty Images, Collections Archive Films
LACAN
LAPD, City of Los Angeles Police Department
MTV- Budapest

Still Photographs Gary Palmatier (www.ideas-to-imagines.com)
Istock
USC Digital Library

Corbis Images

Getty Images

Thank You People of SkidRow

Special Angels HILTON FOUNDATION

Bill Pitkin and Steve Hilton

Saving Angels Lynn Blodgett, ACS

Elise Buik, United way

Renee Fraser, FRASER COMMUNICATIONS

Marguerite Rangel, PACIFIC ADVISORS

Dane David and Francine Taylor, DANETRACKS

Ragina Gosch & Monique Yamguchi, COMPANY
DIGITAL

Ruth Teague, CORPORATION FOR SUPPORTIVE
HOUSING

Thank You for your Support

Las Familias Del Pueblo The Camera House

Lamp Foundation Big Apple Digital

Scott Fears Maxx Digital

Carrie LeGrand Apple Inc.

Litepanels Julie Berentsen

Location Sound Annete Davidson

Harry Lumer Joe's Parking Dominic Leung

Cindy McCoy Lindsay Turnham

Anita Nelson Nicola Doring

SRO Housing Corporation & All at HIS Los Angeles & London

Joseph Orellana Rosamund Pike

Gerry Papazian Josephine Davies

Sparkhill Productions Suzanne Mills

Chris Potraz Paul Webster

Paul J Ray Siobhan Fahey

Anat Rubin Robert Clayman

SCJ Lighting Gabriella and Nico Hubby

Joanna Clare Scott Justin King Hall

Kevin Flynn Aspect Ratio



FACTS ON HOMELESSNESS

Major reasons and causes for homelessness as documented by many reports and studies (and aggregated on Wikipedia <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homelessness>) which include:

- Unavailability of employment opportunities.
- [Poverty](#), caused by many factors including [unemployment](#) and [underemployment](#).
- Lack of accessible [healthcare](#). People who have some kind of chronic and weakening disease but cannot get healthcare either because they don't have money to afford it or because the government will not give it to them are simply too weak to go and work every day.
- [Mental disorder](#), where [mental health](#) services are unavailable or difficult to access. A United States Federal survey done in 2005 indicated that at least one-third of homeless men and women have serious psychiatric disorders or problems.¹
- [Disability](#), especially where disability services are non-existent or poor performing.
- [Social exclusion](#), including because of [sexual orientation](#) and [gender identity](#)¹
- [Substance abuse](#)
- Lack of [affordable housing](#). By way of example, an article in the November 2007 issue of [Atlantic Monthly](#) reported on a study of the cost of obtaining the "right to build" (i.e. a building permit, red tape, bureaucracy, etc.) in different U.S. cities. The "right to build" cost does not include the cost of the land or the cost of constructing the house. The study was conducted by [Harvard](#) economists Edward Glaeser and Kristina Tobio. According to the chart accompanying the article, the cost of obtaining the "right to build" adds approximately \$600,000 to the cost of each new house that is built in [San Francisco](#).

From National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH)

While circumstances can vary, the main reason people experience homelessness is because they cannot find housing they can afford. It is the scarcity of affordable housing in the United States, particularly in more urban areas where homelessness is more prevalent, that is behind their inability to acquire or maintain housing.

By the numbers:

- There are **643,067 people** experiencing homelessness on any given night in the United States.
 - Of that number, **238,110 are people in families**, and
 - **404,957 are individuals**.
 - **17 percent** of the homeless population is considered "[chronically homeless](#)," and
 - 12 percent of the homeless population - **67,000** - are [veterans](#).
- These numbers come from [point-in-time counts](#), which are conducted, community by community, on a single night in January every other year. The [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#) (HUD) requires communities to submit this data every other year in order to qualify for federal homeless assistance funds. Many communities conduct counts more regularly.

