



Wish upon a

USC SCHOOL OF CINEMATIC ARTS PRESENTS "WISH UPON A DISCO BALL" ALEXIS MILAN TURNER REINA MACÍAS
MUSIC BY NATHAN ENGELMANN COSTUME DESIGNER EDNA JONES EDITOR JULIAN STERN PRODUCED BY OSCAR LUJAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MATT WILDER
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS RACHEL ALLEN DANIELLE MULLINS ALISSA NGUYEN WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ANABEL INIGO

Wish Press Kit

PRESS KIT INQUIRIES

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Full resolution poster available

Full resolution screen grabs available

Full film available upon request



Logline



A disco musical about two Afro-Latina sisters who find out what it means to grow up and how that doesn't mean growing apart.



Synopsis

Olivia is sick of her sister, Juliana, choosing her boyfriend over her. After Juliana decides to spend time with Leo instead of going to a disco dance together, Olivia has a dream where she wishes on her father's magical disco ball that Leo and Juliana would break up.

The next morning, she wakes up, and Juliana is single but heartbroken. Through a shared musical dance and a summer spent together, the sisters remember they're forever connected through their memories and love of disco.



Director's Statement

When I first sat down to write *Wish Upon a Disco Ball*, I was visiting my Abuela in Oklahoma in her new home, with her new husband, in a whole different state from where I was raised. Just four years earlier, I told my Abuela I was planning to attend film school across the country as she kissed me goodbye on the steps of my childhood home. Change came fast, hard, and without permission. I quickly realized accepting change is one of the hardest things for me.

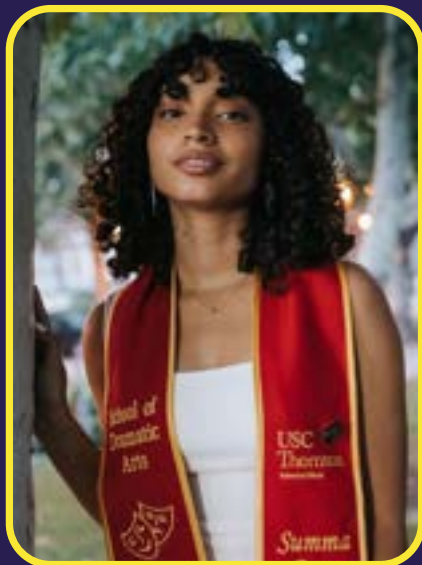
My whole life, I grew up in Miami, Florida, and was raised by my grandparents. Every cherished memory with my family and friends happened in that city. When I left, everything in my life changed. Most importantly, I missed my sister.

It wasn't until my first year of undergrad after our father passed that we realized how close our bond was. Our friendship, her unwavering support of my passions, and our unbreakable bond had become the most consistent thing in my life — and thus, is the heart of this film.

Wish Upon A Disco Ball is a love letter to my sister and the bonds of sisterhood. To the sounds of funky guitar riffs, fun lyrics, and a magical disco ball, our film is the story of two Afro-Latina sisters remembering that even though we all grow up, it doesn't mean we have to grow apart.



Our Sisters



ALEXIS MILAN TURNER is an actress, singer, and dancer whose determination, ambition, humor, and bubbly personality light up a room. From Los Angeles, CA, Alexis' versatility, tone, and training allow her to immerse herself into many genres vocally and within her acting work. She is a recent graduate of USC School of Dramatic Arts and Thornton School of Music, training with USC's amazing faculty to cultivate her talents in preparation for her aspirations to be on Broadway

and in Television/Film. She has been seen in USC's production of "The Secret Garden" and various USC films. She has also sung backup vocals for major artists including Frank Ocean, Carrie Underwood, Big Sean, Foster the People, A Great Big World, and WALK THE MOON on shows Jimmy Kimmel Live, So You Think You Can Dance, and Conan O'Brien's show.

REINA MACÍAS is a young, new, R&B/Pop Artist and actress. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Reina grew up surrounded by music. She was heavily influenced by her grandfather, Verdine White, of the legendary band, Earth, Wind & Fire and found her passion for performance and musical theatre at a young age. Her career as a recording artist began when she was 15, writing songs and creating tracks with her father Warner Wright. She also collaborated with the late, great, Nipsey Hussle.

Her latest film includes her stand out performance as the supporting character, "Grace", in Director Matt Colston's feature film (2023).





Writer



&

Director



ANABEL IÑIGO is a Cuban/Dominican woman born and raised in Miami, Florida. Adopted by her grandparents at an early age, Anabel learned two things: that she loves music and movies. So naturally, Anabel loves making movie musicals. She is a recent graduate of USC's Film & TV Production MFA. As a writer and director, Anabel creates stories that focus on women of color through a feminine lens of kindness, comedy and sisterhood. Now, Anabel works with Latin comedy writer and producer Brittany Miller at Sony as her development assistant. Her goals in life include: staying happy, making movies for the whole family, and plotting eternal life for her cat Versace.

