

1 0 8 4 7 0 7 0 0 3 1 5



Before

a short film directed by Julia Monahan | run time: ten minutes

Before follows a group of not-yet-humans as they bide their time in a perpetual waiting room. Like an eternal DMV visit, every visitor in this room has waited for thousands of years for their number to be called to be assigned a life. Some are anxious, some are hopeful, and others are defeated by impatience before their earthly lives have even begun. But for the first time ever, as these visitors watch and worry and wonder, one number is called out over and over, as every visitor rejects this life. Until one.



DIRECTOR'S ARTISTIC STATEMENT

The world of *Before* immediately took hold of my mind and I became fascinated with this story about an infinite waiting room. I believe that when we as humans are left to watch and worry and wonder, our truest selves are represented. I was inspired to explore this story of one individual's enduring hope.

When imagining this film, I sought to find the divide between the familiar and the unfamiliar. All of us have sat idly waiting for something. Tapping our feet, counting the seconds, and twiddling our thumbs: at the dentist, at the DMV, or at the bank. But the sights and sounds in this place subvert an ordinary waiting room. Visually, we wanted our production design to have worldly and other-worldly elements. The ticker is meant to invoke the split flap of departures that one might see at a train station as they wait to embark on a new journey. The walls and posters are designed to feel temporary and liminal – because though this space has existed for an eternity, no effort has been taken to make it comfortable.

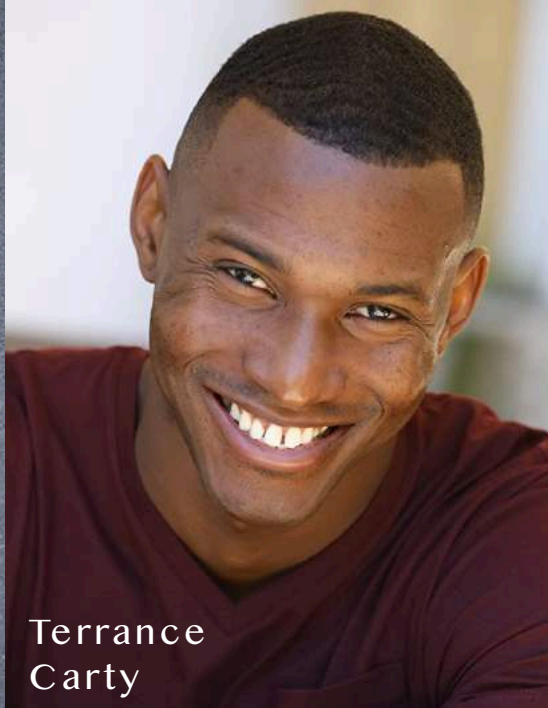
Our color palette lingers in blues and grays that the visitors to this space have been wallowing in for years. And the warmest light shines on the employees at their desk, since visitors approaching this desk are at their most hopeful. The music and sound design is meant to feel ethereal and hollow at first, making the viewer exist in the exhaustion and tedium of the space.

With the help of an incredible team, it was an honor to bring the story of *Before* to life. I loved discovering each character's journey through a space that links the known and the unknown. My goal is that the hopeful spirit of this film lingers with audiences as it has for me.

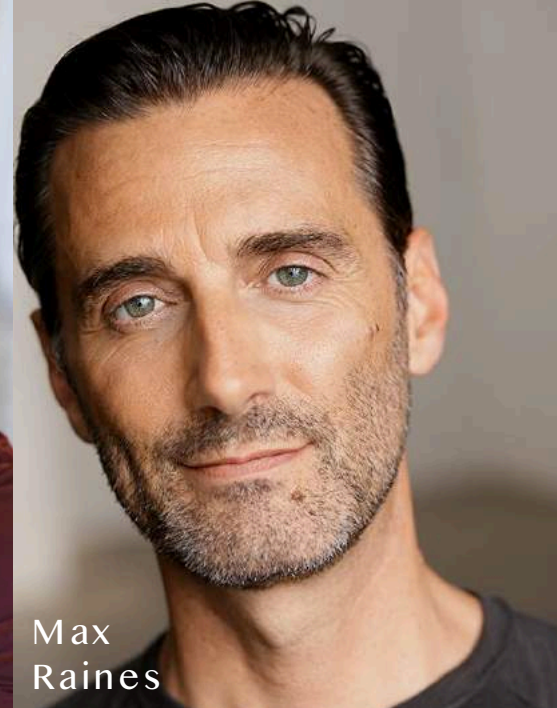




Before is helmed by a first-time female director. We sought the best crew and assembled a hardworking team that was more than two-thirds women and people of color.



