



WHEN I STUTTER

DIRECTED BY JOHN GOMEZ MUSIC BY MIKE SEMPLE NARRATED BY TY MAYBERRY ASSOCIATE PRODUCER STEVE PAULSON
CONSULTING PRODUCER MICHELLE GEVOIAN WRITTEN BY SCOTT PALASIK, DENNIS FULGONI & JOHN GOMEZ
SOUND EDITED BY JASON PAYNE ANIMATION BY SANTOSH OOMMEN PRODUCED BY KEEN EYE PRODUCTIONS 2017

WWW.WHENISTUTTER.COM



WHEN I STUTTER reveals the humanity that exists within people who stutter. Over the course of nearly 5 years, this documentary shares the stories of nineteen people who stutter that run the range of human emotion from despair to hopefulness to ultimately, triumph.

Director

JOHN GOMEZ


WhenIStutter.org

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 @keen_eye

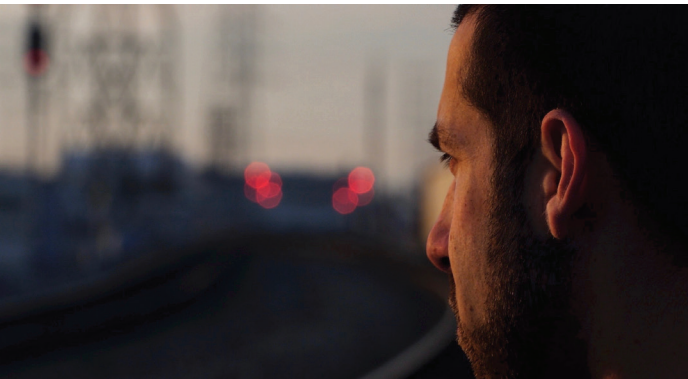
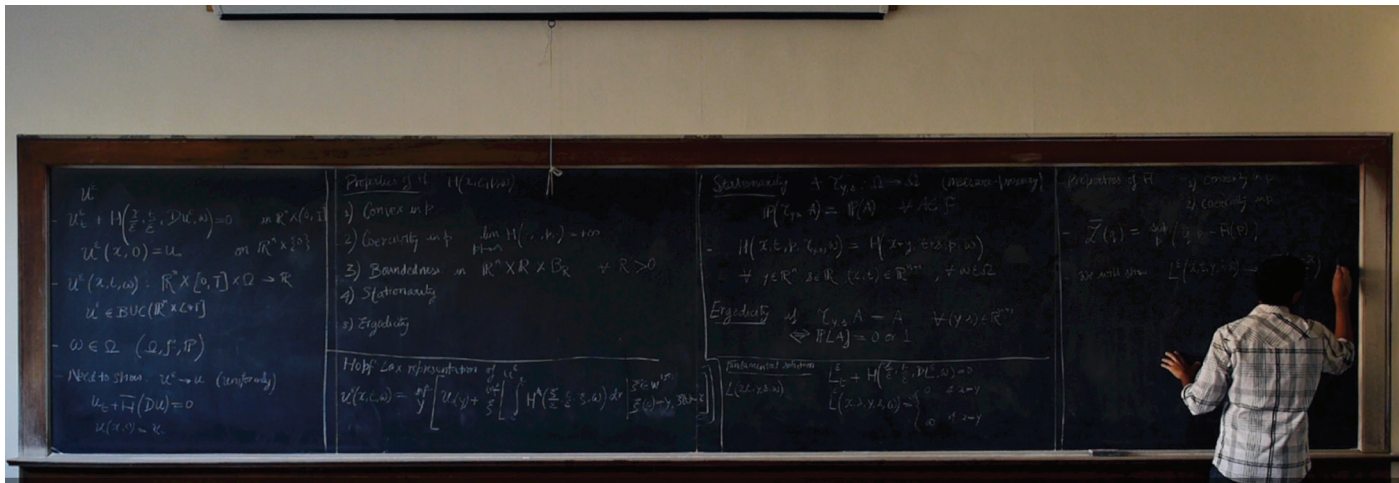
 [imdb.com/title/tt7444748](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7444748)

