



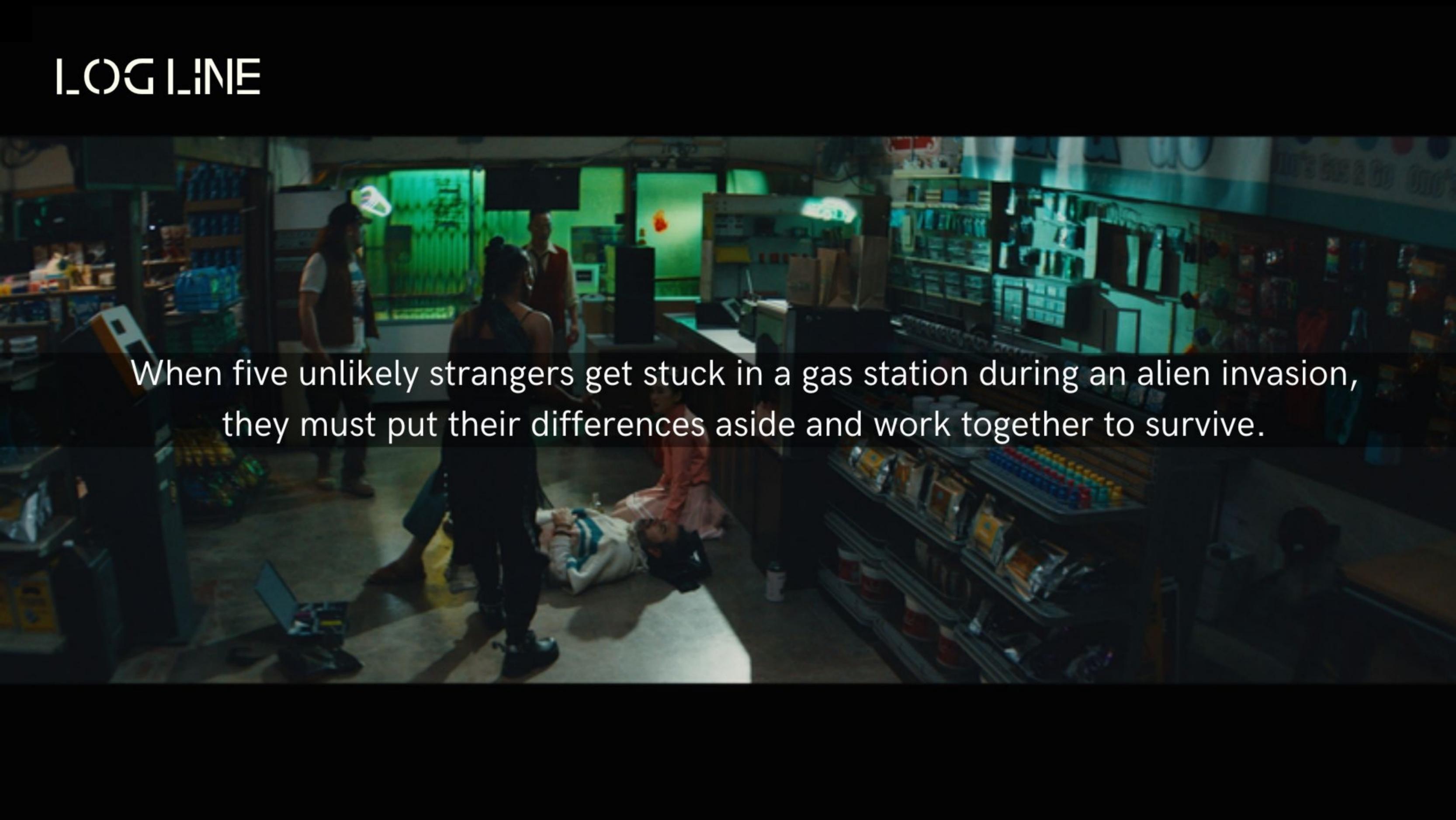
# THE INCONVENIENCE STORE

SHORT FILM PRESS KIT 2025

**COLOR  
CREATIVE**

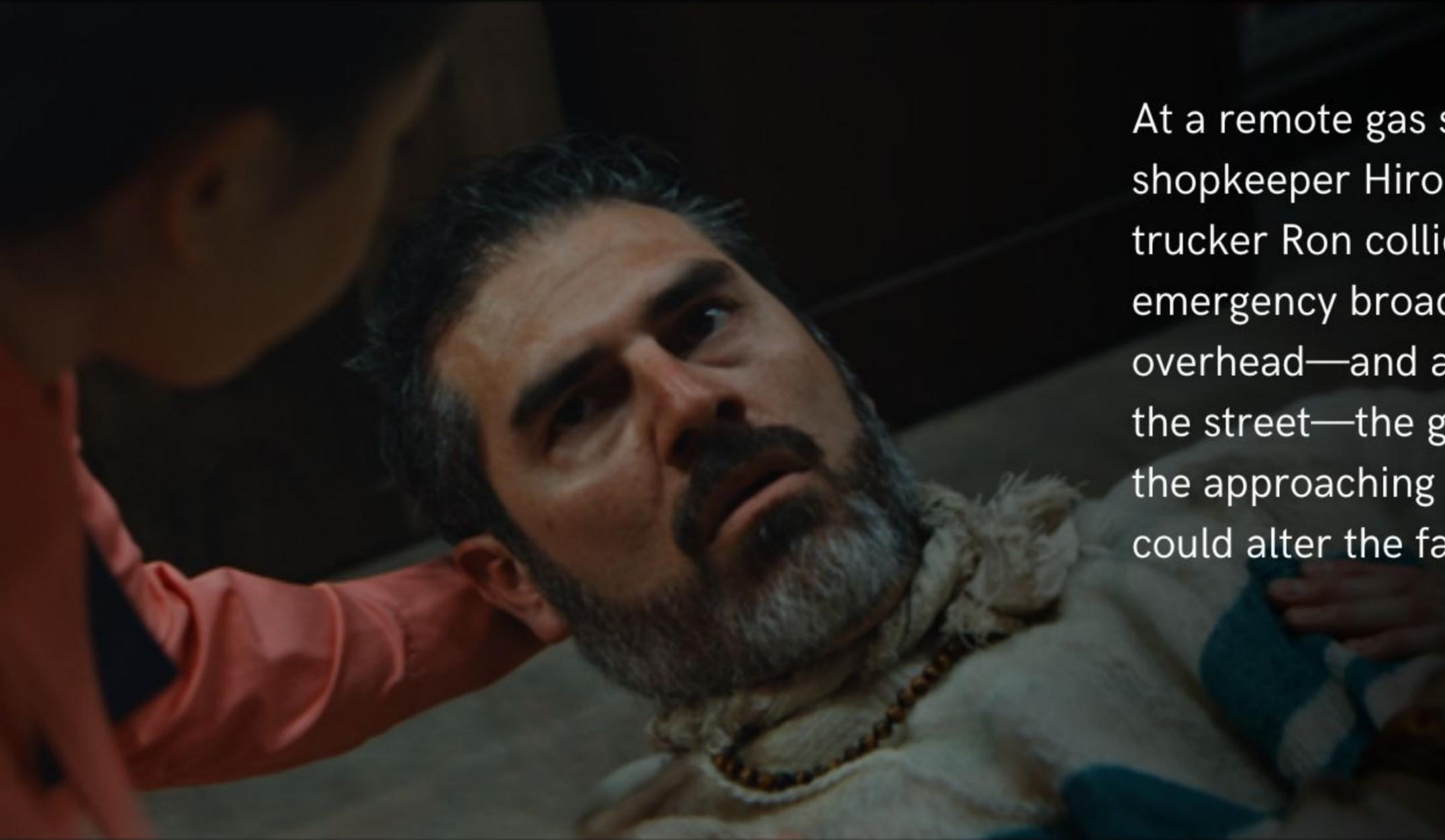
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# LOG LINE

A wide-angle shot of a gas station convenience store. The scene is dimly lit with a greenish-blue hue. In the foreground, a woman in a black tank top and pants stands looking towards the center. In the middle ground, a man in a red vest stands near a counter. To the right, a woman in a pink dress is crouching over a person lying on the floor. The store is filled with shelves of snacks, drinks, and other goods. A cash register and computer monitor are visible on the counter. The overall atmosphere is tense and chaotic.

