

2022

NANTES · PAS WORKSHOP

I'M COMING FOR YOU

POUR TOI JE REVIENDRAI

CAMEROON



MAIN DATA

Category	Drama, Fantasy
Length	105 min
Language	Haoussa, French, English
Shooting format	Digital Raw
Shooting location	Cameroon
Shooting dates	1 March - 30 April 2024
Expected date of completion	May 2025
Stage of production	In development

PRODUCTION

Budget	964.324 €
Financing in place	135.048 €
Production company	JCMR
Workshop & platforms attended	Munich Film Up, Yaounde Film Lab, Moulin d'Andé Ceci

SYNOPSIS

Kaltoumi is a 25-year-old engineer and young mother. A devout Muslim, she wears a hijab at all times and strangely rides a Bobber motorbike to trade with Boko Haram terrorists in the vast Sahelian region. Once her criminal activities are exposed, her baby is taken away from her, Kaltoumi is cursed and banished from the village by their chief who sees her and her dream of freedom as a threat to their patriarchal and conservative society. Kaltoumi then embarks on a journey of initiation to return to her three-month-old baby.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I'M COMING FOR YOU is a story that raises the issue of women's freedom by highlighting the notion of sisterhood, all in a Sahelian land with a war as background, but also an underlying question of maternal love: how far can it go?

Kaltoumi, is both light and shadow. As much as she loves her baby and her family with a sincere and deep love, she is also involved in trafficking with terrorists. Her journey of initiation, like Ulysses in Greek mythology, allows her at the end to combine these two sides of herself. Isn't the human being both shadow and light?

I have a desire, through this film, to explore subjects that are very much rooted in reality in a fantastic way. Where I come from, it doesn't matter if you are a Muslim, Christian or atheist, we all believe in the existence of a higher mystical entity. In this space, the perception and interpretation of a certain reality remains strongly influenced by the relationship people have with nature and the elements: air, fire, earth...

CONTACT

Producer - Alice Abah - jcmrproduction@gmail.com

Director - Cyrielle Raingou - dcyrielle2@gmail.com



PRODUCER ALICE ABAH



Alice Abah is a Cameroonian producer. Trained as an actress and comedian, she made her debut in the theater where she won the prize for the best actress of the French-speaking theater scenes in 2010. She started working in cinema in 2006 where she played roles in short films. She continues with feature films such as "Lex Nostra" by Gérard Nguete, "Cité Campus" by Vincent Ndoumbe, "Zombie à Yaoundé" by Elena Cerna. She also does commercials with CCA bank, MTN Cameroon, as well as with the national channel CRTV with which she advertises the female and male condoms and Neonatal tetanus. Alice Abah and Cyrielle Raingou studied film production together in University of Yaoundé 1 and became very close collaborators. Alice Abah holds master degree in film production.

DIRECTOR CYRIELLE RAINGOU



Cyrielle Raingou is a Cameroonian filmmaker passionate about African cultural identity, its promotion on an international scale and the economic interest it raises. She very often uses legends, metaphor, the symbolism of animals to unearth the complexity and mystery within human. She is currently working on her first feature length documentary "Le Spectre de Boko Haram", focused on the life in a war zone from children perspective. She holds master's degrees in law and in documentary film directing.

2022

NANTES · PAS WORKSHOP

AISHA CAN'T FLY AWAY ANYMORE

EGYPT



MAIN DATA

Category	Drama
Length	120 min
Language	Arabic
Shooting format	8K
Shooting location	Egypt
Shooting dates	December 2024
Expected date of completion	4th May 2025
Stage of production	In development

PRODUCTION

Budget	627.545 €
Financing in place	146.843 €
Production company	Bonanza Films
Workshop & platforms attended	Global Media Makers Los Angeles Residency 2022, Gograha Residency 2022

SYNOPSIS

Aisha; a Somali young woman of 26 works as a caregiver for elderly patients; she lives in a neighborhood of African migrants in the heart of Cairo where she witnesses the tension between different groups, She is uncomfortable with a gang, which operates out of an abandoned microbus and blackmail her to steal her patients' apartment keys so they can rob it moreover she is stuck in an undefined relationship with Abdoun; a young Egyptian cook.

