

1946

THE MISTRANSLATION THAT SHIFTED CULTURE

U.S. COMPETITION | DOC NYC 2022 WORLD PREMIERE | ACQUISITION

DIRECTED BY:

Sharon "Rocky" Roggio

EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY:

Daniel Karlake

PRODUCED BY:

Jena Serbu and Sharon "Rocky" Roggio

ORIGINAL MUSIC BY:

Mary Lambert

FESTIVALS:

World Premiere

U.S. COMPETITION NOMINEE | DOC NYC November 2022 WORLD PREMIERE
AUDIENCE AWARD WINNER 2022

California Premiere

PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
BEST OF FEST 2023

RUN TIME: 92 minutes

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SYNOPSIS

1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture is a feature documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946. It chronicles the discovery of never-before-seen archives at Yale University which unveil astonishing new revelations, and casts significant doubt on any biblical basis for LGBTQIA+ prejudice. Featuring commentary from prominent scholars as well as opposing pastors, including the personal stories of the film's creators, 1946 is at once challenging, enlightening, and inspiring.

While other documentaries have been successful in their attempt to treat the symptom of homophobia in the church, 1946 is working to diagnose and treat the disease - Biblical Literalism.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

1946: The Mistranslation that Shifted Culture is a film that documents the history behind a poor translation of an ancient text, and the subsequent devastating aftermath.

Yet while so much of the documentary's content is rooted in research and scholarship, the heartbeat of the film are the personal stories of its creators, including my own.

In a sense, my story is not exceptional. I was raised in a loving home, the daughter of a Christian pastor who believes being gay is a sin. Realizing I was a lesbian at a young age, I carried tension, fear, and spiritual anxiety because of how my family believed. Then came an act of betrayal that robbed me of being able to come out to my family on my own terms. What followed was estrangement, heartbreak, and profound sadness. There existed an unspoken disconnection that felt irreparable. Through it all was a deep yearning for reconciliation and acceptance.

While there are countless stories that are similar, my journey has been uniquely personal. Having worked for years in the film industry as a producer, I came across the research surrounding the mistranslation of the Bible. My life immediately changed. My mission and purpose became clear. This research needed to be brought out into the light.

What started off with a few cameras at a conference with a nonexistent budget has absolutely blossomed into a movement that I could not have foreseen. Today 1946 has an established dedicated team of volunteers who've contributed their time, money, and efforts to bring this film to the world. We've received major donations from individuals, private organizations, churches and crowd funding. The production has been 100% bootstrapped through private donations. Every single budgetary need has been met exactly when and where and how we needed it. We always had just enough to get the job done.

1946 won't change everyone's mind. LGBTQIA+ discrimination has a lot of momentum that can't be stopped overnight. But if this research and these stories lead to productive conversations within communities of faith, then 1946's purpose will be fulfilled.

But even more important are the potential conversations within families. Much of the evangelical community are not bad people. Rather, they are victims of bad theology, just as we are. Biblical literalism has led to the marginalization of innumerable human beings, not just within the gay community. But most families love each other. And where there is love there is a willingness to learn. Where there is love, there is hope.

It means the world to me that my family, including my father, will be with me at the premiere of 1946. While we still have our differences, which are documented in the movie, a throughline of compassion persists which

I hope comes through. The unspoken disconnection still exists, and I still have the universal need for belonging. Perhaps 1946 will bring me closer to my dream. I hope it does so for others as well.

1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture for me as a director, isn't just a film anymore. It's an act of mercy, it's an act of compassion, it's an act of justice, and of empathy, not only for those involved in the creation of the film, for those we interviewed, for the audience who will watch it, but for myself as well. It's an act of Grace.

We hope it will be for you too.

