

Whiplash (Chazelle, 2014)

How independent films make it to screen

Task

In pairs, read the following two paragraphs and find out more about the people or events highlighted. Pick one of these and design a presentation about it (either using [Prezi](#) or PowerPoint).

When you have finished, share your presentations with the rest of the class because they will be useful for revision.

Whiplash is a 2014 American film written and directed by [Damien Chazelle](#). The film stars [Miles Teller](#) as Andrew Neyman, a young jazz drummer who attends one of the best music schools in the country to be taught by the school's fearsome maestro of jazz named Terence Fletcher ([J.K. Simmons](#)). Chazelle's original screenplay for *Whiplash* came to prominence after being featured in the 2012 [Black List](#).

The film was originally entered, as a short film, for the 2013 [Sundance Film Festival](#). It won the Short Film Award and Chazelle secured \$3.3 million from [Bold Films](#) to make a feature version. Miles Teller signed to star in the leading role. The feature film premiered at the 2014 Sundance, opening the film festival. Shortly afterwards, [Sony Pictures Worldwide](#) acquired the international distribution rights.