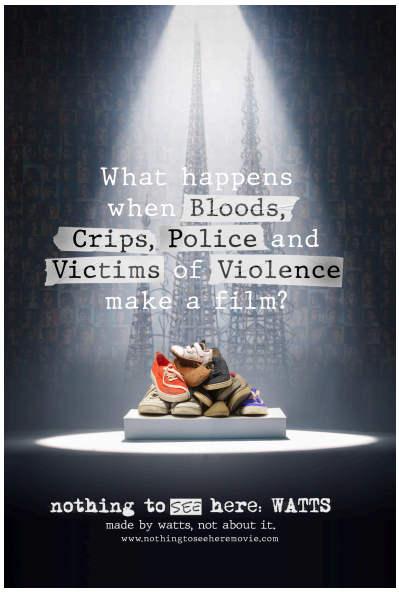
Nothing to See Here: Watts



THE STORY

Sixty years after the 1965 Watts uprising, the neighborhood America wrote off has shown us what is still possible.

After a late-night police ride-along in Watts, an outsider witnesses a version of Watts that never makes the news.

Searching for a way to understand what he had seen, he poses a simple question: what would happen if the people living the story told it themselves?

Twenty residents (rival gang members, police officers, students, parents, and victims of violence) are given iPhones and full control over their own footage. Seventeen of them are the film's credited filmmakers, and more than 300 members of the community contribute to its making.

There is no script.
No outside director.
No outsider shaping the story.

Instead, the participants film their lives: raw, unfiltered, and on their own terms.

But the process takes an unexpected turn in the editing room, where one rule governs the cut: nothing stays in unless everyone agrees.

Forced to sit together and watch each other's lives, people with every reason to distrust one another must decide how their community will be seen.

As personal histories collide, long-held assumptions begin to break down. What emerges is not forgiveness, but recognition.

Then the filmmakers screen the film in a warehouse for the leaders of Watts' four largest gangs, men with more than 200 years of prison time between them. The gangs ask for more screenings. Out of those rooms comes a peace agreement, written by the people who would have to live under it.

According to the LAPD, in the twelve months that followed, homicides in Watts fell 90 percent, gang-related homicides fell to zero, and all forms of violent crime fell by more than half.

Nothing to See Here: Watts is a film created by Watts, not about it, revealing what becomes possible when people see their enemies differently.

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE · 91 MIN · COLOR · ENGLISH · UNITED STATES · IMDB TT38648254

THE COMMUNITY	2.1 square miles	60+ gangs	100 homicides while filming
THE PROCESS	20 filmmakers	300+ community contributors	4,000 attended the community premiere
THE 12 MONTHS AFTER	0 gang-related homicides	90% fewer homicides	>50% less violent crime

DIRECTOR CREDIT	Created, directed, and edited by the community of Watts — 17 named community filmmakers
CONCEPT	Michael Soenen
PRODUCED BY	Michael Soenen, Sherine Ebadi, Todd Lieberman, Suzanne Malveaux, Brandon "Stix" Salaam-Bailey
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Dr. Bernice A. King
MUSIC BY	Brandon "Stix" Salaam-Bailey
RECOGNITION	200+ awards in 18 countries · 75+ festival selections

THE FILMMAKERS

Emily Avalos · John Coughlin · Celeste Garnica · Meryland Gonzalez · Jaime Gregory · LaWanda Hawkins · Pastor Jose Hernandez · Erik Loomis · Neci McKinney · Tim Pearce · Sean Reynolds · Tyrone Riley Jr. · Tyrone Riley Sr. · Kristina Ripatti · Iris Romero · Qiuana Williams · Cornelius Wills

"In a world that often seems too divided, the Watts community chose another path and achieved what no one thought possible."

DR. BERNICE A. KING · CEO, THE KING CENTER
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, NOTHING TO SEE HERE: WATTS

TIME

"A playbook for how communities can reclaim their streets by telling their own stories."

TERRY MCDONELL

Forbes

"The film represents a radical experiment in storytelling and social change."

DAVID HOCHMAN

DEADLINE

"One of the most remarkable documentaries of the year... bold, unapologetically real, and socially impactful."

MATTHEW CAREY

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Full press kit and photographs: nothingtoseeheremovie.com/presskit · Watch: nothingtoseeheremovie.com/watch