

# HALCYON DAZE

THE FINAL VOYAGES OF DISNEY'S  
STAR WARS: GALACTIC STARCRUISER



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STAR WARS: GALACTIC STARCRUISER

A DOCUMENTARY FILM DIRECTED BY Carrie Coaplen  
CREATIVE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER Ben Daughtrey EDITORS Ben Daughtrey and Kenzie Greer DIRECTOR OF  
CINEMATOGRAPHY Kenzie Greer PRODUCERS Jonathan Hawpe and Carly Kocurek ORIGINAL SCORE Jonathan Beachy  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS Denni Barrett & Kindred Spirits Productions; Bert & Jane Emke; Elizabeth Jardina

[www.halcyondazefilm.com](http://www.halcyondazefilm.com)

## LOG LINE

On the final voyages of Disney's Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser, a fan's immersive escape reveals deeper layers of love, humanity, and connection.

## SUMMARY

Follow director Carrie Coaplen's journey from casual interest to full-on obsession with Disney's one-of-a-kind, award-winning—yet short-lived—Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser experience. Be immersed in a universe of live-action adventure and colorful fantasy characters, as they experience the profound feelings shared by dedicated cast members and fixated fans. As the “Halcyon” potentially docks forever, what will become of this innovative playground that brought superfans together?



# SPECIFICATIONS

## RUNTIME

1 hour 27 minutes

## GENRE

Feature Documentary

## TAGS

Star Wars  
Disney  
Galactic Starcruiser  
Sci Fi  
Immersive Theater

## FUNDRAISING

- Kickstarter: Funded \$81,680 out of \$50,000 goal October 2025 ([Campaign Page](#))
- Louisville Film Society: \$99,487 ([Landing Page](#))
- **TOTAL** \$181,167



# FROM THE DIRECTOR

I've been documenting my life since girlhood. Often this is how I come to understand the world and my place in it, through writing and reflecting about my experiences. So, after spending thousands of dollars "traveling" on a simulated Star Wars spaceship (Disneyworld's Galactic Starcruiser) multiple times, I had questions: not being a Star Wars fangirl, why did I become so fixated? How was the attraction designed to have such a powerful impact? And, what did my new obsession say about who I am? The answers to these questions lay with hundreds of fellow "passengers" turned superfans. We became a community.

The Starcruiser was a two-day, two-night, fully immersive theatrical experience. It involved live action role play, improvised and scripted performance, interactive gaming, escape room elements, musical dinner theater, a cocktail lounge, a gift shop, and an integrated smartphone app, all within a massive, seamless high tech set.

Galactic Starcruiser is now closed permanently, so the insider story that our film captures is a lightning-in-a-bottle moment. Halcyon Daze includes footage shot inside the cruise during the final week of its run. More, the Starcruiser superfans, myself included, were profoundly changed by their time aboard that ersatz spaceship called the "Halcyon." Family estrangements were repaired, grieving parents embraced joy again, and people with cancer put aside illness for a time. I bonded with strangers who are now my found family.

Over the course of making Halcyon Daze, I interviewed over 50 "passengers." The film team also talked with Galactic Starcruiser's cast members, crew, and designers. Experts in psychology, media, gaming, and immersive experiences weighed in. All of these perspectives helped me take my obsession apart, and connect it to a larger cultural meaning. In the end, did I figure the Galactic Starcruiser out? I hope my film allows viewers to judge for themselves, while we share this uniquely powerful work of art with a larger audience.

Documentary filmmaking brings many of my artistic impulses together: long form investigations, experiential evidence, purposeful themes, and stories that unapologetically disrupt cultural norms.

