S.M. Turrell & Andrew Kirkwood

Sean and Andrew met on a city parks landscaping detail as teenagers. Since 2005, they've collaborated creatively on scripts and pitches for films, series, documentaries, music videos, graphic novels and art projects.

Sean, a TIFF Filmmaker Lab Alumnus, DGC member, and multi-award winning filmmaker, is based in Toronto. He writes, produces, and directs dramas, documentary television, music videos and commercials and operates his own production company, Wolfe Lodge. After graduating from York University's Film Production Program, he got his start personally assisting directors and producers such as Peter Bogdanovich (*The Last Picture Show*), Tim Hunter (*River's Edge*), Charles Winkler (*Rocky Marciano*), and Tony Bill (Executive Producer of *Taxi Driver*).

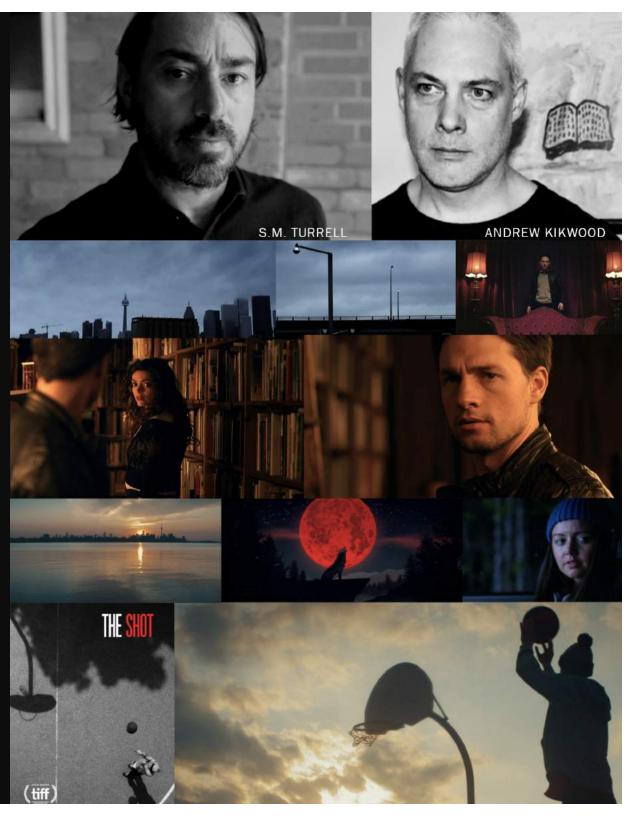
His television direction credits include *Falling For a Killer*, a true crime miniseries for Amazon Prime; Discovery Canada's *National Parks Project* — winner of a Gemini Award for Best Performing Arts Documentary Series; and Investigation Discovery's *Murder in Paradise* series. Sean also directed *Children of the Snow: The Darkest Winter* for Investigation Discovery: a two part, four-hour documentary about the unsolved Oakland County child abductions that terrorized Detroit in the late 70s.

Andrew, an honours graduate of Carleton University's English program, lives and works in Ottawa as a freelance writer. In addition to screenplays and series, he writes fiction and poetry. He also maintains a practice as a professional marketing writer and was a co-founder of the content agency Ascribe Marketing Communications, helping establish its global client base.

Sean and Andrew's first collaboration was the feature script, *Rock 'n' Roll Ruined My Life*, initially developed through Telefilm Canada and now optioned and in development with Patriot Pictures (*Synchronic, Zeroville, Running with the Devil*). The pair went on to create a short film, *Follow* – directed by Sean from a script Andrew wrote, co-produced with Rhombus Media (*Red Violin, Blindness, Enemy*). *Follow* stars Gregory Smith (*Everwood, Rookie Blue*) and premiered at the Cleveland International Film Festival. It was nominated for a Golden Sheaf award for Best Drama at the Yorkton Film Festival.

The duo's most recent short film, a visual poem called *The Shot*, was an official selection at the Toronto International Film Festival 2021.

Sean and Andrew's rural crime drama series *Lost Ghosts* is currently in development with Vancouverbased Lighthouse Pictures and their sci-fi adventure series, *Ghost Empire*, is in development with QC Entertainment (*Get Out, BlacKkKlansman, Us*) and Centropolis Entertainment (*Midway, Independence Day*) with Roland Emmerich attached as director. Their adaptation of the bestseller *The Day After Roswell* is currently in development with Patriot Pictures.



