

FILMMAKERLIFE

Special Edition 2025

Issue Nr. 97

EXPLORING
HUMAN DEPTHS
THROUGH FILM

CINEMA AS
THERAPY

MARIA RUIZ
OCADIZ

EMPOWERING INDEPENDENT
FILMMAKERS

NARRATIVES
WITH SOUL





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Editor's Note

In this special edition of FilmmakerLife Magazine, we proudly shine our spotlight on a filmmaker whose artistry transcends the boundaries of convention—Laura Maria Isabel Ruiz Ocadiz. A true auteur, Ruiz Ocadiz crafts evocative narratives that intertwine poetic prose, bold imagery, and an unflinching exploration of the human psyche.

From the rhythmic complexity of her early musical influences to the visceral intensity of her award-winning films, Ruiz Ocadiz has carved a space where storytelling is not just seen but deeply felt. Her fearless directorial approach—blending flesh-and-bone performances with surreal aesthetics—challenges our perception of reality, guiding us into worlds where the past, present, and subconscious collide.

With over 60 laurels and 38 awards spanning continents, Ruiz Ocadiz stands at the forefront of a new cinematic era. As she prepares to unveil *A Wakefulness of Indocility*, her ambitious two-volume feature debut, she reaffirms her role as a visionary unafraid to redefine the language of film.

Her artistic choices defy expectations, proving that cinema is not merely an art form but a powerful instrument of transformation. By embracing the unconventional and pushing storytelling beyond traditional frameworks, Ruiz Ocadiz opens new doors for independent filmmakers worldwide, inspiring them to pursue fearless and thought-provoking storytelling.

Our sincere thanks to you and all contributors who played a vital role in bringing this edition of **FilmmakerLife Magazine** to life. We present a tribute to exceptional artists and storytellers, shaping culture and championing social change, illuminating the brilliance within our communities on the path to a brighter future.

In our view, artists are true architects of their narratives, embarking on journeys of love and truth, fearlessly reclaiming histories with vibrant expressions that transcend boundaries.

Collectively, we shape history. Through the amplification of FilmmakerLife's filmmakers and their visionary projects, we connect with a global audience, unraveling cultural threads and discovering new territories of the heart and mind through the powerful medium of film.



Join us on this thrilling journey. By doing so, you weave yourself into our collective history, a tapestry rich with inspiration, creativity, and the resilient spirit of FilmmakerLife. Let your brilliance radiate and embrace your distinctive voice and vision. Through your contributions and creativity, you become an integral part of this extraordinary narrative.

Welcome to **The FilmmakerLife Magazine**, where inspiration takes center stage on the canvas of creativity. May this edition captivate and uplift you, mirroring the delight our filmmakers have brought to the world with their exceptional work.

The FilmmakerLife Magazine

ETERNITY'S PAST

THE REIGN OF XONA

CHRISTOPHER LAIRD



OBSERVATION

HAN Sisisi

ZHANG Xiaoming

CAI Shaotian

HAN Zeqian

A HAN Zeqian Film



GREAT GOOSE STUDIO with SHOEBILL PRODUCTION present a HAN Zeqian film "OBSERVATION"
Produced by: BAI Tingshu Cinematographer: SUN Jianxi Editing: CHEN Mo. KEDAKE POSTPRODUCTION
Sound: ZONG Handi. SMOKING SOUND

Laura Maria Isabel Ruiz Ocadiz: A Trailblazing Filmmaker Breaking Cinematic Conventions



Laura Maria Isabel Ruiz Ocadiz

like Bellas Artes, developing a keen appreciation for rhythm that would later translate into film montage. Her father, Enrique Guillermo Ruiz de la Torre, played a pivotal role in her education, instilling in her a love for scientific thinking and academic endeavor.

Television and Theater

Pursuing a science degree, she became drawn to the performing arts. Advised by an industry mentor, she landed featured extra roles in several Mexican soap operas,

Emerging from the Mexican independent film industry, Ruiz Ocadiz is a name that resonates particularly in Europe and Asia. A versatile artist whose career spans acting, writing, and directing, her expressionistic style merges thought-provoking visuals and poetic prose into an unforgiving narrative.

Early Life and Artistic Foundations

Born in 1983, in Mexico City, Ruiz Ocadiz was raised in an eclectic environment of musicians, mathematicians, and physiologists. Influenced by her uncle, Ricardo Ocadiz, a concert pianist and one of Mexico's jazz predecessors, she grew up amid the complexity of jazz and classical performances at venues



including CLAP (2003) and Reb3lde (2004). Trained in musical theater at the Artestudio Academy, she performed in productions such as Newsies (2004) and Peter Pan (2005), where, despite showing acting prowess, she was enthralled by the magic happening behind the scenes and joined the stagehand team, much to her drama teacher's dismay.

Majoring in clinical psychology, her thesis on the incidence of eating disorders in ballet dancers was praised as the best research work of 2007 by her university. This would later influence her crafting of deeply human and emotionally resonant fiction.



Writing and Filmmaking

Becoming a film critic for the magazine F.I.L.M.E. motivated her screenwriting endeavors. Enrolling in the prestigious Sogem (General Society of Writers of Mexico) school, she was granted a "Melodrama Writer" scholarship by Telemundo. Determined to refine her directorial skills after shooting her first short film, both lauded and censored for its bold imagery, she pursued a master's in cinematography at Altrafílmica (2015-2017) and met Juan Pablo Cortés (Love Hurts, 2002), an esteemed film editor of whom she became an apprentice.

After obtaining her first job in the industry as Production Assistant of the feature film *Sátiros* (Roberto Mares, 2017), she married actor and producer Roberto Arenas Farquet (Paul Ragsdale's *Murdercise*, 2023) and authored the novels *Amnesty* (2018) and *Steve's Canotier* (2021), exercising a "cinematic" prose that earned her a reputation among readers as "creator of a new genre."



The combined experience

would lead her to write and direct the 2021 shorts *Neither You Nor I*, *Misplace the Rabbits*, and *We Are A Motive*; and the silent, experimental short *Love Without a Casket* (2022). Her work attained over 60 laurels, including 38 awards and nominations, including Best Short Film in Rome and South Africa, Best Director in New York City and India, and Best Human/Women's Rights Film in Munich and Iran; also becoming a nominee in Cannes and Tokyo and a finalist in London and Nigeria.



A Visionary Redefining the Crafts of Storytelling

Introducing new symbols through her art direction and conceptual art, Ruiz Ocadiz promises to achieve a unique sexual atmosphere in her debut oneiric feature *A Wakefulness of Indocility*—based on her homonymous 2021 novel—which will premiere in 2025, consisting of 2 volumes. Treading the darkest realms of the psychosocial being, this fearless director employs various unconventional cameras to modify reality, leading us to a non-existent past and the eternal fear of a cruel and uncertain future.



Her colorful blend of flesh-and-bone, puppet, and cartoon characters creates a contrast between freshness and disturbance, allowing us to savor her directing of arduous performances facing the intangible, the surreptitious, the unconscious of the world they've been plunged into.