When five unlikely strangers get stuck in a gas station during an alien invasion, they must put their differences aside and work together to survive.

# SYNOPSIS



At a remote gas station in Nowheresville, California, shopkeeper Hiro, stranded traveler Tonya and gruff trucker Ron collide in a heated altercation. When an emergency broadcast warns of extraterrestrial craft overhead—and a bleeding stranger stumbles in from the street—the group must decide whether to trust the approaching beings or prepare for a fight that could alter the fate of the universe.

# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

"The Inconvenience Store" tracks my journey from navigating the world as a socially estranged nomad, to ultimately being proud of the fact that I was never supposed to fit in. Growing up in America with Nigerian parents hyper-focused on assimilation, my identity was in constant flux. From being teased for not being "Black enough," to being the odd one out around my White peers, to not even feeling "Nigerian enough" around extended family, forced me to migrate through various social circles, seeking a home for my identity. This experience taught me that beneath the surface, each faction of people were more alike than different. Whether I was with the athletes, band kids, academics, or outcasts, my nomadic journey deepened my understanding of those who seemed different from one another. What younger me initially thought was a curse, eventually revealed itself to be a blessing.

This was the secret approach behind designing each character of this film. They interact with each other based on their preconceived biases about each other's culture and identity, only to be proven wrong the moment they realize they must lean on each other's unrecognized strengths. This film was crafted with the intention of highlighting the beauty in our shared humanity. My experiences gave me a holistic perspective on humanity--a perspective I carry into every film I make. Whether through a diverse cast, a colorful crew, or a blending of genres--all achieved through this film--the goal was always to unify and enlighten. I hope I've achieved that for you as a viewer.

Ifeanyi Ezieme

# THEMES

Beneath the surface, **The Inconvenience Store** reflects on several timely themes:

## CONNECTION

At first, the characters misjudge one another, shaped by assumptions and past experiences. But as events unfold, they begin to see beyond surface-level differences and find unexpected common ground. With a diverse cast and a blend of genres, the film highlights the connections that exist all around us—even when they're not immediately obvious. At its core, this is a story about breaking barriers and recognizing our shared humanity. **Will these five strangers find their connection in time to survive?**

## CLIMATE & THE STATE OF HUMANITY

The Earth is in crisis. Toxic air has made survival a daily struggle, and the natural world is on the brink of collapse. Starving animals have turned aggressive, and once-thriving ecosystems are irreparably damaged. Scarcity extends beyond nature—resources are dwindling, and commerce is driven by extreme inflation, making basic necessities difficult to attain. Desperation fuels violence, as seen when looters—not wild animals—attack Antonio. **If the planet can no longer sustain us, will humanity adapt—or will it be the cause of its own extinction?**

## LAW ENFORCEMENT, AUTHORITY & POWER STRUCTURES

While the others struggle to process an act of violence, Tonya isn't surprised. When law enforcement operates on fear—shooting first and asking questions later—who really benefits? In times of crisis, does power protect the people, or does it exploit the chaos? And in the case of our group now huddled together in a gas station convenience store, **did authorities take action to protect against a threat, or were they knowingly preventing the arrival of information that could change everything?**

