

BEVERLY HILLS STUDIOS

International Magazine

DECEMBER 2025 ISSUE 1

LOS ANGELES (USA), SPAIN

EDITOR: Micaela Soler Astorga

LEJON STEWART
TRIUMPHS: BEST
ACTOR AT 2025
CULVER CITY
FILM FESTIVAL
FOR 'THE JOB'

Exclusive
Interview
with Oscar-
Nominated
Director
Kalman Apple

NEW YORK ARTISTS:

LUCIE TASSEL, EMILY NOLAN,
DANIKA ROBB, MAR DI MEGLIO,
PATRICIA SOLEDAD

Exclusive Interview with
HOLLYWOOD ACTOR

**WILL
ROBERTS**

Seen as General Marshall in the film *OPPENHEIMER*



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BEVERLY HILLS

MICKY SOLER

Editor of Beverly Hills Studios Magazine



Photography: Vanesa Álvarez Benítez

Micaela Soler Astorga, also known as Micky Soler, was born in Hanau am Main (Germany) from a Spanish family. She graduated in Journalism, in the Faculty of Information Sciences of the University of Seville (Spain). She has worked and collaborated in several daily newspapers and numerous literary and cultural magazines. Her love for artistic creation has passed through drawing, theater and, above all, literature. She wrote her first novel at age 12: *It Happened in Kansas City*. Subsequently, she has published stories as co-author in the book collection *“Young Writers of the XXI Century”* and poetry as co-author in the lyrical anthology *“Poetas del Encuentro”*.

In the year 2000 she moved to the UK. In 2021 she creates and directs *Original Magazine*, a bilingual digital magazine, dedicated to art, culture and creativity. It is a publication that deals with issues of art, literature, theater, cinema, fashion, music, photography... with intellectuals, artists and creators from Spain, South America, United Kingdom and U. S. A. *Original Magazine* tries to find new paths in the conception of artistic creativity, introducing concepts such as inclusion, diversity, as well as different and innovative forms of expression in its reports, interviews or journalistic articles.

In addition to running *Original Magazine*, Micky Soler currently works as a publicist, with award-winning clients as Swedish actress and filmmaker Elin-Margareta Nordin, Hollywood actor Lejon Stewart, Icelandic international actor Einar Haraldsson, Hollywood actor Will Roberts, American singer-songwriter Will Preston, British therapist Nicholas Barnes, Indian actress Rita Jhawah and Indian director Sudeep Ranjan Sarkar -Founder of NEZ International Film Festival, among others. In 2025, she created *Love Hollywood USA Magazine*, a publication focused on Hollywood news: films, actors and directors; rising talents from Los Angeles & New York and everything about cinema. She is also editor of *Arte Magazine* and *Beverly Hills Studios Magazine* since November 2025. She collaborates with numerous media outlets, as part of her work as a publicist and public relations. She is passionate about her work, to which she dedicates many hours. She likes honesty and keeping her word, as a guarantee of trust and professionalism.

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WILL ROBERTS

Will Roberts on Building MyAuditionAI: The App That's Changing How Actors Prepare

Will, you've been acting for over four decades. What made you want to create this app?

After 40 years in the business — from *Oppenheimer* to Studio City — I've seen one problem never change: actors scrambling to get ready for an audition with almost no time, no coach, and no reader. When I got the audition for *Oppenheimer*, I had less than a day to turn it around. Finding a coach for \$175 an hour and a reader on short notice just wasn't realistic. I needed something faster. That's where MyAuditionAI.com came from — necessity.

What does it actually do?

Think of it as your personal acting studio that never closes. You upload your sides, and the app helps you analyze your scene using the same methods top coaches use — Stanislavski, Meisner, Adler, you name it. It helps you identify objectives, obstacles, and emotional beats so you can make real, confident choices as an actor. Then you can run your self-tape with an AI reader, so you're not waiting for someone to hop on Zoom at midnight.

You can even get an evaluation on your performance, test out monologues, and build a professional actor profile that shows your range. It's everything I wish I'd had years ago when I was sending tapes from hotel rooms or out-of-town gigs.

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WILL ROBERTS



How do you see it fitting into the industry?

Self-tapes are here to stay. The casting world moves fast, and the actors who adapt are the ones who keep working. This isn't about replacing coaches — it's about putting the tools in your hands so you can be ready when opportunity knocks. MyAuditionAI helps you train smarter, not just harder.

What's next for MyAuditionAI?

We're adding new tools constantly — things like voice analysis, monologue challenges, even actor networking features. But at the core, it'll always be about one thing: giving actors confidence. When you feel prepared, you perform better. And that's what this app is about — helping you book the job.

You mentioned Oppenheimer — did you really use it to prep that audition?

I did. I used the same process that's now built into the app — breaking down the scene, clarifying my choices, and running it over and over until it clicked. That's the same system that helped me book that role with Christopher Nolan. So when I say it works, it's because I've lived it.

