

Xavier Burgin is an [Emmy-nominated director](#) from USC's School of Cinematic Arts. He nurtured his creative process there, honing his skills as a filmmaker. Xavier is the Director of Shudder's first original documentary, [Horror Noire: A History of Black Horror](#). He's also a [Sundance Lab Fellow](#), an [HBO Finalist](#), a [Ryan Murphy Television Half Foundation alumni](#), a semifinalist for the Student Academy Awards, and a director on the Emmy nominated series, [Giants](#).



Xavier's feature documentary, *Horror Noire*, expounds on the history of Black Americans in horror cinema. The film, currently streaming on Shudder, has been covered by the [A.V. Club](#), [The Hollywood Reporter](#), [The Guardian](#), [Slash Film](#), [The Verge](#), [Entertainment Weekly](#), and more. It was featured in an educational screening hosted by [The Toronto International Film Festival](#). It includes interviews from Jordan Peele, Keith David, Tony Todd, Rachel True, Paula Jai Parker, Richard Lawson, and more prominent actors, filmmakers, and scholars in the horror genre. It currently holds a "Fresh" rating on [Rotten Tomatoes](#).

Xavier directed [Episode 204: Lights Out](#) and [Episode 207: Okay In the Silence](#), of the Emmy nominated series, *Giants*, currently on [Issa Rae's Color Creative](#). Xavier's work has been nominated for an [Emmy in the "Outstanding Directing for a Digital Drama Series"](#) category. The series has been picked up for [television via TV One](#).

Xavier is a fellow of The Sundance Institute's YouTube New Voices Lab where his series, *Late Registration*, was selected. Xavier shadowed on the set of *American Horror Story* as a member of the RMTV Half Foundation, a diversity mentorship program created by Ryan Murphy (*American Horror Story*, *Scream Queens*). Xavier has also been a semi-finalist for ABC|Disney's Directing and Writer Programs, Sony's Diverse Directors Program, and Viacom's Emerging Directors Program.

Xavier's feature script, *On Time*, has won [The Screencraft Drama Competition](#) and The Film Empire Diversity Screenplay competition. It was also finalist [Atlanta Film Festival Screenplay competition](#).

[On Time](#), Xavier's proof of concept for his feature script of the same name, is an HBO short film finalist, [Audience Award Social Political Film Festival Jury Winner](#), netted him a Best Director award at Sunscreen Film Festival West, and won Best Actress at Poland's Grand Off Film Festival. It premiered on HBO and has been seen on Cinemax and Spectrum. [Olde E](#), his thesis film, was a semi-finalist for the 43rd Student Academy Awards and chosen for Ryan Murphy's Director's showcase. [Other](#), his film about Black America's two voices, has been featured on [Shadow & Act](#), [Bossip](#), and [Colorlines](#).

Xavier has amassed a following of over 70,000+ followers on social media via comedy, storytelling, and social commentary, landing him features on sites such as [NPR](#), [Buzzfeed](#), [Complex](#), and more.

Xavier has worked with AMC, Shudder, Kevin Hart's LOL Network, Baron Davis' No Label, Stage 3 Productions, Bazelevs, Google, and Lenovo. He infuses his progressive ideals and transformative beliefs into every project he undertakes.

Xavier Burgin | Emmy Nominated Writer/Director | QueTheLights@gmail.com |

Website: <http://www.quethelights.com/director>

EDUCATION

USC School of Cinematic Arts: MFA - TV & Film Production

University of Alabama: Telecommunications & Film Department - Film Production, Writing

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **AMC/SHUDDER** - Feature Documentary Director, Horror Noire (2019)
 - **GIANTS**, Emmy Nominated, “Outstanding Directing For a Digital Drama Series” - Director (2018)
 - **USC MEDIA INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE** - Freelance Writer (2018)
 - **NO LABEL/LOL NETWORK** - Short Form Content Writer/Director (2018)
 - **RIVETING ENTERTAINMENT** - Pilot Series Writer (2017)
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FELLOWSHIPS

- **SUNDANCE INSTITUTE FELLOWSHIP** - Youtube New Voices Lab (2016)
 - **RYAN MURPHY HALF INITIATIVE** - Diversity Directing Program (2016), American Horror Story
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FILMS

- HORROR NOIRE, Director (2019) - Shudder Feature Documentary
 - Documents history of Black Americans in Horror Genre from 1910-2018, **AMC/SHUDDER**
 - GIANTS, Director (2018), Episode 207: Okay In The Silence, Episode 204: Lights Out
 - **EMMY NOMINATED, “OUTSTANDING DIRECTING FOR A DIGITAL DRAMA SERIES”**
 - Acquired by **TV One/Cleo TV** for Television
 - OTHER, Director (2018) - Short Film, Featured in Shadow & Act, Colorlines
 - ON TIME, Writer/Director (2016) - USC Short Film, **HBO Short Film**
 - OLDE E, Director (2016) - USC Short Film, **Ryan Murphy Director’s Showcase, 43rd Student Academy Awards (Semifinalist)**
 - A BLACK TWITTER DATE, Writer/Director (2016) - Commercial for **Blavity, Over One Million Views**
 - THE GET DOWN, Writer/Director (2016) - Commercial, **Project Greenlight Winner**
 - For more directorial work, go to: <http://www.quethelights.com/director>
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AWARDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Nominated, Daytime Emmy Awards. Winner, Screencraft Drama Feature Competition. Winner, The Film Empire Diversity Screenplay Competition. Finalist, HBO Short Film Competition. Finalist, Audience Awards Social Justice Competition. Semi-Finalist, ABC|Disney Directing Program. Semi-Finalist, Sony Diverse Directors Program. Semi-Finalist, Viacom Emerging Directors Program. Semi-Finalist, ABC|Disney Writers Program. Quarterfinalist, Atlanta Film Festival Screenplay Competition. Finalist. Hollywood Talent Summit Screenplay Competition.