Drea Cooper is a filmmaker and commercial director bas­ed in San Francisco. He has worked around the world including India, Kosovo, Colombia, Taiwan, Europe and the US directing and shooting documentaries and films for brands. He has worked with a variety of clients and networks including Apple, Google, Nokia, adidas, Ray-Ban, Toyota, MTV, A&E, and PBS. In 1999, after studying philosophy at the University of California at Santa Cruz, Cooper started and managed an urban youth media-arts program at a continuation high school in Hunters Point. He later went on to earn an MFA in Cinema from San Francisco State University.  In 2007, Cooper spent the year making the award-winning documentary film, Reborn New Orleans Schools, which charts the course of the educational reform movement in post-Katrina New Orleans.  The following year, Cooper completed production on a twelve-part film series for Nokia and the Pearson Foundation about educational reform, reinvention, and 21st century ingenuity.  And later this year, PBS will broadcast his new one hour film, Digital Media: New Learners of the 21st Century, which documents five success stories both inside and out of the classroom and demonstrates how digital media, games, smart phones and the Internet are fundamentally transforming the way young people communicate, collaborate, and participate in this new era of learning.  Cooper’s latest project, California is a place, is an ongoing documentary web series about curious subjects and interesting people from the golden state. The films have drawn the attention of over 2.5 million viewers online, including the PBS News Hour, The Atlantic, The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, and the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard.  The series was recently invited to the Sundance Film Festival as part of the New Frontiers section. And last fall, the series was nominated for the IDFA DocLab Award for Digital Storytelling.