

Josias Hallé-Giesken

Videographer & Visual Storyteller

Contact Information

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- **Demo Reel:** <https://youtu.be/3h9Fe6eNppM>
- **Location:** Durban, South Africa

Summary of Qualifications

Highly driven and entrepreneurial Videographer and Photographer with four years of deep immersion in cinema-level equipment and full-stack production, following a foundational two years in customer service. I started freelancing in my second year of film studies, and whilst studying I got into spaces where I could accumulate a portfolio, and this was by working with local brands, including leading the full campaign coverage for Atletico Da Gama (ADG) a local streetwear brand. Uniquely combine my technical ability of cinematography and editing with soft skills in client management, problem-solving, and audience empathy developed in a high-volume call center environment. Seeking to leverage commercial freelance experience and film studies to drive measurable results in a dynamic team.

Key Projects (Freelance Experience)

Owner/Lead Videographer & Photographer | Dark Chocolate Productions | Durban, KZN
February 2023 – Present

- **Athletico Da Gama (ADG) Campaign:** Shot, and edited promotional videos and event coverage for the ADG soccer tournament, ensuring consistent visual messaging to drive participation and boost brand visibility among local sports enthusiasts.
- **Local Brand Partnerships:** Secured and executed end-to-end video and photography for multiple local Durban brands, adapted to the creative briefs, and helped boost their following by creating behind the scene content to view the creative process.
- **Dragon HP Training:** Leveraged dual proficiency in videography and professional photography to offer integrated visual packages for a soccer training camp of young athletes.
- **Itheke Gazette Event Coverage:** Functioned as a visual journalist, providing video and photographic documentation on a segment called Artiview Podcast, and the videos I do help let the audience see the interaction before they listen to it.

Technical & Production Skills

- **Cinematography:** Cinema Camera operation, Intermediate Lighting & Grip, Gimbal/Stabilizer Operation, Lens Selection.
- **Editing & Post:** Adobe Premiere Pro, DaVinci Resolve, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe After Effects
- **Transferable Soft Skills:** Active Listening, Empathy, Problem-Solving, Conflict Resolution, Stress Management, Charismatic, Team leader.

Film & Narrative Experience

Cinematography, Crew & Acting Roles | Student Film Collaborations | Durban, KZN

- Served as Cinematographer and Gaffer on multiple student film projects, gaining extensive practical experience with professional lighting setups and complex camera movement required for narrative storytelling.
- Supported production teams in various roles (Assistant Camera, Grips, Boom Swinging), fostering a comprehensive understanding of the entire film set hierarchy and efficient operational flow.
- Demonstrated acting range and commitment by successfully securing and executing the role of the main antagonist in an award-winning student film.
- Shadowed under cinematographers in the industry to get an understanding of how fast paced things are and how I need to develop my skills.

Education & Certifications

BA in Motion Picture | AFDA, Durban, South Africa

Feb 2023 - Dec 2024

- **Relevant Coursework:** Cinematography, Colour Grading.

BA Honours in Motion Picture | AFDA, Durban, South Africa

Feb 2025 - Dec 2025

Transferable Professional Experience

Customer Service Agent | CCI | Durban, South Africa

07 July 2021 – 05 January 2023 (2 Years)

- Managed a high-volume queue of inbound customer interactions regarding insurance, successfully resolving complex service and technical issues using my problem-solving and retention strategies.
- Consistently utilized active listening and empathetic communication to de-escalate frustrated customers, translating to a high customer satisfaction score.

- Demonstrated reliability and professionalism in a structured corporate environment, adhering to strict compliance protocols and performance metrics.