More: http://www.endhomelessness.org/pages/snapshot_of_homelessness

HOMELESSNESS IN LOS ANGELES

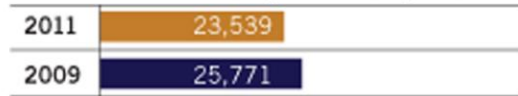
Data from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) - <http://www.lahsa.org/>

Homelessness in Los Angeles County



= 3% decrease

Homelessness in City of Los Angeles



= 9% decrease



Full report can be downloaded here: http://www.lahsa.org/homelessness_data/reports.asp

LOST ANGELS refers to

HOMLESSNESS ORGANIZATIONS FEATURED IN THE FILM:

LAMP COMMUNITY

Lamp Community's mission is to end homelessness of Los Angeles' most vulnerable individuals – primarily adults living with mental illness – through a continuum of services and housing, enabling them to reach their highest level of self-sufficiency and community integration. Lamp Community (“Lamp”), originally founded in 1985 as the Los Angeles Men's Place, functioned as a daytime drop-in center for men living with mental illness and experiencing homelessness. Today, Lamp offers a continuum of community and field based services including Permanent Supportive Housing to end homelessness for women and men. Lamp's housing programs are based on the “Housing First” model, a nationally recognized best practice and approach that Lamp helped to pioneer more than two decades ago. In addition to its own client-driven services, Lamp offers job counseling services, alcohol and drug addiction recovery services, legal services and primary health care through successful community partnerships.

With support, Lamp Community can provide a wide range of housing and services to end homelessness for Los Angeles' most vulnerable adults.

Monetary Gift

When you make a gift to Lamp, more than 87% of your gift goes directly to support the programs and services that ensure supportive housing, mental health counseling, chronic disease management, and more to Los Angeles' most vulnerable homeless adults. Your gift will turn someone's life around.

- \$25.00 can provide a week of toiletries and health products to two homeless adults.
- \$50.00 can purchase art supplies for Lamp's Art Project, which provides significant therapeutic and economic activity for clients.
- \$100.00 can pay for counseling for one formerly homeless client for one month.
- \$500.00 can provide one month security deposit for one client moving into permanent housing.
- \$1,000.00 can support money management services to help clients budget and secure or maintain housing.
- \$5,000.00 can purchase one month of free towels for individuals using Lamp's Public Showers.

Gifts In Kind

We graciously accept in-kind gifts of goods and services. Lamp operates one of the few public toilet and shower facilities in the Skid Row neighborhood of Downtown Los Angeles and the only public Laundromat, which together serve nearly 2,000 people per month. With additional street outreach to 500-1000 homeless a month, many can benefit from your donation of simple, yet often unnoticed common needs. The following items are always accepted:

- New personal hygiene items, i.e. toothbrushes and toothpaste, soap, razors, and feminine hygiene items of any kind
- New undergarments for men and women, i.e. socks and underwear
- Office or art supplies to support therapeutic groups, the art project and peer programming
- Tickets to movies, sporting events, amusement parks (to promote community reintegration and socialization)

Become a Lamp volunteer and help us connect you to a rewarding experience!

Please feel free to visit Lamp's website, www.Lampcommunity.org or contact Mrs. Donna Gallup, Executive Director, at 213.488.0755 or donnag@Lampcommunity.org or Michelle Horton, Development Director, at 213.270.9040 or michelleh@Lampcommunity.org.

THE MIDNIGHT MISSION – Los Angeles



The Midnight Mission is a human services organization in downtown Los Angeles' skid row. The organization provides basic subsistence to the region's needy, drug and alcohol recovery services, "safe sleep" programs, educational training, a mobile kitchen, and family housing with an emphasis on developing self-sufficiency.

The Midnight Mission was founded by businessman and lay minister Tom Liddecoat in 1914. Meals were served at midnight, after church services. The mission became an incorporated non-profit in 1922. During World War II, the mission began assisting with job placement and established job training programs.

