



Director, Walter R. Dominguez Biography

Walter Dominguez was born in Santa Paula, California in 1947. He is a second-generation Latino/Hispanic of Mexican and Spanish heritage. His family's roots in California begin in 1904.

Growing up in Pasadena, California he attended Pasadena public schools. He began acting in leading roles for the stage beginning in 1960, in Pasadena-area productions. In 1965, The Rockefeller Foundation recognized Walter's outstanding academic and leadership accomplishments by awarding him a full tuition scholarship for four years of undergraduate studies at Occidental College in Los Angeles, California. Graduating in 1969 from Occidental College, Walter received a B.A. in History – a long-time passion. With a minor in Theater, he continued work as an actor and director.

Walter also attended the University of Southern California School of Cinema Studies, doing graduate work in 1972, where he was recognized for his outstanding student films, and again in 1979 when he received the school's most prestigious prize and grant money for graduate-level student films.

In 1970, Walter became an Assistant Director in the Director's Guild of America (DGA). He was only the second Latino to have graduated from the Director's Guild-Producer program and to become a DGA member. Walter worked on numerous television series, movies for television, and several major studio feature films as an Assistant Director, including Robert Wise's, "*The Andromeda Strain*," Stanley Kramer's "*Oklahoma Crude*," and Frank Perry's "*Play It As It Lays*."

In 1982, after meeting three influential Native American spiritual elders, Walter shifted to other work, so he could study Native American history and culture, and travel throughout the U.S. to participate in countless native rituals and ceremonies, and assisting ceremonial leaders.

Walter returned to filmmaking in 2002 when he established his own independent production company, Chasing Light Pictures LLC to produce the feature-length documentary project: "*Weaving the Past: Journey of Discovery*." Requiring over a decade of extensive research and filming in Mexico and the U.S. Southwest, Walter is proud to bring to the public the story of his ancestors, interwoven with largely unknown but important history of Mexico and the U.S. He is also currently developing two other projects: "*Whitewashed Adobe: The Rise of Los Angeles*," a

history documentary television series for public television, and a feature film based on the life of Mexican revolutionary, Praxedis G. Guerrero. Walter is also President of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles United Methodist Museum of Social Justice, of which he is a co-founder.

Walter is married to well-known television and film actress, Shelley Morrison, who Executive Produced "*Weaving the Past: Journey of Discovery.*"