To learn more or try it out: MyAuditionAI.com
 Actor | Magician | Voice Actor | Cowboy | Weapons Trainer
 Gen George C Marshall - Oppenheimer
 Winner BEST ACTOR Golden State Film Festival
ActorWillRoberts.com
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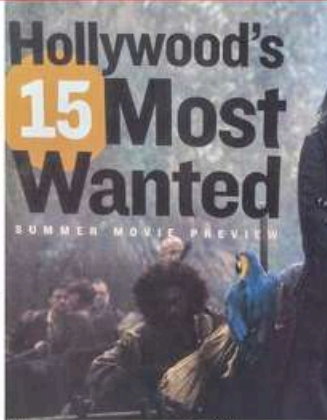
LEJON STEWART

Wins The Short Film Best Actor Award at the Culver City Film Festival in Los Angeles

Award-winning actor Lejon Stewart was the male Lead in the Short film *The Job* by Craig Railsback. Dr. Heather Joseph-Whitham co-wrote this psychological thriller with Dir. Railsback, and it stars the captivating and talented Dawna Lee Heising. *The Job* premiered at The Silicon Beach Film Festival in Sept. At the TCL Chinese Theatre.



The Award winning Short film, *Lucy The Lion* is directed by Academy Award Nominated Director Kalman Apple, who also Co-wrote along with the beautiful and brilliant Co-Writer Natalin Avci who also is the lead of this heartwarming & gutsy Short film about a single mom who is unexpectedly stuck with her 4 yr old toddler on the day she has a job interview. Lejon has a cameo role that is pivotal in the outcome of the story, portraying a wheelchair bound Vietnam veteran. Lejon is very excited to have played a Gay character for the first time. The film is **IGNOMINIOUS** Produced by Nestor Vinelli. The Director is upcoming Tristan French. Nation Bevins is the lead (Protagonist) in this Short Film dealing with **Prison LOVE**. Yes, it does happen and this film explores the human aspects of this societal stigma & lifestyle. Lejon is currently shooting & starring in an Untitled Independent Feature by Victor Dos Santos, director. This film was written for Lejon by Santos and he comically portrays himself living in a world that defines the term/phrase **DANCEAPPELLA**. We are all familiar with the word Acapella (singing without the accompiament of music. Lejon actually created this term in the 80s and it means "to dance without any music playing.



Award-winning actor Lejon Stewart at the Culver City Film Festival in Los Angeles

Lejon Stewart won the Short Film Best Actor Award at the Culver City Film Festival in Los Angeles, for his role in *The Job*

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DAWNA LEE HEISING

A Multi-Award-Winning Actress



Photographer: Mark Oeffler

Dawna Lee Heising has acted in over 260 feature films, including Param Gill's "Bad President", starring Eddie Griffin, and "Alien Storm", starring Tom Arnold. She played Crystal, Ms. Third World, in Tom Lopilato's "WordLotto" and Athena in Craig Railsback's "The Job." She has won over 900 film festival awards, including over 580 Best Actress awards. Dawna is trained in Tang Soo Do martial arts and ballet.

Dawna earned a B.S. Degree in Business Management and MBA from Pepperdine University. Dawna is the VP of Aki Aleong's Mustard Seed Media Group. Her uncle is legendary director of photography Tak Fujimoto ("Silence of the Lambs", "Sixth Sense") and her cousins George Daugherty and David Wong won a Primetime Emmy Award for "Peter and the Wolf on Broadway".

Dawna was very honored to win the 2024 Living Legend Award at the Universe Multicultural Film Festival. Dawna is also a former Miss Los Angeles Chinatown, Ms. US World, Ms. World, Ms. Universe, Miss San Francisco Universe, Miss Orange County Universe, Miss California Hemisphere and Mrs. California United States, among many other titles. She was the Queen of the 2021 Kaiju Film Festival, the 2019 Hollywood Silver Screen Film Festival Queen, and the 2018 WIND International Film Festival Queen. She won Media Star of the Year at the 2024 Golden Gate Martial Arts Hall of Honors Awards.



Photographer: Mark Oeffler

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Tommy Anderson

A MULTI-TALENTED ARTIST AND WRITER STEPPING HARD IN LOS ANGELES



Tommy Anderson is a dynamic and celebrated figure in the entertainment and literary worlds, renowned for his talents as a best-selling author, award-winning screenwriter, motivational speaker, and versatile actor. He is the charismatic co-host of "Samira's Networks Podcasts - Hollywood Elites Magazine" on the Samira's Network, broadcasting from the Los Angeles/Hollywood Area along with Calgary, Alberta, Canada with the show's co-host Shern Severs.

With a distinguished screenwriting career, Tommy has penned acclaimed works such as "Life After Oblivion," transitioning from page to screen as both a writer and producer of this impactful film about the struggles of PTSD.

Venturing into new creative territories, Tommy earned his first directing credit with the promising pilot series "The Tale of Richard Pic."

In addition to his behind-the-scenes expertise, Tommy frequently captivates audiences in front of the camera with roles in commercials, television, and film. His writing has also resulted in several award-winning film screenplays such as "The Broken Road", "Where the Sweetgrass Grows", etc.

A committed advocate for veteran representation in media, Tommy co-founded VetPics Film Productions, an all-veteran independent film company dedicated to giving structure and voice to veteran experiences, demonstrated through their production of "Life After Oblivion."

Deeply involved in the veteran and creative communities, Tommy is affiliated with organizations such as the Hollywood American Legion Post 43, Veterans in Media and Entertainment, and the U.S. Press Association.