# TECHNICAL DETAILS

**Title:** The Inconvenience Store

**Duration:** 11 minutes, 36 seconds

**Camera:** ARRI Alexa Mini LF

**Completion Year:** 2024

**Main Language:** English

**Additional Language:** Spanish

**Country of Production:** USA

**World Premiere:** American Black Film Festival (ABFF), June 2025



# FILM STILLS

For more downloadable media, please visit  
<https://tinyurl.com/TInSPress>



# FILM POSTER



COLORCREATIVE and FIND YOUR PEOPLE PROGRAM PRESENT A TEAM WHITE HOT PRODUCTION "THE INCONVENIENCE STORE"  
HIDEKUN HAH ARTRECE JOHNSON ALLISON OHARA JOEY HERMAN CHRISTIAN RAMIREZ LOYA  
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY YEAKIN YOO COSTUMES BY SALINA M. HERNANDEZ EDITOR MAYAH GILMER PRODUCTION DESIGNER JULIEN LOUIS DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY RAYANA RASAMEE  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ISSA RAE DENISE DAVIS TALITHA WATKINS JAMARI PERRY DANIELLE ROBINSON PRODUCED BY FABIOLA RODRIGUEZ  
WRITTEN BY NZINGA KADALIE KEMP DIRECTED BY IFEANYI EZIEME

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# CAST BIOS

# CAST

## HIDEKUN HAH - "Hiro"

Hidekun Hah is a Los Angeles based actor. He was born in Tokyo, Japan and grew up in New York and all over the Midwest. He studied acting at the University of Illinois and also with acclaimed teachers Craig Archibald, Iris Klein, and Saxon Trainor. He has appeared in numerous television shows including both drama (Teen Wolf, Sons of Anarchy, Gang Related, Nip/Tuck) and comedies (The Comedians, Hello Ladies, iCarly). He has also worked on numerous national commercials and award-winning films.



## ARTRECE JOHNSON - "Tonya"



Artrece Johnson is an actress and a native of Baton Rouge, LA. This Nigerian-Creole actress grew up in Atlanta, GA where she quickly discovered her interest in acting. Artrece has been on multiple tv shows, films, and national commercials. Her most recent credit, A Thousand and One, starring alongside Teyana Taylor and directed by A.V. Rockwell, won the Grand Jury prize at Sundance. Other credits include Law & Order, Gossip Girl, P-Valley, and most recently Kevin Hart's Peacock original, Fight Night. Artrece hopes to inspire healing through creative expression and to also inspire a richness in people, not from tangible items, but from within. She hopes that her art will always inspire and manifest greatness into the lives of her audience.

# CAST

## ALLISON OHARA - "Izzie"



Born and raised in Southern California, Allison Ohara started acting around the age of four. Throughout her childhood, she enjoyed working on commercials and short films, including a companion for Syfy's series Haven. After taking a break from the industry to focus on academics, she decided to renew her pursuit of acting. She has been actively training to grow in her craft and studied at studios including Margie Haber Studio and Graham Shiels Studio. She is excited to be acting in projects again and is looking forward to all the opportunities 2025 may bring. Aside from acting, she loves rock climbing, playing the piano, and reading.

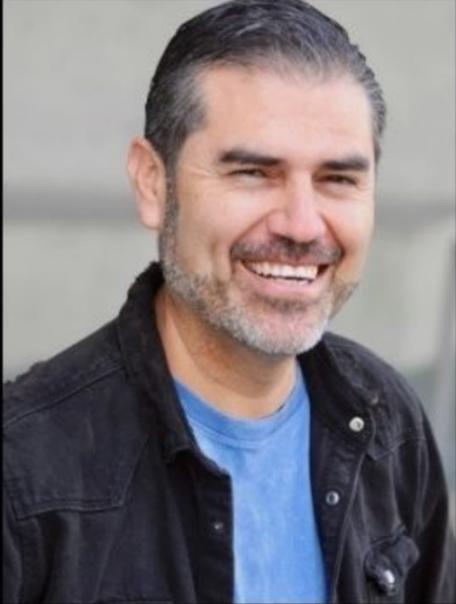
## JOEY HERMAN - "Ron"

Joey Herman is a SAG-AFTRA actor, comedian, writer, director, producer, editor, and casting director. He graduated Cum Laude from Chapman University in 2001 with a B.F.A. in Film Production and a 3.9 GPA. He has been a professional actor for 30 years; his first starring role was on NBC's Brotherly Love as the school bully, Bill Fody. Joey has acted in over 300 projects and continues to grow as an artist daily. He has a wide acting range, from comedy to drama, and he can play any character. He credits his success to his two beautiful daughters and thanks his parents for their support. You can see him acting in three upcoming feature films being released in 2025.



