

BATTLE GROUND MELBOURNE

PRESS KIT

www.battlegroundmelbourne.com

A DOCUMENTARY BY TOPHER FIELD

BATTLEGROUND MELBOURNE

THE FALL OF THE WORLD'S MOST LIVEABLE CITY
THROUGH THE EYES OF THOSE WHO RISKED EVERYTHING TO SAVE IT

JANUARY 13TH 2022

BATTLEGROUND MELBOURNE

DOCUMENTARY

Battleground Melbourne is a feature length documentary showing: 'The fall of the world's most livable city, through the eyes of those who risked everything to save it.'

The world has seen the violent confrontations and government oppression in Melbourne Australia. Battleground Melbourne seeks to tell the story of the human rights activists, protest organisers, business owners, workers, and ordinary everyday people who have taken extraordinary risks in the fight for freedom.

The Victorian Government has used the full force of law and law enforcement to deny the people of Victoria basic human rights and legal due process, and a relentless PR campaign to demonise the protestors. Battleground Melbourne is our reply, this is how we seek to set the record straight and show the world the reality of what has taken place here, how our rights were trampled and how close we've come to losing our most basic democratic freedoms.

The fight for freedom on the streets of Melbourne is not over, but the people of Melbourne are coming together like never before and rising in numbers never seen before, and the lessons learned on the streets of the most locked down city on earth must be taught to the world as soon as possible so they can learn from us and avoid our fate.

Release date: January 13, 2022

SYNOPSIS

SHORT

Battleground Melbourne charts the fall of the World's Most Liveable City, through the eye's of those who risked everything to save it.

This feature length documentary is presented from the perspective of the protestors and their supporters, to address many of the baseless smears and lazy attacks from Government, Police, and Media alike, and ensure that the people of Melbourne who stood up for Human Rights when it mattered most cannot simply be erased from history.

LONG

Battleground Melbourne charts the fall of the World's Most Liveable City, through the eye's of those who risked everything to save it.

With the arrival of Covid in early 2020, events began to unfold in Victoria much as they had unfolded elsewhere in the world, but all that soon changed and Victoria embarked on a bold and destructive mission to eradicate Covid entirely.

Lockdowns were extraordinarily long and harshly enforced, the mental, economic, and social harms were astronomical, and the protests and pushback from the people of Victoria was brutally repressed.

This feature length documentary is presented from the perspective of the protestors and their supporters, to address many of the baseless smears and lazy attacks from Government, Police, and Media alike, and ensure that the people of Melbourne who stood up for Human Rights when it mattered most cannot simply be erased from history.

Mixing interviews with eye-witnesses with news reports and with gritty real-world footage from the front lines, Battleground Melbourne is confronting, raw, heartbreaking, yet funny and hopeful too.

This is the story of ordinary people doing extraordinary things in the face of terrible opposition, and standing their ground for their rights and their children's future.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Aspect ratio: 2.35-1

Shooting Format: 6k

Rating: M (Adult theme, Drug References, Violence,
Course Language)

Genre: Documentary

Original Language: English

Director: Topher Field

Release Date (Streaming): Jan 13, 2022

Runtime: 1h 45m

Sound Mix: Dolby Digital, Stereo



INTERVIEWEES



RUKSHAN FERNANDO

He's the 'wedding video guy' turned independent journo who is putting the MSM to shame, and is now being relentlessly attacked (by the dying MSM) for his trouble.

He shows up to events, points his camera, and simply shows and describes what is happening in the most honest terms he can and for his 'crime' of just showing the world what is happening, he's become media enemy #1.

His very existence is an existential threat to the media monopoly over people's minds, and that makes him one of the most important figures in Melbourne's pro freedom and pro vaccine choice movement.



260,054 Followers



91,000 Followers



AVI YEMENI

Avi Yemini is the Australia Bureau Chief for Rebel News. He's a former Israeli Defence Force marksman turned Melbourne citizen journalist.

Avi is most known for getting amongst the action, asking the tough questions.



89,477 Followers



134,000 Followers



DAVID LIMBRICK

David Limbrick is an Australian politician. He has been a Liberal Democratic Party member of the Victorian Legislative Council since 2018, representing South Eastern Metropolitan Region.

In November 2021, he announced his intention to run at the 2022 federal election in the senate.

David advocated for a free society and is one of the few members of Victorian Parliament actually willing to speak out about the lockdowns!



36,830 Followers



19,500 Followers



KRYSTAL MITCHELL

After 16 years of serving Victoria Police, Former Acting Senior Sergeant Krystal Mitchell publicly resigned in an extraordinary interview with Discernable.

Krystal does not agree with the direction put in place by Brett Sutton, Chief Health Officer, she believes it will damage our community and the reputation of Victoria Police.



1541 Followers



1422 Followers



MONICA SMIT

Monica is an independent journalist and the managing director of Reignite Democracy Australia, a grassroots movement created in response to the Victorian Government's catastrophic handling of the COVID pandemic.

Monica has dedicated the past 18 months to raising awareness of the tyrannical overreach of Governments in Australia, particularly in Victoria.

She spent 22 days behind bars after being arrested over alleged incitement charges.

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER TOPHER FIELD

Topher Field is a leading Australian libertarian political commentator, human rights activist, and documentary film maker. Topher has been selected as a Finalist in TropFest and the Austin Film Festival, and is a winner of the 'Libertarian Activist of the Year' award.

After 12 years as a political commentator during more normal times, Topher is now best known for his work since March 2020 when his home city of Melbourne began down the path to becoming the most locked down city on earth and descended into shocking scenes of police brutality and government oppression which have been seen around the world.

