

Directed by *Sylvia Ray*

peppers

Written by *Marco Parra*

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a woman in a white dress holding a bouquet of flowers. A semi-transparent purple rectangle is overlaid on the right side of the image. The word 'Logline' is written in a white, stylized, hand-drawn font in the upper left corner of the purple area. Below it, the logline text is in a white, monospaced, typewriter-style font. The word 'Synopsis' is written in the same stylized font as 'Logline' in the upper right corner of the purple area. Below it, the synopsis text is in the same monospaced font. The background also features several hand-drawn geometric patterns in purple, including a pentagram, a circle with internal lines, a complex interlocking circle design, and a spiral.

Logline

Isabella's life is flipped upside down after a chance meeting with a bruja.

Synopsis

After Isabella's encounter with a bruja (witch), she takes a pregnancy test that derails the plans she has for herself. After discussing the positive test with her boyfriend Charles, he berates her for considering an abortion. Isabella, decides to use an ointment that was given to her by Graciana, the bruja.

Charles wakes up in a nightmare where he is confronted with children, a pregnant belly and an unruly scientist. He awakes with a new found respect for Isabella.



The Impact

PREGGERS uses **satire and dark comedy** to try and offer perspective on one of this country's most hot button issues.

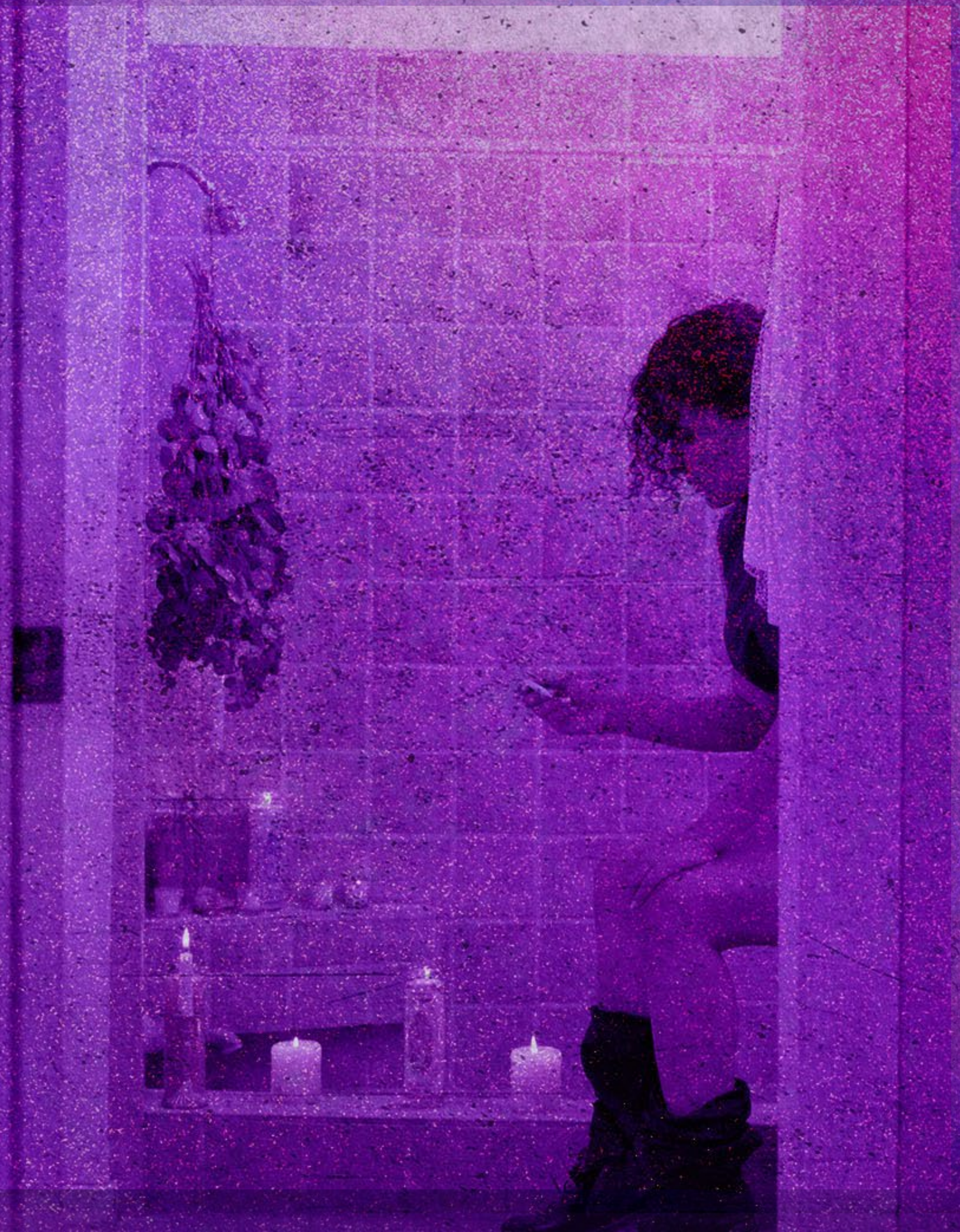
We believe that **PREGGERS** will not only entertain, but will also spark conversations about different challenges pregnancy presents to women and how men can be more empathetic to that reality.

