



BLOOD AND GLORY

Written & Directed by Satinder Kaur

Starring Jomarla Melancon & Shara McGlinn

2020 / 12 minutes / Drama / USA / Color / English

Sales & Distribution Inquiries: Satinder Kaur Sati Films 360.255.1195 sati.kaur1@gmail.com

Publicity Contact: Uzma Kang Rebellious Rabbit 323.893.6936 uzma@rebelliousrabbit.com





LOGLINE

Two homeless female veterans' friendship is tested when they confront adversity, discrimination, and even mother nature itself in their attempt to find work and survive the day.

SYNOPSIS

Blood and Glory is a drama about the friendship between two homeless veterans living on the streets of LA. Jackie is a dreamer and a hustler who is trying to get her life back on track. She also takes care of her battle buddy Rosa, who suffers from debilitating PTSD. The day that Jackie finally gets a job interview, she wakes up with a super heavy period. Without money for pads or tampons, Jackie has to figure out how to get through the day without letting her blood stain her clothes or her dignity.



DIRECTOR, Satinder Kaur

U.S. Army veteran, Satinder Kaur, is a writer and director who has lived a story-filled life. By the time she was twelve, she had lived on three continents and spoke four languages. Her experiences in the east and the west provide her with a global perspective and contribute to her artistic voice which is uniquely American. Kaur loves to write about female friendship and explore themes of human resilience and transformation against all odds. She won the Grand Prize in Women in Media CAMERAderie initiative 2019 for her short film Blood and Glory. Kaur is a fellow of the Writers Guild Foundation's Veterans Writing Project. She collaborated with LACMA on their Veterans Make Movies workshop series. Her short film The Last Killing produced by Ensaaf won the best short documentary award at NewFilmmakers LA and the Amnesty International Best Human *Rights Short* award. In partnership with Ensaaf, she spearheaded the largest human rights video advocacy efforts in Punjab, India, by interviewing survivors of torture and families impacted by enforced disappearances. Kaur received her MFA in film directing from USC School of Cinematic Arts.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

This story is very close to my heart because I'm a combat veteran myself. I joined the Army when I was 18 and deployed to Iraq when I was 21. Transitioning back to civilian life was difficult, but I was lucky to have a community and resources. Here in LA, we've seen a steady rise in the number of women who end up homeless after they leave the military. One day while volunteering on Skid Row, I saw a veteran walking down the street and she had a large period stain on her back. I was shocked and disheartened. That image buried itself in the filaments of my brain. It was then that I realized that when you're homeless or living below the poverty line, lack of access to feminine hygiene products can really chip away at your dignity. Yet, there aren't many stories about these experiences. So I wrote Blood and Glory to explore this intersectionality of invisibility through film.



PRODUCER, YJ Meira

YJ Meira is an L.A.-based producer with a passion for unique storytelling. Her film journey began with *Pirates of the Caribbean:* The Curse of the Black Pearl and was tenured by working with the legendary Wayans family. She is fueled by the gift to unmask narratives rooted in vulnerability and underrepresented communities and has independently produced award-winning & Oscar-gualifying documentaries and narrative films which have premiered at top-tier festivals and made available on platforms such as Netflix and Univision. Since 2012, YJ has been an integral part of the Sundance Institute orchestrating both the technology and experiential program activations for the Sundance Film Festival. She has executed events for clients such as Coca-Cola, the Nielsen Company and Anheuser-Busch as well as managed special projects with Molera Alvarez and Wayans Brothers Productions spanning more than a decade. YJ's feature documentary, A Sacred Journey, premiered in March 2019, and her films, Blood and Glory and Afro will debut in 2020.



ACTRESS, Jomaria Melancon

Jomarla Melancon is originally from Jackson Mississippi. She served 4 years in the United States Navy. Afterwards, she attended the University Of Louisiana at Lafayette and The Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute. Jomarla's previous work includes the play "When We Were Young And Afraid," Feature film "Safe House," and the Vet TV web series "The Shop." In the film, *Blood and Glory*, she portrays the lead Jackie, an Army veteran. Jomarla thanks the entire cast and crew for creating a project full of truth, awareness, and dedication for the film.