The shelter continues to emphasize their role as a "bridge to self-sufficiency," making this the first bullet point in their mission statement. The mission is not associated with a religious group.

The Midnight Mission Statement of Purpose

- To offer a bridge to self-sufficiency for homeless people through counseling, education, training and job placement.
- To make available the necessities of life to homeless people: food, shelter, clothing, personal hygiene needs, and medical care.
- To offer the 12-step approach to recovery.
- To serve homeless people with empathy and respect, without sermonizing.
- To provide for the homeless as an independent social service agency.

LACAN – LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY ACTION NETWORK

After serving his sentence, General Dogon (Steve Richardson) became a human rights activist and organizer for the group.

The organizing principle of the LA CAN is to build indigenous leadership within the Central City East community to address the multitude of problems faced by homeless and very low-income residents of the community. Our community has long been disenfranchised and ignored or has had "leaders" that were not representative of the community speak on its behalf. The service-rich community of Central City East has led to a dysfunctional culture of dependence reinforced by outdated program rules and illegal practices utilized by slum-lords and oftentimes law enforcement. This "culture," based on taking orders and not questioning the necessity of those orders, has led to the creation of community norms which counter those things needed to achieve widespread systemic change. This reality is what led to the formation of LA CAN and continues to drive the need to build indigenous leadership equipped to build power and make systemic change.

<http://www.cangress.org/>

SKID ROW BRIGADE



The Skidrow Brigade is a special unit of OG's N Service Association. This unit is the Greatest Volunteer Unit in Downtown Los Angeles. Having taking the task to "cleaning the streets of Skidrow, putting out trash cans (the FUNKY TRASH CAMPAIGN) as well as providing the necessary energy and human resources for the San Julian Street mural.

Learn more at www.skidrowsanjulianstreet.webs.com

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WORKING ON ISSUES AFFECTING HOMELESSNESS :

CORPORATION FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING (CSH)

For 20 years, CSH has led the national movement to end homelessness through supportive housing. We serve the needs of the most vulnerable families and individuals, while improving the way that public systems work.

- Supportive Housing FAQs: <http://www.csh.org/supportive-housing-facts>
- The CSH PHA Toolkit is a guide to how Public Housing Agencies can work with service providers to create supportive housing opportunities for the people who need them most.
<http://www.csh.org/resources/pha-toolkit-for-supportive-housing>

NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS (NAEH) - www.endhomelessness.org

The Alliance works to prevent and end homelessness in the following ways:

Improving Policy

The National Alliance to End Homelessness is a leading voice on [federal homelessness policy](#). From advocating for improved federal policy to analyzing enacted and proposed legislation, the Alliance actively engages in the legislative process. The Alliance works collaboratively with public, private, and nonprofit partners to develop, analyze, and advocate for policy solutions to homelessness.

Building Capacity

The Alliance provides capacity-building assistance through its [Center for Capacity Building](#) to help communities turn policy solutions and proven best practices into viable, on-the-ground programs. The Alliance provides communities across the country with best practices, how-to kits, and technical assistance trainings to help them implement solutions developed through policy, research, and practice.

Educating Opinion Leaders

The [Homelessness Research Institute](#) (HRI) – the research and education arm of the National Alliance to End Homelessness – builds the intellectual capital around solutions to homelessness. HRI advances data and research so that policymakers, practitioners, and the public have the best information about trends in homelessness and emerging solutions.

For information on how to support the Alliance or get involved, check out [Take Action](#).

DIGITAL ASSETS:

Link to album on Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/album/2089161>

Link to Official Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/50178996>

Poster on server: <http://www.skidrowismyhome.com/Lost-Angels-Poster.jpg>

Clip name: Lost Angels – Danny Harris – Clip 1

Link: <https://vimeo.com/53132461>

Caption: Former Olympian and Silver Medalist Danny Harris, a Southern California Track & Field national champion, shares how he found himself of LA's Skid Row as a result of his drug addiction.

