

ONFILM

MICHAEL BARRETT



"In 1992, I had a chance meeting with (cinematographer) Gabriel Figueroa at a hotel in New York City. I told him how much I admired his film *The Pearl*, and asked about a shot of fireworks reflected on the back of a violin. Mr. Figueroa explained that he only became aware of this image minutes before when the fireworks were being tested and the musicians were warming up. 'Life is in a moment,' he told me. When I collaborate with a director, we plan a film with great care. How will the camera move? What lighting is most appropriate for a scene? How do we best tell this story? But I find myself thinking less and less about the mechanics of filmmaking. An understanding of the technology lets you trust your intuition. Sometimes you can find truth and beauty where you didn't think to look. Maybe great cinematography comes from recognizing the significance of a moment and embracing the unexpected. In the end, I like to believe that a film or an image can help us better appreciate our lives."

Michael Barrett won an American Society of Cinematographers Award for the *CSI: Miami* pilot and two additional nominations for the episodic series *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*. His feature credits include *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*, *Goal!*, *Bobby* and the upcoming *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh*.

[All these films were shot on Kodak motion picture film.]

For an extended interview with Michael Barrett, visit www.kodak.com/go/onfilm.

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