

YUMARIE
MORALES

RUFINO
ROMERO

LUIS
FERNANDEZ-GIL

IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH

"IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH" STARRING YUMARIE MORALES RUFINO ROMERO AND LUIS FERNANDEZ-GIL

CASTING DIRECTORS ALAN LUNA, CSA NATALIE BALLESTEROS PRODUCTION DESIGNER HANRUI WANG

ORIGINAL MUSIC BY WIETSE VAN DER MEER CINEMATOGRAPHY BY IRIS LEE EDITED BY EMILIANO STYLES

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS FOLASHADE ADE-BANJO JOENIQUE C. ROSE FRANCISCO VELASQUEZ

PRODUCED BY MASORA FUKUDA WRITTEN BY MONTSERRAT LUNA-BALLANTYNE

DIRECTED BY ALEXANDRIA COLLINS



LOGLINE

While on a romantic getaway to reconnect as a couple after her husband's grueling exorcism, a devout wife must confront her fears that the ritual failed and her husband is still possessed.

SYNOPSIS

At the behest of their priest, troubled couple Veronica and Luis go on a romantic weekend getaway to reconnect after Luis's grueling exorcism. As they settle in, Veronica begins to worry if the ritual drove out the demon or only revealed the one she married, leaving her trapped in the house with a malignant force she cannot escape. In *Sickness and in Health* is a psychological thriller about picking up the pieces after a tragedy, and figuring out what to do with them. What if the person you love the most hurts you? Who will save you?

Bound by her Mexican Catholic upbringing, Veronica faces these questions head-on, and ultimately finds liberation by trusting herself above all.

FILM INFORMATION

Production Country: USA.
Completion Date: October 2025
Production Company: Film Independent, INC
Running Time: 14 minutes 30 seconds
Language: English/Spanish
Picture: Color
Aspect Ratio: 6k 2:1
Shooting Format: Digital
Exhibition Formats: DCP
Sound: 5.1

CONTACT

Contact: Masora Fukuda, Producer
Email: masorafukuda@gmail.com

TRAILER

[HERE](#)

GENRE

Psychological Thriller / Horror

PRESS

DEADLINE: [Project Involve 2025 Cohort](#)



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

What drew me to directing *In Sickness and In Health* by our writer Montserrat Luna-Ballantyne, was how she uncovered the quiet horror that is often hidden inside of intimacy. The way faith, guilt, and love can twist together until you can't tell one from the other. This film looks at a marriage built on belief and what happens when belief becomes controlled.

I was interested in Veronica's story because it reflects the emotional labor so many women carry. She's trying to reconcile devotion with self-preservation, to stay soft in a world that tells her submission is holy. Her journey from silence to self-trust mirrors something deeply human: the moment you decide to believe yourself, even when it costs everything.

The film is culturally specific as it honors Montserrat's Mexican Catholic heritage, but is grounded in a relationship dynamic many can relate to. All aspects of the film move through Veronica's perspective, letting us feel what it's like to be both loved and unsafe. At its core, this is a story about liberation disguised as loss. In a time when women's autonomy--spiritual, physical, and emotional is still being debated, *In Sickness and In Health* reminds us that reclaiming your voice is its own form of salvation.



CAST



YUMARIE MORALES
(Veronica)

Yumarie Morales is a proud Latina, Army brat, and global citizen raised between Panama and Puerto Rico and the occasional military base cafeteria. A theater grad turned actor, voiceover artist, and commercial face for brands like Pepsi and Home Depot, she somehow still makes the time to mindfully parent her (soon-to-be-plural) sons and dream up homemade fashions for them - because coordinating outfits are a love language. Yumarie runs on breakfast burritos and oat milk lattes with honey, believes small talk is overrated, and champions women, empathy, and the kind of strength it takes to say: you deserve safety-in your love and in your life.