Her routine is disrupted when she gets assigned to work in a new house where feels uncomfortable, then Abdoun shows suicidal tendencies and disappears. Aisha tries to cope with her fears and lost battles but when Abdoun appears after a while; married, the pressure she bears becomes unbearable and pushes her to the point of explosion.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I'm telling the story in the place where I spent my childhood; I returned after years for some visits, almost an African colony within the heart of Cairo was formed; they came looking for work, peace or asylum away from war and starvation. They formed their own world, terms and rules.

Some work hard in under-paid jobs for a living but others rebelled against their inevitable fate of acquiescence; for both sides just surviving the day is considered heroic. While riding a microbus there; an African girl sat beside me and slept; she woke up frightened and went into hysterical crying. I wondered a lot about her; then my character, Aisha; started to answer my questions; a lonely girl trapped between the two survival mechanisms of her society facing the same social pressure from a bigger universe, and despite living among people who resembles her; it isn't enough to make her feel belonging, but it is possible to make her feel alienated, like the ostrich, which is a bird, but it cannot live with them and cannot fly one meter above the earth's surface.

CONTACT

Producer - Sawsan Yusuf - sawsan.yusuf@gmail.com

Director - Morad Mostafa - moradmostafafilm@gmail.com



PRODUCER SAWSAN YUSUF



Sawsan Yusuf is an Egyptian producer born in 1988. She has a degree from Ain Shams University in Drama and Criticism and a Rotterdam lab 2022 Alumni. Started her career in the industry since 2009 as coordinator for several festivals and film markets in the middle east alongside

working as line producer in independent cinema; in the documentaries and shorts. In 2019 established her company Bonanza Films and as a producer made the first short film *Henet Ward*; had its world premiere at Clermont Ferrand International competition and selected in 180 festivals worldwide such as BFI London, Palm Springs, Busan, Durban, Cairo and won 25 prizes, then she produced *Khadiga* with a French co-production and also selected at Clermont Ferrand International competition. She is working on other shorts and currently developing her first feature film and the project selected at LA Fabrique Cinema in Cannes film festival.

DIRECTOR MORAD MOSTAFA



Morad is an Egyptian Filmmaker, born in Cairo. He worked in several independent films; and collaborated as an Executive director in *Souad* feature film, official selection in Cannes Film Festival. He is a Berlin talents campus in Durban alumni. and wrote and directed three short films all of

them selected in Clermont-Ferrand in three consecutive years and participated in other prestigious festivals as BFI London, Palm Springs, Shanghai, Thessaloniki, Stockholm, Karlovy Vary, BAFICI Buenos Aires, FIFF Namur, Cinemed Montpellier, Durban, Cairo, EL Gouna, Carthage and won more than 40 international awards. He is currently developing his first feature film and selected at Rotterdam Lab IFFR, and La Fabrique Cinema in Festival de Cannes 2022.

2022

NANTES · PAS WORKSHOP

I'LL SMILE IN SEPTEMBER

INDIA



MAIN DATA

Category	Drama
Length	110 min
Language	Hindi/Urdu
Shooting format	4K
Shooting location	India
Shooting dates	Oct 1 - Nov 15 2023
Expected date of completion	April 2024
Stage of production	In development

PRODUCTION

Budget	960,500 €
Financing in place	67,500 €
Production company	Crawling Angel Films
Workshop & platforms attended	Cineuropa X EU in India 'A Journey to Europe' Screenwriting Program 2021, Busan Asian Film School (AFIS) Class of 2022

SYNOPSIS

Kismateen is a shy and introverted teenager who works for a brass band in Old Delhi. An ace trumpeter, he is well liked by his peers. For the past two years, he has been secretly dating Zainab, daughter of his upper-caste bandmaster. The two plan to elope and settle elsewhere. However, her family learns of their plan and forcefully marries her the same week to someone else. To make matters worse, when Kismateen tries to reason with the bandmaster, he gets his teeth knocked out and is also fired from work.

