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Wayne Zeitner

L i k e n o Z e i t n e r y o u ' v e m e t

Wayne Zeitner
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Profile

35+ years creating Christian entertainment: filmed, recorded, printed & live.

Experience

ZeeWorks Media (sole proprietorship)

Consulting, writing, designing, shooting, editing, recording, producing, documenting—for clients in religious music and books, non-profit, medical fields...plus churches, authors, agents, artists, etc.

Thomas Nelson, Inc., Nashville 2006-2010

Director of Brand Development for Family Entertainment division. Duties include writing, directing, producing both animation and live-action home videos; produce musical recordings; manage brand licensing; supervise art direction for packaging; develop ancillary products (toys, games, etc).

Fancy Monkey Studios, LA/Nashville 1999-2006

Partner — Business Development/Marketing

Harpeth Community Church 2000-2005

Staff videographer (part-time)

Word Entertainment, Vancouver, Dallas, Nashville 1985-1999

Vice-President & General Manager of Everland Entertainment.

Agapeland Productions, California, Texas, Washington 1975-1985

Producer/director/manager/writer/performer... recorded music, film/video, live entertainment, music publishing, educational products, advertising.

References

Furnished upon request.

Bio

A story so amazing, it takes a whole 'nother page to contain it. ¹



Born in a Canadian prairie-town called Medicine Hat (Alberta), Zeitner began his Christian music career in California at the age of 21, writing both songs and dialog, as well as performing the voice of Mister Conductor on the million-selling Agapeland recording *The Music Machine* (Sparrow, 1977).

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After writing, producing and directing dozens of Agapeland music and video projects in Lindale, Texas (*Nathaniel The Grublet*, *Gingerbrook Fare*, etc.), he returned to Canada—Vancouver— in 1985 as National Sales Manager for Word Canada, representing both Word's music and book lines.

In 1990 Zeitner became founding director of Everland Entertainment, the kids division of Word Entertainment in Dallas. Everland's 1991 revenues were just \$1 million, with artists Sandi Patty and characters like *Psalty the Singing Songbook*. For six of the eight years after Word relocated to Nashville, Everland won the GMA Dove award for Best Kids recording with artists such as Carman (*Yo!Kidz!*) and Kurt Heineke (*VeggieTunes*), Zeitner also developed the ground-breaking *KidCity* interactive kiosk—unprecedented two-time winner of the Point-of-Purchase Advertising Institute's "Display of the Year" (1994 and 1999). The crowning achievement of his years at Word was his discovery and signing of the *Veggie Tales*™ series in 1994.

Having grown the division to \$32 million in sales for his last full year at the helm, he resigned in 1999 to form Fancy Monkey Studios with a Los Angeles-based creative team—all former Focus on the Family staffers who remained in LA when Focus moved to Colorado. While developing their *Jungle Jam*™ series in audio and chapter books, they also created *3-2-1 Penguins*™ and sold it to Big Idea Productions. Next they made *Little Dogs on the Prairie*™, which was released on video by TommyNelson.

In early 2006 he signed on with Thomas Nelson Family Entertainment to develop their character brands (*Hermie the Common Caterpillar*®, *Bibleman*™, *Gigi God's Little Princess*™, *Read & Share DVD Bible*®) for video, licensing and ancillaries. When Thomas Nelson was acquired in June 2010, the new owners closed the division.

Thru ZeeWorks Media, Zeitner provides creative services to Christian publishing and entertainment firms, and does his own product development.