

## **Director Bio**

Jen McGowan, born in Washington DC and raised in Fairfax, VA, began her career as a filmmaker in 1997 when she received her BFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. There, she trained as an actor at the Atlantic Theater Company and studied with such renowned artists as David Mamet, William H. Macy & Sam Shepard.

After graduating, Jen made the move from acting to directing with her award winning short film She Never, which she also wrote. During this period, Jen worked in production with some of New York's top producers at companies such as RSA/Black Dog, A Band Apart, Killer Films, and Propaganda. She was fortunate to work on many independent feature films including the Oscar winning Boys Don't Cry.

After the reception of her first film, she was hired to direct a promo for the National AIDS Marathon on location in San Francisco, a project she is very proud of.

In 2002 Jen gained a place to study film in the MFA program at the University of Southern California. In 2004 Jen directed her first music video, Chelsea Hotel, for artist Karen Ramos, and began production on her graduate thesis film, *Confessions* of a Late Bloomer. Jen was honored with a grant from The Caucus Foundation for her work on *Late Bloomer* as well as a scholarship from Women in Film recognizing outstanding young female filmmakers.

Confessions of a Late Bloomer has just begun its festival run at the 2006 Tribeca Film Festival. Some honors for the film include: Zoom In Award for Best Editing. Remi Award for Creative Excellence, Best Short Film at Living Proof Music & Art Festival, Best of the Fest at Rhode Island International Film Festival.

Jen is eager to start production on her next project, her debut feature film *The* Missing Children's Club. Collaborating with her producer, Philip Lott, she is also actively working with two writers on the films The Perfect Match and La Maison du Pépé (The Grandfather's House).