Set against the backdrop of Shaikh Dafalchi Muslim artisan community, the film follows Kismateen's quest as he attempts to move on in life by getting dental implants. His purpose in life is to smile and get a perfect portrait clicked for his matrimonial profile.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Kismateen is an enigma who considers Meena Kumari's ghazals to be the guiding light of his musical path. He is in love with Zainab, an art history student who finds stillness in the relics of the past. They are modern-day romanticists who complement each other. When Zainab goes away, Kismateen's world comes crashing down.

Through *I'll Smile in September* I want to encapsulate Kismateen's unspoken feelings about separation, the debilitation after his first heartbreak and a vehement yearning to move on in life. A character driven drama, it will invite us to ponder over what it is like to carry on in life after an event of tragic loss. Told over a series of chapters from Kismateen's life, it'll attempt to draw a layered yet intimate portrait of the brass band community who are integral to festive celebrations in India. With a careful balance between a tender romance and a quiet pathos, it will explore the themes of forbidden love, grief and self acceptance while commenting on the social-caste system in India.

CONTACT

Producer - Sanjay Gulati - clearggoals@gmail.com

Director - Aakash Chhabra - aakashchhabra949@gmail.com



PRODUCER SANJAY GULATI



Sanjay Gulati is a film producer based in New Delhi, India. He is the founder of Crawling Angel Films, an independent production company known for its character-led narratives which stretch beyond language and genre. He began his career by producing Pushpendra Singh's debut feature *Lajwanti* which premiered at the Berlin Film Festival 2014. His filmography includes *Ashwatthama* which received the Asian Cinema Fund and premiered at the Busan International Film Festival 2017, *Once Again* which is streaming worldwide on Netflix, *Nimtoh* which received the Jury Award at Mumbai Film Festival 2019 and later premiered at International Film Festival Rotterdam 2020, and *Laila Aur Satt Geet* which premiered at Berlin Film Festival 2020. He is a recipient of the Sørfond Grant 2022 for his latest feature film in production, *Girls Will be Girls*. He is also selected to participate in this year's Asian Producers Network in Singapore.

DIRECTOR AAKASH CHHABRA



Aakash Chhabra spent his formative years in the textile town of Panipat. He makes films about effeminate gestures and small desires, of what is not easily visible and what is left unsaid, hidden in the wrinkles and the creases. He studied film producing at Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute and received further training at Locarno Doc School, Ji.hlava Academy and Kyoto Filmmakers Lab. His filmography includes *Mintgumri* which premiered at Dharamshala International Film Festival 2021, *An Ordinary Day* streaming on the International Short Film Festival Oberhausen channel as part of New Poetic Cinema, and the film essay *A Winter's Elegy* which premiered at the Tehran International Short Film Festival 2022. He is presently a fellow at the Busan Asian Film School (AFIS) where he is developing his debut feature *I'll Smile in September*, the winner of Cineuropa x EU in India 'A Journey to Europe' Screenwriting Program 2021.

2022

NANTES · PAS WORKSHOP

BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO

NEPAL



MAIN DATA

Category	Drama
Length	100 min
Language	Nepali
Shooting format	8K
Shooting location	Nepal
Shooting dates	December 2024
Expected date of completion	4th May 2025
Stage of production	In development

PRODUCTION

Budget	272.864 €
Financing in place	55.000 €
Production company	Kipalaya Production
Workshop & platforms attended	Global Media Makers Los Angeles Residency 2022, Gograha Residency 2022

SYNOPSIS

JAYA (14) a bright student, works as a servant in the village headman's home. His only dream is to be a teacher in his hometown to improve his family's situation and allow him to see his father again. He must successfully complete the school's level final exam in order to realize this desire.

One day, Jaya's class receives the entry card for the exam, but all he finds is his photo is blurry. After asking the teacher, he learns that he has three days to take another photo or he will miss the exam since the teacher needs to turn in the completed paperwork to the district educational office by the fourth day. Jaya has no choice but to embark on a quest to find a pair of BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I have grown up amid rich natural resources and I feel blessed to be around them even now. But it's heartbreaking for me to see these abundant resources going unused like the human resource here in Nepal. Due to an ever-unsettling political crisis, our skilled human resources are forced to flee the country. The skill resources nurtured here in Nepal are mostly serving in either neighboring country India, or in Gulf countries. Even the students, as young as primary level, are forced to abandon their education and flee the country to work and earn bread for the family.

