

THE LAUGHING MAN

a documentary film by Zack Godshall

Synopsis: *The Laughing Man* is an intimate and tragicomic portrait of East Texas native and longtime Louisiana resident Thomas Alan Williamson. Though known for his infectious laugh, Thomas has lived a life haunted by tragedy, mental illness, and estrangement. He'd like to visit his dying father back home in Texas, but Thomas faces homelessness, making every day a struggle to survive. A mosaic of slice-of-life encounters, interviews, photographs, first-person confessionals, phone calls, and hand-written journals, the film creates an intimate connection with a remarkable individual who is but one of the many seeking shelter under our freeways and refuge in our hospitals.

The film was supported in part by New Orleans Film Society's Southern Producers Lab and the Louisiana Board of Regents.

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/637563666>

Director's Bio: Louisiana native Zack Godshall makes films about unsung people and places that exist along the fringes of culture. His films have been acclaimed by The New York Times, The Atlantic, and Oxford American, among others and played at the Sundance Film Festival, on The Documentary Channel, and on Time.com. Zack earned an MFA in film directing from UCLA and currently teaches film and screenwriting at Louisiana State University.

Credits:

Directed by Zack Godshall

Featuring Thomas Alan Williamson

Produced by Jillian Godshall & Zack Godshall

Music by Daniel Coolik

Contact Info: *The Laughing Man* will be screening regionally in the fall of 2022. For screening dates and information, please visit : www.zackgodshall.com

Please contact Producer Jillian Godshall [jilliangodshall@gmail.com] with questions.