RUFINO ROMERO
(Luis)

Rufino Romero is an empathetic storyteller whose acting has earned him lead and supporting roles in films such as *This Is Our Land*, *Holmes*, and *In Sickness and In Health*. His television work includes recurring and guest appearances on *NCIS*, *General Hospital*, *Joseph of Egypt*, *The Family Business*, and *Cocaine Sisters*. On stage, he has starred in world-premiere plays *Always Running*, *Woman Ascending*, and *Real Men Love Women*. Rufino also voices Ocelotl in Ubisoft’s *For Honor*. Of Pipil/Toltec/Nahua Salvadoran and Guayas/Quechua Ecuadorian heritage, he is an EMT first responder, Pan American Jiu-Jitsu gold medalist, and trains Muay Thai kickboxing and boxing.



LUIS FERNANDEZ-GIL
(Father Rodriguez)

Luis began his professional acting career in New York City during the aftermath of 9/11 after training at NYFA. In 2003, he moved to Los Angeles following a national tour of *Man of La Mancha*, landing his first LA job pranking celebrities on *PUNK’D*. Since then, he has appeared in over 100 television shows and films, including *Mayans*, *It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Mike & Molly*, *The Mentalist*, *Ride the Eagle*, and *Jack & Jill*. Also known as wrestling persona Dario Cueto (aka Cesar Duran), Luis has now performed four on-screen exorcisms—perhaps a sign to reconsider his life’s calling?





Photo courtesy of Jessica Haye and Clark Hsiao

CREATIVE TEAM



DIRECTOR ALEXANDRIA COLLINS

Alexandria Collins is an award-winning director based in Los Angeles whose films explore sexuality, relationship dynamics, and religion from her distinct, female-driven point of view. A 2025 Film Independent Fellow and 2024 Ryan Murphy HALF Initiative Mentee, her work fuses emotional intimacy with intricate world-building. Her film *Woman to Woman* won Best International Short at the BIFA-Qualifying Manchester Film Festival and Best Short Film at the Tokyo International Film Festival. She also directed the HULUween short *Reborn*. A graduate of Florida A&M University with a BA in Journalism, Collins brings an investigative curiosity and layered humanity to her storytelling.

WRITER MONTSERRAT LUNA-BALLANTYNE

Originally from Monterrey, México, Montserrat Luna-Ballantyne is a Los Angeles-based WGA screenwriter. She grew up on a steady diet of folklore, ghost tales, and family chisme that resulted in her love for writing stories about supernatural horror, the horrors of navigating complex family dynamics, and the comedy that exists within it all. Her writing credits include the GLAAD Media-nominated *With Love* (Amazon). She is a Writer Finalist for the Nosotros 5th Annual Ya Tú Sabes Monologue Slam, and a 2025 Film Independent Project Involve Writing Fellow. Montserrat is repped by K Station Media.





PRODUCER
MASORA FUKUDA

Masora Fukuda is an award-winning producer based in Los Angeles, originally from Nishinomiya, Japan. She produced Shania Twain’s music video *Giddy Up!*, which earned the 2024 Telly Award for Best Music Video, and has collaborated with talents such as Quincy Jones, Shohei Ohtani, and Pharrell Williams. Internationally, her work includes *Netflix’s Alice in Borderland* (Season 3), *Mirai To Future* (2023 Pramana Asian Film Festival), and *How To Make Shepherd’s Pie* (2022 LA Shorts). Masora also served as Assistant Producer on *Happyend* (Dir. Neo Sora). She is a 2025 Film Independent Project Involve Producing Fellow.

CREATIVE EXECUTIVE
FOLASHADE ADE-BANJO

Folashade Ade-Banjo is an Nigerian-American Filmmaker whose work lives at the intersection of psychological drama, surrealist spectacle, and cultural critique. She is drawn to stories that bend perception and carry existential undertones, crafting films that feel both intimate and mythic. She began her career at Google and YouTube Originals, cultivating best-in-class creative for multicultural audiences, before joining Amazon Studios to develop sci-fi and fantasy adaptations (*Fallout*, *The Wheel of Time*, *Lord of the Rings*). She studied Philosophy and Film at Bates College and Columbia University. She’s a 2025 Film Independent Executive Producer Fellow, 2023 Women in Film Executive Producer Fellow and a 2020 ADCOLOR© Future Recipient.