--Carrie Coaplen, Director





# THE TEAM

-  **CARRIE COAPLEN**  
DIRECTOR  
PRODUCER
-  **BEN DAUGHTREY**  
CREATIVE EXECUTIVE PRODUCER  
CO-EDITOR
-  **KENZIE GREER**  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY CO-  
CO-EDITOR
-  **JONATHAN HAWPE**  
WRITER  
PRODUCER
-  **CARLY A. KOCUREK**  
LEAD RESEARCHER  
PRODUCER
-  **JON BEACHY**  
COMPOSER





# TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

## **CARRIE COAPLEN: Director/Producer/Galactic Starcruiser Superfan**

Carrie Coaplen is a writer and educator with more than 25 years of experience as an academic, instructional designer, coordinator of online learning, facilitator, project manager, faculty developer, and dual credit college teacher. She has published numerous essays, poems, and peer reviewed articles as well as presented at dozens of professional conferences. Her background in teaching, facilitation, and online instruction, as well as her MFA in Creative Writing and PhD in Composition, have helped her develop online educational programs that draw upon practical and personal curriculum founded in individuals' experiential stories. More, her extensive experience with team building, coordination, and program development alongside her expertise in constructing nonfiction narratives support her current work with documentary film direction and production. Dr. Carrie Coaplen's CV, including publications, appointments, awards, and achievements, [can be viewed here](#).

## **BEN DAUGHTREY: Creative Executive Producer/Co-Editor**

Ben Daughtrey is a multi-talented show business veteran whose accomplishments include producing and editing Official Sundance Selection feature film *100 Proof*, three Emmy nominations for editing (PBS documentary *If I Can't Do It*, the *2002 Academy Awards*, and *Extreme Makeover- Home Edition*), producing, directing and editing a series of post-Katrina documentaries for Arnold Advertising and Southern Comfort entitled *New Orleans Stories*, and serving as executive producer on the docu-series *Bordertown Laredo* for the A&E Network, and *Breaking Point* for Discovery I.D. *The Wild and Wonderful Whites of West Virginia*, a 2009 film Daughtrey edited, was an official selection at multiple film festivals including Tribeca and the L.A. Film Fest. It is now widely viewed on Showtime, Netflix and other media outlets. Most recently he edited the documentary film *Scandalous* for CNN and Magnolia Pictures, and *Telemarketers* for HBO, Elra, and Roughhouse Pictures. Mr. Daughtrey's [IMDB page](#).

## **KENZIE GREER: Director of Photography/Co-Editor**

Kenzie Greer, a cinematographer and post-production editor specializing in documentary work, brings a unique touch to storytelling. She holds degrees in Anthropology and Film from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where her academic journey laid the foundation for a career which is now based in Louisville, KY. Kenzie excels in independent filmmaking, capturing the raw and authentic aspects of diverse human experiences. As a cinematographer, camera/sound operator, and post-production editor, she weaves together compelling narratives. Kenzie has collaborated with a wide range of clients, from grassroots projects and organizations to nationally recognized institutions. With a portfolio of over 30 films and participation in multiple film fellowships, her work extends to renowned entities such as the National Holocaust Museum, HGTV, Hallmark, GE Appliances, and numerous non-profit organizations. Kenzie's journey is characterized by a passion for capturing untold stories. Looking ahead, she aspires to continue pushing the boundaries of storytelling and contributing to the ever-evolving landscape of documentary filmmaking. [Here is her IMDB page](#).



# TEAM BIOGRAPHIES (CONTINUED)

## **CARLY KOCUREK: Producer/Lead Researcher**

Carly Kocurek researches games and play and has more than 15 years of experience as an interviewer. She has published two books, *Coin-Operated Americans* (Minnesota, 2015) and *Brenda Laurel* (Bloomsbury, 2017). While serving as Professor of Digital Humanities and Media Studies at Illinois Tech, she also serves on the research, interpretation, and education board of the Strong Museum of Play. She's an award-winning game designer and has appeared as an on-screen expert for *Insert Coin* (2020) and *The Toys That Built America* (The History Channel). Dr. Kocurek's bio with active links can be accessed [here](#), on her academic webpage via Illinois Tech.