A crowning achievement of his career came in 2018 when Tommy and his team received a prestigious Emmy Award for their PBS documentary, "Take Me Home Huey," an eloquent testament to his commitment to storytelling that informs and inspires. Tommy served as a technical advisor and photographer on this important PBS film that dealt with helping fellow Vietnam Era Veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome.

Tommy Anderson continues to enrich the cultural landscape with his diverse talents and unwavering dedication to meaningful artistic expression. More recently Tommy has served as a member of several filmmaking panels on international film festivals, serving as an award presenter at several international film awards, and most recently co-hosted a Hollywood star-studded gala for Samira's Networks Hollywood Elites Magazine. In March of 2025 Tommy along with Canadian Actress Sherry Severs started the Hollywood Elites Magazine Podcast.

SHERRY SEVERS

Actress, Producer & Award-Winning Media Host with Heart and Spark



Sherry Severs is a Canadian actress, producer, and award-winning media host known not just for her creative talent—but for her kindness, quirky spirit, and fierce work ethic. She's the founder of *SLS Productions*, where she brings passion, integrity, and originality to every project she takes on.

Whether she's stepping into complex, emotional roles in films like *Lia's Echo*, *Where the Sweetgrass Grows*, or *I'm Haunted 3*, or appearing in hit series like *Billy the Kid* or *the Alien-Ate* franchise, Sherry brings depth, truth, and a powerful presence to the screen. Her ability to shift between drama, mystery, and unique character work makes her unforgettable to audiences and directors alike.

As a producer, she's been the force behind acclaimed indie films and documentaries—including the cryptid adventure *Searching for Sasquatch* and a gripping documentary shot in the Arctic. Her behind-the-scenes magic includes casting, poster design, and raising investment—turning ambitious ideas into professional-level productions.

She also co-hosts the award-winning *Hollywood Elite Podcast* and recently hosted a live global broadcast with Maeya TV, as well as the *Oscar Gala Appreciation Night*, further showcasing her charisma and natural gift for connecting with others.

Sherry's known industry-wide not only for her talent but for her generosity, quick wit, and ability to light up any room she walks into. She is refreshingly real—balancing humor and vulnerability, strength and softness—and loves uplifting others while creating space for bold, meaningful storytelling.

If you're looking to collaborate with someone who is sharp, original, compassionate, and unforgettable—Sherry Severs is the one to watch.



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Suzanne Von Schaack

Wins the Best Screenplay Short Film Award at Silicon Beach Film Festival in Los Angeles

Micky Soler



My Extraordinary Joe is an Official Selection of the Culver City Film Festival. It will be held at the Culver Theater December 5-11.

Actress, model, educator, writer, producer and director Suzanne Von Schaack has won the Best Screenplay Short Film Award for her film *My Extraordinary Joe* at the Silicon Beach Film Festival in Los Angeles. The film stars herself and Frank Stallone. We were able to see Suzanne with members of her team, and also, well-accompanied by actor John Minch and other actors such as Lejon Stewart and Dawna Lee Heising.

Suzanne Von Schaack is a dynamic and influential figure in the fashion and entertainment industry known for her diverse career as a model, actress, educator, and filmmaker. Suzanne's journey into the world of modeling began when she attended a prestigious modeling convention in New York City, where she caught the eye of representatives from Wilhelmina Models, setting the stage for her illustrious career.

Later, she was discovered by the famous designer Givenchy when he came to NYC to select models for his couture fashion show in Paris. Suzanne was one of the chosen few. After walking the runway in Paris for Givenchy, she became an instant sensation on the runway and was in magazines working for Chanel, Christian Dior, Fendi, and most recently, the Impalpable Michael Cinco.

As her career evolved, she continued to juggle her modeling and acting career in Los Angeles, embracing a new role behind the scenes and transitioning into producing fashion shows for various charity fundraisers and LA Fashion Week. Suzanne is recognized as a Master Runway Coach for aspiring models and celebrities, preparing them to walk the runway in various fashion weeks around the world. Suzanne was featured in E! Entertainment's Reality Show *I'm Raising A Star* as a Celebrity Modeling Coach.

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Suzanne Von Schaack

Wins the Best Screenplay Short Film Award at Silicon Beach Film Festival in Los Angeles

Micky Soler



Suzanne is also the author of the Best Seller-Award Winning Book *Modeling Success*. You have the question. I have the answer. It is available on Amazon. Suzanne has appeared in prestigious publications, including Vogue, Bazaar, L'Official, and Cosmopolitan. She has graced the covers of New York Magazine, Camera 35, WWD (Women's Wear Daily), and Westlake Magazine. After achieving significant success on the East Coast, Suzanne made the bold decision to relocate to Los Angeles to pursue her passion for acting. She became the first student of renowned Acting Coach JoAnn Barron in New York, where she honed her craft at the Bill Esper Studio and prepared herself for the challenges of Hollywood.

Suzanne made her film debut in the critically acclaimed movie *Tootsie*, where she had the privilege of sharing the screen with cinematic legends Dustin Hoffman and Dabney Coleman. Her acting career continued to flourish as she collaborated with esteemed filmmakers, including Woody Allen in *Zelig*, and made appearances in timeless television series such as *Dynasty*, *Dallas*, *Ally McBeal*, *Scarecrow & Mrs. King*, *The New Mike Hammer*, *Sledge Hammer* and *The Young and the Restless*. Additionally, Suzanne contributed her talent to several independent film projects, working alongside notable actors like Fred Williamson, Peter Marshall, Stacy Keach, Gary Busey, Don Wilson, and James Franco.

