

THE FILMMAKERS

Nightowl Productions

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Independent feature filmmaking is the most expensive “paint box” that an artist can employ. As independents we are freed of the intellectual and aesthetic limitations that comes with commercial studio or film industry backing, but we welcome another kind of indebted imperative. Our independent medium ironically demands a collaborative interdependency, a deep connection to place, in the form of the generosity and goodwill of the community in which the film is produced. Indy filmmaking thus becomes community filmmaking.

Our independent production-in-progress, *Nightowls of Coventry*, is even further imbedded in the cultural and commercial matrix of the Cleveland community because it is set in 1973 Coventry, Cleveland Heights. It was, and is, a time and place dear to the hearts of those in this community. Our film comically chronicles the moment in Cleveland’s, and America’s, history when youth culture burgeoned, alternative and grass-roots political sensibilities found a mainstream voice, and suburban growth stripped old neighborhoods and family-owned businesses of their traditional demographics and identities. Thematically, *Nightowls of Coventry* is an anthem to the era that ushered in the dynamic cultural realities of 21st Century Cleveland.