Series Concepts

GHOST EMPIRE

Sci-fi action-adventure Series pitch & pilot script

A desperate young mother unjustly exiled to a brutal prison territory joins with a renegade group of unlikely allies to find her one chance to escape and reunite with her daughter — in a near future that isn't yet ours, but soon could be.

LOST GHOSTS

Rural crime drama Series pitch & pilot Script

An ambitious young reporter with Native heritage caught between worlds uncovers a truth no one is prepared for after two missing teenaged girls — one Native, one white — turn up dead on a midwestern reservation.

Lighthouse Pictures currently attached

THE DISINFORMER Neo noir sci-fi conspiracy thriller Series pitch & pilot script

The tables turn on a U.S. Air Force disinformation agent when a shadow organization threatens his life, tangling him in a web of intrigue he can only escape with help from the very people he's been misleading.

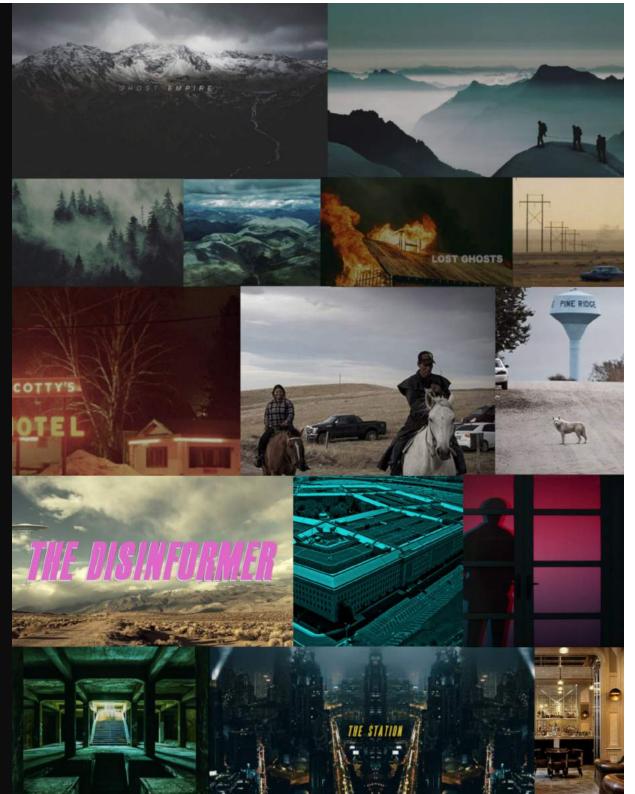
THE STATION Urban neo noir, sci-fi, surrealistic psychological thriller

Series pitch & pilot script

An architectural engineer learns that the unused subway system beneath a strange, timelost city hides portals to alternate realities – and is at the center of a centuries old battle to control the multiverse.

SHADOW LAKE Supernatural crime thriller Series pitch

A grotesque discovery draws a young reporter back to a town she visited as a child — where she learns the wealthy ruling family harbors sinister unworldly secrets.



Feature Films

IN THE BLOOD OF WOLVES

Northern noir, film fable, art house horror-thriller Feature script

A greedy ex-con takes over a remote northern cabin in search of precious gemstones he believes are hidden there. Waylaid by a cavalcade of eccentric locals with mysterious motives, he is forced to confront the unbreakable laws of desire and fate in a land where myth and reality are impossible to tell apart.

Selected into the TIFF Filmmaking Lab 2020 where it received mentorship from such filmmakers as Wim Wenders, Rian Johnson, Atom Egoyan, David Cronenburg, and Kasi Lemmons.

PINK COCAINE Art house drama-thriller Feature script

A wealthy middle-aged widow invites a mysterious drifter into her tropical beach house, enmeshing them both in a dangerous relationship with deadly consequences.

TRICK CITY Offbeat road movie, tech thriller Feature script

Sinister clues in a bizarre video game drive a conspiracy-obsessed underdog and a millennial femme fatale on an absurd, paranoid road trip into a world of government mind control projects and an 80 year-old UFO mystery.