Another incredibly impactful aspect to our film is **the truly diverse and inclusive team** in front of, and behind the camera. With so much talk about the lack of Latine voices and women directors in the film industry we are happy to be showcasing both and with your help we can show audiences and the industry that we not only belong **BUT that we have plenty of things to say!**

Director's Statement

At first, I wasn't sure what to expect when reading a short film about abortion written by a man but I started reading with an open mind. After reading, I could immediately see myself directing it. Not only is it multicultural but it also bridges gender gaps, all while being somewhat playful and ridiculous.

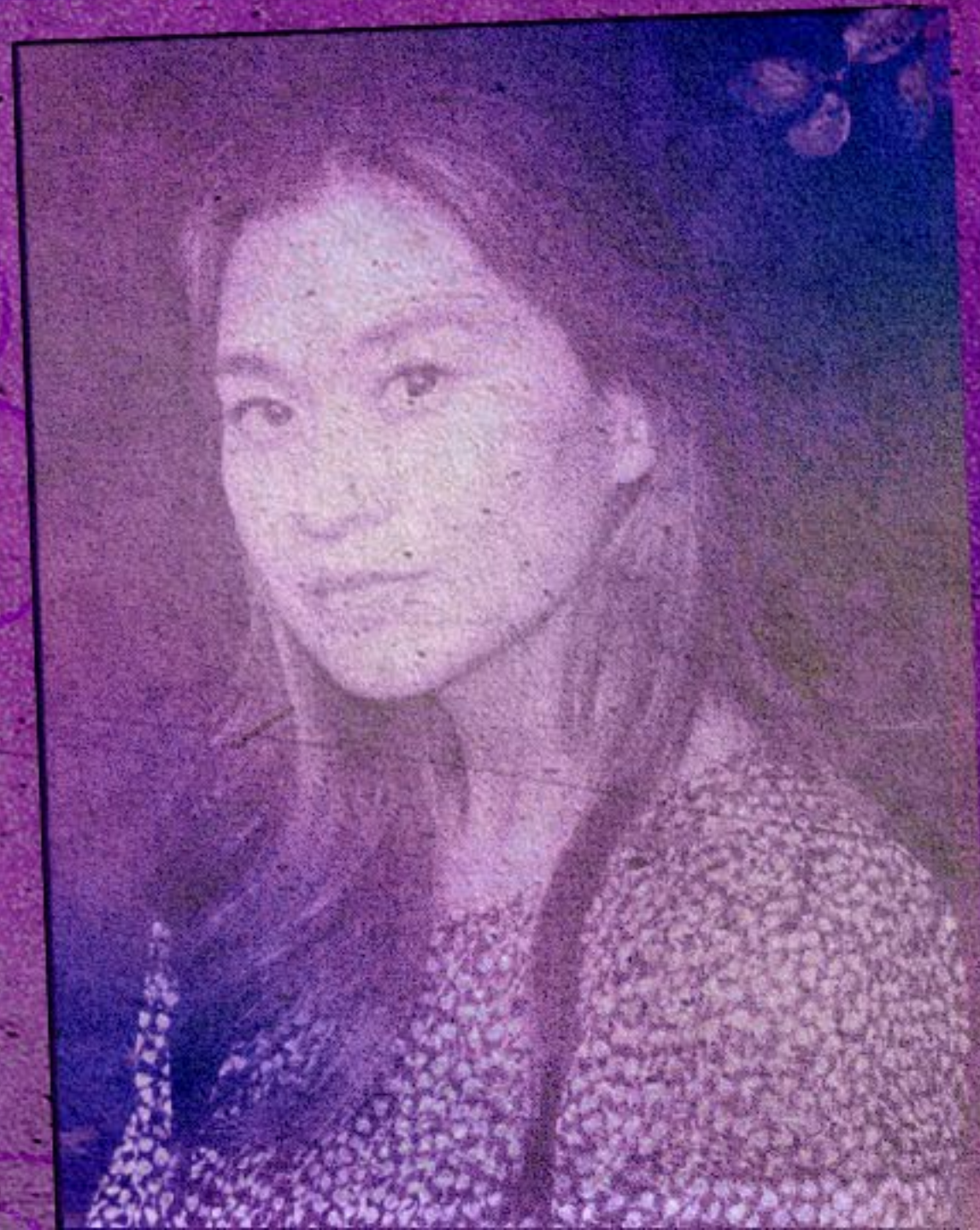
It was fun for me to build on visual references I had for this film. **The Craft**, **Rosemary's Baby** and **Marriage Story** were all inspirations for me. I do feel very proud of this film and the message behind it and hope that it feels cathartic for women and it gets people talking.





Sylvia Ray

Director



Born and raised in Barstow, CA, **Sylvia Ray** is a filmmaker based in Los Angeles.


With a Korean mother and a Chicano dad, Sylvia draws inspiration from her desert-town upbringing, travels abroad, her fashion background, and motherhood. Her focus is to tell **stories that highlight women and people of color while bridging cultural and economic gaps in a truthful and entertaining way.**

