

# SKATOPIA

88 ACRES OF ANARCHY



**FEATURE FILM RELEASE**

“Skatopia is not just a skatepark. It is an anarchistic free-state in which skateboarding is not a lifestyle, it’s the definition of life.”

**-RELOAD MAGAZINE**

“Skatopia is a rite of passage for hardcore skaters.”

**-TONY HAWK**



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# Overview.

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## SKATOPIA. 88 Acres of Anarchy. (1)

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***"Best Backyard Scene of 2006."***

***- Fuel TV***



Skatopia: 88 Acres of Anarchy is a feature documentary that follows one of skateboarding's most infamous figures. Mercurial skateboarder Brewce Martin is the self-declared "dictator" of a rural Appalachian skate scene so extreme that MTV's bad-boy Bam Margera fled the property on his first visit.

For ten years, Brewce and a volunteer army of skaters and hillbillies have worked to build a "sovereign nation" in Appalachia free from society's rules. The movie follows Brewce through an obstacle strewn year as his radical twist on the American dream is challenged by bill collectors, a rag-tag labor force and an unexpected stint in the regional jail. Though he declares skating his "prime directive", the film reveals a fiercely driven entrepreneur determined to achieve success on his own terms.

Brewce Martin gave the filmmakers total access to his life and to Skatopia during the filming. They lived on-location for a year.

***"Completely even-handed, the film illuminates Martin's genius as well as exposes some of his madness and is something that really needs to be seen to be believed."***

*- Highsnobiety*

***"An inspiring story of building an empire with your own rules."***

*- Denver Examiner*

***"There's an odd purity to Martin's vision. He gives visitors... a taste of the absolute freedom they think they want."***

*- Rolling Stone*

***"It's what you learn how to skate for... it's living."***

*- Dustin Dollin, Pro-skateboarder*

***"I'm a skater.  
I'm here to prove a point.  
That you can survive without immersing  
yourself in the system."***

***- Brewce Martin***





## **Logline:**

Mercurial skateboarder Brewce Martin has built a “sovereign nation” in Appalachia free from society’s rules, but his radical twist on the American dream is challenged by bill collectors, a rag-tag labor force and an unexpected stint in the regional jail.

## **Medium Synopsis:**

Skatopia is an Appalachian farm where hardcore skating, punk rock and hillbilly culture collide. Skatopia’s owner, Brewce Martin, dreamed of a place where he could live and breathe skating... a place where people forget their “outside” lives by plunging into high-energy craziness.

“Dictator Brewce” presides over the mayhem like a modern-day Jim Jones. To keep building new skate terrain, he relies on free labor from local hillbillies and traveling skaters. Visitors to the farm often stay for months to work and skate, many of them searching for an alternative to a society that leaves them numb.

In early 2006, Brewce hatches a grand slew of plans to expand the skatepark. Skatopia is his chance at greatness, and after ten years of non-stop hustling, he desperately wants it to be a sustainable business and a monument to skateboarding.

His infectious optimism persists even as misfortunes pile on. But with an unexpected stay in jail, it looks as if the year’s potential is lost. Brewce’s relationship with his 20 year old son Brandon is put to a test when Brandon is forced to run the farm. Soon the fun of running a fun-loving place is peeled away, and the challenge of building a dream becomes clear.

The movie celebrates the freedom from everyday life that Skatopia offers, but it also takes a hard look at the flip side of Brewce’s energy and charisma. No story book hero, Brewce can switch from inspiring visionary to bullying cult-leader in seconds. But his fierce pursuit of his dream will inspire even those who have never touched a skateboard.

***“None of us has  
another job.”  
- Ryan Mossberg***



**THE STORY**

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## Characters (2)

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**Brewce Martin:** Pro-skater famous for competing in skate contests naked. The “Dictator” of Skatopia runs the farm with a velvet fist.



**Brandon Martin:** Home-schooled on the 88 acre farm. Burned his first car at age 12. Hopes to take over Skatopia one day.