On how to direct, Ruiz Ocadiz mentions, "...a large part of my so-called "self" changed, finding myself trapped in a tumult of acting images that raced quickly through my reasoning, but I wanted to feel it THAT real, and when I least expected it, I found a "rhetorical number" that led me to use analytical geometry in my filming."

Maria Ruiz Ocadiz demonstrates that movies can be felt from the gut, creating an atmosphere of estrangement in her characters, expressing humanity's erratic passing through this world, driven by a dichotomy of the soul.

Connect with Maria Isabel Ruiz Ocadiz

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📺 Luminosa Films - Pertúrpure Cinema

📷 @perturpure.cinema

🌐 luminosapublishing.wixsite.com/ruizocadizfiction

🌐 vero.co/mariaruizocadiz

"Amidst the woods of pink ash, flakes suspended in the wake of my new past, the pain finally subdued. I'd rescued my big fish from the frozen depths. I'd a film to make. Thank you, David Lynch, for that treasure map".

-Laura Maria Isabel Ruiz Ocadiz



9 BOUNTY HUNTERS. \$25,000 REWARD. WHAT COULD GO WRONG?



Starring
ADDISON CHAPMAN • CHANDLER BALLI • GARY METIVIER • TRAVIS PRINE

KELLY KIDD • AARON VARGAS • ALANA PHILLIPS • KATERINA TOWNSEND • SAMMY WILSON

DIRECTED BY CHANDLER BALLI
WRITTEN BY CHANDLER BALLI & TRAVIS LEE PRINE



"Home Is" has been used in an NHS GP training context to trigger discussions about the value of understanding patient's stories, social prescribing and the listening skills needed to build trust quickly and tell stories in an authentic and collaborative way.



Home Is

"Home Is" shows a social prescribing model of healthcare in practice. The film highlights how members of Barnet Asian Women's Association (BAWA) support each other with talking therapies, shared activities and the writing and performance of plays.



SACHIN LIVE FROM PUNE

DIRECTED BY GANESH DEVIDAS
KADAM

Sachin is a hardworking teenager with a big dream that one day he will make his mark in the world of cricket like a legendary cricket player Sachin Tendulkar - whom he is named after. Sachin lives with poor family in a metro slum area of Pune. He has an immense love for cricket but can't afford professional coaching. He finds a way to train himself. He watches other kids practicing under coach and learn from it.

One day, at inter-school cricket competition, he impresses the selection committee and gets a chance to show his skills in All India Under-18 Team Selection process. But destiny has planned something else for him. Sachin Live from Pune is a universal story of how minor sport injuries which teenagers choose to hide in fear of financial burdens on parents, could affect their dreams, sometimes the life.





Mara Lesemann: From Finance to Film - A Journey of Passion and Persistence

Mara Lesemann's journey from the world of banking to the heart of independent filmmaking is a testament to resilience, passion, and artistic ambition. With a strong academic foundation, having attended Brown University and later earning a BA in Media Studies with a concentration in screenwriting from The New School in New York City, Lesemann carved an unconventional path into the film industry. Her expertise in foreign exchange within the banking sector may seem worlds apart from cinema, but her analytical skills and business acumen have undoubtedly contributed



to her success as an indie movie producer and screenwriter.

Lesemann's breakout film, *Detours*, showcased her ability to blend heartfelt storytelling with humor and realism. The indie feature stars Tara Westwood (*Plane*, *The Grudge*, *Triggered*), Carlo Fiorletta (*Arriving Separately*, upcoming *Indigo Blue*), Richard Kind (*Argo*, *A Serious Man*), and the late, great Paul Sorvino (*Goodfellas*, *Nixon*). The film follows a newly single woman who embarks on a transformative road trip with her widowed father as she relocates to Florida.

[Lost](#)

Through its compelling characters and engaging narrative, *Detours* resonates with audiences seeking both emotional depth and lighthearted moments. The film is widely available on major streaming platforms, including Amazon Prime, Tubi, Apple TV, and Hoopla.

Prior to *Detours*, Lesemann wrote and produced *Surviving Family*, a powerful drama that delves into themes of alcoholism, mental illness, and the complex bonds of family. Starring Billy Magnussen (*Road House*, *Coup!*) and Phyllis Somerville (*Little Children*, *Stoker*), the film follows a young woman who returns home with a fiancé and a five-day wedding plan, only to confront the ghosts of her past. Lauded for its raw and authentic portrayal of family dynamics, *Surviving Family* continues to reach audiences on platforms such as Plex, Tubi, Amazon Prime, YouTube Movies & TV, and Apple TV.



Currently in development, Lesemann's latest project, *Alison*, takes on an even more profound narrative, inspired by true events. The film tells the harrowing yet deeply human story of a mother fighting for her schizophrenic and autistic daughter while her husband struggles to keep the family afloat amid financial hardships.



The film takes a dramatic turn as life spirals into crisis. With acclaimed actress Marla Gibbs (*The Jeffersons*, 227) attached to the project, Alison promises to be another deeply moving and socially relevant film in Lesemann's body of work.

Beyond her personal projects, Lesemann is a dedicated script consultant and ghostwriter, helping shape stories that bring fresh perspectives to the industry. Her expertise and keen storytelling instincts have made her a sought-after voice in independent cinema.





Residing in Ocean County, New Jersey, with her husband, actor Carlo Fiorletta, and their beloved cats, Mara Lesemann continues to push the boundaries of indie filmmaking. With her unique ability to balance commercial viability and artistic integrity, she remains a dynamic force in the industry. Her career exemplifies how passion, dedication, and a willingness to take creative risks can lead to an impactful and meaningful body of work.

