

Cedric O'Bannon is an African American freelance video journalist and documentary filmmaker. A member of the National Writers Union/International Federation of Journalists, O'Bannon's work advances humanitarian goals by clarifying the past in support of a better future. Recent O'Bannon works are the feature documentary *An Exercise in Empathy* (2020), and the short doc *An Act of Unity* (2021). The latter is about the cross cultural-multi racial outcry over the 2014 fatal police shooting of Mike Brown in Ferguson, Missouri.

Director Cedric O'Bannon's other 2021 offering is the soon to premiere three part flash documentary-*Backlash* (2021). *Backlash* is the testimony of a ninth decade Black American man-whose social and educational activism began dramatically before he was ten years old in Mississippi. The year 2022 promises *Sundown*, an autobiographical feature length documentary.

Though born in Mississippi himself as were his parents before him, O'Bannon was mostly raised near the foothills of the Sierra Mountain Range, ninety miles from Sacramento, California. His father was a professor and department chairman at Chico State University and his mother a primary school educator. The younger O'Bannon's background and camera shape his unique capacity to give voice to the substrate of resistance to racism and fascism.

Cedric O'Bannon's film focus began to clarify in 2012. That was the year unarmed 17-year-old, Trayvon Martin, was fatally shot, walking to his father's home in a closed community in Florida. By 2016, O'Bannon was filming political rallies of the man who would soon become the chief executive officer of the United States.

June of 2016, while working as a video journalist, O'Bannon was stabbed by a Neo-Nazi with the sharpened end of a White supremacist flagpole. which bore bearing an American flag. While in surgery his equipment and footage were confiscated. He was treated by police as though a criminal and not a victim. By 2017, in Charlottesville, Heather Heyer, an anti-fascist protester, had been murdered by a Neo-Nazi utilizing a car as a deadly weapon, and injuring twenty other people. And so-history handed Cedric O'Bannon his documentary journalistic destiny-well before the siege on the USA capitol building in January 2021.

Cedric O'Bannon's formal film and journalism education evolved from 1991 to 2000. Its venues included the National Broadcasting School, City College of San Francisco, San Francisco State University, and the Academy of Arts University, San Francisco. Director O'Bannon's work in motion pictures, and in numerous theatrical settings with the International Alliance of Theater and Stage Employees (IATSE), define his exquisite representations of the intersection between eras in history and contemporary events.