

doug sadler
writer | director

writer-director doug sadler was born in new orleans and raised on a horse farm in rural louisiana until his parents sold everything and moved the family onto a sailboat for two years.

they eventually settled on maryland's eastern shore and sadler went on to study theatre and writing at vanderbilt university. after graduating with honors, he studied acting at the american conservatory theatre in san francisco and spent several years in seattle writing, directing and acting in experimental and regional theatre. he then received his mfa from the american film institute (afi) in los angeles.

in 1993, while at afi, he founded the oregon lab, a multi-disciplinary creative retreat for writers, directors, actors and musicians dedicated to exploratory and experimental work. in the summer of 2000 he began production on his first feature film, **riders**. after the film debuted on the festival circuit, **filmmaker magazine** named him one of the "**25 new faces of independent film**" and **riders premiered on the sundance channel** in 2002.

sadler was selected for the **sundance institute's writing and directing labs in 2002**, where he had the honor of working on **swimmers** with filmmakers such as robert redford, ed harris, sally field, stanley tucci, alfonso cuaron and many others. **swimmers premiered at the sundance film festival in 2005**, was a finalist for the prestigious humanitas prize and won the **grand jury prize for best new american film** at the **seattle international film festival**.

he lives in a warehouse in maryland and in a very small apartment in new york with his wife linda and son emery.