# CAST

## CHRISTIAN RAMIREZ LOYA - "Antonio"



Christian Ramírez Loya is a bilingual actor with experience in film, television, and commercials. He recently played Rodrigo in "The Platinum Loop" (currently in post-production) and starred in the music video for "Life" by Maejor, Sofía Reyes, and Alonzo. His previous work includes playing Ozzy in "Selena: The Series" on Netflix, along with roles in print and modeling. Christian fell into acting world while accompanying his cousin to an audition. He has since trained at Aaron Speiser and Brian Reise Acting Studios, as well as Pascacio López's acting classes in Mexico. He is Fluent in Spanish, English, and Japanese.



# CREW BIOS

# KEY CREW

## IFEANYI EZIEME - Director



Ifeanyi Ezieme is a DGA award-winning filmmaker based in Altadena, CA. From teaching himself animation in grade school to directing his first short film at 12, Ifeanyi's relentless curiosity for visual storytelling drove him to USC where he graduated as a George Lucas Scholar in Film & Television Production. Since then, Ifeanyi's films have screened at Oscar-qualifying film festivals such as The Pan African Film Festival & LA Shorts International Film Festival. Ifeanyi has also collaborated with companies like Toyota, Varo, & ColorCreative through Issa Rae's "Find Your People" program. The success of his work has been rooted in a focus to bridge the gap between people who are seemingly unlike, a reflection of his childhood experience of trying to find a home for his complicated identity.

## NZINGA KADALIE KEMP - Writer



Nzinga Kadalie Kemp is a multidisciplinary artist based in Los Angeles, known for her work as a writer and filmmaker. Her projects have been featured in film festivals internationally such as the Toronto International Film Festival, ABFF and the BlackStar Film Festival. Nzinga's television credits include the movie *In the Meantime* and the sitcom *The First Family*, starring Yara Shahidi. A graduate of Clark Atlanta University and NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, Nzinga earned an M.F.A. in Dramatic Writing. She was selected for the Inaugural Starz #TakeTheLead Writing Intensive Program and Issa Rae and Color Creative's Find Your People Program. Nzinga has over a decade of television development and production experience, as well as a background as a teaching artist.

# KEY CREW

## FABIOLA RODRIGUEZ - Producer



Fabiola Rodriguez is an independent producer based in Miami, Florida, with experience in broadcast television and film. She has produced projects such as the HBO-acquired psychological drama "Huracán" and the narrative feature "Ludi," which premiered as the Opening Night film at the 2021 Miami Film Festival. "Ludi" screened at various festivals, including in competition at SXSW. The feature was selected for the Gotham/IFP Narrative Lab and U.S. in Progress Wrocław, and Rodriguez was a fellow in the New Orleans Film Society's Southern Producers Lab. Most recently, she was chosen as a producer in the 2023 Find Your People Program (FYPP), a leadership and technical training program led by ColorCreative, a management and production company founded by Issa Rae and Deniese Davis. She holds a BA in Communication Studies from the University of Iowa.

## MAYAH GILMER - Editor



Originally from Boston, Mayah set out to make her Editor dreams come true in the big city of Los Angeles. Starting off as a Post PA working on shows like HBO's *Doom Patrol* and Netflix's *Brews Brothers*, she eventually transitioned from PA to Assistant Editor working on a multitude of trailers and tv spots for award winning trailer companies. She later transitioned into documentary working for 1895 Films where she received her first on-screen credit for her work on Disney+'s *Charles: In His Own Words*. In the summer of '24 she finally joined the Editor's Union as an Apprentice Editor for her work on Jason Reitman's *Saturday Night*.