ACTRESS, Shara McGlinn

Trained in Meisner, Shara McGlinn has studied acting in Chicago and Los Angeles. Her first role landed her a recurring co-star spot on Chicago Fire, working alongside Jesse Spencer and Eric Mabius. Amongst other projects, she booked a supporting lead role in the feature length thriller, Spiral, which premiered in Hollywood. She was also cast in an international BP commercial, the first that BP has released in ten years. Shara accepted a supporting lead role as Rosa in the short, Blood and Glory. Shara completed her Meisner training at Black Box Chicago. She has taken multiple on-camera classes and various workshops at Acting Studio Chicago and flexed her acting muscles with Stan Kirsch and his team of teachers at Stan Kirsch Studios. She also started the core track classes at Groundlings with Groundlings veteran Laird Macintosh. Shara has traveled extensively around the world and has been to India thirteen times, where she now has a second home. She plays the Indian drum, the mridanga. Since she grew up in Florida around freshwater springs, swimming is second nature and she got advanced SCUBA certified in Thailand. Inspired by her love for old karate films, Shara studied karate for seven years, kickboxing for two and has recently started taking Muay Thai classes. She looks forward to putting those skills to use in a post-apocalyptic action movie or zombie TV show!





INTERESTING FACTS

- The film was made as part of a competition by Women in Media's CAMERAderie Initiative and it won the grand prize in competition.
- Blood and Glory was mentored by an incredible team of mentors, which included - Colin Trevorrow (*Jurassic World*), Germaine Franco (*Coco*), Ben Coccio (*The Place Beyond The Pines*), Quyen Tran (*The Little Hours*), and Vicki Sampson (*Donnie Darko*)
- We received in-kind equipment and resources from Blackmagic, Sigma, Atlas, Tiffen, Cinelease, Saramonic, Filmtools and NBCUniversal StudioPost among others.
- The lead actress Jomarla Melancon is a Navy Veteran. Jomarla is an emerging actress and this is her first short film.
- Lead roles are women of color in powerful roles.
- Approximately 85% of our crew below the line was female, and 100% of our crew above the line was female.

* TV * FILM * NEW MEDIA

Women

n Media

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WOMEN IN MEDIA

Women In Media is a 501(c)(3) that encourages gender balance in film and entertainment industries by providing networking, professional development, and advocacy for above and below-the-line women and all genders that love making movies with them. Women In Media is an intersectional group of women and woman identifying crew members in the film, television, and new media industries. Women in Media is known for their educational seminars and classes, events, female crew list, #HireTheseWomen lunches, and the CAMERAderie Initiative. For more information on Women In Media, please go to <u>www.womennmedia.com</u>.

CAMERAderie INITIATIVE

Through the CAMERAderie Initiative, Women in Media's members had the opportunity to gain hands-on experience, networking, mentorship, and professional development via production of three finalist's short films last summer in Los Angeles. Mentors include Colin Trevorrow (Writer / Director of *Jurassic World*), Alan Caso (Cinematographer, *Six Feet Under*), Germaine Franco (Composer, *Dora the Explorer*), Kathryn Bostic (Composer, *Clemency*), Bobbi Banks (Supervising Dialogue / ADR Editor, *Queen & Slim*) and many more.

Blood and Glory's screenplay was one of the three finalists in the Women in Media's inaugural CAMERAderie Initiative 2019. It was funded by Women in Media and their vendor partners with cash and inkind donations. Blood and Glory won the grand prize in the Initiative. ¹⁰



EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, Priya Sopori

Priya Sopori is a partner at Greenberg Glusker, LLP where she specializes in crisis management and jury trials. Born in New Delhi, Priya immigrated to the United States as a child. She received her B.A. at the University of Pennsylvania and her J.D. from the University of Virginia. For several years, Priya served as an Assistant United States Attorney prosecuting federal crimes, including white collar fraud, and crimes of sex and violence against children. She also serves on the board of Diavolo Dance Theatre and served as General Counsel to The Groundlings Theatre & School. Priya lives in LA with her husband Eric Emanuel and their two young sons Atticus and Jai.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / PRODUCER, Tema Staig

Tema Staig is the founder and Executive Director of Women In Media, an organization that has transformed from an informal grass roots group, to a Google Doc of over 2,000 women, to a vibrant 501(c)3 membership driven organization that offers education, a searchable database, events, discounts, a jobs board, and advocacy for women above and below the line. She is a Production Designer/Art Director with a background in Scenic Art and Theater Design. She is best known for her work on the feature films Kissing Jessica Stein, Happy Hour, Battlefield America, and American Splendor as well as commercials and music videos. She was a pilot IFP Project Involve: NY Fellow. Ms. Staig produced the award winning short, Present: A Moment In the Future, directed by Jacqueline Kim (Star Trek: Generations, The West Wing, Advantageous) as well as Women In Media's CAMERAderie Initiative films, *Blood And Glory, Illipino, and Cherry Lemonade*.





EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / PRODUCER, Uzma Kang

Uzma Kang is the former Vice President of Women in Media. As a part of the Women in Media CAMERAderie Initiative, Uzma was Executive Producer and Producer of the films *Illipino*, *Cherry Lemonade*, and *Blood and Glory*. Uzma was the Casting Director of the British-Indian film *Provoked*, Kerala's *DAM999* (also India's first 3-D in post film), and Rajnikanth's *Lingaa* (U.S. Casting). Uzma is Directing and Producing a social issue feature called Roaring Silence about female feticide based on a true story. Uzma is developing a reality television series as well. Uzma is also the President of Rebellious Rabbit Public Relations and did Women in Media's publicity from 2017 to 2020.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / PRODUCER, Allison Vanore

Allison Vanore is the Emmy Award-winning producer of the acclaimed series *After Forever* on Amazon. Between 2015-2019 Allison served as the Head of Production for Canvas Media Studios where she produced shows such as the drama *Vanity*, garnering Allison her first Emmy nomination in 2016. Allison's latest feature credits include *Buck Run* (premiered at Palm Springs International Film Festival 2019), *The Rainbow Experiment* (premiered at Slamdance 2018), and *42 Seconds of Happiness* (Best Feature Film - Women Texas Film Festival 2016). Allison's latest series credits include Season 2 of *After Forever*, *Dark/Web*, and chat fiction series *Limelight*. Allison also serves on the executive board of Women in Media, a non-profit organization that advocates for gender parity in the entertainment industry. As a part of the Women in Media CAMERAderie Initiative, Allison produced the films *Illipino*, *Cherry Lemonade*, and *Blood and Glory* which will premiere in competition at Tribeca Film Festival 2020.







PRODUCER, Jeff Vespa

Jeff Vespa is one of the co-founders of the entertainment photo agency Wirelmage. His photography has been featured in numerous publications, including Vanity Fair, The New York Times, and Vogue. Vespa's recently directed the feature documentary Voices of Parkland which premiered in February. In 2018, Vespa directed his first feature film, Paris Song, starring Abbie Cornish. He also directed the short film Nosebleed, starring David Arquette, which screened at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival during Critics Week. Vespa's producing credits include the documentary \$ellebrity, which focuses on the history of publicity, gossip and paparazzi in Hollywood. He also produced three films for the fine art photographer Alex Prager, whose short films Despair and Face in the Crowd screened at the Museum of Modern Art. Vespa previously worked at New Line Cinema and Warner Bros. He attended the Master's Program for Producing at the American Film Institute.

PRODUCER, Annika Hylmö

Annika Hylmö, Ph.D. has a doctorate in Communication, or Storytelling, as she puts it, from Purdue University. She studied female-driven tales in academia, where her research into movies starring teenage girls led her passion for visual media to her own screenwriting and story consulting. Born in Sweden and raised internationally, Annika credits Pippi Longstocking as an early role model. While she is largely genre agnostic, she has a soft spot for mythologies, supernatural and science fiction movies. Annika recently co-produced Academy Award-nominated Daniel Raim's documentary, *Image Makers* for Turner Classic Movies, about early cinematography and the story of the people behind the camera. Her short film *Psychicologist* about a psychology graduate student who finds an unexpected mentor in a psychic puppet is in post-production. Annika is also Women in Media's Director of Development. She previously worked at the American Film Institute's Conservatory and currently works as a career/creative coach for individual filmmakers.

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PRODUCER / POST PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR, Kerry Michelle O'Brien

Kerry Michelle - Starting in the late 80s on 16mm, a stint making Video Disks for immersive interactive projects, early adopter of Quicktime tech, Lightworks expert, director of live music TV and selling her soul to commercials and gameshows. Finally Kerry became a product specialist at Adobe helping launch Creative Suite in Europe and then touring launching CS3 in major cities across the USA. Working as a production and pipeline/workflow expert for major studios, including Disney and Sony, she decided to step back and build out her editorial chops as an AE on feature films and documentaries. Most recently Kerry has been the executive producer on the film

"Lupe", <u>www.lupefilm.com</u> edited in Premiere Pro, where she is seen on the festival circuit as she gives good "panel". Often referred to as a "seller of snake oil and the fixer of broken dreams" Kerry is happy to do items "off menu" if hard cash is involved. Kerry Michelle has a long and checkered past in post over the last 35 years, obviously she started cutting when she was two.



