

FRANTZBY  
ALEXANDRE

AARON  
KITCHIN



JUNKYARD DOG  
PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

# JUNGLE

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ERIC WANG SCHWAGER



JUNKYARD DOG PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS "JUNGLE" WRITTEN BY ERIC WANG SCHWAGER DIRECTED BY ERIC WANG SCHWAGER CASTING BY JAMES DALY COSTUME DESIGNER FRANTZBY ALEXANDRE HAIR AND MAKEUP AARON KITCHIN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MOHAMED ELSAFY PRODUCED BY JOSE GONZALEZ PALMA

**Logline:**

Jingle explores socio-economic and racial prejudices through the experiences of Bishop, a Brooklyn panhandler and local showman, as he tries to connect with Jeff, a shy newcomer.

**Synopsis:**

Bishop is something of a local legend for his enthusiastic and singular techniques when it comes to panhandling in a now up and coming Brooklyn neighborhood. When his corner bodega closes early, he strikes up a conversation with Jeff, a guitar player who performs at a nearby restaurant twice a week. They quickly connect over their shared artistic struggles.

When Jeff goes back into the restaurant to perform, Bishop cannot help but follow to get a drink and have a listen. It is clear from the moment Bishop walks in that he is not welcome. He does his best to support Jeff and be the ideal audience member but his boisterous presence only serves to further highlight his invasion and deepen the tense atmosphere. Jeff takes it upon himself to attempt to diffuse the electric situation. In so doing, he confronts the societal pressures and biases projected by those enveloping them. Even if Jeff can feel what is right, will he compromise in the hopes of getting a seat at the table?

**Director's Statement:**

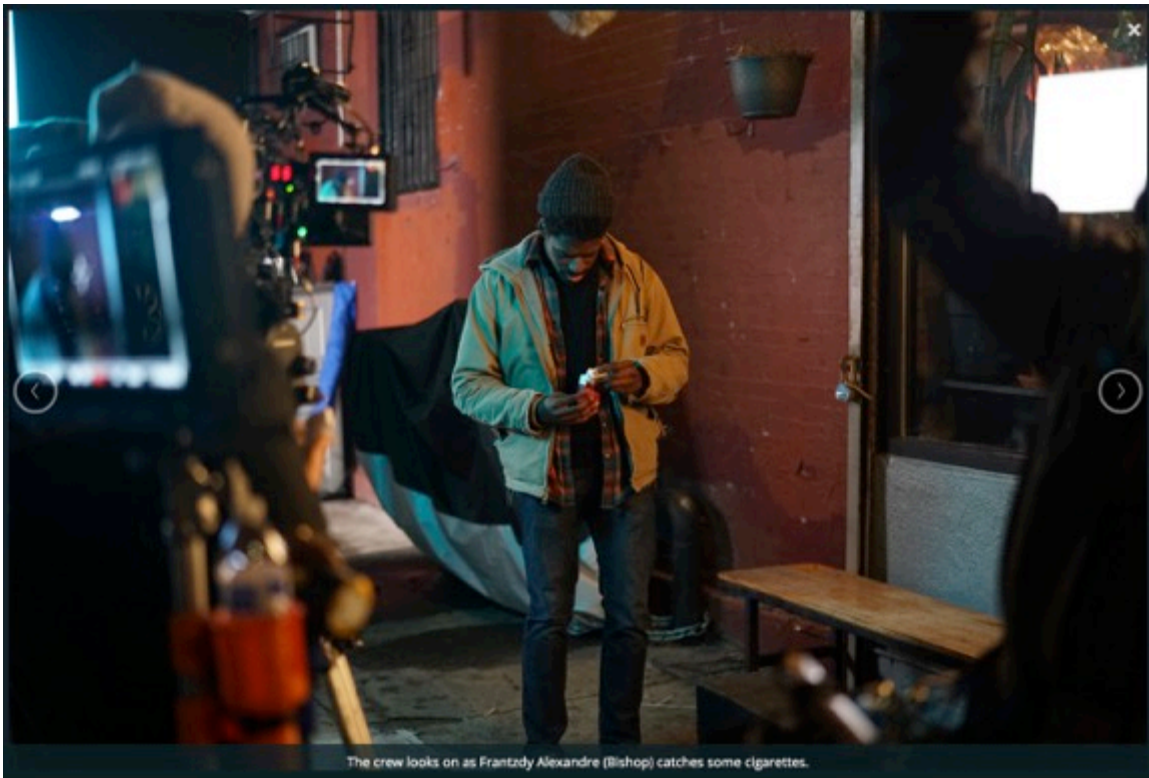
My 8 years as an Assistant Cameraman and now 3 years as a Director have been unique and eye-opening. I am privileged to see and explore buildings, neighborhoods, and areas from the Bronx to Long Island that I never would have otherwise. However, I am constantly aware of our presence as an invasion. Film crews are giant circuses that disrupt and impede. Perhaps that is also how I view my presence in a neighborhood that 20 years ago I would never have spent time. It has been 8 years and I am still concerned about who should be here in my stead or that I am an invader. But after this much time, I too now see change. Neighbors and families that I've gotten morning coffees with and become close to are moving. Building facades are replaced by scaffolding and construction cones. Through it all, the local empanada spot remains a center of neighborhood activity. Contractors, children, and homeless people all congregate and catch up on the day's happenings. The owner is not a friendly man, but he is a good man with a great laugh. In his store, everyone gets great cheap food and is treated with respect. As cafés and expensive restaurants continue to open all around us, I was inspired to think about how a group like this or even an individual from this group would be received. Would they be welcomed? Would they find commonality?