In 2019, Suzanne took her creativity to the next level by penning, producing, and starring in her own short films for which she garnered many Film Festival Awards, including Best Actress and Best Screenwriter. Her film *The Chains That Bind* earned her a Silver Telly Award in 2021, recognizing her exceptional talent and creativity. Her second film of her trilogy, *The Wonder of Love* captivated audiences and was honored with the prestigious Gold Telly Award in 2023. Currently, Suzanne has completed production for the third installment of her film trilogy titled *My Extraordinary Joe*, in which she stars alongside Frank Stallone.

This film was her directorial debut, making her the ultimate filmmaker by penning, starring, producing, and directing to complete her trilogy. The film won the Best Screenplay Short Film Award at the Silicon Beach Film Festival in Los Angeles.



At the Culver City Film Festival Frank Stallone won Short Film Best Supporting Actor Award for *My Extraordinary Joe*

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LUCIE TASSEL

*A Creative Force in the New York
Entertainment Industry*

*Lucie Tassel is an artist with 15
years' experience, and a
completely atypical background*



Being French, she naturally made her debut in Paris, where she is originally from. Under the direction of Ned Grujic, she played the role of Helen Sinclair in *Bullets Over Broadway* and was part of the *On The Town* and *Godspell* ensembles at the Théâtre des Variétés in Paris. She also played the role of Poncia in Federico García Lorca's play *The House of Bernarda Alba* at the Théâtre de La Nouvelle Athènes, directed by Guillaume Bouchède. She was also a member of the chorus of the symphony orchestra accompanying Joe Hisaishi on his last tour of France, and the singers of the Chœur à l'horizon, a Paris-based professional chorus specializing in the musical theatre repertoire, created and directed by Nima Santonja. In 2024, she played the lead role of Della in *Sneaky Pete's Wild West Dinner Show* at the Legacy Dinner Theatre in Wisconsin, USA.



She is also the producer and artistic director of the A-Broad'way Cabaret and the Broadway Abroad Cabaret, in collaboration with Kendra McBride as musical director, which occurred in November 2024 and March 2025 at Green Room 42 in New York City, and in which she sang alongside other international artists. Still accompanied by Kendra Foster McBride, but also Mar Di Meglio, she created a 100% female, multicultural vocal trio which revisits pop and jazz standards through the sensual rhythms of Latin music.

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LUCIE TASSEL

*A Creative Force in the New York
Entertainment Industry*



Lucie is a graduate of ECM in Paris, a musical theatre school run by Ned Grujic and Véronique

Fruchart, where she trained for 3 years in singing (vocal technique, polyphony, musicianship), dance (classical, jazz, tap), theater (classical, contemporary, mime, clowning) and stage combat (swords, batons). She also trained in cartoon voice-over with Edwige Chandelier. To complete her professional training, she moved to New York to study at AMDA, the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, where she benefited from American expertise, honing her skills in singing, dancing and acting, and inevitably receiving a Certificate of Musical Theatre.

A sportswoman from an early age, she has a passion for salsa and other Latin dances, and enjoys a wide range of disciplines including tennis (her specialty), climbing, skiing, horse-riding and rollerblading. Lucie's career path is atypical: after obtaining her Master's degree in physical and nutritional rehabilitation, she worked as an elementary school teacher in Paris for 5 years before devoting herself fully to the performing arts. Trilingual French-Spanish-English, she is also a traveler who, after visiting several countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and America, fell in love with Venezuela, a country that really helped her grow emotionally and from which she has learned an enormous amount. All these trips, and the people she met along the way, opened her heart and mind, bringing to light what she dared not admit but secretly dreamed of: being an artist.



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EMILY NOLAN

A Rising Star in New York



Emily Nolan is a British performer and singer/songwriter from Liverpool, England. She moved to New York by herself at 18 to train in musical theatre, and graduated from the *American Music and Dramatic Academy* in February 2025. She since then has been performing in gigs around Manhattan and Brooklyn, performing her original songs, as well as featuring in various Film/ TV roles, play festivals, and working as a figure model at the *School of Visual Arts*. Emily focuses on grounded, authentic storytelling both in theatre and on set, and loves sharing her music for those who can find comfort and relatability in shared emotions/ experiences.

Emily has recently been featured in Riley Given's latest single "Let Him Go" which was released December 15th 2025 and is now available on all streaming platforms. She worked closely with Riley for multiple songs in his last album "Flying Solo" and the pair resolved to work together again this year for his latest album "Vicarious Lover" coming out December 31st

Mar Di Meglio



Stepping Hard in Broadway



Her inclusion in *54 Sings Broadway's Greatest Hits* has allowed her to perform alongside established stars such as John Easterlin, a four-time Grammy Award winner known for *The Phantom of the Opera*; Ryan Knowles, who made his Broadway debut in *The Lightning Thief*; and Jenny Lee Stern, a Bucks County native and Broadway veteran seen on *the Great White Way in Rocky* and *A Christmas Story*. Performing with such artists not only underscores Di Meglio's talent but also confirms her status as a featured performer within one of the city's most prestigious musical theater events.