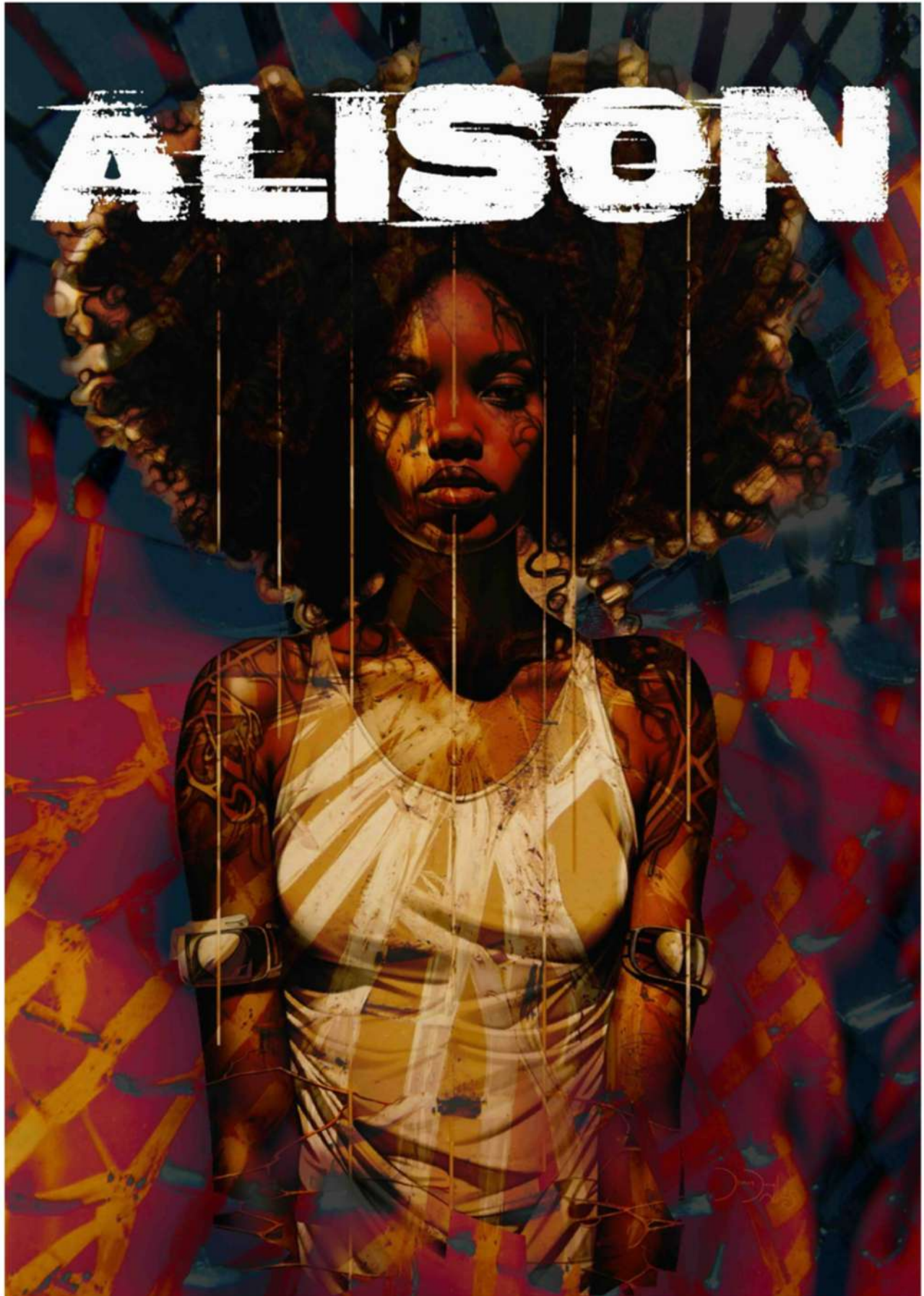


Connect with Mara Lesemann

 www.maraleseman.com

 www.alisonthemovie.com

 Mara Lesemann



WILL

YOU

CALL?

WHISTLE

AND I'LL COME TO YOU

QUEEN HOUSE PRODUCTIONS PRESENT A VALENTINA BATTORTI FILM "WHISTLE, AND I'LL COME TO YOU" GIORGIO GUERRA GIOVANNI ZAMPIERI
FRANCESCO DEMATTE' TIZIANO MEZZAVILLA STEFANO BATTORTI GIANNI DE COL LUCIA ROSSATO LUIGI BUDEL PRISCA DAL MAS
MAURIZIO GUINI ROSETTA CANNARELLA GIROTTI FRANCESCO BUA CORONA UMBERTO COLFERAI VALENTINA BATTORTI MANRICO BRISTOT
ORIGINAL SCORE BY MATTHEW JAMES CHORUS BY MANOLO DA ROLD CORALE ZUMMELESE FILM EDITOR VALENTINA BATTORTI SPECIAL VISUAL EFFECTS BY GIOVANNI ZAMPIERI
PRODUCED BY VALENTINA BATTORTI BASED UPON A SHORT TALE BY MONTAGUE R. JAMES WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY VALENTINA BATTORTI

a meditation on
peace & freedom

GUARDIANS *of* PARADISE

22.07.2021

a film by
IVAN MARIA FRIEDMAN

music by
MAX RICHTER

THE
FILMMAKERLIFE



★★★★★
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Film Director - Simon Miles Constantine

Lady Samurai - Overview

While the Samurai were outlawed long ago, the ritual and prowess associated with a deadly blade brought with it an understanding of perfection, combining mind and body. Today this same art is assimilated in the practice of lai-do, the Art of Drawing the Japanese Sword. The journey to perfection for the Samurai is a journey rarely undertaken by anyone outside of Japan, particularly by a western



Director Biography - Fay Yvonne Goodman

As a Director/Producer of the award winning 'Thunderfingers: A Tribute to John Entwistle' of The Who Fay is committed to profiling important public issues such as her more recent short documentary on Lady Victoria Starkey: 'Riches to Rags'.

From the age of 6, Fay composed music and as a singer/songwriter with China Doll went on to have a top 10 hit in EMI France. She continues to compose her own music and writes jointly with other artists including Mark Wolski as featured on Lady Samurai.

Fay is one of the world's highest ranked female martial artists on several disciplines including laido (Way of the Sword) and internationally acclaimed author of several books. She is passionate about sharing her knowledge as a coach and mentor to martial artists and sport pupils of every ability, disability, culture, gender, and age.

Fay's desire to raise awareness of the many benefits martial arts has to offer led to her being the author of internationally acclaimed best-selling books: 'The Ultimate Book of Martial Arts' and 'Self Defence for All'.

Other authored works includes DriveSafe for Female Motorists; DriveSafe and StaySafe Guide and 'Beating Crime in Your Business, Is Your Business' for small businesses.

Studying martial arts encouraged Fay to develop the UK's first NVQ on 'Personal Safety at Work' and VRQ on 'Handling Violence in the Workplace' which has led to a new system SHEFUAY promoting self-protection and empowerment for vulnerable adults, women and girls.

Fay's passion to support children's safety includes a new children's brand 'The Conies' which is also now a registered charity to help primary school safety in all areas especially road safety, supported by the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership and Pertemps Network.

As a leading campaigner Fay is fighting to 'Save Barrows Lane football fields and community hall' for the health and safety of children, young people, and all residents in Yardley.



RON CHEPESIUK: THE MASTER STORYTELLER OF TRUE CRIME

In the realm of true crime storytelling, few names carry the weight and credibility of Ron Chepesiuk. A prolific and award-winning author, screenwriter, and documentary producer, Chepesiuk has built a remarkable career spanning decades, with over 40 published books and more than 4,000 articles featured in various newspapers and magazines. His deep expertise in crime history, investigative journalism, and cinematic storytelling makes him a powerhouse in the entertainment industry.