**Halo Whitelight:** Queen of Skatopia. Mother of Brewce’s baby daughter. A natural on a skateboard, but doesn’t always see eye to eye with Brewce.



**Nick McKnight:** Hard drinking, smart-ass Skatopia mechanic. Keeps everything on the farm moving ‘til it’s time to burn it. Watches the farm when Brewce is away.



**Micah Friedman:** Train hopping traveler looking to go back to the land at Skatopia. Willing to argue with Brewce about the right way to live.

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## Headlamp Pictures. (3)

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HEADLAMP PICTURES specializes in the production of documentaries and non-fiction programming for television, universities and non-profits. Founded by Laurie House and Colin Powers in 2000, the company is based in Essex, NY. As documentary filmmakers, the goal is to break down complex social and historical subjects into intelligent, clear and entertaining programs. Headlamp produces programs from concept through post-production and also contributes to outside projects as producers, directors, editors,

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## Bios. (4)

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**Laurie House:** Director, Editor, Cinematographer/DP, Producer

Laurie House is Producer, Director, Writer and Editor at Headlamp Pictures. She studied film at California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles where she focused on experimental, non-narrative video. As fun as experimental video was, reality struck in the form of student loans. After graduate school, Laurie co-founded Zero Hour, a video post-production facility in Hollywood, where she edited and post-produced a wide variety of work. She first discovered her love of documentary as an editor.

Laurie has fourteen years of documentary filmmaking experience as producer, director, editor and writer. Her work has aired on A&E Biography, ESPN, Fox TV, American Movie Classics, MTV, ABC, NBC, PBS, The History Channel, Animal Planet, Outdoor Life Network, HGTV and has also shown in numerous festivals.

**Colin Powers:** Cinematographer/DP, Producer

Colin Powers is the Managing Partner, Producer, Director, and Writer at Headlamp Pictures. He is also the Director of Production & Programming at Mountain Lake PBS in Plattsburgh, NY where he executive produces three series, two documentaries and a broad range of local productions.

He has written non-fiction screenplays for A&E Biography and American Movie Classics. He has worked as a freelance field producer and staff associate producer / researcher for A&E Biography, American Movie Classics and independent productions.

Prior to filmmaking, Colin worked as General Manager and Manager of Research and Development at Burley Design Cooperative, a \$10 million/year worker-owned bicycle factory in Eugene, Oregon. Colin has a degree in Geography from the University of California at Berkeley.

“It’s just an adventure  
with bunch of people  
who won’t say no”

- Chris Colette



BIOS



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## Director's Statement. (5)

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Early on in the shooting of our documentary "Skatopia: 88 Acres of Anarchy", our main subject, Brewce Martin, turned the camera on me and asked "The real question here is, how did your husband convince you to move down to this backwater and make a film about testosterone fueled mayhem and an egotistical asshole?"

But Brewce's hopes for his life: personal freedom, elbow room, the desire to do what he loves and to feel alive are universal. He lives out things that we fear to – whether because they're not politically correct or even because they actually would ruin our life as we know it.

I wanted to force the audience to ask themselves: Are they getting what they want from their lives? How do we live life to the hilt? Does risking your life mean you're stupid? Or does it make you more alive? How much money can you make off of society without becoming part of it? Why do we need our visionaries to be perfect humans?

Both Brewce and Skatopia help us wrestle with these questions by preventing us from falling into easy categories of good people and bad people. One visiting skater-drummer writes software programs for NASA. The most polite kid on the farm is Brewce's own 17 year old son, whom Brewce raised and home-schooled at Skatopia. Punk kids (read "slacker" by society's standards) come out and dig in the mud all day to build new skate terrain. And Brewce, an infamous bad-boy skater, spent 10 years building a multi-million dollar skate park using only donations and volunteer labor from traveling skaters and local hillbillies.

Brewce's passion and persistence are the real story in this film. And ultimately, the underlying "mission" of Brewce's life and of the film is to encourage us to ask ourselves how we can tap that kind of passion in our own lives.