Topher began speaking out at the first anti-lockdown protest in April 2020 with just 70 people in attendance, and is still fighting today and speaking at protests with in excess of 450,000 people.

For his work standing up for basic human rights, Topher has been harrassed by police in his home, physically assaulted at protests, and finally arrested and charged by the Victorian Government with the trumped up charge of 'incitement', a charge intended for use against terrorist masterminds which is now being put to work against political commentators and human rights activists in Victoria.

Topher describes himself as 'Pro Human, Pro Freedom, Pro Individualism', is best known for his videos and for his speeches at protests, and lives by the motto: "Good people break bad laws".



TOPHER FIELD'S SOCIAL PLATFORMS



Topher Field
50K Followers

1-1.5M+ REACH



topherfield
17k Followers

220K REACH



TopherField
10K Subscribers

1.1 MILLION VIEWS

Watch Topher Speak at the Melbourne Freedom Rally
November 2021 - [Click here to watch the video](#)

DIRECTOR STATEMENT

Battleground Melbourne was truly a 'lightning strike' project, and I'm not sure I'll ever be able to make lightning strike a second time! This is by far my proudest work and may remain my best work for the rest of my life.

And if I never make anything better, so be it, Battleground Melbourne is a worthy film and a story that had to be told.

Late in 2021 I found myself in the unique position of knowing and understanding Melbourne's protest movement intimately due to my own personal involvement from the very start, as well as having the film industry experience and contacts to be able to create a feature documentary, AND an audience large enough that I could crowd-fund the project!

That meant that whether I liked it or not it fell to me to tell the story of Melbourne's fall from being the World's Most Liveable City to the World's Most Locked Down, from the perspective of those of us who tried to stop it from happening.

From the moment I announced the project I've had overwhelming support and Battleground Melbourne is truly the product of an incredible team and some good fortune that all combined to create something greater than the sum of its parts.

This truly is a 'people's project'... the budget was supplied by the people, the footage was sourced from the people, it's about the people, and it's for the people.

The story we are telling takes place in the streets of Melbourne and across Victoria, but it's a story that is repeating and playing out in cities, states, and countries all over the world as other jurisdictions repeat the mistakes that were made here in Melbourne, and the people in those places try to save their homes from our fate.

So Battleground Melbourne is a local story with global implications, made possible by the people who's story it tells, specifically the people of Melbourne and Victoria who Risked Everything to save the state and city that they love.

This is our story.

Topher Field

FAQ

Q. How were you able to fund the project?

A. Battleground Melbourne was crowd-funded by over 1,000 individuals, mostly Australian, but a few all over the world as well.

Q. What was it that drew you to making a documentary about the pandemic in Melbourne?

A. Seeing the courage of ordinary people on the streets of Melbourne, and seeing the lies that were being told by politicians and media alike, it made me angry and I knew I had to at least try to set the record straight. Battleground Melbourne tells their story, it's not any one person's story, it's not my story, it's all of us together and what we stood for, what we did, what we achieved, our triumphs and failures and heartbreaks. No one else was going to tell the world the truth of what happened from our perspective, so we had to do it ourselves.

Q. There is an enormous amount of news and footage shown, talk about weaving together this narrative.

A. Creating Battleground Melbourne has been a huge labour of love, not just for me but the whole team. I was very blessed with an incredible team, and the support of thousands, or actually tens of thousands, of ordinary Australians. This means that I had a Lead Researcher who did the un-enviable task of watching hundreds of hours of press conferences of Daniel Andrews, plus people trawling through 2 years worth of news coverage, and hundreds of hours of on-the-ground footage from the key events. It's massive, and I couldn't have done it without them. In all we have over 100TB of data (including our backups) and over 2,500 different files in the project... all for a 1hr 45min documentary!

Q. You set the pandemic science-political scene in Melbourne, Australia but then you have the interviews with politicians, former police officers, news reporters and many more, in addition to the footage. How did you structure that into the roadmap of it all?

A. Battleground Melbourne takes a thematic approach to the story, so it's not 100% chronological although it's pretty close. If I'd tried to be strictly chronological it just wouldn't have flowed and we would have lost a lot of screen time just keeping the viewer oriented as to what was going on now. By taking a thematic approach and grouping events accordingly we are able to tell a compelling story that flows naturally and wastes no time on fiddly details that really don't add to the bigger picture.

CREDITS

Topher Field Director
Anonymous Producer
Anonymous Director of Photography
Anonymous Gaffer
Anonymous Sound Recordist
Anonymous Lead Editor
Anonymous Assistant Editor
Jared Haschek - Composer
Carly Soderstrom Assistant Producer
Millie Fontana Lead Researcher
Danielle Johnstone Makeup
Anonymous Colourist
Anonymous Titles
Domenic Pernasilici Audio Master
'EJ' Set Carpenter

LIONS

Written and performed by
Mandy Wragg
Produced by
OMMPANDP

RISE UP

Written by Jack Jones and Reggie Bowman
Performed by Jack Jones, Reggie Bowman
Pete Drummond, and Phil Turcio
Mixed and Mastered by Reggie Bowman
Produced by Jack Jones

Interviewees:
(in order of appearance):
Craig Backman
Topher Field
Millie Fontana
Avi Yemeni
Krystal Mitchell
Jerkuei 'Jerry' Anyuon
Anonymous Organiser #1
Tanya Kouzman
Monica Smit
Daniel Turner
Paolo
Hannah Seymour
David Limbrick MP
Emily Coltraine
Markiyan Melnychenko
Anonymous Organiser #2
Rukshan Fernando
Catherine Cummings MP
Caroline McDaid
Aaron Warner
Stephan Horvat

CONTACT DETAILS

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