CINEMATOGRAPHER
IRIS LEE



Iris Lee is a Taiwanese-American cinematographer from the Bay Area, CA. She grew up people-watching on family travels with her dad’s camcorder, and as a result, is often drawn to diverse stories that explore the complex relationships between people and their environments. She was named a WIF Cinematography Fellow in 2024 and is a member and supporter of the ICFC, International Community of Female Cinematographers. She has a special place in her heart for analog formats, enjoys theatrical releases of independent cinema, and working with collaborators who enjoy that too.

EDITOR
EMILIANO STYLES

Emiliano Styles is a multimedia artist and co-founder of Soulploitation Creative Works, a full-service production company. He is a video producer, editor, and creative technologist at Billboard, where he crafts innovative visual narratives that resonate across digital platforms. His work has appeared on Disney+, Paramount+, AMC, and Bravo, featuring branded collaborations with Nike, LeBron James, T-Mobile, Amazon, Google and the NFL. His editing work on HBO Max's *Chasing Flavor* contributed to the series' 2025 Emmy Award nomination. Emiliano is currently developing a slew of creative projects set for release in 2026.

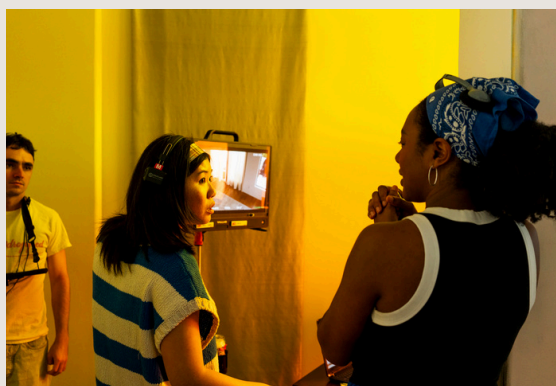


COMPOSER
WIETSE VAN DER MEER

Wietse van der Meer is a Dutch composer for visual media, currently based in Los Angeles. His work spans film, television, and games, blending rich orchestral textures with modern electronic sound design. In 2025, he composed music for four short films, including *Narcissus*, winner of Best LGBT Film at the Kraken Film Festival. His upcoming projects include the video game *Battle Charge* and the short film *The Intimacy Coordinator*.



BEHIND THE SCENES



Top photo and photos 4, 5, 6, 8 and 9 courtesy of Jessica Haye and Clark Hsiao
Photos 2, 3 and 7 courtesy of Naren Sareday

FILM STILLS





CREDITS

DIRECTED BY	Alexandria Collins
WRITTEN BY	Montserrat Luna-Ballantyne
PRODUCED BY	Masora Fukuda
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Folashade Ade-Banjo
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS - FILM INDEPENDENT	Joenique C. Rose Francisco Velasquez
STARRING	Yumarie Morales Rufino Romero Luis Fernandez-Gil
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	Iris Lee
EDITED BY	Emiliano Styles
PRODUCTION DESIGN BY	Hanrui Wang
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY	Wietse van der Meer
CASTING BY	Alan Luna, CSA Natalie Ballesteros
Story Resident Mentor	Ruth Atkinson
Producing Resident Mentor	Avril Z. Speaks
Directing Resident Mentor	Javier Fuentes-León
Writing Resident Mentor	Julian Breece
Creative Resident Mentor	Aaron T. Edmonds
Cinematography Resident Mentor	Jomo Fray
Editing Resident Mentor	Alex O'Flinn



Production Supervisor
Unit Production Manager
Production Coordinator

Joyce Liu Countryman
Dingding Hu
Dhalia Hamdan

First Assistant Director
Second Assistant Directors

Hunter Milano
Dain August
Naren Sareday

Script Supervisor

Desiree Renee Thomas

Key Production Assistant
Production Assistants

Jose Lopez
Paul Michael Arroyo
Brook Cohen
Leslie Dam
Herbert Dang
Aishu Nagasunder
Mary An Nan
Nick Parsons