Laurie House, Winter 2009





## Action So Far. (6)

The film opened its preview screenings by selling out the Tribeca Cinemas in NYC in July 2009. The show attracted mainstream media like Rolling Stone and Newsweek, skate mags and blogs including Juice, RadCollector, Slap and Concrete Wave. The after-party sponsored by Pabst brought Skatopia alive for a fan base that trekked from a dozen plus states.

Followup screenings in Denver, Seattle, Amsterdam and Hot Springs, AR brought reviews from newspapers and alternative weeklies. The film got the unofficial "most enthusiastic audience" award in Denver after packing the theater and another sponsored after-party.



### Film Festivals

ACEfest, NYC 7.2009

Docuwest, Golden CO 8.2009

Skateboard Film Fest, Seattle 9.2009

Amsterdam Intl. Film Fest, NE 10.2009

Hot Springs Documentary Film Fest 10.2009

Santa Barbara Intl. Film Fest 2.2010

## **Press. (7)**

Attached are articles in pdf form from the following publications:

Links to reprints in pdf form: <http://www.skatopiathemovie.com/press/reprints.html>

### **Rolling Stone**

“Welcome to Skatopia: Eighty-Eight Acres of Anarchy in the USA “

Six page spread in print edition is reproduced online with link to trailer and additional blurb.

[http://www.rollingstone.com/news/story/22153670/welcome\\_to\\_skatopia\\_eightyeight\\_acres\\_of\\_anarchy\\_in\\_the\\_usa](http://www.rollingstone.com/news/story/22153670/welcome_to_skatopia_eightyeight_acres_of_anarchy_in_the_usa)

### **RadCollector**

Review and photo gallery from the NYC premiere

<http://www.radcollector.com/news/2009/07/15/skatopia-nyc-premiere-gallery/>

### **Examiner.com**

Reviewer that appreciates Skatopia from the safety of the theater.

<http://www.examiner.com/examiner/x-2594-Denver-Skateboarding-Examiner%7Ey2009m8d15-Skatopia-the-movie-in-review>

### **Portland Mercury**

“Utopia Is a Matter of Taste: Welcome to Skatopia.”

<http://blogtown.portlandmercury.com/BlogtownPDX/archives/2009/08/14/utopia-is-a-matter-of-taste-welcome-to-skatopia>

### **Team Jaded**

Two journalists from Current TV came to Skatopia in 2006 worked beside us for a few days.

[http://www.teamjaded.com/2009\\_06\\_01\\_archive.html](http://www.teamjaded.com/2009_06_01_archive.html)

### **House of Steam**

A review that tries to reconcile utopian visions and burning vehicles.

<http://thehouseofsteam.wordpress.com/2009/07/14/371-did-you-ever-want-to-understand-the-problems-of-a-40-year-old-skate-parkcult-leader-well-you-soon-will-be-able-to-skatopia-the-movie-coming-soon/>

## **Spiegel Online**

This German mag visited in spring of 2009 after seeing the trailer.

<http://km42.spiegel.de/home/index.php?directid=4180>

## **Kspace.TV**

Movie review at this skate/art/sports/design site.

<http://www.kspace.tv/arts/film-skatopia-88-acres-of-anarchy/>

## **Slap Magazine**

"Joe Brook goes to Skatopia"

[http://www.slapmagazine.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=254&Itemid=27](http://www.slapmagazine.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=254&Itemid=27)

## **Nerdcore**

Write up in German blog about "very cool stuff. Und so."

<http://www.nerdcore.de/wp/2009/07/10/doku-trailer-skatopia---88-acres-of-anarchy/>

## **Reload**

Dutch skate/lifestyle mag profiles the filmmakers and reviews the film.

