

IMDB

BIO - Dan Freene ACS

Dan Freene ACS is a renowned cinematographer with a career spanning high-end television series, feature films, and critically acclaimed documentaries. Most recently, he lensed the Netflix series *The Survivors*, produced by Tony Ayres in partnership with NBCUniversal. Shot across the dramatic landscapes of Tasmania and at Docklands Studios in Melbourne, the series is based on Jane Harper's bestselling novel. *The Survivors* became a global hit for Netflix, ranking as the **second most-watched TV series worldwide in July 2025**.

Dan also shot Emma's Dance Club for ABC and Episodes 5-8 of the 2025 Stan Original series *He Had It Coming.* Internationally recognised, Dan recently set up and shot the hit Netflix comedy *Wellmania* starring Celeste Barber, earning a Silver ACS Award for his work. His other TV credits include *Surviving Summer* Season 2 (Netflix), *Queen of Oz*, *Squinters*, and *Soul Mates* (ABC), as well as the award-winning short-form series *Over and Out* by the Van Vuuren Brothers, which won the Cannes Short Form Series competition.

Beyond television, Dan has made a significant impact in the realm of feature-length documentaries. His recent work on *Every Little Thing* — which premiered to critical acclaim at the 2024 Sundance Film Festival. The film was nominated for **Best Feature Documentary at the 2025 AACTA Awards**.

Dan also shot *Skategoat*, the Sydney Film Festival Audience Award–winning feature documentary centred on the enigmatic skateboarder Leandre Sanders. The film was nominated for **Best Cinematography in a Feature Documentary at the 2025 AACTA Awards**.

In feature films, Dan has served as Director of Photography on several critically acclaimed Australian productions, including the high-concept Netflix sci-fi thriller *OtherLife* (2015) and the award-winning *Wasted on the Young* (2011) for Paramount Pictures. Renowned for his versatility, masterful use of light, and his eloquent communication, Dan Freene ACS has built a reputation for delivering exceptional visual storytelling across diverse and challenging projects.

TELEVISION (Selected)

2026 *Emma's Dance Club.* 10 x 30min Episodes. Directed by Guy Edmonds - Sherie Phillips. Wooden Horse ABC. Created by Emma Watkins.

2025 *He Had It Coming.* 4 Episodes. Directed by Anne Renton. Jungle Entertainment STAN. Created by Craig Robertson and Gretel Vella.

2025 *The Survivors*. 3 Episodes. NETFLIX. NBC Universal, Matchbox Pictures, Tony Ayers Productions. Based on the book by Jane Harper. Directed by Ben C Lucas.

2024 *Surviving Summer S2*. 4 Episodes. NETFLIX. Werner Film Productions. Directed by Christian VanVuuren.

2022 *Wellmania*. 8 Episodes. NETFLIX. Produced by Fremantle Australia. Directed by Erin White, and Helena Brooks.

2022 *Queen of Oz*. 6 Episodes. Lingo Pictures. BBC/ABC. Directed by Christian VanVuuren.

2019 *Skit Box.* 6 Episodes - Midwinter Films, Jungle Entertainment. Directed by Adele VanVuuren. ABC

2019 *Over And Out*. 6 Episodes. Written and Directed by Connor, Adele and Christian Van Vuuren. Winner Cannes Best Short Form Online Series 2019. YOU TUBE. Midwinter Films.

2019 *Squinters S02*. 8 Episodes. Created by Adam Zwar and Trent O'Donnell Jungle Entertainment. ABC

2014 *Soul Mates S01*. 8 Episodes. Written and Directed by Connor and Christian Van Vuuren. Jungle Entertainment. ABC

FEATURE FILM

2018 *OtherLife*. Written and Directed by Ben C Lucas. NETFLIX.

2011 *Wasted On The Young*. Written and directed by Ben C Lucas. Silver ACS Award Winner. Film Festivals - Toronto, SWSX, Sydney, Pusan, London, Brisbane, Torino Film Festivals. PARAMOUNT.

DOCUMENTARY (Selected)

2026 Pressure Cooker - TV Series - BINGE - FOXTELL - Featuring Shannon Bennet 6 x 30min Episodes - Mushroom Studios - Released December 2026

2024 *Every Little Thing*. APPLE & PRIME Feature Film - US Documentary competition Sundance Film Festival, Sydney, Melbourne, Seattle, Adelaide Film Festivals. Directed by Sally Aitken.

2024 *SkateGoat*. APPLE & PRIME Feature Film. Audience Winner Sydney Film Festival.

2020 *Road To Glory*. AMAZON Prime. 6 x1 hour TV Series documentary following the journey of six key figures with the 2020 AFL season. SA Unit DOP. Jam TV.

2019 *The Portal.* Feature Documentary about overcoming PTSD through the power of Meditation.

2019 *JLL Driving Ambitions*. National Geographic 9 part Documentary for featuring six international rock climbers as they prepare for the upcoming 2020 Tokyo Olympic-7minute Episodes. National Geographic.

2015 *Hipsters.* 6 part TV documentary Hosted by Samuel Johnston. SBS. ACCTA AWARD for Best Direction (Seth Larney.)

AWARDS (Selected)

2025 *The Survivors* ACS Silver Award TV International Series

2023 *Wellmania* ACS Silver Award, TV Series.

2020 *Over and Out* WINNER Cannes 2019 Best Short Form Series.

2019 *The Portal* ACS Silver Award, Feature Documentary.

2018 *OtherLife* ACS Gold Award, Feature Film.

2017 *Rufus Du Sol* Say A Prayer Music Video ACS Gold Award.

2015 *Grace Pluto* Music Video ACS Gold Award.

2013 *Shelter* Short Film. ACS Gold Award.

2011 ACS Accreditation. Australia Cinematographers Society.

2011 *Wasted on the Young* Feature Films, ACS Silver Award.

CONTACT

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