



**CHIHUAHUA**

**NATION**

**A DIVIDED COUNTRY UNITED BY A DOG**

**PIC  
PICA  
FILMS**



# STORY

This film is a quirky and humorous trip through the heart of the US, weaving together characters from across the political, cultural and economic spectrum, all united by one thing - their love of Chihuahuas, a feisty and fierce little Mexican immigrant.

This small dog gives us a light-touch way to look at big issues of acceptance, identity, companionship, unity and division.

We interweave narrative arcs, shades of light and dark, hope and pathos, story threads pulling together in the final act at the annual National Chihuahua show in St Louis, Missouri.





# THEMES

Travelling through the USA, meeting and chatting with Chihuahua owners from all walks of life will be funny, and cute - but allows us to tap into serious issues - in a way no other film can.

The USA is 250 this year but the country is in turmoil.

Do we care for our pets more than we do each other?

Why has this tiny but fierce Mexican dog been embraced by Americans when immigration is such a hot issue?

Has our Tik-Toktastic, social-media-obsessed society created a culture where people would rather emotionally invest in dogs than their fellow humans?





**"Chihuahuas are girl's best friend"**

*Paris Hilton*



# SHOOTING STYLE



Visually, this is a character-led road trip through America. Cinematic but not overworked. We will shoot predominantly on prime lenses with a widescreen ratio to do justice to the landscapes, but also keep things intimate and intentional when shooting with the characters. Hand-held, wide and close



Shallow depth when we're with contributors, letting backgrounds fall away, but still wide enough at times to hold them in their environment. It should feel close, observational, and human, not glossy. We'll lean heavily into magic hour and natural light, chasing those soft, in between moments at the start and end of the day where everything feels a bit more reflective and honest.



The camera stays curious and live, picking up humour in the details without forcing it, and letting scenes breathe which is the Pica Pica style. The Chihuahua becomes a subtle visual thread throughout, tying together a textured, slightly offbeat portrait of a country that feels both divided and strangely connected.

- Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show: a meeting of Chihuahua in NYC and intro to a unique slice of America.
- Homeless Chihuahuas: life at the extreme end of the social spectrum, where companionship is so important, diamond studded collars not so much
- Births, hot dates and funerals: life, love and loss of one of America's most popular dogs. The lives of some Chihuahua are like a cheap soap opera.
- Veteran PTSD: a Chihuahua therapy dog for Afghanistan veteran, taken on a leather-clad motorcycle road trip
- The Running of the Chihuahua in Washington DC: an annual event bringing together a huge, unruly collection of devout Chihuahua owners and cocktail fans.
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- Chihuahua Club of America annual show: best in show, obedience trials, fashion parades. Who will come out as top dog?



# SAMPLE STORIES

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