Producers



RACHEL ALLEN discovered her passion for filmmaking as a creative producer working across film, tv, theater, and live events. She is dedicated to producing media that reveals and uplifts underrepresented communities, ideas, and norms — and is passionate about environmentally and socially conscious entertainment that gives back through charitable partnerships. Rachel is a recent MFA graduate of the Peter Stark Producing Program at USC. She's currently producing the comedy show BIPOCalypse. Recent credits include *Amend: The Fight for America* (2021), *Mainstream* (2021), and *Promising Young Woman* (2020).



ALISSA NGUYEN is a Los Angeles based producer. A LA native, Alissa has always been drawn to the world of film and television. She recently graduated from USC's School of Cinematic Arts with a minor in Gender and Social Justice. From taking on leadership roles in University-backed projects and organizations to spearheading her own independent projects, Alissa has found a passion in collaborative storytelling that uplifts and/or highlights marginalized or overlooked communities.



DANIELLE MULLINS is a Los Angeles-based writer and producer, and a recent graduate from USC's School of Cinematic Arts. She has produced three USC thesis films - including the award-winning animated short "Black Metal" (dir. Riley Street, 2020) and the animated short "Mindful Senses" (dir. Pedro Edmond, 2022). Having interned for DGA award-nominated director Elizabeth Allen Rosenbaum, MadRiver Pictures and Nickelodeon Animation, she discovered her passion for telling meaningful, diverse stories within fantasy and animation. She currently works at Nickelodeon Animation as an assistant for the Features department.



Composer



NATHAN ENGELMANN is a film composer based in Los Angeles. He works with Daniel James Chan (*Supergirl*, *Legends of Tomorrow*, *Emergence*), and has written music on *Supergirl* and *Legends of Tomorrow* since 2019. He has also worked with Marcelo Zarvos (*Wonder*, *Fences*), and David Schwartz (*Arrested Development*, *Northern Exposure*). He received his Bachelor of Music in classical composition from the University of Oregon and attended the Screen Scoring program at USC where he received his Master's degree in film composition.

Choreographer

JUAN MIGUEL POSADA Originally from Medellin, Colombia, Juan Miguel Posada discovered his passion for the performing arts from an early age in his home country. At the age of 15 he had the opportunity to relocate and study at the renowned arts boarding school Idyllwild Arts Academy in California, and then the University of Southern California as part of the inaugural class, where he studied a career in dance and choreography, with an emphasis in acting. During his college career he had the opportunity to travel and dance on stages in Tokyo, Los Cabos, NYC, and Los Angeles performing mostly Ballet. Juan has recently expanded into a new field of dance, performing alongside musical artists like Sam Smith, Demi Lovato, Kanye West and recently Mariah Carey. He has also served as an assistant choreographer for a 2017 Super Bowl commercial, and for a new Apple TV series.





Production Designer



ÓSCAR LUJÁN SÁNCHEZ is a Mexican American production designer with over a decade of industry experience, currently living and working in Mexico city, focusing mainly on advertising. Working with a world class, bilingual team has allowed for an array of editorial, commercial, theatrical and artistic projects in Mexico and abroad. As an Art Director, Óscar has done commercial work with brands such as Coca-Cola, Nivada, Tecate, Coffee mate, BBVA, Palacio de Hierro, Liverpool and many others including global campaigns for H&M, Neutrogena and Cuyana. Óscar has also designed several music video clips including Disney's Lion King, Wreck it Ralph and Coco.



Cinematographer

MATTHEW SHOICHI WILDER is a Tokyo-born cinematographer based in Los Angeles. He has photographed numerous commercials, music videos, and short films including Magnolia Bloom, which was selected to premiere at the 2021 Tribeca Film Festival. Matthew is a graduate of Columbia University and USC's School of Cinematic Arts MFA program, where he graduated with a faculty award for excellence in cinematography. He recently completed production of the feature film Phantom.





Editor



JULIAN STERN is a USC School of Cinematic Arts alumni focused on directing, editing and working on films that focus on humor and fresh comedy. His thesis project *Mind Made Up* got into the Portland Comedy Film Festival. And most recently he won Best Editor at the First Look Awards. When not making short films you can find him writing short stories, drinking two cups of coffee a day, or listening to as much music as possible on his skateboard.



Animator

ELAINA BUFFKIN is a female artist based in Orlando Florida. Her art can be seen in video games like *Bubble Divers* and interactive websites like *Redox*. Elaina has always known she wanted to be an animator from the days of doodling dragons, dancers, and odd characters in her notebooks in elementary school. She is also working on producing her own thesis short film, *August Repository*, a 2D animation exploring the complexities of nostalgia and personal growth. Currently, Elaina is studying to receive her MFA in Animation & VFX at the University of Central Florida as the 2021 Provost Fellow. She hopes to continue working on creative projects with strong storytelling and emotional resonance.





*Behind
The
Scenes*



Social Media



ON SPOTIFY

Album



Technical Info

COMPLETION DATE:	January 31st, 2022
DURATION:	19 minutes & 14 seconds
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:	USA
ASPECT RATIO:	2.39:1
SOUND:	5.1
PICTURE:	Color
LANGUAGE:	English
SCREENING FORMAT:	DCP Pro Res



Thank you!