

## Motion Picture Imaging

[Motion Picture Main](#) > [Online Publications](#) > [On Filmmaking](#) > [Spring 2004](#) > [Southern Comfort - Paul Schattel Guides Sinkhole Down a Filmic Path](#)

### Southern Comfort

 Print  
 Email

#### Paul Schattel Guides Sinkhole Down a Filmic Path

Writer-director Paul Schattel didn't allow a bare bones budget to keep him from shooting Sinkhole in 35 mm format. He recruited a professional cast and crew who dedicated their weekends to the project for four months, and made maximum use of available light. The feature film, which exposes the underworld of a rural town in the South, was produced at practical locations in Asheville, North Carolina. It features Bryan Marshall as Jason, an ex-school teacher whose reputation is marred by a questionable past. When he discovers the body of a dead girl, Jason becomes embroiled in a local drug ring.



*Writer-director Paul Schattel on the set of Sinkhole, an independent feature filmed in rural North Carolina.*

"It's a modest story by design, so we kept it very simple," Schattel says. "We didn't want images that were too slick or overproduced. The story needed a gritty, raw approach. We had a small crew, who knew how to run-and-gun when necessary."

Cinematographer Steve Agnew created the stark visual design of the film. Agnew has years of experience shooting commercials and government projects in Washington, D.C., but this was his inaugural feature. His palette included KODAK VISION Expression 500T Color Negative Film 5284 and KODAK VISION 250D Color Negative Film 5246 along with a small lighting package used to augment natural sources when needed. Schattel says he was "lucky" to find a "world-class" cinematographer in Asheville because the staggered production schedule required a local crew. [Read more](#)

Questions? Comments? Contact Kodak at [shootfilm@kodak.com](mailto:shootfilm@kodak.com)

GO

### Spring 2004

[Maria Full of Grace - Explores Human Side Of A Dark World](#)

[Southern Comfort - Paul Schattel Guides Sinkhole Down a Filmic Path](#)

