Emmys 2022: Cinematography Nominees on How They Shot the Year's Best Shows

From "Euphoria" to "Atlanta" and "Loki" to "Station Eleven," 15 directors of photography tell IndieWire about the equipment they chose for their Emmy- nominated series — and, more importantly, why they chose it.

Erik Adams

As we have in the past, IndieWire reached out to this year's nominees for Outstanding Cinematography for a Single-Camera Series (One Hour), Single-Camera Series (Half-Hour), and Limited or Anthology Series or Movie, and asked them which cameras and lenses they used — but even more important: Why were these the right tools to create the look of their series?

The nominees' answers are below, organized by Emmy category and in alphabetical order by series title.

Outstanding Cinematography for a Single-Camera Series (One Hour)



Behind the scenes of "Winning Time: The Rise of the Lakers Dynasty" Warrick Page

"Winning Time: The Rise of the Lakers Dynasty"

Nominated Episode: "Pieces of a Man"

Format: 35mm, 16mm, 8mm, vintage tube camera

Camera: Panavision XL2, Arri 416, Beaulieu 8mm, Ikegami ITC-730A

Lens: Panavision Primos, Zeiss Ultra 16, Canon 16mm Zoom

Todd Banhazl: Our scripts had a kaleidoscopic, maximalist bravado and we wanted that reflected in the images. We based the looks on the dominant advertising styles of the 1960s, '70s, and '80s, to reinterpret our collective memory of what America looked like to Americans at the time. Our main look was an older 35mm Ektachrome reversal film, and mixing into that we used 8mm to recreate a sense of time and place, documentary-style 16mm for basketball and for emotional accents within scenes, as well as vintage Ikegami tube video cameras from the 1980s to recreate the famous basketball games on TV as well as during narrative scenes to see our characters in a more vulnerable way contrasting with the more bold 35mm. We also used black and white film for special shots within scenes for jazzy accents. The idea was to blur the line between documentary realism and and the iconic mythic worlds that these characters inhabited. I always thought of the visual style of the show as a collage of textures, images, and ideas: an American culture mixtape.