She is a fellow of **HBO's Tomorrow's Filmmakers Today Program** for **Hola Mexico Film Festival** in both 2019 and 2020's Alumni Edition. Sylvia has directed several award-winning short films, music videos/commercials and web series episodes. Her short film **LEN(N)Y** was streamed to audiences on Pantaya and DISH Latino and her short film **A Period Piece** is licenced and will stream on GenreTV. Her pilot episode for **MY HUMAN EXPERIENCE** is currently winning awards and playing at film festivals internationally.



Gabriela Ortega

Isabella



Gabriela Ortega was born and raised in the Dominican Republic and is an LA based Actress, writer and Spoken word poet. She graduated with a Bachelors of **Fine Arts in Acting at the University of Southern California** in 2017.

Since her graduation she's been a frequent performer in the **LA theatre community** and has helped develop and originate roles in historic theatre venues across the U.S like: Lincoln Center Theatre, The Kennedy Center, The Victory Gardens Theatre,

The Humana Festival, The Kirk Douglas Theatre, The Los Angeles Theatre Center, The Ojai Playwrights Conference and more.

One of the highlights of her career has been to originate the role of **"Diana"** in Liliana Padilla's award-winning play, How to Defend Yourself. She starred in the **Sundance Ignite** winning short film **"Safe Haven"** and made her tv debut in CW's **"I ship it"**.