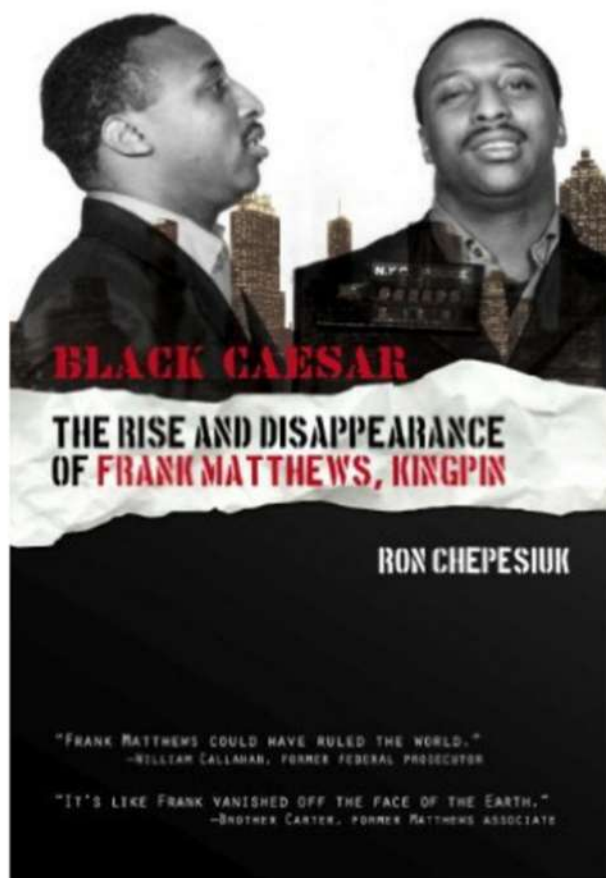
Ron Chepesiuk



Chepesiuk's literary works are a testament to his dedication to uncovering the hidden narratives behind some of history's most notorious figures. Titles such as *Black Caesar: The Rise and Disappearance of Frank Matthews*, *Gangsters of Harlem*, *Narcos Inc: The Rise and Fall of the Cali Cartel*, and *Bad Henry: The Murderous Rampage of the Taco Bell Strangler* (2023) demonstrate his ability to dissect and present complex criminal sagas with gripping detail. His book *The Real Mr.*

Big was a finalist for both the 2022 International Book Awards and the National Indie Excellence Awards, further cementing his status as a leading voice in crime literature.

Beyond books, Chepesiuk has successfully transitioned into film and television. His investigative prowess and masterful storytelling have led to multiple screenplays being optioned and developed for the big screen. Among them, *Death Fences* was honored as the Grand Winner at the 2019 New Visions International Film Festival, and *The Blackamoor* won the Grand Winner prize at the 1921 Rio International Film Festival.



Additionally, four of his books have been optioned for film adaptations, showcasing the industry's recognition of his work's cinematic potential.

Chepesiuk's documentary work is equally impressive. His film on Frank Matthews received the Silver Doc Award at the Las Vegas International Film Festival, and his latest documentary, *The Narco Next Door*, inspired by his book *The Real Mr. Big*, is set to premiere on the Discovery Channel on March 20, 2025. His ability to translate his investigative research into compelling visual storytelling underscores his versatility as a filmmaker and producer.



As a crime historian and media consultant, Chepesiuk has contributed to popular television programs such as *Gangland TV* and has appeared on major networks including Discovery, National Geographic, and NBC Dateline. His expertise is sought after not only for his in-depth knowledge of crime syndicates but also for his ability to contextualize their

impact on society. His work has taken him across more than 35 countries, providing firsthand insights into the global crime landscape and allowing him to interview influential figures such as Jimmy Carter, Yasser Arafat, and John Kerry.



Chepesiuk's influence extends to digital media as well. As the host of *Crime Beat Radio*, a globally recognized show with over 90 million downloads in 160+ countries, he has interviewed renowned personalities like James Patterson, Robert Kennedy Jr., Henry Hill, and Noam Chomsky. His platform continues to captivate audiences with its deep dives into the world of crime, justice, and law enforcement.

With a career defined by relentless investigation, meticulous research, and compelling storytelling, Ron Chepesiuk remains a dominant force in true crime entertainment. His ability to craft narratives that educate, entertain, and provoke thought ensures that his legacy as a filmmaker and author will endure for years to come.



Connect with Ron Chepesiuk

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🌐 Ron Chepesiuk

f Ron Chepesiuk

THE **REAL** MR. BIG



**HOW A COLOMBIAN REFUGEE BECAME THE UNITED
KINGDOM'S MOST NOTORIOUS COCAINE KINGPIN**

RON CHEPESIUK



PEEKABOO & UAU PRESENTANO UN FILM DI ALESSANDRO REDAELLI
CON DAPHNE BOHÉMIEN, SIMONE CASERTA, DARIA RUSSO, GABRIELE VANNUCCHI



positive

E CON JONATHAN BAZZI, LOREDANA BERTÈ, MASSIMO CERNUSCHI, VICKY GITTO,
ANGELA INFANTE, SILVIA NEGRI, JO SQUILLO, OLIVIERO TOSCANI, MARINELLA ZETTI

SCRITTO DA FRANCESCO MADDALONI, ELENA COMOGLIO, RUGGERO MELIS • DIRETTORE DELLA FOTOGRAFIA TOMMASO MONTAGNOLI
MONTAGGIO ALESSANDRO REDAELLI • MUSICHE ORIGINALI RUGGERO MELIS • SOUND DESIGN LORENZO DAL RI • COLOR CORRECTION ORASH RAHINEMA
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER SALVATORE DE MARTINO • PRODOTTO DA SALVATORE DE MARTINO, FRANCESCO MADDALONI, GUIDO RADAELLI



总策划:赵月望 出品人:赵君/杨宁/丁峰峰/张博/李思媛
General Director:Yuewang Zhao Producer:Jun Zhao/Pan Yang/Fengfeng Ding/Bo Zhang/Siyuan Li
技术顾问:金哲楠 导演:秦森/希斯/张少庸 执行制片人:张汉德/张少庸
Technical Consultant:Zhenan Jin Director:Tyson Hesse/ShaoFu Zhang Executive Producer:Hande Zhang/ShaoFu Zhang
编剧:赵月望/弗兰克·吉布森 艺术指导:苏森·张
Screenwriter:Yuewang Zhao/Frank Gibson Art Director:Soonthen Cheang

10月27日 全球首发

陕旅集团
TCG SHAANXI

WILSON

TAIKO
STUDIO



出品单位:陕西旅游集团有限公司/陕西省西咸新区沣西新城管理委员会/西咸新区丝路欢乐世界旅游发展有限公司
Product Unit:Shaanxi Tourism Group Co., Ltd./Shaanxi Administrative Committee of Fengxi New City of Xixian New Area/
Xixian New Area Silk Road Paradise Tourism Development Co., Ltd.



'The Piano Man' tells the story of Pianist Michael. During rehearsals before the start of his concert, the piano sounds very out of tune. When Michael checks all the keys on the piano it becomes clear what is really inside the piano.

The Doctor is a documentary about the life of Franjo Grotenhermen, a pioneering doctor who saw the therapeutic potential of medicinal cannabis

A doctor, a researcher, and a political activist who has been fighting for the right of his patients to have legal access to medical cannabis.