 WhenIStutter

 when_I_stutter

 WhenIStutter.org

67 minutes | English | HD (16x9) | 2017 world premiere



WHEN I STUTTER

A DOCUMENTARY FILM



AWARDS

BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE
Lisbon International Film Festival

EMERGING FILMMAKER AWARD
Chagrin Documentary Film Festival

AUDIENCE AWARD
DOCUMENTARY FEATURE
Awareness Festival

AUDIENCE AWARD
DOCUMENTARY FEATURE
Kansas International Film Festival

BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE
Borrego Springs Film Festival

2018 MEDIA AWARD
Granite Bay Speech

EXCEPTIONAL MERIT AWARD
Docs Without Borders Film Festival

BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE
(RUNNER-UP)
Albuquerque Film and Music Experience

SUPPORTER OF PEOPLE WITH
FLUENCY DISORDERS AWARD
International Fluency Association

MEDIA RESOURCES

Trailer, Production Stills,
Director Photo,
Movie Poster/Art

WhenIStutter.org/Media



FILM DESCRIPTIONS

SYNOPSIS:

WHEN I STUTTER reveals the humanity that exists within people who stutter. Filmed over the course of nearly five years, this documentary shares the stories of 19 people who stutter that run the range of human emotion from despair to hopefulness to ultimately, triumph.

OVERVIEW:

Directed by John Gomez, WHEN I STUTTER reveals the humanity that exists within people who stutter. Filmed over the course of nearly five years, this documentary shares the stories of nineteen people who stutter that run the range of human emotion from despair to hopefulness to ultimately, triumph. Interspersed throughout the documentary are “educational vignettes” that help explain stuttering and illuminate some of the mysteries surrounding stuttering. A vital storyline in the film follows a young man on his journey through stuttering therapy. The relationship he forms with the speech pathologist and the progress he makes is heartwarming. It demonstrates the wonder and beauty that can occur when one meets the right person at the right stage in life.

FESTIVAL SCREENINGS

CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
World Premiere
Cleveland, OH | April 2nd, 2017

AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL FILM FESTIVAL
Washington DC | August 3rd, 2017

MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL
Middlebury, VT | August 26th, 2017

CHAGRIN DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL
Chagrin Falls, OHE | October 6th, 2017

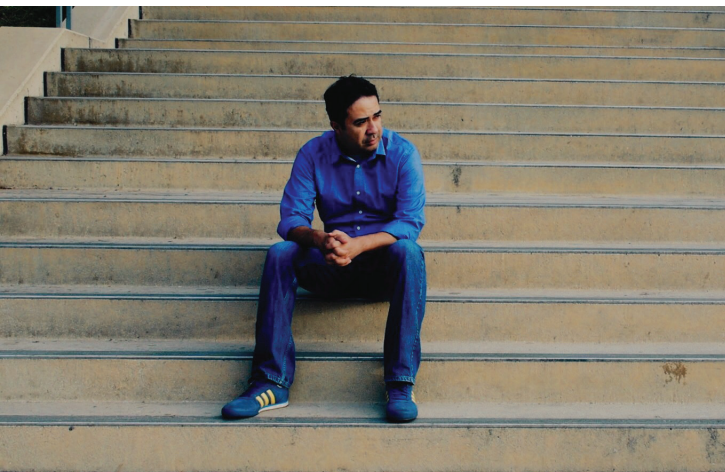
AWARENESS FILM FESTIVAL
Los Angeles, CA | October 15th, 2017

KANSAS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
Overland Park, KS | November 5th, 2017