<http://www.reload.nl/?p=1290>

## **Links. (8)**

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.skatopiathemovie.com">http://www.skatopiathemovie.com</a>
<b>Trailer:</b>	<a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bTgV44R_loU">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bTgV44R_loU</a>
<b>Photos, Posters, etc:</b>	<a href="http://www.skatopiathemovie.com/html/press.html">http://www.skatopiathemovie.com/html/press.html</a>
<b>Additional Video:</b>	<a href="http://www.skatopiathemovie.com/html/videoclips.html">http://www.skatopiathemovie.com/html/videoclips.html</a>
<b>Blog:</b>	<a href="http://www.skatopiathemovie.com/blog/">http://www.skatopiathemovie.com/blog/</a>
<b>Skatopia website:</b>	<a href="http://www.skatopia.org">http://www.skatopia.org</a>
<b>Headlamp Pictures:</b>	<a href="http://www.headlappictures.com">http://www.headlappictures.com</a>

## Credits. (9)

Producer / Director

Laurie House

Colin Powers

Editor

Laurie House

Ramsey Fendall

Co-Editor

Trevor Carmick

Story Consultant

Fernanda Rossi

Additional Editing

Benjamin Draher

Camera Operators

Colin Powers

Laurie House

Additional Camera

Trevor Carmick

Ramsey Fendall

Peter Lorch

Glenn Lyons

Dominiquin Supastar

Marie Wustner

Assistant Editor

Trevor Carmick

Additional Assistant Editing

Damien Quinlan

Michael Stewart

Sound Mixing

Matthew Polis

Sound Space Studio

Composed Music

Tom Phillips

Off the Beaten Trax Music

Marketing & Promotions

Luis Calderin OKAY! OKAY!

Legal

Karen Shatzkin

Shatzkin & Mayer, P.C.

Distribution Consultant

Peter Broderick

Marketing Consultant

Terri Pitts – Ostrow Alliances

Donated and Archival Footage

Paul Brown

Rick Charnoski & Buddy Nichols

Nick Fortney

Chris Gomez

Pete Koff and Dave Viera

Kenny Luby

Brewce Martin

Doug and Indica Martin

Dan Rea

Ryan Swisher

El Destructo - Tom Waltmeyer

WhiplashDVD.com

Still Photography

Gabe Friedman

Sarah Henderson

Jake Krosky

Dan Rea

Marie Wustner

Website Design

Raegan Kelly

Colin Powers



Graphic Design  
Bryan Karl Lathrop

SKATOPIA BOWL BASH ELEVEN

Line Producer  
Leah Moskowitz

Associate Producers  
Gary Hostetler  
Sue Hostetler

Camera Operators  
Paul Gaeta Brown  
Kevin Bunk  
Damiano Cinque  
Tim Clark  
Kurt Coleman  
Tawd Dornfeld  
Big Eric  
Sarah Henderson  
Laurie House  
Ryosuke Kawanaka  
Raegan Kelly  
Chris Landy  
Bryan Karl Lathrop  
Erich Lyttle  
Eric "Bubba" Martin  
Colin Powers  
Mark Sowards  
Stuart Smith

Audio Recording and Live Mix  
Paul McDermott

Digital Performer Recording  
Alex Powers  
Ben Fine  
MOTU, Inc

Catering  
Millie's Restaurant

Quality Control

Jonathon Falk

Production Assistants  
Sarah Ammerman  
Colby Dotson  
Geoff Hauschild  
Derek Thomas

Production Crew  
Matt Gilmore  
Brad Lechler  
Matt "The Replacement" McCue  
Chris Sheehan  
Mike Shook

Additional Editing by The Edit Center  
Ben Abrams  
Ian Caruth  
Stephen Cognetti  
Sheryl Genna  
Curtis Grout  
Chris Iversen  
Dany Johnson  
Alex Lisowski  
Paul Lucas  
Jeff Mehiel  
Chris Murphy  
Gail O'Hara  
Greg Reitman  
Sarah Strauss  
Nancy Burke Tunney  
Max Weissberg  
Eugene Yi  
Jeff Zorrilla