The documentary takes place during the 10th Conference on Cannabinoids in Medicine in Berlin in 2019, organized by the International Association for Cannabinoids in Medicine (IACM) which Franjo co-founded and directed for several years. "

The documentary is a journey through his life and work of the last 30 years with interviews with his colleagues and fellow scientists like Raphael Mechoulam, Mark Ware, and R Müller-Vahl, Manuel Gúzman etc..



GOODKRUSHER



THE CORONATION

CREATED BY EMILY PENICK & KELSEY BURNS



DIRECTED BY EMILY PENICK STARRING KELSEY BURNS SCENOGRAPHY BY KATE FRY
CHOREOGRAPHY BY KELSEY BURNS CINEMATOGRAPHY BY ANASTASIIA KULIKALOVA
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY MEREDITH BUTTERWORTH EDITED BY JACOB MIDKIFF
LIGHTING DESIGN BY STEVEN KOSIBA ASSISTANT CAMERA IAN LABARGE

COURTNEY ST. GELAIS

SIERRA BERKELEY FISHER

JAHDEY WRIGHT



LADY FEM MEDIA PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH SHUTTER PRODUCTIONS AND SUPPORT FILM "CALISTO"
"SPIN" A LISA MARIE TESSIER FILM CINEMATOGRAPHER DAVID RUTICKA PRODUCER R.A. JOHNSON PRODUCTION DESIGNER DAVID SHAW

"A unique vision and its own creature"
JANE CAMPION



A DWAYNE CAMERON FILM

JUNE

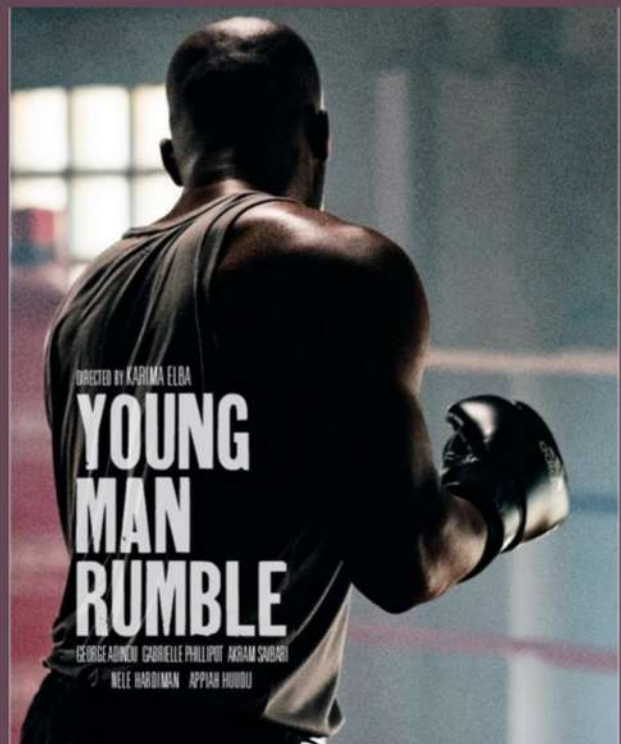
www.dwaynecameron.com



"A fighter's journey gets intervened when someone close returns into his life after a long absence. Trough the guidance of family and friends, he finds the courage to seek answers."



YOUNG MAN RUMBLE



CAM 3
02:35:48:18

REC

PHOTOWORKS
presents

[unfinished]

a film by
sudeep mehta



A super-short/micro silent student film made for Harvard University (DCE)

ANAND JADHAV | RISHI SINGH | AMIT PALKAR
produced by: WORLDWIDE PHOTOWORKS & SUDEEP MEHTA | music: YASH BHALEKAR
camera operator: ANIKET CHEULKAR | assistant director: SHUBHAM WALAVALKAR
lights: PARTH DAVE | vfx: SUDEEP MEHTA & PRAVIN KASKAR
written, directed, photographed & edited by: SUDEEP MEHTA

09/07/2021

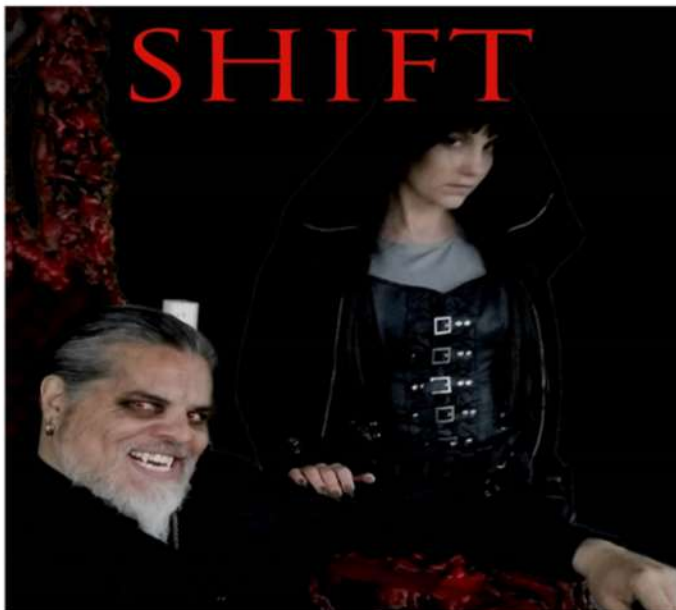
Bld. 6 NE

FRANK MANCUSO: A JOURNEY FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT TO AWARD-WINNING FILMMAKER

Frank Mancuso's journey into filmmaking is a testament to perseverance, adaptability, and the power of storytelling. From his early aspirations in acting to his distinguished career in law enforcement and, ultimately, his emergence as an award-winning screenwriter and filmmaker, Mancuso's path has been anything but conventional. Today, with an impressive portfolio of 17 screenplays and multiple film productions, he is a respected figure in the independent film industry. Born and raised in Albany, NY, Mancuso's passion for performance led him to New York City in 1983. After graduating from the College of St. Rose, he pursued an acting career, studying at the esteemed HB Studio under the guidance of Bill Hickey.



Frank Mancuso



Like many actors, he started with background roles before securing his AFTRA card with an appearance on the soap opera *Ryan's Hope*. His breakthrough came in 1985 when he earned his SAG card with a speaking role as a police officer alongside Peter Weller in *Apology*.

Despite his early success in acting, Mancuso found himself navigating the challenges of sustaining a career in the industry.

To support himself, he worked at Madison Square Garden for 25 years as a Supervisor of Events. However, his path took an unexpected turn when he pursued a career in law enforcement.

Over the next two decades, Mancuso served as a Court Officer in Mt. Vernon, an Evidence Specialist with the NYPD, and eventually a NYC Deputy Sheriff. His service as a 9/11 First Responder further cemented his dedication to public service.

Throughout his career in law enforcement, Mancuso's passion for storytelling never waned. His experiences in the field became a wellspring of inspiration for his writing, shaping his ability to craft compelling, authentic narratives. After retiring, he fully embraced his creative ambitions, transitioning into screenwriting and independent filmmaking.



Partnering with Chris Adams, he co-founded a production company that has since completed six projects, with their latest now in post-production.