BORREGO SPRINGS FILM FESTIVAL
Borrego Springs, CA | January 14th, 2018

SOCIALLY RELEVANT FILM FESTIVAL
New York City, NY | March 16th, 2018

ALBUQUERQUE FILM & MUSIC EXPERIENCE
Albuquerque, NM | June 9th, 2018



DIRECTORS STATEMENT

SHORT FORM

In making WHEN I STUTTER, my goal was to create a film experience that explores the full impact stuttering can have on one's life. The honesty and candor with which the interviewees express themselves reveals a side of stuttering that is not often discussed in the media. Understanding the deep emotional impact that stuttering can have gives the viewer a rare opportunity to gain understanding and insight into a communication disorder that is shrouded in mystery and misunderstanding. This film's mission is to make a lasting statement about people who stutter. It is a must for anyone who is interested in learning more about stuttering and the emotional consequences at the core of it all.

LONG FORM

In making WHEN I STUTTER, my goal was to create a film experience that explores the full impact that stuttering can have on one's life. Public perceptions and even those of speech-language pathologists often emphasize only the physical manifestations of stuttering though it frequently has long-term effects on one's quality of life. Speech pathologists are professionally and ethically obliged to seek understanding of the client as a whole person, strongly considering and addressing his or her emotional well-being. This is not a new idea.

Charles Van Riper, Joseph Sheehan, and many other pioneers in the study of stuttering came to believe through decades of client interactions that the only way to help a person who stutters is by treating them holistically without an exclusive focus on fluency (speaking without stuttering). It is essential to reintroduce and reinforce this concept in order to provide effective intervention at any age and contribute to a client's positive sense of self regardless of speech imperfections. Parents, friends, and the public at large need to know what may result from a lifetime of stuttering and what can be done to improve the lives of those who contend with it.

The honesty and candor with which the interviewees express themselves in WHEN I STUTTER reveals a side of stuttering that is not often discussed. Nineteen people were interviewed in depth for this project. Their personal stories are captured, distilled, and presented in a respectful, open, and compelling format. Understanding the deep emotional impact that stuttering can have gives the viewer a rare opportunity to gain understanding and insight into a communication disorder that is shrouded in mystery and misunderstanding. This film's mission is to make a lasting statement about people who stutter. It is a must for anyone who is interested in learning more about stuttering and the emotional consequences at the core of it all.

CONFERENCE SCREENINGS

CALIFORNIA SPEECH &
HEARING ASSOCIATION
Pasadena/Sacramento, CA | Mar 2017/2018/2019

NATIONAL STUTTERING ASSOCIATION
Dallas, TX | July 6th, 2017

AMERICAN SPEECH AND
HEARING ASSOCIATION
Los Angeles, CA | Nov 2017/2018

EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF SPEECH
& LANGUAGE THERAPISTS
Lisbon, Portugal | May 11th, 2018

ONE WORLD, MANY VOICES:
SCIENCE & COMMUNITY
Hiroshima, Japan | July 15th & 16th, 2018

GERMAN STUTTERING & SELF-
HELP CONGRESS
Cologne, Germany | Oct 6th, 2018

CONGRESO INTERNACIONAL
DE TARTATAMUNDEZ
Tucuman, Argentina | Nov 10, 2018



PRINCIPAL CREDITS

Director: John Gomez
Producer: John Gomez
Cinematographer: John Gomez
Editor: John Gomez
Writers: Scott Palasik, Dennis Fulgoni, John Gomez
Consulting Producer: Michelle Gevoian
Associate Producer: Steve Paulson
Composer: Mike Semple
Sound Editor: Jason Payne
Narrator: Ty Mayberry
Animation: Santosh Oommen, Steven Montenegro

JOHN GOMEZ

John Gomez was born and raised in Northern New Mexico. He attended Colorado College where he earned a degree in Philosophy and American Ethnic Studies. At the age of 24 he pursued an acting career in New York first and then tried his luck in Hollywood. At the age of 31 he decided to return to school to become a Speech Language Pathologist. He graduated from California State University, Los Angeles with a Masters degree in Communication Disorders in 2009.