## **JONATHAN B. HAWPE: Producer/Writer**

Jonathan Hawpe is a native Louisvillian who works as a visual artist, a high school librarian, and at Carmichael's Bookstore. He also runs sound for [Everything Cinema Productions](#). Jonathan attended Columbia College Chicago, studying film and creative writing. He also lived in Los Angeles, working in the film and music industries. He holds expertise in writing and editing through professional experience with film pre-production screenplay coverage, music licensing pitches, sales blurbs and trade reviews for book and music retail, as well as published movie reviews, arts criticism, and satirical cartooning. [JBH Writing](#) [JBH Visual Art](#)

## **JON BEACHY: Composer**

Jon Beachy graduated from Berklee College of Music with a degree in Film Scoring, and is excited to bring those skills to the *Halcyon Daze* documentary. A life-long Star Wars fan, the soundtracks of John Williams inspired him into taking up music 30 years ago.





# PRIMARY CAST



## EXPERTS

ANASTASIA SALTER  
PROFESSOR OF MEDIA STUDIES

ASHLYN SPARROW  
GAME DESIGNER

EVAN TORNER  
PROFESSOR AND LARP EXPERT

## FANS

DREW GRGICH  
COFOUNDER, HEROES OF THE  
HALCYON PODCAST

SARA JAY MAC  
FAN AND TRAVEL AGENT

LISA MOSES  
FAN AND PSYCHOLOGIST

MARTIN AND KRISTINE SMITH  
FOUNDERS OF HALCY-CON,  
COFOUNDERS OF HEROES OF THE  
HALCYON PODCAST

## INSIDERS

CYNTHIA BECKERT  
ACTOR ON STARCUISER

KIERNA CONNER  
ACTOR ON STARCUISER

MICHEL TARA GARVER  
IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE DIRECTOR ON  
STARCUISER

JASON KELLER  
ACTOR ON STARCUISER

CARO MURPHY  
IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE DIRECTOR ON  
STARCUISER

ADAM REILLY  
ACTOR ON STARCUISER

JEY TIVO  
CAST MEMBER ON STARCUISER

**SELECTION DRAWN FROM OVER 50  
TOTAL INTERVIEWS**

# ADVANCE PRAISE

“I gotta tell ya folks, it is a fantastic documentary. I thought it was really well done. It’s about what the Starcruiser experience was, probably arguably doing a better job at tangibly defining it than Disney ever did. [The film] also talks about the culture and subculture that was created because of that, which I found really fascinating...It’s very funny. Heartwarming. Engaging. A little bit of a tear jerker at times. It kind of hits all of the elements.”

[Force Ghost Podcast Halcy-Con Episode](#) October 2025 Preview Screening

# ADVANCE PRAISE

“Halcyon Daze: The Final Voyages of the Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser” is a beautiful documentary from director Carrie Coaplen ...

These Star Cruisers, as they affectionately call themselves, have supported each other through happy times, transitions and loss. It’s remarkable to see the emotional side of fandom, and honestly, it’s a welcome change.

Film Yap, April 2026 Indy Film Festival Screening



# PRESS



## IN THE NEWS

- **"We Were Onto Something Special": New Kickstarter Campaign Celebrates The "Marvel" Of Star Wars' Closed Galactic Hotel** ([ScreenRant](#))
- **New Documentary Will Examine History of Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser** ([Dork Side](#))
- **Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser Documentary Coming Fall 2025** ([Attractions Magazine](#))
- **Halcyon Daze: A New Documentary About the Star Wars Immersive Experience** ([Rascal News](#))

## PODCAST APPEARANCES

- **[Jedi Talk](#): A Star Wars Podcast: Jedi Talk Welcomes the Crew of the upcoming documentary "Halcyon Daze: The Final Voyages of Star Wars Galactic Starcruiser"**
- **[Heroes of the Halcyon](#): Chatting With The Documentary Team Behind "Halcyon Daze"**
- **[IAmGeek](#): The Halcyon Daze Documentary**
- **[VengeanceGod](#): Galactic Starcruiser Documentary Interview**





# CONTACT

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- [FILM FREEWAY PROJECT PAGE](#)
- [LOUISVILLE FILM SOCIETY PAGE](#)

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