## Special Thanks

Henry "Skip" Horn  
Jeff Miller, The Rutland Cop  
Millie's restaurant  
Pat Martin  
Indica Martin  
North Central Regional Jail, Pennsboro WV  
Remy Stratton  
Duane Peters  
Fred Kight, WOUB Radio  
Matt "The Replacement" McCue  
Frederick Lewis  
Jean Johnson & Harry Heileman  
Robert and Sheila House  
Liz Bressi-Stoppi  
Evan Erlanson  
David Kaemmer  
Alex Powers  
Alex Baker  
Balzout  
Jimmy Stewart  
Alex Baker  
Tony Hawk Inc.  
Bam Margera  
Carlos Baiza  
Cass Schwabb  
Jager Di Paola Kemp Design  
Joe Viny & Wendy Minor  
Don Matalka  
Jeff Hardy, Big Horse Media  
Eric "Bubba" Martin  
Scott Carroll  
Dave Reul  
Christine O'Malley  
Amy Sewell

All our test viewers

Special thanks to all the residents of Meigs County  
who supported our efforts...

## MUSIC

"We Killed Jesus"  
Rezzin

"He's an Asshole"  
Rezzin

"Mean Old Woman"  
Homeless Man at Motel during Hillbilly Dream  
Tour

Unknown song  
Motormouth Mabe

Blues Improv  
Mike Malazzo, Boardlords

"Can't Bring Me Down"  
Suicidal Tendencies

"Shake Yourself"  
The Needles

"Skate to Hell"  
Frontside Five

"Bite the Hand"  
Agent Orange

"Labcoatman"  
Bunjie Jambo

"She Spits"  
Frontside Five

"Hamburgler"  
Nag Chaumpa

"Down in the Flames"  
Blatant Finger

1999 track 3  
Bunji Jambo

"The Way I Am"  
Nag Chaumpa

"Goin' Muddin'"  
Rezzin

Unknown  
F.S.U. of Athens, Ohio

"Guns, Bitches, Brawls and Bottles"  
GG Allin

"Outskirts of Life"  
GG Allin

"Que Hora Es?"  
Frontside Five

"Home Boy"  
Rezzin

"We Won't Surrender"  
Big World

"Pedal to the Medal"  
Big World

"Let Her Go"  
Performed by Skatopia party-goers  
Written by The Louvin Brothers

Unknown Song  
Blatant Finger

"Highschool Drop-Out"  
Brunt of It

Unknown  
El Destructo

Bowl Bash Bands in Order of Appearance

"I Don't Care About You"  
The Needles

"Hopscotch"  
Big World

Unknown song?  
McRad

Unknown song  
Pure Grain

Unknown song  
Slapjaw

Unknown song  
Premature Ejaculators

Unknown song  
New Clear Future

"Martial Law"  
Brunt of It

Unknown song  
Hellbound Honkies

"Dollar Store"  
Shat

Die Hunns Anthem  
Die Hunns

"Martial Law"  
Die Hunns  
(check this song name)

"You are my Sunshine"  
Performed by Skatanic Rednecks

Written by Jimmie Davis and Charles Mitchell

"I Got So High"

Written by: Skatanic Rednecks

Performed by: Skatanic Rednecks

"Millions of Scientists"

Written by: MakeBelieves

Performed by: Make Believes

"Trainwreck"

Written by: MakeBelieves

Performed by: MakeBelieves

"Primitive"

Written by: The Cramps

Performed by: The Cramps

Courtesy of

MOST OF THE SKATERS

Brewce "Sk&popo" Martin

Brandon "Hellskull" Martin

Ryan "Hobbit" Mossberg

Dan "Vigilante" Fluharty

Morgan Burgess

Dave "Science Fair" Maxwell

Micah Freidman

Paul xxx

Screech

Tim Johnson

Benji Galloway

The Colonel

Duane Peters

Tony Hawk

Bam Margera

Blackness

Ladonna Williams

Jimmy the Greek

Dale Busta

Halo Whitelight

Pyscho

Grant

Ed Peck



# Wish you were here. (10)



## Contact Us.

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Colin Powers | Producer | Headlamp Pictures  
colin@headlamppictures.com | 518.534.4378

"Everybody needs a leader;  
whether it's Ghengis Kahn or  
Jim Jones...I've always been a  
leader".

**-Brewce Martin**