

EMBERFRAMES

DEVELOPMENT SLATE PRESS KIT
2026

EMBERFRAMES

A MOTION PICTURE COMPANY

WWW.EMBERFRAMES.COM

EmberFrames, LLC is a newly launched Los Angeles motion picture company crafting stories that illuminate the human spirit—aiming for both critical acclaim and commercial resonance. Founded by filmmaker Nicholas Franghias and the late Canadian entrepreneur James Pappas, the company embraces history, music, and themes of humanity that inspire, heal, and remind us of the deep commonality we all share.



Nicholas "Niko" Franghias is a Greek-born, UK-trained writer, director, and producer whose work spans advertising, documentary, and narrative cinema. His storytelling explores history, identity, resilience, and human connection. As Director of Greek Film Fest Chicago (2011–2013), he championed cross-cultural narratives and emerging voices. A naturalized U.S. citizen since 2019, Franghias brings a deeply humane, immigrant informed lens to his American slate.



GODDESS OF AMERICA

BY NICHOLAS FRANGHIAS

EMBERFRAMES
Development Poster



GODDESS OF AMERICA

BY NICHOLAS FRANCHIAS

Anthology Series development poster
(Chicago's Heald Square Monument of the seated Statue of Liberty
with open arms to huddled masses of Immigrants -by Lorado Taft)

1. GODDESS OF AMERICA

Format: Short film/pilot & projected anthology series

Pilot genre: Coming-Of-Age | Drama

Short film/pilot status: Rights acquired

Inspired by: Maria A. Karamitsos' essay 'It's the Goddess of America'

Anthology series genre: Flux

Anthology status: EmberFrames invites guest writers from diverse backgrounds to contribute to future half-hour episodes

Logline:

Set in 1966 New York City during a blizzard, a diverse group of legal immigrants—penniless, divided, and newly arrived—rally around a shared dream: finding an offering for the statue of Lady Liberty the next morning, despite having nothing to give.

As they overcome their differences, they ignite the first chapter of an anthology series dramatizing the pursuit of inclusion and belonging. It is their story, and America's story.

Each half-hour episode will spotlight new characters and stories in a healing narrative.

“When I was granted my E16 green card visa—six years before my naturalization as a U.S. citizen—it wasn’t just permission to stay. It was a recognition of creative purpose: to continue working in my area of extraordinary ability as a writer, director, and producer, contributing meaningfully to the soul of this country.”

— Nicholas Franghias



LONE MEALS OF GRACE

BY NICHOLAS FRANGHIAS

EMBERFRAMES

Development poster



Project concept art (mock-up image)



Project concept art (mock-up image)

2. LONE MEALS OF GRACE

Format: Feature film

Genre: Drama | History

Status: In development

Inspired by: Franghias' trips to Mt. Athos during his years as an ad agency producer in Greece.

Logline:

An obese, conceited New York City bestselling cookbook author and TV food critic travels to a remote Byzantine monastery in Greece to document the monks' healthy cooking practices, only to form an unlikely bond with a frugal monk that forces him to confront his inner demons, uncover ancient culinary secrets, and undergo a profound reckoning with spirituality and friendship — ultimately shedding the weight of both his body and his excesses.



THE

BILLY GOAT CURSE

MUSICAL

WRIGLEY FIELD
HOME OF
CHICAGO CUBS

EMBERFRAMES
Development Poster



Billy with Murphy the goat at the Republican Convention, Chicago, 1944.
Illustrated by Niko Franghlias



Bill and Sam Sianis, owners of Chicago's legendary Billy Goat Tavern, moments after signing with Niko Franghlias to support "The Billy Goat Curse" film project through exclusive research access and personal interviews

3. THE BILLY GOAT CURSE MUSICAL

Format: Original Musical Feature Film

Genre: Dramedy | Fantasy | History

Status: In development

Inspired by: True events behind the Cubs' infamous curse

Comps:

"La la land" meets "The Greatest Showman" and a goat

Logline:

The series of events that led a Chicago immigrant tavern owner to defend his pet goat by cursing the Chicago Cubs to never win a World Series. Rooted in established IP, this upbeat musical reimagines the origin story of the notorious sports legend as a musical tale of belonging, humor, and immigrant resilience.



James Pappas and Nicholas Franghlias, Co-Founders of EmberFrames

In Memory of **James Pappas**

“Jim was the kind of partner who made you believe in the impossible. His generosity, insight, and unwavering support during my first year as a naturalized U.S. citizen helped transform EmberFrames from a concept into a calling. I carry his spirit with me in every choice and decision.”

— Nicholas Franghlias, Co-Founder

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🎬 IMDb: [James Pappas](#)

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