As a school teacher, I have been witnessing for years my young students dropping their schools for labor work in India, which has inspired me to share this painful story with the rest of the world so busy in their virtual life.

CONTACT

Producer - Nawa Bijaya Prakash Shrestha - nsbijay@gmail.com

Director - Rajesh Prasad Khatri - kcrjesh999@gmail.com



PRODUCER NAWA BIJAYA PRAKASH SHRESTHA



Nawa Bijaya Prakash Shrestha, the founder member of Kipalaya Production, is a film graduate. He is currently pursuing his master's degree in producing courses under KINO EYES - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree Scholarship.

Mr. Shrestha has produced, directed, and written a number of short and feature films, documentaries, and television advertisements. Tsheter (2020), Samsaya (2019), A Nepali Short Film Guide for a Film Festival (2019), 4 Hours (2017), and others of his works have screened and won awards at several national and international film festivals. He is currently working on the second feature film, Black and White Photo. He's also preparing for the release of his first Nepali feature film, ANANTA as a producer.

DIRECTOR RAJESH PRASAD KHATRI



Rajesh Prasad Khatri, a self-taught filmmaker and a teacher in his village's school. «A Curious Girl» (2017) and «A Scarecrow» (2020) are his two short films that won Special Prize of International Jury at Berlinale Generation Kplus Competition, Germany, (2018)

and 75th UNICEF Iris award at UNICEF Innocenti Film Festival, Italy (2021) respectively along with other numerous awards. Currently, he is developing his debut feature film «Black and White Photo» which has been selected at Asian Project Market, BIFF - 2019, Berlinale Talents (Script Station) - 2020, Gograha Film Residency- 2022, Global Media Makers - Film Independent, LA Residency USA - 2022 and also received the Script Development Fund of Asian Cinema Fund, BIFF - 2019. He is an alumnus of Asian Film Academy - 2018 and Berlinale Talents Campus - 2020.

2022

NANTES · PAS WORKSHOP

GOODBYE, ARIZONA

TUPANANCHISKAMA, ARIZONA

PERU



MAIN DATA

Category	Drama
Length	90 min
Language	Spanish, Quechua
Shooting format	4K
Shooting location	Peru
Shooting dates	November 2024
Expected date of completion	July 2025
Stage of production	In development

PRODUCTION

Budget	359,009 €
Financing in place	44,662 €
Production company	Flamingo Films
Workshop & platforms attended	Swatch Art Peace Hotel

SYNOPSIS

In the town of Arizona, Peru, daily life proceeds at a predictable pace. People wake up, have breakfast, work, children go to school, and neighbors gossip about the usual. Two young neighbors, Gabriela and Uriel, gradually fall in love and eventually marry. When Gabriela dies during childbirth, she returns as a ghost to observe her past life and reflects on her fleeting existence and our difficulty to appreciate life while we have it. Overcome by sorrow, Gabriela decides to go back to the cemetery to rest with the other souls and forget about the world she lived in, meanwhile Uriel returns to the cemetery to visit his wife's grave and find strength to keep on living without Gabriela.

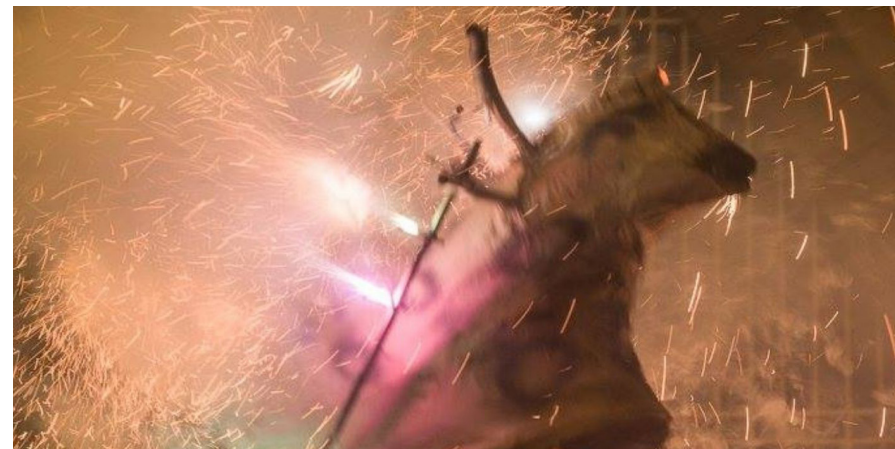
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