Steadicam Operator

Greg Gustafson

First Assistant Camera
Second Assistant Camera
DIT

Nikki Skelly
Kyle Brundige
Emiliano Styles

Gaffer
Key Grips

Cameron Sonsini
Jake Brody
Nicholas Luna
Nicholas Garcia
Josh Schwartz
Benjamin Champagne
Jackson Ruff

Swings

Dolly Grips

Set Dresser

Antony Hernandez

Art Production Assistants

Andrés L. Correa
Sophia Lee
Brandyn Johnson
Sylvia Ray





Costume Designer

Key Makeup

Carole Jones

Kate Oja

Sound Mixer

Marcos Castro

Intimacy and Stunt Coordinator

Jen Albert

Behind-the-Scene Photographers

Additional Photographers

Jessica Haye and Clark Hsiao

Leslie Dam

Sade Ndya

Naren Sareday

Set Medic

Production Catering

Location

Neil Etman

Well Done! Catering

Helena Kriel and David Walker

Post Production Supervisor

Sue-Ellen Chitunya

Jason Ballantyne

Jared Culp

Overmind Studios

Tobias Kummer

André Christopher Gerhardt

Music Editor

Recording Engineer

Conductor

Vocal

Violins

Steven Wayne Thomas

Bri Cobbey

Theodore Morris

Moyra Poot

Min Ji Kim

Sean James Smith

Treasure M. Eckles

Kai Slesarev-Nogami

Jose Campos

Joon Hyun Baek

Matteo Prevosto-Riou

Jacob Spitzer

Violas

Cellos

Contrabass

Guitar



Post Production Sound Services Provided By
Supervising Sound Editor & Re-Recording Mixer
Sound Effects Editor
Assistant Sound Editor
Post Sound Producer
Post Sound Scheduler

Formosa Group
David Tichauer, CAS
Clinton Jones
Pernell Salinas
Erika Wunch
Renata Canazio-Nehme

Digital Intermediate provided by
Final Colorist
Digital Intermediate Producer

Picture Shop
Frederik Bokkenheuser
Katherine Stigers

Online Provided by

Holy Coyote Films

Trailer Edited by

Evan Langhston

Special Thanks

Aaron Saffa
Aishu Nagasunder
Alan C. Beard
Amiri Harikawa
Ashley Chrisman
Aya Shimizu
Aziza Henry
Brandon Chau
Cameron Sotiangco
Caroline Kong
Charlene Ngige
Cheyenne Tan
Chiaki Yamagimoto
Chris Carter
Christina Damore
Claudia Forestieri
Compelling Pictures
Daniel Piazza
Danielle Sanchez-Witzel
Danny Pendergrass

Elijah Jones
Eric Nyari
Geoff Harris
Gino Lumawod
Harrison Tan
Hiro Fukuda
Hiroki Kikuchi
Jeffrey Soderberg
Joel Krantz
Juan M. Santos
Kai San Lei
KC Lee
Khaki
Lynn Hoefflinger
Lucretia Shaw Collins
Makiko Kishimoto
Marisol Diaz
Maya Krishnan
Mellori Velasquez
Mikhail Crosby

Monika Sampson
Nao Sugiyama
Naren Sareday
Nick O'Brien
Paul Arroyo
Robert Ehara
Sahil Jindal
Saint Coffee Shop
Sandra Lucille
Sarah Takizawa
Sean Tretta
SP Lin
Thembi Banks
Tim Toda
Trader Joe's
Trent Nakamura
Wakana Fukuda
Xiomara Contreras
You Doll You


FILM **INDEPENDENT** PROJECT INVOLVE

Thank you to these visionary funders whose generosity
makes Project Involve possible.

Lead Sponsor



Principal Sponsors



Supporting Sponsors



Additional support provided by

Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and The Office of Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell of the Second District of the County of Los Angeles

IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH

Copyright © 2025 Film Independent, INC.
All Rights Reserved.