Mancuso's screenplays have garnered critical acclaim, with several listed on INKTIP and available for production. His first screenplay, *S.T.A.N.E.*, won Best Action at the Mega Fest Las Vegas International Film and Screenwriting Festival in 2019. His filmography includes *Blue Iron*, *SHIFT*, and *The Devil's Playground*, showcasing his versatility across genres.

His film *Anemone* is currently available for streaming on Amazon Prime, further solidifying his presence in the industry.

Among his recent works, *A Melody in the Bronx* stands out as an adaptation of Rocco Trombetta's book, *There Once Was A Melody in the Bronx*. This project exemplifies Mancuso's ability to bring literary works to life on screen, merging poignant storytelling with cinematic vision.



With a remarkable career spanning acting, law enforcement, and filmmaking, Frank Mancuso has proven that passion and resilience can lead to extraordinary achievements. Having won hundreds of awards across the global film festival circuit, he continues to create compelling stories that captivate audiences worldwide. As he forges ahead, Mancuso remains a beacon of inspiration for aspiring filmmakers, demonstrating that it's never too late to follow one's dreams.



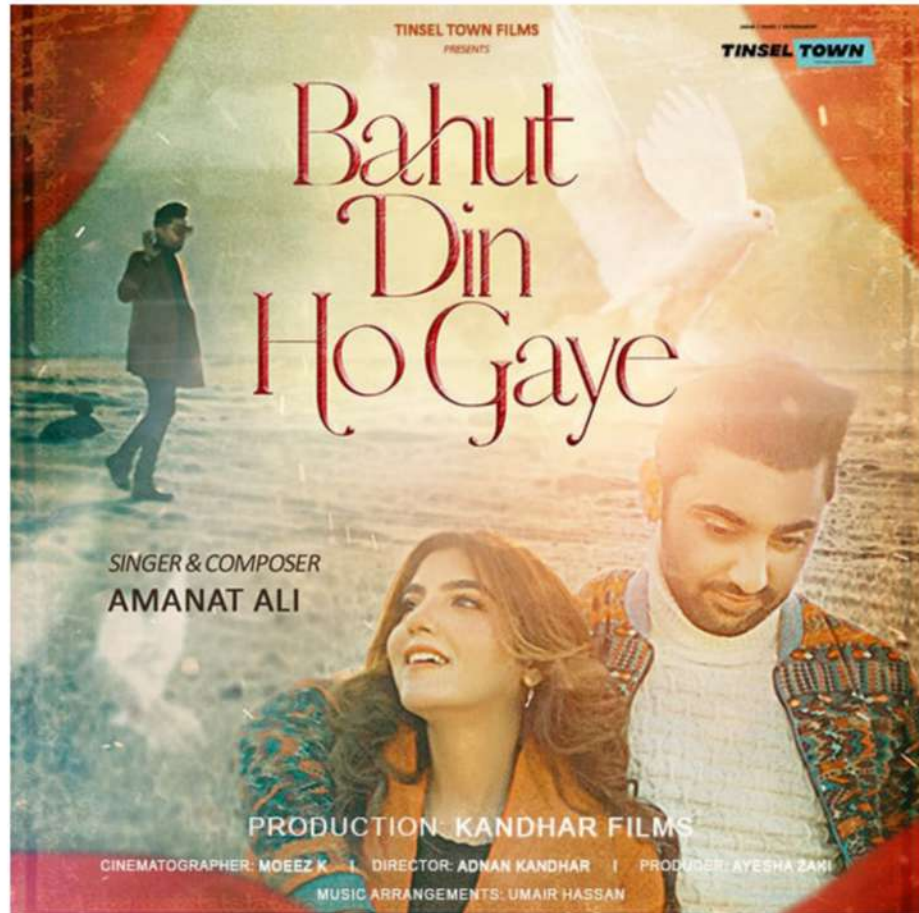
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-  @Blueironproduc1
-  Frank Mancuso



Bahut Din Ho Gaye (It's been so long...)

Tinsel Town Films presents Bahut Din Ho Gaye, a Hindi language with English subtitles music video that will melt your heart. A song sung by Amanat Ali whom you will also see acting in this most lovable music video of the year. Bahut Din Ho Gaye, a masterpiece produced by Ayesha Zaki and Directed by Adnan Khandar has won millions of hearts at the various film festivals worldwide. Amanat also rendered his voice as a playback singer in Bollywood movies, including Dostana for the songs 'Khabar Nahin' and KC Bokadia's 'Junoon'.



Artist Statement

Amanat, who holds Canadian citizenship, claims that the video contains an unexpected twist that viewers will be surprised to see, and that the song is a treat to listen to.



Directed by
Wing Ka Francisca So

The story centers around temple youth Wei, who discovers the benefits of being a holdout when his grandfather urgently needs money for surgery. In order to get more money out of property developers, Wei teams up with Rainy, a girl opposed to community reconstruction, to apply for historical landmark status for the temple his grandfather left him.

From performing traditional religious ceremonies to participating in a global singing and dancing competition, Wei and Rainy's efforts to enhance the value of the temple capture the attention of the public by participating in a global singing and dancing competition. As their relationship grows over time, they also find themselves torn between family, friendship, and even love.



Across the Ocean

*Composed by
Michael W. Choi*

*Orchestrated by
Dominik Svoboda & Michael W. Choi*



Christan van Slyke: A Multi-International Award-Winning Screenwriter Shaping the Future of Cinema



Christan van Slyke is a distinguished American screenwriter whose impressive career has garnered widespread recognition and acclaim. Hailing from Texas, she has established herself as a prominent figure in the film industry, amassing over 700 awards on the global festival circuit since her entry into the field in 2008. Her creative prowess and dedication to storytelling have made her a sought-after talent in Hollywood and beyond.

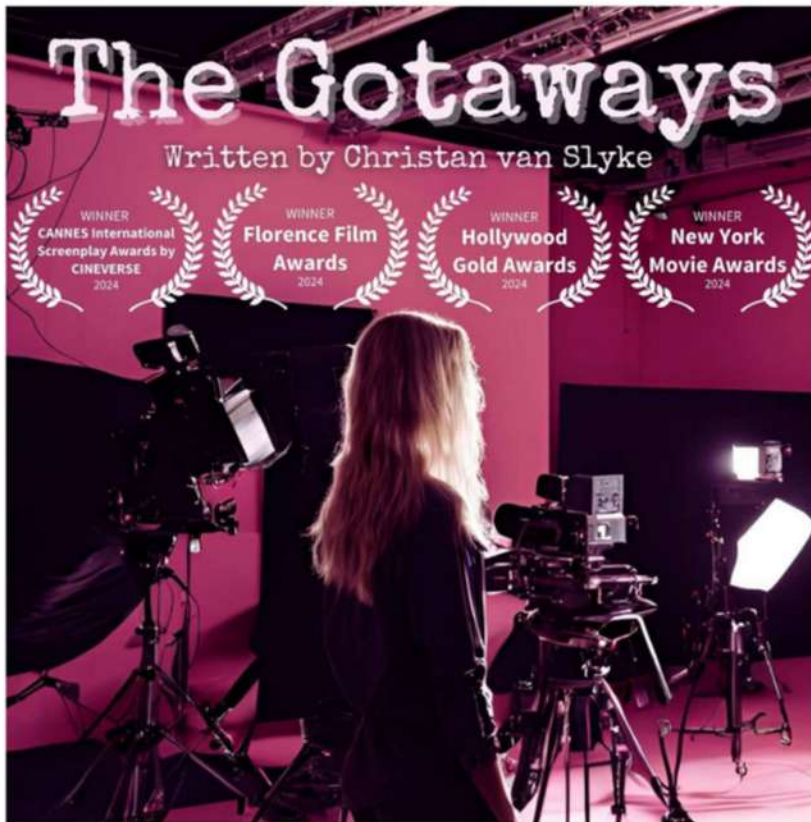
Christan's journey in the world of cinema began with her involvement in various production roles, where she gained invaluable insights into the filmmaking process. In 2010, she solidified her expertise by obtaining a Master Screenwriting Certification, laying the foundation for her illustrious screenwriting career. Her ability to craft compelling narratives has earned her numerous accolades and festival features, including the prestigious Festival de Cannes.