While I was studying film in New York, I took some archeology classes. On a special day, we went to visit a small digging site under a highway in Long Island. They had found a few leftovers from a Dutch family of early settlers. A piece of fabric, a broken plate and a thimble. Nothing special. Even so, our professor encouraged us to think about this family who lived centuries ago. And while the cars of today passed through the bridge above us, I began to imagine the life of a 17th century family on the very same soil I was stepping on. I dreamed about people that existed hundreds of years ago, while other families were passing right above me in their cars. And I realized that, although separated by hundreds of years, our lives are perhaps not that different at all. The idea that our lives are cyclical, shaped by the same main events over and over again, is the foundation of *Goodbye, Arizona*. The story of two kids, who we'll follow in their growing, in their marrying and in their dying.

CONTACT

Producer - Diana Castro Sánchez - dianacastro.sanchez@gmail.com

Director - Adrián Saba - adriansaba@live.com



PRODUCER DIANA CASTRO SÁNCHEZ



Diana is a Peruvian film producer, director and cultural promoter with more than ten years of experience in the film industry of her country. Her main activities focus on the development, production and distribution of independent fiction films, documentaries and experimental projects. In addition, she manages training workshops, film and performing arts festivals, seminars and talks. In 2019, she carried out the Creative Documentary workshop at the EICTV, Cuba and was selected for the Talent Campus BAFICI. She was selected for the Locarno Industry Academy in the year 2020 and is currently pursuing a postgraduate degree in Curating at Elías Querejeta Zine Eskola 2021-2022. She is the organizer of the Transcinema International Film Festival and co-manager of the Independent Cinema Hall ELGALPÓN.TRANSCINEMA. She is developing *Miradas Andinas*, a Co-production Platform for the Andean Region.

DIRECTOR ADRIÁN SABA



Adrián studied film and anthropology at Hofstra University with a Fulbright scholarship. He graduated with his thesis film *El Río* in 2010. His debut feature film *El Limpiador* premiered in 2012 at the New Directors competition at the San Sebastian Film Festival where it got the Jury's Special Mention. Soon after, it screened in over 50 film festivals and won the New Voices/New Visions award at the Palm Springs Film Festival and the FIPRESCI award at the Transylvania Film Festival. He developed his second feature film *El Soñador* at the Cannes Cinefondation Residence and premiered it at the Generation section in the Berlin Film Festival in 2016 and won the award of best Peruvian film at the Lima Film Festival. In 2017, he had his directorial debut in theater with the play *Master Harold and the Boys* written by Athol Fugard. He is in development for his next project *Tupananchiskama, Arizona*.

RIA

PHILIPPINES



MAIN DATA

Category	Drama, Punk
Length	100 min
Language	Filipino
Shooting format	4K
Shooting location	Philippines
Shooting dates	January 2024
Expected date of completion	July 2024
Stage of production	In development

PRODUCTION

Budget	524.647 €
Financing in place	35.429 €
Production company	Clayshop, Inc
Workshop & platforms attended	Tokyo Talents, BAFF SEAPIT CH, Festival de Cannes La Résidence, Locarno Film Academy

SYNOPSIS

Ria is a 22-year-old musician who grew up at Vachel's Cave, a punk commune. Surrounded by hunger and oppression, Ria takes part in mutual aid events where she plays along with a folk-punk band. To help solve the struggles of the commune, she works as a hotel housekeeper in the day and porn shoot assistant at night – providing for the family she knows while making ends meet for herself. Soon, the surrounding violence closes in on Vachel's Cave. Ria obliges herself to harder labor and is forced to become a porn actress just to survive. Before long, the community comes to ruin as they fall victim to senseless killings. As Ria nurses grief, regret, and anger, she starts to use her music against the social injustices around her.