ROCK N ROLL RUINED MY LIFE

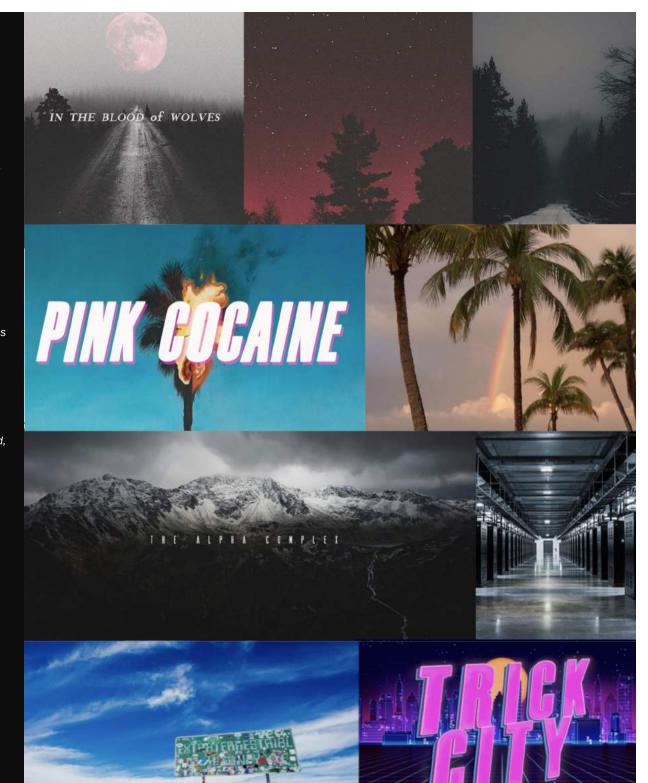
Music based comedy-drama Feature script

Facing a life of obscurity, a suburban drummer in a Rush tribute band makes one last stand at rockstardom.

Received screenplay development funding by Telefilm Canada. Optioned and in development at Patriot Pictures.

THE ALPHA COMPLEX Sci-fi psychological action-adventure Feature script

Three mind-altered exiles fight for their lives against violent gangs as they seek the truth behind their imprisonment in a remote penal reserve run by intelligent machines.



BLOCK HEAD Offbeat ultra-dark comedy, cultural satire Feature script

A man on the brink of suicide starts wearing a cardboard box on his head and becomes a media sensation, attracting a bizarre collection of hangers-on, opportunists and fascinated followers.

AVAILABLE LIGHT

Music based drama Feature script

A singer-songwriter who once had promise but can't shake off his demons tries starting over — but finds the past and his own self-destructive tendencies tough to leave behind.

DARK VARIANT

Sci-fi horror-thriller Feature script

Scientists in an underground particle physics laboratory seeking to harness dark energy accidentally bring a powerful being into our world from another dimension — with terrifying consequences.

STARDUST HOTEL

Surreal indie art house sci-fi

Feature script

A stranger with secrets arrives to a weird island town fuelled by an unearthly drug and ends up confronting his ultimate nemesis – himself.

BLUE CANARY

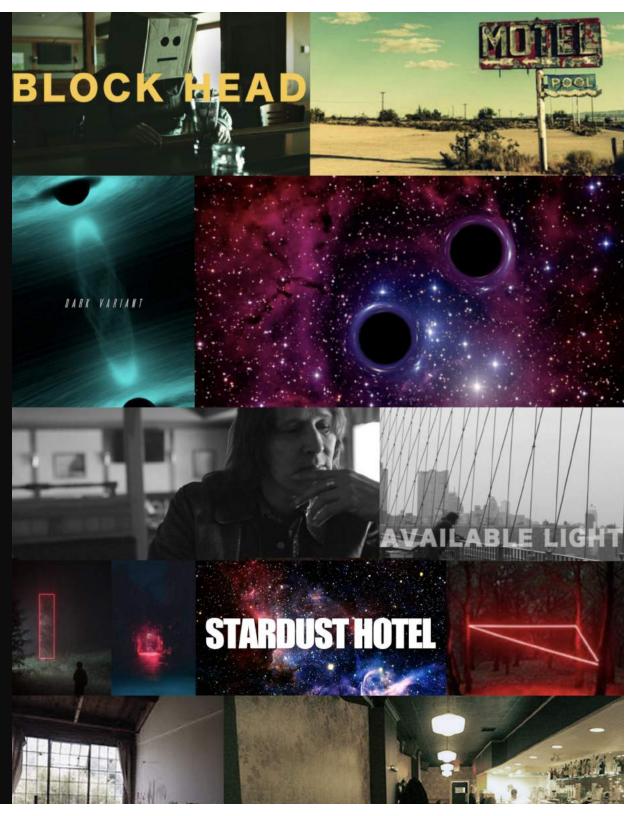
Art house drama, singular location set-piece Feature script