###

Clip name: Lost Angels – Albert ‘Bam Bam’ Olsen – Clip 2

Link: <https://vimeo.com/53132462>

Caption: Mental health issues brought Albert “Bam Bam” Olsen, a “transgender punky ex-New Yorker” to Skid Row. “We don’t need more jails; we need more mental institutions and doctors. We need more understanding.” During the course of the film, he moves off the streets into an apartment.

###

Clip name: Lost Angels - Mollie Lowrey, Lamp founder and Lamp client, Bam Bam - Clip 3

Link: <https://vimeo.com/53133271>

Caption: Mollie Lowrey, the Founder and former Director of Lamp Community in downtown Los Angeles, explains how the growth of the homeless population was created in large part by the closure of mental institutions.

“In many ways its (Skid Row) an open asylum for the mentally ill...LA County Twin Towers jail is the largest mental institution in the United States because we no longer hospitalize our mentally ill, we criminalize them for their behavior on the streets.”

###

Clip name: Lost Angels - Linda Harris - clip 4

Link: <https://vimeo.com/53132465>

Caption: Linda Harris has neurofibromitosis where tumors grow in and around her central nervous system. She’s lost her breasts to cancer and battles depression. She came down to Skid Row in 2002 and explains how she found a welcoming family at Lamp Community.

###

Clip name: Lost Angels – Kevin “K.K.” Cohen – clip 5

Link: <https://vimeo.com/53132468>

Caption: K.K. was homeless for 14 years by choice. With the help of Lamp Community, he came off the streets and he’s since become Lee Anne’s protector and a compassionate soul within the Skid Row community.

###

Clip name: Lost Angels – LeeAnne ‘The Cat Lady’ Leven – clip 6

Link: <https://vimeo.com/53133963>

Caption: Lee Anne ‘The Cat Lady’ Leven pushes a grocery cart filled with cat food feeding the homeless cats in downtown LA. When she got to Skid Row she was most concerned that there was no clean water for the cats and birds.

###

Clip name: Lost Angels-Terri ‘Detroit’ Hughes-clip 7

Link: <https://vimeo.com/album/2089161/video/53132527>

Caption: Terri ‘Detroit’ Hughes describes her struggle with mental illness and the impact it has had on her personal life turning her to a crack cocaine addiction landing her in Skid Row.

###

Clip name: Lost Angels-On Gentrification and Homelessness- clip 8

Link: <https://vimeo.com/album/2089161/video/53132528>

Caption: Becky Denison (LACAN), Kevin Michael (UCEPP), and Alice Callaghan (Las Familias del Pueblo) explain the impact gentrification has on the people of Skid Row.

###

Clip name: Lost Angels -LA’s Safer Cities Initiative- clip 9

Link: <https://vimeo.com/album/2089161/video/53132530>

Caption: General Dogon, Becky Denison (LACAN), Gary Blasi (Professor of Law, UCLA), and Redd question LA’s Safer Cities Initiative, implemented by Chief William Bratton, because it criminalizes the marginal communities rather than providing them with any treatment of aid. The Initiative was implemented in 2006, mirroring NYC’s Broken Windows strategy.

Narrated by Catherine Keener, *LOST ANGELS: SKID ROW IS MY HOME* takes an uncompromising yet life-affirming look at the lives of eight remarkable individuals who have found a way to make a life for themselves within the community of homelessness in downtown Los Angeles. The award-winning documentary highlights the community services provided by Lamp Community, [LACAN](#) (Los Angeles Community Action Network) and The Midnight Mission and is directed by Thomas Napper.

Exclusive engagement starts 12/7 at the [ArLight Hollywood](#). More details at www.LostAngelsFilm.com and www.facebook.com/LostAngelsSkidRowIsMyHome.

Distributed by Cinema Libre Studio. Media contact: Beth Portello, bportello@cinemalibrestudio.com, 818-349-8822