Thank you

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

SHARON "ROCKY" ROGGIO | Director, Producer

Sharon "Rocky" Roggio is making her directorial debut with 1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture and proudly joins the ranks of women filmmakers and documentarians. Roggio has been honing her expertise in film and television producing for two decades and has worked on award-winning films and series, including "House of Cards," "Parks and Recreation," "W/ Bob and David," "Whip It," "Red Dawn" and "Flipped," with A-List stars such as Robin Wright, David Fincher, Drew Barrymore, Chris Hemsworth, Rob Reiner, Ed Harris, Jennifer Connelly, Ellen Burstyn, Amy Poehler, Tyler Perry, Bob Odenkirk, Sigourney Weaver, and Jimmy Fallon. She also had the privilege to work and meet crews across the country, having done several national commercial campaigns. She is a previous member of 3 IATSE film unions, Local 487 D.C./Baltimore/Virginia, Local 38 Detroit, and Local 161 New York. While attending film school at Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey, Roggio secured an internship with Banyan Productions, one of the nation's leading producers of non-scripted reality television for networks like TLC, FOX, Travel Network, Discovery Network, The Food Network, Discovery Kids, Discovery Health, Lifetime, Nick @ Nite, PBS, Style, and HGTV.Com. Her internship quickly became associate producing responsibilities for "A Wedding Story" on TLC and later led to contract work for "Ambush Makeover" on FOX. Producing came naturally to Roggio, and coupled with her studies, her employment at Banyan proved invaluable. She was instantly hooked on the craft.

Wanting to expand her experience, Roggio left Banyan and delved hard into independent film and theatre with the launch of Sweetbread Studios in Philadelphia with Founder and 1946 producer, Jena Serbu. As Co-Founder of the company, Roggio produced multiple short films, music videos, commercials, live events, and theatre productions. The company's first short film, 'Billville' won "director's choice" and "Best Experimental Short" from the Cape May Film Festival and the Philadelphia Film Festival, respectively. Sweetbread Studios has ten award-winning short films, including a 22-minute drama, "Sugar Cookie", which continued to screen internationally after participating in film festivals in Bologna, Athens, Paris, Melbourne, Brisbane, Rome, Philadelphia, and Tucson. In 2013 Roggio and Sweetbread Studios were developing several scripted and non-scripted content, including a reality series titled "Hill House," a Washington-based "insider" show, which received press in The Washington Post, Huffington Post, and Vanity Fair, amongst others. During her time away from Sweetbread Studios, Roggio moved to Detroit to work as a producer for Radish Creative Group. While at Radish, Roggio produced several projects, including; PSAs, industrials, TV commercials, radio commercials, educational documentaries, short films, sizzle reels, print advertisements, and children's programming, including the award-winning commercial titled "Cancer Opera" for St. John's Health which won a Sliver HMR Award in 2009 and a Telly Award in 2008. Roggio also had an opportunity to go to Los Angeles on behalf of the company to pitch a concept to Showtime, attend the Kid Screen Summit in Canada, and meet industry leaders in children's programming, merchandising, and content creators from around the world. She also values her time with Radish as an opportunity to hone her line-producing skills, having managed and assembled multiple campaign budgets ranging from short to long format, union crew/talent vs. non-union

crew/talent, and budgets reaching up to a million dollars. While living and working in Michigan, Roggio had an opportunity to immerse herself in the film industry with the passing of the largest tax incentive in the nation. Roggio landed a production-coordinating job on the first project to attach to the program, and her feature film career took off. In May 2014, Roggio left her crew position at “House of Cards” and moved to Los Angeles to produce film and television full-time. In 2016, Roggio associate produced, and production designed GOOK, a feature film that premiered at Sundance in 2017 and won the Audience Award in the Next Category. In 2018 when she heard about the 1946 mistranslation in the Bible, Roggio immediately quit all her other endeavors and has focused all of her time, money, and resources on producing and create this documentary.

JENA SERBU | Producer

Jena Serbu is an interdisciplinary creative. She is an award-winning writer / director with a strong foundation in production design. She is most well known for her feature film, Smartass, starring Joey King and featuring other incredible talents such as Trevante Rhodes, Marc Menchaca and Yvette Nicole Brown, to name a few. Her latest collaboration, as writer/producer, with Director, Sharon “Rocky” Roggio has brought her into the rewarding social justice world of documentary filmmaking. “1946, The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture” could not align more perfectly with her passion for creative expression and individual freedom. She is beyond lucky and grateful to be a part of this incredible project.

DANIEL KARSLAKE | Executive Producer

Daniel Karslake is an award-winning American film, theater, and television writer/director/producer whose latest feature, FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO, about four families of faith who discover they have a gay or trans child, premiered in competition at the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival. The film has won seven audience awards and three jury prizes in festivals around the world and has been acquired by distributor First Run Features in New York.

FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO is a follow up to Karslake’s first film, FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO, which premiered at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and was short-listed for a 2008 Academy Award. In 2010, Entertainment Weekly magazine listed the film as “one of five documentaries that has changed the world,” and it has been translated into more than 20 languages worldwide.

Karslake’s second film, EVERY THREE SECONDS, about regular people doing simple yet extraordinary things to fight hunger and poverty around the world, is currently playing on C Good TV in the U.S. Karslake began work on the film as a visiting scholar at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California.

Currently, Karslake is working on an exploration of the shocking influence the Nazis had in 1930’s Hollywood called HITLER’S MAN IN HOLLYWOOD and a documentary series inspired by the book HIGH CONFLICT by Amanda Ripley. He is also executive producing THE RADICAL, a feature chronicling the life and ministry of the world’s first openly gay imam in Islam, and 1946, an exploration of how the word “homosexual” first came to appear in the Bible in the year 1946.

For television, Karslake is producing a multi-part series called ASKING FOR A FRIEND about male health and sexuality for Deutsche Welle, Germany’s premiere news source.

Previously, Karslake was a producer/director/writer of the long-running newsmagazine, IN THE LIFE, which aired on PBS in over 140 markets across the nation. In recognition of his work, Karslake received an Emmy nomination from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Theatrically, Karslake was on the production team of Baz Luhrmann’s Broadway production of LA BOHEME (Two Tony Awards,) and the celebrated Roundabout/Deaf West Broadway revival of BIG RIVER.

Karlsruhe is a proud member of the Director's Guild of America. He received his B.A. in public policy from Duke University and has taught documentary filmmaking both at Duke and at Stanford University. He lives in Berlin, Germany with his husband Russ Anderson and their two cats, Rocky and Fred.

TODD & TERESA SILVER | Executive Producers

Todd and Teresa Silver have been involved in business and predominantly Christian philanthropy for decades. When their son came out as gay it was a transformational moment. They re-searched and discerned that the historical "othering" of queer individuals by communities of faith has alienated and harmed many and was worthy of reconsideration. They've invested in two documentaries addressing the issue of LGBTQ+ inclusion, "For They Know Not What They Do" and "1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture." It is their hope that these documentaries prove to be helpful in bringing faith traditions up to date with what we now know to be true.

SABRINA MERAGE NAIM | Executive Producer

Sabrina Merage Naim is a philanthropist working toward making the world a more equitable and unified place. She founded the Sabrina Merage Foundation in 2008 with the intention of building bridges between diverse societies. Since then, Sabrina has focused much of her philanthropic efforts on the intersection of inclusivity and innovation, investing in opportunities for individuals from diverse backgrounds to connect, teach, and learn from one another. In 2020, Sabrina founded Evoke Media as a subsidiary of SMF to create connection, cultivate conversation, and drive social impact through the power of storytelling. In addition to 1946, she is an Executive Producer on The 8th, The Gig is Up, and Refuge. Particularly passionate about what happens after the credits roll, Sabrina is committed to working with filmmakers and their teams on mission-driven impact campaigns.

JILL WOODWARD | Editor

Jill Woodward is a documentary editor and filmmaker. Recent projects include 1946: The Mistranslation that Shifted Culture, premiering at DOC-NYC's 2022 festival, and a five-part series, Breaking Life, for the Olympics Channel. She edited the feature documentary, This Is Paris, about Paris Hilton, selected for the Tribeca Film Festival in 2020.

She also worked on the documentary Get Me Roger Stone, a television documentary China Queer, and the film Divide & Conquer: The Story of Roger Ailes, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2017.

She recently wrapped editing on an unannounced doc series for the Peacock Network, directed by Alexandra Dean.

TYLER EICHORST | Cinematographer

Tyler Eichorst (he/him) is the founder and director at acowsay film company. A Twin Cities based production company, acowsay leads with an intentionally crafted creative team that is capable of developing high-end, purposed video content. They use video to tell stories about people for brands and organizations looking to align their values with current and prospective audiences, creating original content that is delivered on a variety of channels, in a multitude of formats. Tyler and members of his team were honored to work with Rocky and the many others that committed their time, energy and passions to bring her vision to the screen.