Looking ahead, Mar Di Meglio will be performing on December 26 in *54 Sings Broadway's Greatest Hits*, a highly anticipated event that celebrates Broadway's greatest songs while spotlighting the next generation of performers. Her journey through Siegel's productions demonstrates her growing prominence in the musical theater world and her continued trajectory as a Broadway-bound artist, combining technical skill with compelling emotional storytelling.

Tickets for upcoming performances are available through *54 Below's* box office and official website, offering audiences the opportunity to experience both Broadway classics and the extraordinary voices shaping its future.

Throughout 2025, Mar Di Meglio has emerged as a rising talent within Scott Siegel's celebrated series of Broadway concert productions. She first appeared in *Broadway by the Season* in April, followed by *Broadway's Next Generation*, then *Broadway Musical Brunch*, and ultimately was integrated into *54 Sings Broadway's Greatest Hits*, the long-running cabaret series that continues to draw sold-out audiences to *54 Below*. *Broadway's Next Generation* has served as a launching pad for numerous performers who have gone on to notable careers on Broadway and beyond, including Stephanie Bacastow (*A Little Night Music* at Barrington Stage), Ally Bonino (*Suffs*), Pedro Coppetti (*Disney's Beauty and the Beast national tour*), Elisa Galindez (*Real Women Have Curves world premiere*), Jonathan Heller (*Cats national tour*), Tyler McCall (*Fiddler on the Roof national tour*), and Allison Semmes (*Motown: The Musical, Harmony*). Mar Di Meglio now joins this distinguished lineage, recognized for her vocal clarity, emotional storytelling, and stage presence.

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DANIKA ROBB'S

Be the Light



Danika Robb is an actor, singer, and dancer born and raised in Brandon, Manitoba, Canada, and now based in New York City. After moving to New York to pursue musical theatre professionally, she graduated from the Integrated Conservatory Program at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in February of 2025. Since graduation, Danika has performed in various cabarets and showcases in New York, and after writing, directing, and choreographing her own original musical prior to moving to New York, she continues to create and compose original musical theatre content, hoping to share what inspires her most through her art and storytelling.

Currently, Danika is writing the sequel to *A Reason To Hope*, her first musical, and it's titled *A Reason To Remember*. Danika aspires to establish empathy, authenticity, and hope throughout all of her work in musical theatre and across the performing arts, ensuring that her work is always rooted in honesty and love.

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KALMAN APPLE

by Micky Soler

Creating Masterpieces in Hollywood

I've created and directed over a hundred commercials and produced both commercials and award winning Short films. I'm a graduate of Art Center College of Design where I studied advertising and Film. My first short film "Speed for Thespians" was nominated for an Academy Award*.



Inventive creative, gut instinct and tenacity of vision, are what you need to make films with characters and stories that resonate. I'm grateful to have had success making films and building a loyal group of talented professional people who come out to support me in these collaborative ventures.

After that my producing partner and I sold a pitch and developed a feature length animation film with Walt Disney Animation studios. My second short that I directed *Bad Wolf* won 1% place in the Producers Guild, Debra Hill, Weekend film challenge and presented me with the opportunity for personal meetings with judges, Gale Anne Hurd, and Bruce Cohen. I continued my winning streak with short films and co-wrote and directed *A day in the Country* which was a Grand Prize Winner of the Canon/Ron Howard Presents Project Imagination; which featured celebrity filmmakers Jamie Fox, Eva Longoria, and was judged by Ron and his daughter Bryce Dallas Howard. Last year I directed another short *Lucy The Lion* which has been picking up awards in its current festival circuit. Leveraging my short film experience, I worked as a consultant in acquiring short films for UK based, International Broadcaster, Shorts TV.

I'm an active member of the Academy and have sat on the executive committee of my branch. I have been directing projects in 3d animation, I ghostwrite, script doctor and direct short films as well as write and develop feature and television projects.

Some of my current assignments and projects include a ghostwriting assignment for Producer David Glasser (Yellowstone).

Additionally, I've created a body of work that includes series pilots: *The Line Up* an urban crime drama written for Isaiah Washington and the late William Hurt, *Idols & Icons* a supernatural music industry drama, written for Whoopi Goldberg and Joseph Sikora.

I've also written and developed an Action comedy *Somchai's Raid & Rescue* about a Thai boxer who comes to America to rescue his kidnapped sister from a sex trafficking cartel, an ensemble comedy *Tribute* about a failed Rockstar and his struggle to keep his 80's tribute band together and recently the feature *Powerless* about the 2003 blackout in New York City.

My most recent success, was writing the feature film *Seasons* a reincarnation love story with an international cast attached and financing in place to film in 2026.

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KALMAN APPLE

by Micky Soler

Creating Masterpieces in Hollywood



Original Magazine has had the honor of interviewing Oscar-nominated director Kalman Apple, who directed the multi-award-winning short film *Lucy the Lion*. Kalman Apple is a creator of masterpieces, whether films, television series, commercials, or short films. His ability to tell stories, while perplexing the viewer, leaves no one indifferent. His short film, *Speed for Thespians*, which was nominated for an Oscar, is a burst of creativity, originality and freshness. A genius in the film scene, without a doubt.