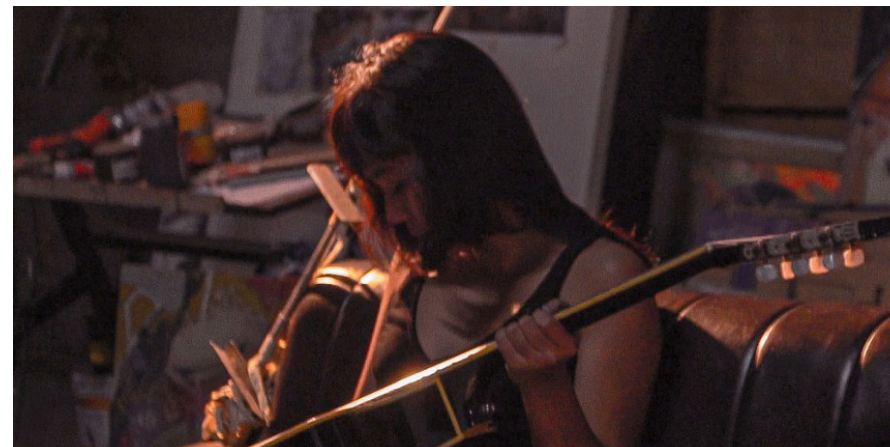
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The punk scene has been alive in the Philippines since the late 1970s. It is a community that I have long been part of. Punk is a movement that centers on solidarity and resistance; represented by art, raw expression, and mutual aid. Through the Filipino punk community, I met Pong Spotanyo, a brilliant graffiti artist. We both agreed that it is time for a film to be made about the punk subculture of the Philippines. Inspired by the strength of the women in our lives, we decided to depict the subculture through the eyes of a woman — and her name is Ria. Pong fell victim to the failed medical system, which led to his death. It is a life that many Filipinos are familiar with, an experience that drives anyone towards defiance. As a Filipina punk woman, Ria lives a life of resistance against a violent system that pushes the underprivileged to the brink of survival. Like the women in our lives, Ria represents those who had to fight their way through oppression and social injustice. In a system full of corruption and impunity — punk has no gender, emotions have no gender, and resistance has no gender. Anyone can be a punk.

CONTACT

Producer - Kristine De Leon - kristinejadeleon@gmail.com

Director - Arvin Belarmino - arvinbelarminoph@gmail.com



PRODUCER KRISTINE DE LEON



Kristine De Leon is a Filipino producer who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication and a minor in Digital Media Production. After graduation, she set foot in the world of film learning from the ground up as a production assistant. She had spent her first years

in the industry working on numerous short films and circling around different production jobs as an assistant director, writer, and even actress. She previously worked at the Film Development Council of the Philippines, the country's primary government agency for film, helping pioneer and manage the Philippine government's international co-production funds. At present, she serves as one of the producers of Arvin Belarmino's first feature *Ria*, which was developed at the 2022 Festival de Cannes La Résidence. Kristine is currently a full-time line producer at Summit Media, a Filipino advertising and media company.

DIRECTOR ARVIN BELARMINO



Arvin Belarmino was born in the province of Masbate, Philippines in 1987 and raised in Cavite and Manila City, where his passion for cinema started young. His fascination with Filipino films led him to pursue filmmaking himself – and without a formal film degree, Arvin managed to create several

experimental and narrative short films which garnered local and international critical acclaim. In 2017, his short film *Nakaw (Steal)* won the Best Fiction Film award at the 3rd Minikino Film Festival in Indonesia. In 2020, his recent short film, *Tarang (Life's Pedal)* was awarded the Berlin-Brandenburg Short Award for Best Film at the 36th Interfilm Berlin Short Film Festival. He is working on his feature *Ria*, which was part of the Talents Tokyo 2021, and was selected for the 2022 Festival de Cannes La Résidence. He recently attended the Locarno Filmmakers Academy to develop his skills as a director further.