# KEY CREW

## RAYANA RASAMEE - Cinematographer



Rayana Rasamee is a Thai-American cinematographer based in Los Angeles. She earned her MFA in Cinematography from the AFI Conservatory in 2022 with support from prestigious scholarship awards. Rayana's diverse cinematography portfolio includes narrative features, documentaries and commercial work for renowned brands like Valentino, Puma, Toyota and Covergirl. Her narrative work has premiered at Oscar-qualifying film festivals such as LA Shorts and Edmonton International Film Festival. She holds a BA in Criminology & Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland and is currently an active associate member of the Society of Camera Operators (SOC).

## JOLIEN LOUIS - Production Designer



Jolien Louis is a New York-based production designer celebrated for transforming bold ideas into visually stunning realities. With an MFA from the American Film Institute in Los Angeles and a BA in Theater with a focus on lighting design from George Washington University, she combines technical expertise with artistic vision. Her work thrives on unconventional challenges, from crafting an 8-foot corpse flower to bringing an inner monologue to life through floating objects—or even cooking up a quart of fake semen for a rom-com. Driven by a love of travel, her rich cultural background, and the vibrant energy of New York City, Jolien infuses every project with fresh, imaginative perspectives. Collaborating closely with filmmakers, she focuses on storytelling through design, bringing memorable, impactful visions to life across film, theater, and beyond.

# KEY CREW

## SALINA M. HERNANDEZ - Costume Designer



Salina is a costume designer and stylist based in Los Angeles, CA. Originally from Fresno, California, Salina has always had a passion for filmmaking. She got her start in the documentary world, honing her skills as a writer and director in Nashville, TN. With experience in television, commercials, narratives and music videos, Salina draws inspiration from real-life people and the cultures around her. She is dedicated to bringing forth a new era of costume design that focuses on accessibility and sustainability. Influenced by her love for comic books and vintage fashions, Salina emphasizes staple looks while bringing characters to life.



**END CREDITS**

Directed by  
IFEANYI EZIEME

Written by  
NZINGA KADALIE KEMP

Produced by  
FABIOLA RODRIGUEZ

Starring  
HIDEKUN HAH  
ARTRECE JOHNSON  
ALLISON OHARA  
JOEY HERMAN  
CHRISTIAN RAMIREZ LOYA

Executive Producer  
ISSA RAE

Executive Producer  
DENIESE DAVIS

Executive Producer  
TALITHA WATKINS

Executive Producers  
JAMARI PERRY  
DANIELLE ROBINSON

Edited by  
MAYAH GILMER

Director of Photography  
RAYANA RASAMEE

Production Designer  
JOLIEN LOUIS

Costume Designer  
SALINA M. HERNANDEZ

Original Score by  
YEAKUN YOO

Unit Production Manager  
CAMILHA CONTRERAS

Art Director  
ARMAAN PUJANI

Gaffer  
JOSH CARRASCO

Color Studio  
ROYAL MUSTER

First Assistant Director  
MAXWELL DEAN

Set Dressers  
IZZY KAMINER  
ISABELLA DOMINGUEZ

Script Supervisor  
CAROLINE PLYLER

Colorist  
CALVIN BELLAS

CAST  
IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Graphic Designer  
ALEX CHAMBERS

Key Production Assistant  
ALEJANDRA QUIROZ

Color Assistants  
ZACK WILPON  
ESLI ISRAEL

Hiro - HIDEKUN HAH  
Tonya - ARTRECE JOHNSON  
Automated Voice - MAYAH GILMER  
Ron - JOEY HERMAN  
Izzie - ALLISON OHARA  
Radio Announcer - JOE SZYMANSKI  
Antonio - CHRISTIAN RAMIREZ LOYA  
Alien Message - ANNABELLE LINKER

Assistant Costume Designer  
ANDREA NGELEKA

Production Assistants  
ROSIE SIRK  
GABRIELLE LAWRENCE  
DIANA MORENO  
RAE GAMMAGE