One of her most notable achievements is the holiday romcom *Curbside Service*, which received high praise and multiple awards, including wins at the Cannes-SRFA, Hollywood Gold Awards, New York Movie Awards, and Florence Film Awards. This captivating script is currently being shopped by The Film Co-Operative, LLC. Christan's creative brilliance extends to other celebrated works, such as the Austin Spotlight Film Festival-winning coming-of-age romcom *Lover Haters Club*, featuring the talented Anna Stadler, and the indie romcom *The Gotaways*.



Her filmography also includes the riveting drama *D After C* (2021) with All Dog Entertainment, the indie hit *Combobulate* (2022) released by Rivertree Productions, and the acclaimed drama *The Expected Unexpected* (2021), which is available on Amazon Prime, Tubi, and AppleTV. Christan's versatility as a screenwriter is evident in her upcoming projects, such as *In the Cards* (2025), a drama-romance feature starring Lauren Marie, Frankie Galvez, and Joseph Boehm.



This highly anticipated film is currently in post-production with Jobie James Films and is slated for a summer 2025 release.

Christan's contributions to the film industry extend beyond screenwriting. Her experience as a crew member on the production of *The Details*, which featured renowned actors Tobey Maguire, Laura Linney, Elizabeth Banks, and Ray Liotta, further fueled her passion for storytelling.

Her commitment to the craft led her to become a staff screenwriter for six production companies and an Official Screenplay Jury Member of the International Cinema Center and the Waco Faith & Family International Film Festival from 2019 to 2021.



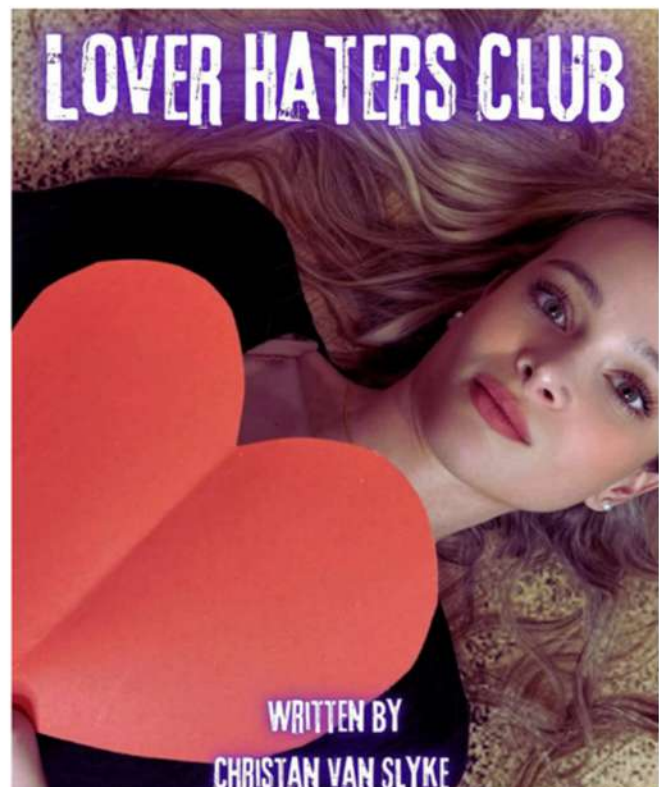


Currently represented by Terrece Lynn at The Wayne Agency, LLC, in Los Angeles and managed by Nuala Quinn-Barton with Mania Entertainment and The Film Co-Operative, Christan continues to be a prolific and influential force in screenwriting. Her latest works in development include the dramedy script *Less Traveled*, an official selection at the Cannes Indies Cinema Awards, the award-winning post-apocalyptic thriller *The Silent Rebellion*, and the dark comedy *End It On This*.

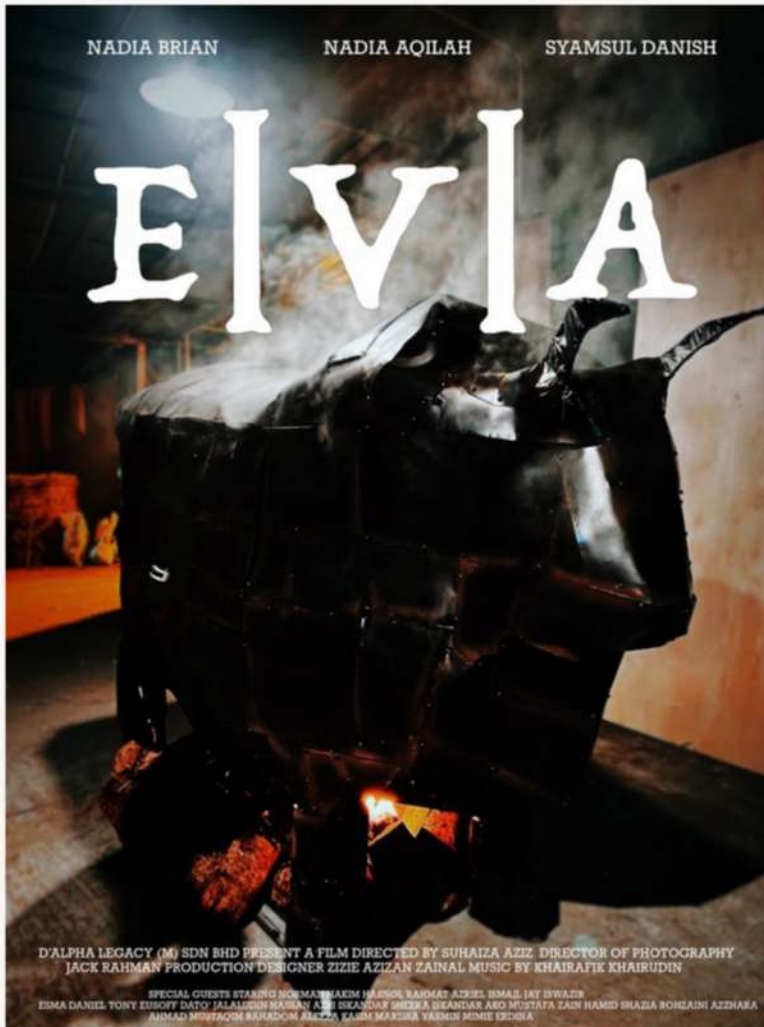
With a deep passion for storytelling and a collaborative spirit, Christan van Slyke is dedicated to building a "film family" and remains open to professional partnerships. Her remarkable body of work and unwavering commitment to excellence position her as a trailblazer in the world of independent cinema.

