Leroy Barnes

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Profile

Archival producer who finds the footage, photos, and records that make a documentary feel true to its subject. Over eight years, I've led archival for ESPN, HBO, History, A&E, Amazon, YouTube, and Google, including ESPN's 30 for 30 *Boo-Yah* on Stuart Scott, where I built a library of more than 5,200 assets. I care as much about clearing material as finding it: careful licensing, clean rights logs, and a fair-use strategy that protects the budget, such as the $60K saved on HBO's *DMX: Don't Try to Understand*.

Selected Credits

- *Boo-Yah* (30 for 30: Stuart Scott), ESPN / Cinemation Studios, Lead Archival Producer, 2025
- Untitled anime history documentary, Good People, Archival Producer, 2025
- *Triumph: Jesse Owens and the Berlin Olympics*, History / Cinemation Studios, Archival Producer, 2024 (PGA Award nominee, Best Sports Documentary)
- *The Choice Is Yours*, MTV / Versus, Archival Producer, 2023
- *Silver Dollar Road*, Amazon Studios / Velvet Films, Archive Licensing and Research, 2023
- Google Doodle short films (Audre Lorde, Maria Tallchief, Savoy Ballroom, Stacey Milbern, Jerry Lawson), Google, Lead Archival Producer, 2020–2023
- *Ice Cold*, YouTube Originals / Mass Appeal, Archival Producer, 2021
- *DMX: Don't Try to Understand*, HBO / Mass Appeal, Archival Producer, 2020
- *Hip Hop Songs That Shook America* and *Death Row Stories*, A&E / Jigsaw Productions, Archival Producer / Researcher, 2019

Archival Production Experience

Lead Archival Producer, ESPN / Cinemation Studios | Jun 2024–Dec 2025

- Led archival on the 30 for 30 *Boo-Yah* (Stuart Scott) and built a library of more than 5,200 assets.

Archival Producer, Good People | Jun 2025–Dec 2025

- Archival research and acquisition for a feature documentary on the history of anime.

Archival Producer, History / Cinemation Studios | Nov 2023–Jun 2024

- *Triumph: Jesse Owens and the Berlin Olympics*, nominated for the PGA Award for Best Sports Documentary.

Archival Producer, MTV / Versus | Jun 2023–Sep 2024

- *The Choice Is Yours* (Dres). Delivered archival under budget.

Archival Producer, HBO / Words and Pictures | Jan 2023–Sep 2023

- Barry Bonds documentary (production paused).

Lead Archival Producer, Google | Oct 2020–Mar 2023

- Led archival for Google Doodle short films on Audre Lorde, Maria Tallchief, the Savoy Ballroom, Stacey Milbern and Jerry Lawson.

Archive Licensing and Research, Amazon Studios / Velvet Films | Apr 2022–Feb 2023

- *Silver Dollar Road*. Secured an exclusive family archive acquisition.

Producer, Vericine | Jan 2022–Present

- Biggie Smalls documentary, integrating archival with motion capture.

Archival Producer, Mass Appeal (HBO, A&E, YouTube Originals) | Jan 2020–Mar 2022

- *DMX: Don't Try to Understand* (HBO): built the library and saved $60K through fair-use agreements.
- *Ice Cold* (YouTube Originals) and *Origins of Hip Hop* research (A&E).

Archival Researcher, Jigsaw Productions | 2018–2019

- *Hip Hop Songs That Shook America* and *Death Row Stories* (A&E). Research on *Enhanced* (ESPN+) and *Divide and Conquer: The Story of Roger Ailes*.

Additional archival work: Tyler Perry Studios, *Maxine's Baby* (2021); Highsnobiety, Woolrich commercial research (2023).

Field Production

Field Producer (contract), ACLU of Southern California | Apr 2026–Jun 2026

- Produced field coverage of three Los Angeles events (May Day Rally, Mother's Day action, L.A. Pride), capturing b-roll, photo, and video.

Skills

- **Research and sourcing:** network, newsreel, government (NARA, LOC, NASA), university and private family archives
- **Licensing and clearance:** vendor negotiation (Getty and others), materials releases, fair-use strategy, rights logs
- **Asset management:** naming conventions, master grids and cue sheets for libraries of 5,000+ assets
- **Production:** field producing, B-roll and photo capture, editing in DaVinci Resolve

Education

Bates College, B.A. in Dance, concentration in Racism and Material Culture