CREDITS

Written & Directed by **Satinder** Kaur

Producers

YJ Meira Tema L. Staig Allison Vanore Annika Hylmo Jeff Vespa Kerry Michelle O'Brien Uzma Kang Satinder Kaur

Executive Producers

Tema L. Staig Priya Sopori Uzma Kang Allison Vanore Sandip Saini

Associate Producers Mitzi Rutherford Ann Carrick

Casting by Julianne Gabert

Cast Jomarla Melancon Shara McGlinn Ian Littleworth Tank Jones

Background

Joseph S. Avila Mia Chey Avila Ivette Serna Edwin Valencia Julianne Gabert Rosanna Wong Heidi Mirow Amanda (AJ) Jayson Gabriela Diaz Ashley Langley Heidi Mirow Production Manager Mitzi Rutherford Script Supervisor Caryn Ruby 1st AD Amanda Nevarez 2nd AD Lisset Sanchez Valdes Location Manager YJ Meira Social Media Manager Rachel Ace

Cinematography by Brennan Full Cinematography by Vatsala Goel 1st AC/swing Rahul Biruly 1st AC/swing Carley Steichen Focus Puller I auren Peele 2nd AC/swing Carley Steichen Cam Utility Alejandro Almedo Gaffer Drew Stahelin Camera Operator Brennan Full Camera Operator Vatsala Goel Key Grip Justin Schultz G&E / Swing David Hughesman G&E / Swing Tai Lynia Jones G&E / Swing Mike Lopez G&E / Swing Glenn Martell G&E / Swing Ratanachai Surarith "Pond"

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CREDITS (CONTINUED)

Production Sound Mixer Emily Chan Boom Operator Brandy Serna Boom Operator Emily Chan

Sound Design by Emily Chan FX Editor and Re-recording Mixer Vickie Sampson Sound Editor Steve Walter Assistant Sound Editor Joel Benavides-Reyes

Production Design by Janelle Chivonne Set Dresser Amanda (AJ) Jayson Prop Master Rosanna Wong Art PA Jose Llanos Art PA Caledonia Hanson Costume Designer / Wardrobe Dana Neillie Costume Assistant Anne Robinson Wardrobe Supervisor Ratia Yeeun Son

Key Special Makeup Effects Artist Amanda Pouls Special Makeup Effects Artist Andrea Cardenas Special Makeup Effects Artist Bobo Sun Beauty Makeup Artist Damaris Batres Beauty Makeup Artist Andrea Cardenas Key Hair Stylist Ilona Roytman

Edited by Lea Vrabelova Post-Production Supervisor Kerry Michelle O'Brien

Music Composition by Barbara Cohen Score Mixer Barbara Cohen Colorist Brian Singler VFX artist Victoria Gualtieri Titles and Credits by Lisset Sanchez Valdes

NBCUniversal STUDIOPOST Colorist Scott Gregory Sound Re-Recording Mixer Robert Edmondson, CAS Sound Re-Recording Mixer Stephen A. Tibbo, CAS

Production Assistants

Brandy Serna Ratia Yeeun Son Chrystal Wang Heidi Mirow Rachel Ace Kyla Clark Brenda Garcia

CREDITS (CONTINUED)

Production Vehicle Drivers Heidi Mirow Allison Vanore LuvLeighAn Clark Brennan Full Justin Schultz

Behind the Scenes Photography & Videography Team Gary Alvarez Ashley Langley Tara Niami Dorianne Ede

Heartfelt Thanks to Colin Trevorrow Germaine Franco Quyen Tran Joseph S. Avila Paul Redel Kyle Mann Speak Easy Sound Thomas A. Krueger Victoria Rose Sampson Alan Derian Surjit Singh **Balwinder Kaur** Timothy E. Wurtz **Dipesh Jain** Hikari USVAA Aaron Downing 20th Century Fox Alton Glaze **Reverend John Cager** Ward AME Church

Heartfelt Thanks to (cont'd)

ANTIGUA BREAD Dennis Hernandez Claudia Hernandez Jesus Castro

HOOVER RANCH MARKET Antonio Diaz Gabriela Diaz

SNOOKIES COOKIES Linda Cabrera

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CREDITS (CONTINUED)