This film is so important to me because it deals with important and relevant themes such as diversity, appropriation, and humanity while still being character-driven. Being half-asian, I have never easily found a place to fit in. I am both Chinese and

Eastern European Jewish, neither, and something wholly different unto itself. I believe that this has not only shaped me as an individual and a director, but the theme of otherness seen in Jingle. I worked hard to write, re-write, get feedback, and re-write this script more because I wanted to tell this story as perfectly as I could. I believe that this film can reach all audiences and do more than make people self-reflect, but also examine the effects of their actions and thoughts on those around them. In the end, I believe that this film is most about dignity. Dignity in community, dignity in solace, dignity in prosperity, and dignity in struggle. Thank you and I hope you enjoy.

Eric

**Production Stills:**





## Resumes:



Eric Wang Schwager

Eric Wang Schwager was born on October 21, 1988. He graduated from Dartmouth College and moved to NYC where he has worked in Camera Crew since 2010. His experience behind the scenes paved the way for him to transition into directing. Eric has directed multiple award-winning shorts, commercials, and is currently in pre-production on a feature and pilot. You can learn more about Eric and his current work at [ericwangschwager.com](http://ericwangschwager.com).



Frantzdy Alexandre

Actor Frantzdy Alexandre, born in Haiti and raised in Miami FL, moved to New York to pursue a professional acting career. Frantzdy, who travels from state to state

regularly to accomplish his goals, understands very well that art takes you places and you have to be open to new ideas, territories, and creative people to really benefit from all the knowledge the craft has to offer.



Aaron Kitchin

Aaron Kitchin is an actor, writer, and producer. He has worked regionally in theaters including Capital Stage, Sacramento Theatre Company, Jewish Circle Theatre, and the New Conservatory Theatre Center. Aaron is also a filmmaker and works in development with Legacy Pictures ([www.legacy.film](http://www.legacy.film)). TV: In New York, Mysteries at the Museum. Selected Film: In A New York Minute, Jingle, Crepusculo, and The Brother. IG: @aaron.kitchin. [www.aaronkitchin.com](http://www.aaronkitchin.com)



Jose Gonzalez Palma

José González Palma is a composer, producer, and audio engineer in Brooklyn, NY. He has composed scores for several independent short films, documentaries, online media, as well as commercial music for other artists and bands. Originally from Venezuela, José has been working in music in the U.S. for over 15 years across a wide range of styles from Hybrid Orchestral (Orchestral music with Electronic sounds and textures) to subtle Piano Music, Rock, Pop, Acoustic, and Electronic. You can learn more about Jose and his music at [www.JoseGonzalezPalma.com](http://www.JoseGonzalezPalma.com)

Thank you so much for your interest in Jingle. If you would like to learn more about the director and any future projects, feel free to visit [ericwangschwager.com](http://ericwangschwager.com).

All the Best,  
Eric