SAMUEL EMERSON MORGAN | Cinematographer

Starting out in Denver, CO, Samuel began his career in the film industry as a commercial editor/cinematographer. He quickly became fascinated with narrative storytelling through the lens.

His passion for the art of framing and the power of light make him stand out as a DP. After making the jump to Los Angeles, he's found great success and has enjoyed boundless creative expansion in his field.

COLLIER LANDRY | Cinematographer

While most hosts of true crime podcasts simply discuss murders that fascinate them, Collier Landry has actually lived through one. Subsequently, Collier is the host of the Moving Past Murder podcast, and the creator and subject of Barbara Kopple's *A Murder in Mansfield*.

As a formally trained musician and photographer, Collier segued into filmmaking and podcasting as a means to creatively express and deal with his own traumatic childhood story - the premeditated murder of his mother Noreen by his father, Dr. John Boyle, Jr. - and to give a narrative voice to others in similar circumstances.

Collier's passionate and robust message of human resilience, hope, and personal triumph over adversity has inspired audiences across the globe. His work has been featured in *The New York Post*, *Variety*, *Esquire*, *USA Today*, *The Daily Mail*, and *The Independent*. Collier is a TEDx Speaker, four-time #1 best-selling author, and a featured guest on the Dr. Phil show.

He resides in Santa Monica, CA. Link to all things Collier: <https://linkin.bio/collierlandry>

MARY LAMBERT | Composer

Mary Lambert is not your typical triple-platinum selling artist. While studying Music Composition at Cornish College of the Arts in 2008, she found a home in the spoken word community of Seattle and began experimenting with infusing poetry into her music, performing frequently as a cellist, singer-songwriter, and poet. Lambert had never recorded music formally and was juggling multiple food service jobs when she received a call from Macklemore and Ryan Lewis to collaborate on their marriage equality anthem, "Same Love". Writing and singing the hook to "Same Love" led to an MTV VMA win and two Grammy nominations: Song of The Year and Album of The Year, and culminated in the iconic 2014 Grammys performance, which featured a mass wedding officiated by Queen Latifah and Lambert's unforgettable duet with Madonna. Her solo career sky-rocketed after releasing a standalone version of the song and shortly signed to Capitol Records. She released *Welcome to the Age of My Body*, an EP with the Top 20 Adult Contemporary hit "She Keeps Me Warm" and "Body Love", a spoken-word piece about body image. Later that year, she debuted her first pop song: a tongue-in-cheek single, "Secrets," that went Gold and shot to No. 1 on the Billboard Dance charts, which was followed by her debut full-length album, *Heart on My Sleeve*. Lambert received the Human Rights Campaign's Visibility Award, The SAMHSA Special Recognition Award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for her work on destigmatizing mental illness, and was invited to speak at the UN. She has performed on the *Colbert Show*, *Ellen*, *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *The Tonight Show*, and the *American Music Awards*.

Lambert was successful in the eyes of the public; but below the surface, she was struggling with weekly panic attacks and mental instability. In 2015, she chose her mental health, and parted ways with formal management and Capitol Records. The desire was to reclaim her independence, to reconnect with poetry, and to focus her attention on composing, writing, and production. Free from any constraints or contracts, Lambert self-released the joyful indie-pop EP *Bold* and a self-recorded holiday EP, *Happy Holidays*. In 2018, Lambert partnered with Macmillan and Henry Holt to release a poetry collection centered around trauma and mental illness called *Shame is an Ocean I Swim Across*, and she released her sophomore album, *Grief Creature*, as a complementary work. Written, produced, and arranged almost entirely by Lambert, the "breaking up with shame" album contains heart-rending adult-pop songs, intense spoken-word tracks, and slicker collaborations with musician-friends Macklemore, Julien Baker, Maiah Manser, and Hollis.

Lambert is currently working on a new book and EP about body image; co-starring in the Netflix animated musical and series, I Heart Arlo and Arlo the Alligator Boy; hosting The Manic Episodes, a queer and mental health podcast with her fiancé, Dr. Wyatt Hermansen; and facilitates a virtual workshop on fat liberation and body image called Everybody is a Babe. Lambert is also the film composer for 1946, a documentary about biblical mistranslations, due for release in Fall 2022. She lives between Seattle and quiet Western Massachusetts with her fiancé and her two dogs, Turnip and Georgie.

