

CHEN ZHAO

Alhambra, CA | czhao0602@gmail.com | 747.282.5230

OBJECTIVE

Passionate and detail-oriented MFA graduate with extensive experience in cinematic game direction, film production, and team leadership. Seeking to contribute my expertise in motion capture, storyboarding, and cross-departmental coordination to dynamic projects in the game industry.

EDUCATION

ArtCenter College of Design – MFA in Graduate Film, 2022 – 2024

University of Wisconsin-Madison – BA in Communication Arts (RTF), 2014 - 2019

EXPERIENCE

Cinematic Game Director | DigitalSky, Chengdu, China (2020)

- Defined cinematic vision for an AAA game, working cross-functionally with writers, designers & producers.
- Led motion capture sessions, delivering 100% alignment between actor performance and in-game cinematics.
- Collaborated with animators & developers to integrate cinematic sequences seamlessly into gameplay.
- Conducted competitor analysis, refining storytelling & visuals to match industry standards.

Unit Production Manager | ReelShort, Los Angeles, CA (2024 – Present)

- Oversee live-action production, managing budgets, schedules, and logistics to ensure seamless operations.
- Coordinate on-set production workflows, including script prep, shotlists, talent/vendor management, and equipment logistics.
- Track financial expenditures and project milestones, optimizing resources and maintaining safety and efficiency for high-quality content delivery.

CREATIVE PROJECTS

- **Potatoes** (Short Film, *Dir./Writer*) – 2023
- **Cocaine Man** (Music Video, *Director*) – 2023
- **Night Station** (Experimental Short, *Director*) – 2022
- **Teen Girl Lion King** (Feature Film, *2nd AD*) – 2021
- **The Hunt** (Short Film, *Dir./Writer*) – 2021

SKILLS

- **Game & Film:** Cinematic direction, motion capture, storyboarding, team coordination
- **Software:** Unreal Engine, Davinci Resolve, Premiere Pro, After Effects, Photoshop
- **Languages:** Mandarin (native), English (fluent), Japanese (business level)

AWARDS

- ArtCenter Graduate Continuing Scholarship, 2024
- Dean's List, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2016