Currently, he works as a Speech Pathologist for the Los Angeles Unified School District. In 2018, he began teaching a graduate level course on dysfluency at Cal State LA (CSULA). John has been honored by CSULA with the Lois V. Douglass Distinguished Alumnus Award.

John also moonlights as a filmmaker. In 2012 he established Keen Eye Productions. He has shot, edited, and produced several promotional videos, live events and various other short visual narratives. His first feature film, WHEN I STUTTER had its world premiere at the Cleveland International Film Festival on April, 2nd 2017 and has gone on to win 7 awards at film festivals across the world. John has also been honored with the Emerging Filmmaker Award from the prestigious Chagrin Documentary Film Festival.



ACCOLADES

"An amazingly truthful and heartfelt depiction of stuttering."

Barry Guitar - PhD, CCC-SLP
Professor Emeritus, University of Vermont

"Definitely the best portrayal of the stuttering experience! A must-see for people who stutter, and those who love them! Masterful!"

Tom Scharstein – Board of Directors
(National Stuttering Association)

"WHEN I STUTTER captures the essence of the personal experience, the impacts of the journey, and the human necessity to share one's soul."

Kristin Chmela – M.A. CCC-SLP BCS-F
Board Certified Specialist Fluency
Director, Chmela Fluency Center

"A beautiful and thought-provoking work of cinematic art that will help all viewers to better define and redefine stuttering."

Erik Raj – M.A. CCC-SLP
Professor at Monmouth University

"When I Stutter" allows viewers to experience the emotional, challenging, and triumphant journey that is stuttering. And, reminds us all of the power of human connection and the universal desire to be heard, listened to, and understood. A MUST see for all!"

Jaime Michise – M.S., CCC-SLP

INTERVIEWEES

Jason Peterson
Richard Alvarado
Devin Billingsley
Kevin Trang
Luis Espinoza
Michael Retzinger,
M.a., CCC-SLP
Scott Palasik, Ph.d., CCC-SLP
Jenny Striplin

Viviana Striplin
Ethan Striplin
Nathan Striplin
Matt Striplin
Gail Wilson Lew,
M.a., CCC-SLP
Kevin Eldridge,
Ph.d., CCC-SLP
Barry Guitar, Ph.d., CCC-SLP

Josue M. Marcus
Steve Mereu
Rigoberto Garcia
Charlee Ear
Rachel Martinez
Vi Nam Ra Agrawal, Ph.d.
Dale Williams,
Ph.d., CCC-SLP
Josh Tripp

REENACTMENT ACTORS

Doron Willis
Leon Mayberry
Ty Mayberry
Marcus Rosales
Octavio Rosales-Montoya
Brian Alvarez
Tina Griffith
Kelsey Griffith

Eliza Griffith
Erikca Wilson
Max Gomez
Xander Gomez
Lel Fulgoni
Luis Espinoza
Bevin Hamilton
Rachael Murphy

Sam Kaplan
Gina Lohman
Nick Montecalvo
Christopher Paiz
Parker Cannon
Dom Bogart
Zachary Calvello
Scott Howard

TRANSLATION CREDITS

Czech	Ales Bazideluxe Vavrousek
Dutch	Martine Vanryckeghem, Marleen Vanryckeghem, Bart Maton
English	Connie Huynh
French	Geneviève Lamoureux
German	Manfred Fitzner
Hebrew	Shiran Yisrael
Hindi	Devna Desai
Italian	Gabriele Bianco
Japanese	Tetsunoshin Fujii
Mandarin	Connie Huynh
Polish	Aleksandra Krawczyk, Katarzyna Wesierska, Marta Wesierska, Mikolaj Witkowski,
Portuguese	Ana Paula G. Souza Mumy, Daniela Verônica Zackiewicz, Bianca Zackiewicz Ribeiro, Mariana Zackiewicz Ribeiro
Spanish	Veronica Sosa, Patricia Tarango
Urdu	Humera Khan