She is currently in post-production for her first feature film in which she stars alongside long-time collaborator, Diana Valencia. Gabriela is also a slam poet and solo performer. Since 2016 she has performed her solo show **"Las Garcia"** (a show inspired by the women in her family) across Los Angeles and is currently developing a new show for the virtual world.



Marco Parra

Charles / Writer

Marco Parra is a Actor/Filmmaker, born and raised in Nogales Arizona. Marco's acting credits include network shows such as: Showtimes critically acclaimed series **SHAMELESS**, John Singleton's FX crime-drama **SNOWFALL**, Hulu/Freeform's new **PARTY OF FIVE** and most recently **THE SHRINK NEXT DOOR** working alongside Will Farell and Paul Rudd.

Started his career acting in over 10 national commercials and as a regular sketch performer on Jimmy Kimmel Live. Other credits also include, writer and producer of multiple festival selected short films. Marco's recent project **PREGGERS**, a dark comedy about pro-choice which he wrote, is set to be released later this year.



Itziar Martinez

Graciana

Born and raised in Spain, **Itziar Martinez** is a multi hyphenate artist who from an early age found her bliss through creative expression. Whether it's touring the world as a dancer, singing or writing songs for successful projects, story telling has always been at the core of her passion for the arts. Which inevitably led her to the Seventh Art.

As an actor her credits include the American shows "**Jane the Virgin**", "**Louie**", as well as large productions for the Spanish network **Telemundo**. In 2015 she opened her own production company **WOL Entertainment**, and in 2021 her Directorial debut "**A Heart Dies Twice**", won "**Best First Time Filmmaker**" at the Toronto International Women Film Festival.



Destinee Stewart

Producer

Destinee Stewart is a filmmaker and actress known for **WELL SPOKEN** (a Vimeo Staff Pick), **THE TRUTH OF US**, and **COFFEE SHOP NAMES** (Tribeca '21).

Through her work, she creates a space for **BIPOC and LGBTQ+ female artists** that fosters connection and expression. Her breadth of work includes experience in directing, writing, acting, and producing. Influenced by her parents' nonstop playing of gospel music and career as a nanny, her art comes from a place of spirituality and play. She lives by the quote "**We were made from creation; therefore we were made to create.**"



Silvia Lara

Director of Photography

Silvia Lara is a filmmaker born in Mexico and raised back and forth in both Mexico and Los Angeles. Much like the elders in her family who upheld oral traditions particularly for the children's sake, Silvia is a lifelong storyteller who fortunately discovered that her passion for photography and story exist harmoniously within the field of cinematography. As a result, narrative filmmaking is Silvia's forté and in her work, she strives to visually map the ebbs and flows in emotion and tone provided by the script in order to depict as honest a portrayal of the human condition as possible.

Highlights

55%

Women Production
Crew

71%

Women in Post

2

Filming Days
at Upland

75%

People of Color during
Production & in Post

Tanya Saracho

creator of Vida, donated
generously to our
crowdfunding campaign!

3 Dogs

We had three dogs on set
with us during the house
and witch scenes.

Tech Info

Language

English & Spanish

Running Time

9 minutes

Location

Upland, CA

Genre

Dark Comedy

Year

2021

Screening Format

Digital



Film Stills



Behind the scenes





Credits

A GOLDEN RATIO & VKTRY CREATIVE PRODUCTION

IN ASSOCIATION WITH SUSPECT FILMWORKS

PRESENTS "PREGGERS" FEATURING GABRIELA ORTEGA,

ITZIAR MARTINEZ, MARCO PARRA,

DESTINEE STEWART & MANNY HERNANDEZ

DIRECTED BY SYLVIA RAY DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY SILVIA LARA

MUSIC BY CALI WONG PRODUCTION DESIGNER MIRANDA MEZA

EDITED BY SYLVIA RAY



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