What does it mean to you to have directed *Lucy the Lion*, a film that has received numerous awards and recognition?

I think explaining the ideas behind LTL at festivals during Q&A's has been eye-opening. The film sends out to dramatize the difficulty women in the workforce and especially single moms face in a time after Covid pandemic and rising inequality. LTL hopefully highlights through compassion and a little humor the determination and resilience needed to be a single mom in this day and age.

What makes *Lucy de Lion* different from other stories?

It captures a very common problem in a concise real-life scenario and in the short time captures your attention with great honest character portrayals.

Is there any funny anecdote you remember from the recording of *Lucy the Lion*?

We were filming inside a very small motel room and I and the script supervisor had nowhere to go but to stand in the bathtub during takes.

KALMAN APPIE

by Micky Soler

Creating Masterpieces in Hollywood



Can you describe your creative process and how it has evolved?

I look at a project as an audience member first and audiences are very savvy and I want to thrust them into the story that the characters are facing as organically as possible.

What inspires you creatively when you make a film?

I guess credibility plays a big part of storytelling and even if it's fantasy I want it to be grounded in believability within the world that's being depicted.

What have been your best projects throughout your career?

I started in advertising directing commercials and I learned very quickly how to convince people of my vision because I found if you didn't have that working for you they would steamroll right over you and you were just there to yell action and cut.. So, I found a niche where I built trust and eventually had little intervention from the agency execs and the client; I was just allowed to do my thing. Those in my opinion were my best work. When I shifted to making my first short film I had to generate that same trust in myself because I was bankrolling the production and the weight of that can sometimes be overwhelming. But I have to say my first short film *Speed for Thespians* went on to do amazingly well in the festival circuit and was nominated for an Oscar.

Can you tell us what you are working on now (if you can say so) and what future projects you have ahead?

I've been busy writing, features and episodic TV. I wrote an adventure film about three absolute strangers faced with the dire need to get out of Manhattan during the 2003 NY City blackout. I'm attached to direct an alien invasion feature that takes place in a small North Western town; and I wrote a feature about a Reincarnation Love Story called *Seasons* which has been getting some heat in the trades. We've secured financing, have offers out to top tier talent and have already attached some notable international cast. Looking to begin pre production in spring 26.

BEVERLY HILLS

NATALIN AVCI

A Creative Force Across Borders

Exclusive Interview



Original Magazine has interviewed Natalin Avci, actress, screenwriter and executive producer of the multi-award-winning short film *Lucy the Lion*. A woman who imbues her projects with professional talent and creativity.

What does it mean for you *Lucy the Lion*, a film that has received numerous awards and recognition?



It was terrifying writing something so politically charged. I knew I couldn't just dance around the subject and needed to face it head on. It is such an honor and extremely rewarding in ways I can't begin to explain that people resonate with this story. The story of a struggling single mom has been told many times but this one shows why they are struggling. I felt compelled to make this film and am so blessed that audiences were able to go on this ride with us.

What makes *Lucy de Lion* different from other stories?

Lucy the Lion tells a story about struggle without asking for sympathy. It was an authentic portrayal of what it is to be a single mother in America today - no sugar coating. This film is about Lucy's journey of trying balancing work and motherhood but it's told through the eyes of her six-year-old daughter. It's a fresh perspective on classic drama that is becoming more and more relevant.

Is there any funny anecdote you remember from the recording of *Lucy the Lion*?

The best anecdote during filming was when my character, Lucy, becomes vulnerable and asks her daughter, Sophie, if she's a good mother. Sophie doesn't give her the validation she seeks but simply shrugs her shoulders, "I dunno." It is a sweet and real moment highlighting how brutally honest children can be.

BEVERLY HILLS

NATALIN AVCI

A Creative Force Across Borders

Exclusive Interview

Can you describe your creative process and how it has evolved?

My creative process starts with an idea or question that I can't get out of my head. Sometimes, it keeps me up at night and I know I have to answer the call. I usually run it by people I know and complete strangers, and I can tell by the response if I'm onto something. Then I usually right toward the ending. That's when I know I have a real story to tell. The actual writing process is the fun part. I get in my zone and surrender it to a higher knowing. I'm just the vessel.



What inspires you creatively?

I am inspired by life itself. Smiles, eyes, nature, the way people clench their jaws when they're uncomfortable. I love observing humans; we're so damn interesting when no one is watching. I like keeping things intimate and real. I am also inspired by art, fashion, sounds, colors, and other creatives who are brave enough to tell their stories.

What have been your best projects throughout your career?

My best project is always the one I'm working on now. Currently, it is a horror film based on Romanian folklore that has a badass female lead. I have many other projects I'm developing from a thirty min dark comedy to a one-hour workplace drama, both centered around strong female characters.

Nick W. Nicholson

Making Waves in the Film Industry

Nick W. Nicholson is an award-winning actor and producer who has worked on everything from \$200 million dollar pictures to the ultra lowest of low budget productions as well. He began acting at the age of five and hasn't looked back since.

He has worked with the likes of Clint Eastwood, Johnny Depp and countless others in multiple capacities. One would say that his acumen for acting came naturally because of his family lineage, but that wouldn't tell the entire story. Hard work and perseverance have paid off for the well-known character actor.



