

Sam Pollard

[Headshot](#)

Sam Pollard is an accomplished feature film and television editor, and documentary producer/director.

Between 1990 and 2010, Mr. Pollard edited several Spike Lee's films: **Mo' Better Blues**, **Jungle Fever**, **Girl 6**, **Clockers**, and **Bamboozled**. Mr. Pollard and Mr. Lee co-produced a few documentary productions for the small and big screen, **Four Little Girls**, a feature-length documentary about the 1963 Birmingham church bombings which was nominated for an Academy Award and **When The Levees Broke**, a four-part documentary that won numerous awards, including a Peabody and three Emmy Awards. Five years later 2010 he co-produced and supervised the edit on the follow up to Levees **If God Is Willing And Da Creek Don't Rise**.

Since 2012 Mr. Pollard has completed as a producer/director **Slavery By Another Name** a 90-minute documentary for PBS that was in competition at the Sundance Festival, **August Wilson: The Ground On Which I Stand** a 90-minute documentary in 2015 for American Masters, **Two Trains Runnin'** a feature length documentary in 2016 that premiered at the Full Frame Film Festival. **Sammy Davis Jr., I've Gotta Be Me** for American Masters premiered at the 2017 Toronto International Film Festival. In 2019 Mr. Pollard co-directed the Six Part Series **Why We Hate** that premiered on The Discovery Channel. In 2020 he was one of the directors on the 2020 HBO Series **Atlanta's Missing and Murdered: The Lost Children**. He also completed in 2020 **MLK/FBI** that premiered at the 2020 Toronto Film Festival and the New York Film Festival. In 2021 HBO premiered two of his films **Black Art: In the Absence of Light** and **Citizen Ashe**.

2022 and 2023 have been very productive years for Pollard. He completed **Lowndes County and the Road to Black Power**, a film he co-directed with Academy Award nominated Geeta Gandbhir, the two-part documentary, **Bill Russell: Legend**, about the legendary Boston Celtic and civil rights icon that premiered on Netflix on February 8, 2023. And that same year he premiered **Max Roach: The Drum Also Waltzes**, a film he co-directed with Ben Shapiro, that had its world premiere at the SXSW Film Festival. And the film **South to Black Power**, inspired by New York Times columnist Charles Blow's

book, *The Devil You Know: A Black Power Manifesto*, co-directed by Pollard and Llewellyn Smith premiered on HBO in Fall 2023.

In 2025 he was an Executive Producer on the Netflix Series **Katrina: Come Hell and High Water** and EP on the Oscar nominated **The Perfect Neighbor**.