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Eva, Amy and Mike are different alters trapped in one body. Eva, being the host of the body had to deal with her different alters. The different personalities were developed over time as a result of her coping mechanism due to childhood trauma. Eva too has a son, who is trying to understand her situation and Elly her sister who had always been by her side. Eva became a prosperous lawyer while having 2 more alters, Amy the forensic and Mike a murderer. Due to her childhood trauma, the hunger for revenge feeds on Mike causing him to kill the rapist which Eva will set free during her trial.

Produced and
Written by
Diyana Ismail &
Nur Aminahatul
Mardia Md Nor

Directed by
Suhaiza Aziz





**Directed by
Raymond Lau**

"How long have you not been home since you worked in a foreign country?"

With the theme of young people and grandparenting, it describes the heroine who was brought up by Grandma and working away from home. One day the heroine returned to her hometown in Taichung when Grandma was ill. The heroine finds a wooden box full of memories that have broken in the grandmother's room. Through the process of repairing the wooden box, she goes through the streets and reminds her all memories of the family love, and gradually reveals the unspoken love. In this film, the out-of-town heroine who returns to her hometown leads the audience into her life and shows the culture of Taichung.

The core spindle of the story tells not only the relationship between grandma and granddaughter but also hopes to bring everyone a growth story with the memory of Taichung City.

Director Statement

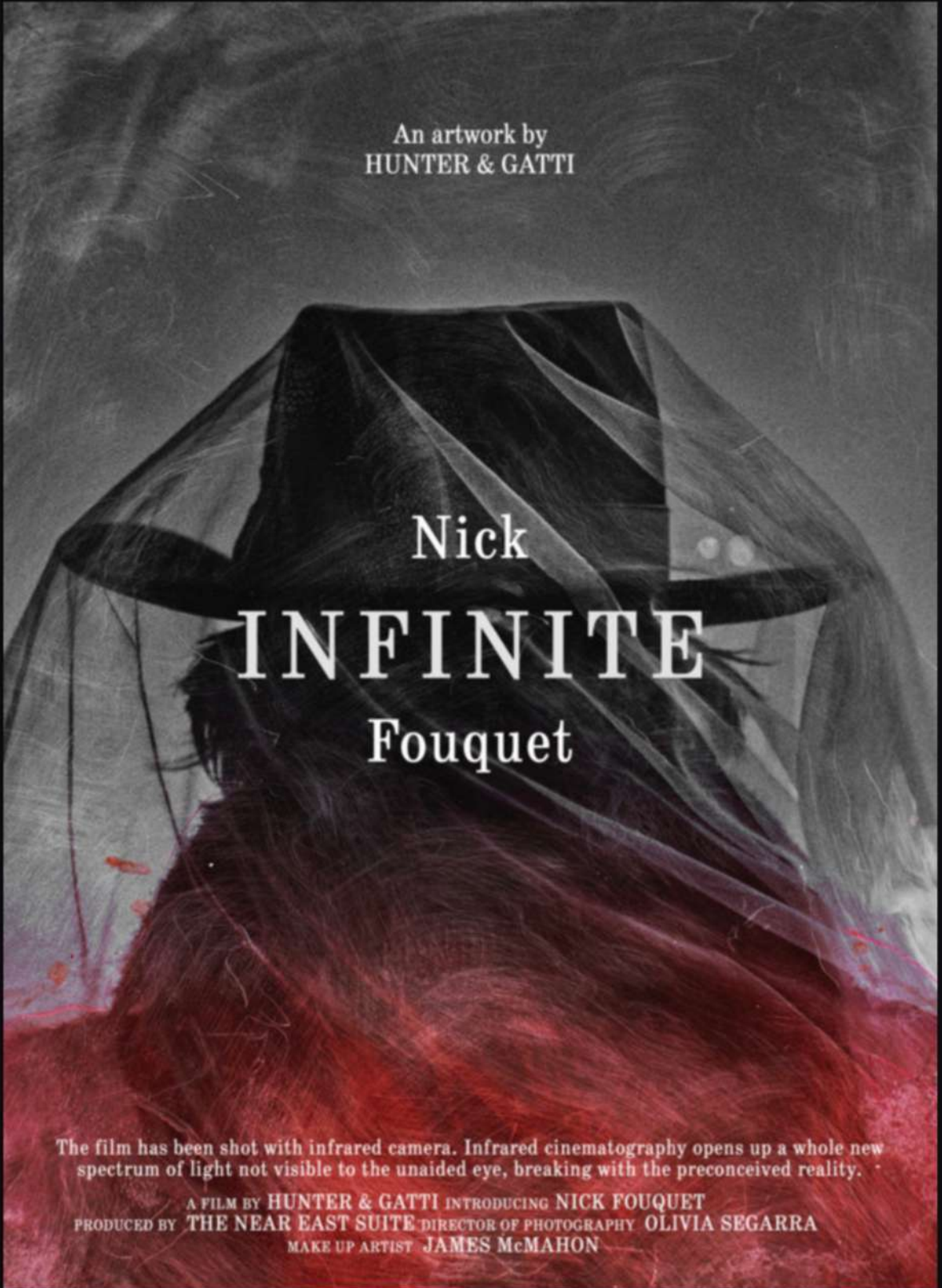
A-Ha's Egg Cake, released in 2022, is a Taiwanese animated film based on the stories of family affection and memories through delicate and realistic scenes, combined with full of Taichung regional accents and slang which provoke a strong sense of emotional resonance amongst the audience.

We used both CG and hand-drawn animation in A-Ha's Egg Cake, with high contrast lighting and warm colors to create the specific atmosphere, leading everyone immerse in the memories and stories in Taichung as the heroine did.

As the story goes on, it seems to reveal those feelings and homesickness that gradually being ignored by everyone due to the routine busy working life. For those strangers in the city - Live of the moment, and cherish your loved ones! According to A-Ha, "To make living, to be positive."



Film Director - Raymond Lau



An artwork by
HUNTER & GATTI

Nick
INFINITE
Fouquet

The film has been shot with infrared camera. Infrared cinematography opens up a whole new spectrum of light not visible to the unaided eye, breaking with the preconceived reality.

A FILM BY HUNTER & GATTI INTRODUCING NICK FOUQUET
PRODUCED BY THE NEAR EAST SUITE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY OLIVIA SEGARRA
MAKE UP ARTIST JAMES McMAHON

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