Terrance
Carty

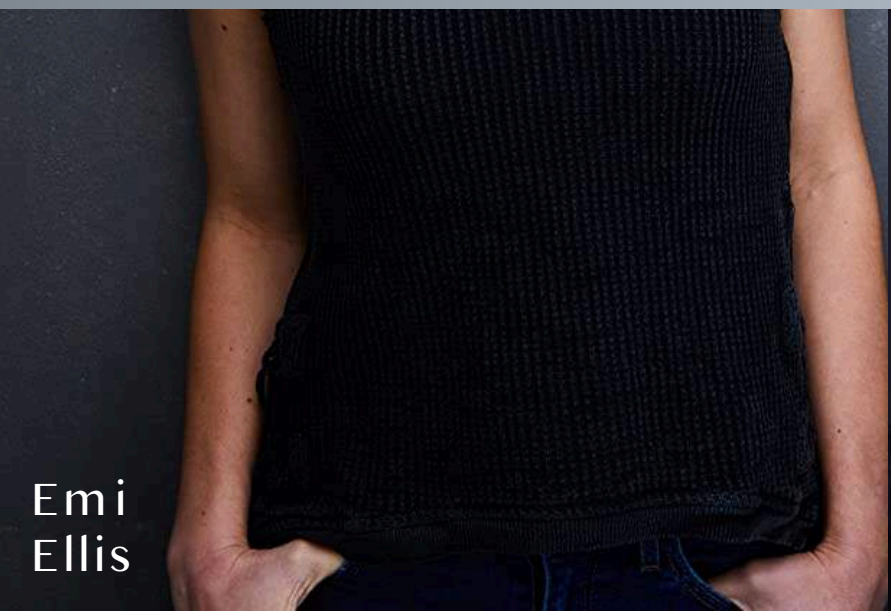


Max
Raines



Maya
Nalli

At its core, *Before* is an ensemble story, the story of any one of us. Our cast reflects that.



Emi
Ellis



Daniel
Tetley



Danraj
Rajasansi



Lauren Tothoro
Sierra Tothoro





OUR CREATIVE TEAM

JULIA MONAHAN (Director) is a first-time director determined to tell stories that make us question how well we know ourselves. As a writer, she has been recognized by the 2018 New York Television Festival and the 2016 Austin Film Festival, and her web series was awarded by the 2017 Brooklyn Web Fest. Julia's production credits include *Silicon Valley* (HBO), *Brooklyn Nine-Nine* (NBC), and *Barry* (HBO).

LAUREN LUKOW (Producer) Lauren Lukow is a producer of short films and music videos that have screened at international film festivals across the country. Her passion is providing key creative and tactical support to emerging independent filmmakers. By day, she works as the Manager of Creative Producing and Artist Support within the Feature Film Program at the Sundance Institute. Previously, she worked at Pixar Animation Studios, the Virginia Film Festival, and Arvold Productions.

CHRIS BAUER (Producer) is the Co-Founder of Rude Horse Productions, a production company based in Los Angeles and Virginia. He graduated from the University of Virginia in 2014 with a degree in Theater and spent several years in Chicago focusing on live comedy and digital production before moving to LA to continue to expand Rude Horse Productions.

JOSH BRESSLER (Writer) is a writer based in Los Angeles. In addition to currently serving as the showrunner's assistant on a Hulu original series, Josh has written for video games, feature projects, web series, and sketch comedy. He previously worked in the development department at AMC TV.

RICHIE YAU (Director of Photography) is a freelance cinematographer who earned his BA degree at UC Santa Barbara in Film Studies and has a MFA in Cinematography from Chapman University. His Chapman thesis film, *Stones*, was an official selection at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. In 2020, he wrapped principal photography on his third feature film in Pakistan.

A LOOK BACK AT 2020 FESTIVAL SELECTIONS AND AWARDS

Before was recognized by the Los Angeles-based Indie Shorts Fest in August 2020, with award nominations in categories including Directing, Producing, Acting Ensemble, Original Score, Production Design, and Costume Design.

Among submissions from thirty countries, the film won the title of Best Sci-Fi Short and Best First-Time Director, and received an Outstanding Achievement Award in Production Design.



The film and filmmakers were also featured in an Indie Filmmaker News profile in [Film Daily](#).

Before was awarded Best Music and Best Science Fiction (United States) by the 2020 Venice Shorts. The film was also selected for its first international festival - the Kosice International Monthly Film Festival. At KIMFF, the film earned the title of Best Director - Short Film and Best Sound Design.



FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

In October 2020, *Before* was selected to screen at the Virginia Film Festival in Charlottesville, Virginia, the Santa Fe Independent Film Festival in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the LA Femme International Film Festival in Los Angeles.



INTERNATIONAL SELECTIONS

Before was recognized internationally by the Canada Shorts Film Festival and the Lift-Off-Global Network in Melbourne, Australia. The Canada Shorts Film Festival recognized the short with an Award of Excellence.



FESTIVALS IN 2021

Before is an official selection at the Chandler International Film Festival in January 2021, and a finalist for the 2021 San Luis Obispo International Film Festival in March 2021.





ADDITIONAL LINKS

[Website](#)

[Trailer](#)

[IMDb](#)

TECHNICAL SPECS

Camera: RED

Lenses: KOWA Anamorphic

Frame Rate: 23.98 fps

SCREENING FORMAT

Film: 1920 x 1080 H.264

Sound: 24 Bit, 48000 hz, Stereo

Running Time: 10 minutes

1 0 8 4 7 0 7 0 0 3 1 5



Before

For all inquiries, contact Chris Bauer at cjbauer@rudehorse.com | www.rudehorse.com/before