

# TORNADO ALLEY

## SEAN CASEY



IMAX filmmaker and professional storm chaser Sean Casey makes his feature-length directorial debut with ***Tornado Alley***, a film in which he also stars and serves as first unit cinematographer. Over the course of his career, Casey has filmed volcanoes, hurricanes, and earthquakes, and the depth of his experience working in severe weather—as well as the impressive library of IMAX tornado footage he has amassed leading up to ***Tornado Alley***'s release—served the

production well. “We spent eight years shooting dozens of tornadoes, probably eighteen tornadoes for the film,” he says. “But we also shot hail footage and beautiful storm footage. All this beautiful weather stuff. For me, that’s the main character of the film.”

Casey has directed a number of television documentaries and music videos, including *Marine: Earning The Title*, *The Art of Camouflage*, *The U.S. Army Ranger*, *Tonight (Violent Femmes)*, *Machine (Violent Femmes)*, and *Glass Sparkles In their Hair (Pond)*.

He also currently stars in the Discovery Channel’s *Storm Chasers* reality series, one of the highest-rated cable shows on television.

In addition, Casey is an inventor of sorts, having designed two tornado intercept vehicles, or TIVs, the second of which seems unwittingly poised to be one of ***Tornado Alley***'s biggest stars.

After graduating from the University of California Santa Barbara in 1992 with a degree in Film Studies, Casey immediately began working in the IMAX format. His credits include *Ring of Fire*, *Search for the Great Sharks*, *Africa: The Serengeti*, *Alaska: Spirit of the Wild*, *Amazing Journeys*, and *Forces of Nature*.

In 2008, *Discover* magazine named Casey one of the fifty best minds of the year. “You have to really understand your subject matter so that you can film the more amazing parts of it,” he told the magazine. “Going out with an IMAX camera appeals to my sense of hunting and gathering images.”