In addition to numerous acting awards won for his performances over the years, he was a film critic with CNN for 16 years, he has been nominated for an Emmy, and he is a member of multiple guilds, which set the standard for the professional movie-making industry. He is one of actors of the short film *Lucy the Lion*. He plays the role of Adam Bennett and OriGinaL MagaZine UK loved interviewing him.



Nick W. Nicholson

Making Waves in the Film Industry



How it has been your experience in the film *Lucy the Lion*?

Making *Lucy the Lion* was a remarkable experience for me for a number of reasons. I had never met Natalin Avci (writer and lead actress) nor Kalman Apple (director) before and was not aware of their collective body of work. A very good friend of mine, Edgar Aragon, was a Producer on *LION* and he reached out to me to gauge my interest in playing the role of the bank manager. I did some research and discovered that Kalman Apple had been nominated for an Oscar with his work on *SPEED FOR THESPIANS*. After taking that in - as well as doing some additional research on our writer, I knew I had interest and wanted to read the script. Once I finished the read, I became quite emotional as the story brought back memories from my childhood. This story is so powerful and it portrays a very raw and vivid example of what life is often like for single parents. Immediately after reading, I called Edgar and told him that I was in. Didn't care what the pay was - and explained why I had to play this role. The rest was magic. Natalin's story, coupled with Kalman's visual story telling and the brilliant cinematography by Valentina Caniglia - this project was just incredible from top to bottom. This project is truly one of the top aesthetic experiences I have had in the industry.

What do you think make this story different?

Lucy the Lion is not a cookie-cutter story, nor is it a formulaic project. The subject matter alone could turn off some moviegoers simply because people will oftentimes assume this is story that will cram religion or a belief system down your throat. Quite the contrary - this film lays out the highs and lows as well as the absolute heat of emotions living a life where you are caring for a child and you just don't know where your next rent check will come from. Or what food you can obtain to feed both your child and yourself. Bottom line is *Lucy the Lion* is real and it isn't sugar coating any aspect of life as a struggling single parent.

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Written by Christos Arfanis

BEVERLY HILLS

CHRISTOS ARFANIS

The Brando Effect Revolutionizing Cinema through Method Acting



His influence was cemented with his Academy Award-winning performance as Terry Malloy in *On the Waterfront* (1954). The famous "I coulda been a contender" taxi scene perfectly illustrates the Method. It is delivered with quiet, wounded intensity, utilizing subtle facial expressions and hesitant delivery that convey deep, internalized self-loathing. This style forced the camera—and the audience—to move closer, favoring intimacy and nuance over broad spectacle. Brando's naturalism made the theatrical style of his predecessors look instantly dated and artificial.

Beyond his early collaborations with director Elia Kazan, Brando continued to challenge conventions, whether performing Shakespeare with unexpected charisma in *Julius Caesar* (1953) or delivering one of his most revered, transformative performances as Vito Corleone in *The Godfather* (1972). Even his more mysterious, philosophical roles, such as Colonel Kurtz in *Apocalypse Now* (1979), retained his hallmark of magnetic presence and spontaneity.

Marlon Brando's legacy lies not just in his iconic roles, but in the generations of actors—including James Dean, Robert De Niro, Al Pacino, and Daniel Day-Lewis—who followed his path. He shifted the art of acting from showing the audience what a character is like, to simply being the character in front of the lens. He remains the standard bearer for authenticity and emotional depth in film.

Marlon Brando is widely regarded as the most influential screen actor in the history of American cinema, a figure whose arrival fundamentally changed the standards of performance in Hollywood. Before his breakthrough in the early 1950s, film acting often derived from the exaggerated gestures and eloquent projection required for the stage. Brando, however, brought the raw, internalized psychological approach of Method Acting—a technique that prioritizes emotional truth and authentic spontaneity over polished technique.

Brando studied the Stanislavski system primarily under Stella Adler, learning to inhabit a character from the inside out by deeply understanding their motivations and circumstances. This approach was immediately visible in his breakout role as Stanley Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1951). His performance was shocking for the time: he was primal, often sweaty, and unpredictably violent.

His famous cry of "Stella!" was not a grand stage delivery, but a raw, inarticulate expression of anguish, establishing the archetype of the vulnerable, complex anti-hero. This performance, along with Vivien Leigh's brilliant classical turn as Blanche DuBois, created an electric tension that redefined modern screen drama.

KADROLSHA ONA CAROLE

Inside Hollywood's Holiday Magic

How Celebrities Celebrate the Season



When the lights of Los Angeles begin to shimmer a little brighter and the Hollywood Hills glow under twinkling strands of festive décor, something enchanting happens: the world's biggest stars slip out of their on-screen personas and into a season of celebration as warm, quirky, extravagant, and surprising as Hollywood itself. While Tinseltown may be known for red carpets and relentless schedules, the holidays offer a rare peek behind the curtain—revealing traditions that blend glamour with heartfelt meaning. Here's a look at how celebrities in Hollywood truly embrace the spirit of the season.

Luxury With a Heart: Star-Studded Charity Events

For many celebrities, the holidays start with giving back. High-profile charity galas light up December like glittering constellations—holiday telethons, donation drives, and star-hosted fundraisers for children's hospitals and animal rescues.

It's common to find beloved actors quietly slipping into shelters to serve meals or surprising families with gifts through private philanthropic programs.