DR. JUN LOVE YOUNG | Creative Director, Executive Producer

Jun is a passionate advocate for the spiritual flourishing of those in the LGBTQ+ community. In 2020, he founded Beloved Arise, the first national organization dedicated to celebrating and empowering LGBTQ+ youth of faith. Jun also serves as the CEO of ZUM Communications, an award-winning digital storytelling and communications agency in Seattle. With a Doctorate in Communication from the University of Washington and more than 20 years of experience in corporate communications, Jun was named by the Puget Sound Business Journal as one of the region's most notable entrepreneurs. He is active on LinkedIn and Instagram and hosts the bi-weekly podcast "A Change Mindset." Born and raised in the Philippines, Jun loves to travel with his husband and meet new people from around the world.

VOICES OF 1946

REVEREND DAVIS S.

Reverend Davis S. is the author of a recently-discovered letter, written in 1959 to the RSV translation committee, challenging the introduction of the word "homosexual" into the Bible. Because of David's letter, the committee admitted that the RSV translation was wrong—leading to a change in a later version of the RSV to the more generic phrase "sexual perverts" rather than a specific condemnation of gay people. He shares his story publicly at [The Reformation Project, November 2019](#).

REVEREND DR. ANDERSON

Rev. Dr. Cheryl B. Anderson is a professor of Hebrew Bible / The Old Testament at Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary. She received her B.A at Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass, her Juris Doctorate at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, her master's in divinity at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington D.C., and her PhD from Vanderbilt University in Nashville Tennessee. Her academic papers include such titles as, Ancient Laws and Contemporary Controversies: The Need For Inclusive Biblical Interpretation and Reconsidering Theological Education in an Age of HIV and AIDS: Shifting Away From the Elite Towards the Marginalized.

RABBI GREENBERG

Rabbi Steven Greenberg received his B.A in philosophy from Yeshiva University and his rabbinical ordination from Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. Steve is the first openly gay Orthodox Rabbi and a founder of the Jerusalem Open House, the Holy City's lgbt community center. In 2004 Rabbi Greenberg published his book, Wrestling with God and Men: Homosexuality in the Jewish Tradition (University of Wisconsin Press). In his book, Greenberg presents readers with surprising biblical interpretations of the creation story, the destruction of Sodom, and the condemnatory verses of Leviticus.

REVEREND DR. PARKER

Rev. Dr. Angela N. Parker is an assistant professor of New Testament and Greek at McAfee. She received her B.A in religion and philosophy from Shaw University, M.T.S from Duke Divinity School, and her Ph.D in Bible, culture, and hermeneutics from Chicago Theological Seminary. Author of two works, If God Still Breathes, Why Can't I: Black Lives Matter and Biblical Authority as well as Bodies, Violence, & Emotions: A Womanist Study of the Gospel of Mark.

DR. TREVOR W. THOMPSON

Trevor W. Thompson is a Senior Acquisitions Editor at Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. He has taught at the University of Chicago Divinity School (as lecturer of Koine Greek), at Abilene Christian University, and now at Calvin University. Trevor is the co-translator of Galen's *On the Avoidance of Grief* and author of over seventy encyclopedia articles. He is a co-editor of two volumes: *Ephesos as a Religious Center Under the Principate* and *Christian Body, Christian Self: Concepts of Early Christian Personhood*.

DR. DAVID POTTER

Dr. David Potter is the Francis W. Kelsey Collegiate Professor of Greek and Roman History and Arthur F. Thurnau Professor in the Department of Classical Studies at the University of Michigan while he teaches a wide range of courses in Greek and Latin, as well as translation. His research area focuses on the interaction between people and institutions.

Dr. Potter has researched and written extensively on the ancient Roman Empire. His Bibliography includes, *Prophecy and History in the Crisis of the Roman Empire*, *Prophets and Emperors*, *Literary Texts and the Roman Historian*, *The Roman Empire at Bay*, *Emperors of Rome*, *Ancient Rome, a New History*, *The Victor's Crown: A History of Ancient Sport from Homer to Byzantium*, *Constantine the Emperor*, *Theodora: Actress, Empress, Saint*, *The Origin of Empire*, and his most recent, *Disruption: Why Things Change*.

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Dr. Trevor. W. Thompson, Greek New Testament Scholar - Senior Editor at Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company

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