Two actor friends whose lives and careers have taken very different paths — one to the heights of success and the other the depths of failure — reconnect one night and end up wrestling with their own true feelings about each other... and about themselves.

WE RAN FROM THE FIRE Contemporary urban relationship drama

Feature script

An artist feeling past his prime is reinvigorated when he meets a beautiful and ambitious young woman. Yet their complicated relationship devolves into a struggle for power and competition for success.



PRODUCER DIRECTOR WRITER

S.M. Turrell

AWARDS

- Official Selection TIFF 2021 (The Shot)
- Select participant of the TIFF Filmmaker Lab 2020
- Juno Award, Best Video Director
- MuchMusic Awards for Best Video, Best Rock Video, Best Pop Video and Best Director
- West Coast Music Awards Best Video
- Finalist, Best Drama, Yorkton Film Festival (Follow)
- Grand Jury Prize, Gasparilla International Film Festival (Odessa)
- Jury Award, Best Sci Fi Short Film, Santa Fe Film Festival (Odessa)
- Gemini Awards Best Performing Arts Series (National Parks Project)
- Applied Arts Magazine Best Online Video
- Cassie Awards Gold Winner

S.M. Turrell is a producer, director, and writer of drama, documentary television, music videos and commercials.

His television direction credits include *Falling For a Killer*, a true crime miniseries for Amazon Prime; Discovery Network's eco-minded documentary series *Invention Nation*, Discovery Canada's *National Parks Project* — winner of a Gemini Award for Best Performing Arts Documentary Series — dramatic recreations for *I Didn't Do It* and *Cold Blood*, documentary and dramatic elements for Investigation Discovery's *Murder in Paradise*, the two-hour documentary special *Colleen Stan: Girl in the Box* for A&E Lifetime, and *Children of the Snow: The Darkest Winter*, a two part, four-hour documentary about the unsolved Oakland County child abductions that terrorized Detroit in the late 70s.

As one of the leading music video directors in Canada, he directed more than 100 clips for major label artists and popular independent artists. His videos have a combined total of over 100 million viewings online.

After graduating from York University's Film Production Program he began his career personally assisting producers and directors such as Peter Bogdanovich (*The Last Picture Show*), Tim Hunter (*River's Edge*), Charles Winkler (*Rocky*), Rob Cowan (Aquaman, The Conjuring) and Tony Bill (Executive Producer of *Taxi Driver*).

His series pitches and screenwriting collaborations with Andrew Kirkwood have garnered interest and support from HBO Canada, Anonymous Content, QC Entertainment (*Get Out*), Centropolis Entertainment/Roland Emmerich (Independence Day), Scythia Films (The Witch), the Canadian Film Centre, and Rhombus Media (Red Violin). Their screenplays Lost Ghosts and Rock N Roll Ruined My Life have been optioned by Patriot Pictures (*Prisoners of Ghostland, Syncronic*) and are currently in development. Also with Patriot, they are currently adapting the bestseller *The Day After Roswell* into a feature film screenplay and series.

A student of 'The Method' with noted acting coach Kenneth McGregor, Turrell has produced and directed four short films including: *Follow*, co-produced with Rhombus Media; *Odessa*, which won the Grand Jury prize at the Gasparilla International Film Festival and Santa Fe Film Festival; and the self-narrated, *The Shot*, which debuted recently at TIFF 2021. With his Métis-themed project *In the Blood of Wolves*, Turrell was selected to the prestigious TIFF Filmmaker Lab in 2020 where he and the project were mentored by filmmakers such as Wim Wenders, Atom Egoyan, David Cronenberg, Rian Johnson, and Kasi Lemmons.

Turrell is a citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario via his mother. He splits his time between Toronto, Los Angeles, and Wolfe Island at the mouth of the St. Lawrence River in Eastern Ontario.