Executive Producer  
THATCHER PETERSON

Head of Production  
DIANE VALERA

Color Producer  
MATTHEW FULTON

First Assistant Camera  
NIKKI SKELLY

Hair Stylist  
KELLY DE LA CERDA

BTS Photographer  
EFREN ZAPATA

Audio Post-Production Services  
MELODYGUN SOUND STUDIOS

Second Assistant Camera  
RACHEL ERIN MOORE

Makeup Artist  
QUINESHIA GRAHAM

BTS Social Media  
ROCHELY ZAPATA

Re-recording Mixer  
SEAN OAKLEY

Steadicam Operator  
LEANDRO IMAZ

Additional Makeup - SFX  
EMILY TAYLOR HIRSCH

Locations Consultant  
TONY WARE

Sound Supervisor  
HAMED HOKAMZADEH, MPSE

Production Sound Mixer  
JULIAN ANDREWS

Key Grip  
HAYDEN SMELTZER

POST-PRODUCTION

Sound Effects Editor  
AMENDA LEE

Boom Operator  
MORGAN CHAN

Grip/Electric Swing  
MANUEL RENTERIA

Assistant Editor  
JESUS GOMEZ

Foley Mixer / Sound Editor  
KRISTOPHER BRECKON

Foley Artist  
ETHAN SHENHAR

Visual Effects Artist  
ADRIAN TRAVIEZO

Virtual Production Artist  
VINCENT J. WALKER

Scoring Assistant  
SEUNGYEON LEE

#### SONGS

"MESSAGE SENT WITH LASERS"

Written by Roshmond Patten

Performed by SUM f. Phoebe Phoebe

Courtesy of The Hurting Cats Music Solutions

By arrangement with Doc The Killa

"CLAP CLAP"

Written by Paige Stevenson & Finn George

Performed by NCognita

Courtesy of Raedio

By arrangement with Raedio

"CAMINANDO"

Written by Joe Perry

Performed by Star Playa

Courtesy of Studio Iluminado

By arrangement with DistroKid

Camera and Lenses Provided by  
OLD FAST GLASS

Camera Slider Provided by  
TREEFORT ENTERTAINMENT

Grip & Lighting Truck Provided by  
FILM VANS

Production Supplies Provided by  
WALK & TALK PRODUCTION RENTALS

Props Provided by  
WARNER BROS. PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

Wardrobe Provided by  
CARGO COSTUME

Jewelry Provided by  
JADE HATCHETT

Catering Provided by  
RISE AND SHINE CATERING

Select Paid Apprenticeship Provided by  
JUSTICE FOR MY SISTER'S PA CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

ColorCreative Would Like to Thank

ARIC LEWIS

ARIELLA ABRAMS

ALEX MITCHELL

AVA BERKOFISKY

AYANNA JAMES KIMANI

DOMO JONES

LABID AZIZ

MIKE LEAHY

MIKE MOSALLAM

MONIQUE DIAS

MONIQUE FRANCIS

MORGAN COOPER

MYRIAH JOHNSON

RAAMLAM MOHAMMED

SARA RASTOGI

SIMONE KIRLEW

STEFAN LATOURE

The FYPP Cohort Would Like to Thank

AMEER COLLIER

APUTURE LIGHTING

BRYSON MOORE

CANVA

CIRCUSHR

EMERSON IVES

ENTERTAINMENT PARTNERS / MOVIE MAGIC

JANSPORT, A VF COMPANY

JOSHUA PRITS

KARLA LEGASPY

MIA SCORNAVACCA

MOTION PICTURE MAGIC

NAVA MAU

PETER FILIMAUA

SATURATION

21 GROCERY, EL MONTE, CA

Shot in Los Angeles, CA

Sound Mixed in Los Angeles, CA

THE INCONVENIENCE STORE

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SAG-AFTRA

RAEIO

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CIRCUS

ENTERTAINMENT  
PARTNERS

MelodyGun

Milk  
D G T L

saturation

COLOR  
CREATIVE



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