

THEME

The Wachtkamer explores the idea that no one lives only their own life. We inherit the wounds, choices, triumphs, and failures of those who came before us, and our greatest responsibility is deciding what we pass on to those who come after. Through stories of faith, identity, family, and history, the series argues that healing begins when we recognize our connection to one another, and that redemption is possible when we choose love, truth, and compassion over fear, guilt, and division.

WRITER'S STATEMENT

I have always been fascinated by the invisible connections that bind people across generations. Growing up in New York, I was surrounded by history layered on top of history. Every street, neighborhood, and building seemed to carry the memory of countless lives that came before us. Yet I often found myself wondering about the people who were no longer remembered—the voices erased by time, the stories buried beneath the city we know today.

The Wachtkamer was born from that curiosity. What began as a fascination with the Manhattan Purchase evolved into a much larger question: What do we owe the people who came before us? Are we simply the products of our own choices, or do we inherit the consequences of decisions made generations earlier?

The series explores these questions through the interconnected journeys of Kitane, a Lenape warrior fighting to save her people; Father K, a priest struggling to reconcile faith with suffering; and Cain Kelly, a man haunted by guilt and the life he believes he failed to live. Though separated by centuries, each is confronting the same challenge: how to move forward while carrying the weight of the past.

At its core, The Wachtkamer is a story about memory, identity, forgiveness, and redemption. While the series incorporates mythology, spirituality, and reincarnation, those elements exist to explore something deeply human—the belief that our lives matter because of our connections to one another.

The title itself means "The Waiting Room," a place between lives where souls gather before moving forward. To me, it represents the idea that growth is never finished. We are all works in progress, constantly learning from our mistakes, carrying our histories, and searching for meaning.

Ultimately, The Wachtkamer asks whether healing is possible—not only for individuals, but for families, communities, and even entire civilizations. It is a story about the enduring hope that no matter how much time has passed, we can still choose compassion over fear, understanding over division, and love over despair.

I'm Norman Siopis, a native New Yorker and a son of Greek immigrants. I founded, operated and served as Artistic Director of The Trilogy Theater, off-Broadway at 44th and 8th Ave. in NYC. At my theatre I have worked with hundreds of new and established artists, including Phillip Seymour Hoffmann, Vincent Pastore, Joan Rivers, Michael Parness, Gary Swanson, Cornelia Sharp, Austin Pendellton, Ellen Greene, John Fugelsang and Gary Sinise.

310.428.2323

Award winning Writer

Quarter-Finalist
WALKING WITH HARLEY
Vail Screenplay Competition 2025
Vail, CO

Semi-Finalist
WALKING WITH HARLEY
Manhattan Short Film Festival 2025
New York, NY

Semi-Finalist
WALKING WITH HARLEY
Los Angeles International Screenplay
Competition 2026
Los Angeles, CA

Finalist
THE WACHTKAMER (TV PILOT)
VAIL Screenplay Contest 2025
Vail, Colorado

Finalist
THE WACHTKAMER
Outstanding Screenplays TV Competition
2026
Los Angeles, CA

Finalist
THE WACHTKAMER
Cambridge Script Festival 2025
Cambridge, UK

Official Selection
THE WACHTKAMER
Oxford Scripts Award 2025
Oxford, United Kingdom

Quarter-Finalist
THE WACHTKAMER
Los Angeles International Screenplay Awards
2026

Red List on Coverfly Top 10% 2024,2025
THE WACHTKAMER

Won the ACCOLADE award for THE
BICYCLIST (Short Film)