RAFAEL MONTOYA

LEAD SCREENWRITER

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Summary

WGA member and lead screenwriter with 10 years heading writing teams at Paramount Television and FX Productions. Sole written-by credit on 19 produced episodes across 3 series; managed writers rooms of up to 8 writers. Represented by CAA. PAGE International Screenwriting Awards Top 10 finalist (2019). Specializes in crime drama and limited series formats.

Skills

Crime Drama Writing • Limited Series Development • Writers Room Leadership • Story Breaking • Network Notes Response Final Draft • Series Bible Writing • WGA Contracts • Character Arc Development

Experience

Paramount Television Studios — Hollywood, CA

Lead Screenwriter / Writer-Producer — Mar 2019 - Present

Lead writer and writers room head on two Paramount+ crime drama series.

- Led writing team of 6 on a Paramount+ limited series; delivered all 8 episode scripts on schedule with zero network-mandated page-one rewrites
- Sole written-by credit on episodes 101, 103, 105, and 108; 2 episodes received WGA Award nominations for Outstanding Episodic Drama 2023
- Supervised junior writers through 3 rounds of studio and network notes, maintaining 95% first-pass approval rate on all polishes

FX Productions — Los Angeles, CA

Staff Writer / Story Editor — Jul 2014 - Feb 2019

Staff writer advancing to story editor on a 3-season FX drama.

- Progressed from staff writer to story editor across 3 seasons; episode credits total 15 produced scripts under WGA contract
- Broke series season arc in collaboration with showrunner and executive producers for Season 3 — arc approved at first pitch without revision
- Earned $215,000 in WGA residuals across domestic, international, and streaming windows over 5-year period

Education

AFI Conservatory — Los Angeles, CA

Master of Fine Arts — Sep 2009 - May 2011

Screenwriting · GPA: 3.7

Florida State University College of Motion Picture Arts — Tallahassee, FL

Bachelor of Fine Arts — Sep 2005 - May 2009

Film Production · GPA: 3.5