In Hollywood, generosity is just as dazzling as any diamond.

The Art of Thoughtful Gifting

Celebrity gifting has evolved far beyond diamonds and luxury bags. Today's Hollywood holiday gifts are deeply personal:

- Custom perfumes
- Handwritten lyrics
- Private concerts
- Framed scripts annotated with memories
- Or meaningful charity donations made in someone's honor

For stars who seem to "have everything," the holidays become a time to celebrate sentiment, not status.

Decking the Mansions: Over-The-Top Celebrity Décor

If there's one thing stars go big on, it's holiday décor. Some turn their estates into winter wonderlands complete with 20-foot Christmas trees, imported snow, synchronized light shows, and hand-crafted ornaments from the world's top designers. Others hire elite "holiday stylists" who transform homes with themes like Vintage Hollywood Glam, Nordic Winter, or Classic Candyland.

It's not unusual to see celebrity homes featured in holiday showcases where the décor rivals film sets in scale and imagination.

Extravagance Meets Authenticity

Whether they're lighting up the city with charity, hiding away in snowy retreats, or embracing quiet moments with loved ones, the holidays in Hollywood reveal something rarely seen in the spotlight: authenticity.

Beyond the glitz, stars celebrate the same things everyone cherishes—connection, nostalgia, generosity, and joy. They just happen to do it with a little extra sparkle.



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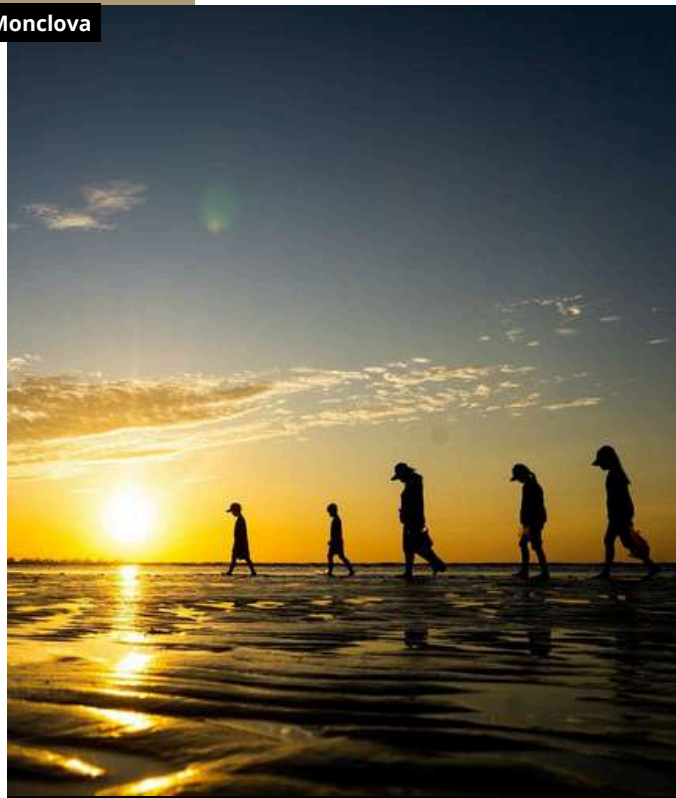


FILM REVIEW "THE LONG WALK"

Written by: María Luisa Ruiz Monclova

It is an American film released in 2025. It has a running time of 108 minutes and was directed by Francis Lawrence, a Viennese director whose works include the Hunger Games trilogy and numerous music videos for artists such as Lady Gaga, Justin Timberlake, JLo, and others. The film is based on a novel by Stephen King published in 1979.

We find ourselves in a dystopian world where a group of 100 young people venture into a deadly competition; they must walk at a constant speed. If they slow down to 5 km/h, they will receive a warning, and on the third warning, they will be executed and therefore eliminated. The last one standing will win. We will explore how these young people relate to each other and we will be able to appreciate how they transition from children to adults, to maturity.



The conversations they have with each other and the bonds they form create a connection with the viewer, who begins to empathize with the fate of the different characters. We will see how people react when they reach their limits or how far they are willing to go, from desperately fleeing an inevitable fate to walking on broken ankles. The anguish and exhaustion that are wearing down the almost cheerful spirit they had when they set out on their journey. Careful acting that reveals new promising talents in cinema. Also noteworthy are the careful imagery and sets that immerse us fully in what is defined as a dystopian future. I recommend this film to lovers of horror movies and psychological thrillers, as it maintains tension very well and knows how to generate anxiety. Stephen King fans will also enjoy this work, as it bears his stamp, although perhaps not as obviously as other adaptations.



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RUSTY GILLIGAN



Rusty Gilligan has been a fixture in the entertainment field since 1973... starting as a child actor in a Broadway play, and moving into commercials and film such as Disney's "Pete's Dragon", "Little House on the Prairie", and many other tv shows and film. He soon went behind the scenes with film art for the 1981 "Heavy Metal" film, providing production art.

Rusty's art credits include: the original "Heavy Metal" 1981 film, "The Avengers"; "The Walking Dead"; "Captain America: The First Avenger"; "Spider-Man" 2 & 3 and art for many comic book and trading card projects. He's provided work for Marvel, DC, Image, Big Bang, Dynamite Comics, and many licensing projects to include: Star Wars, Star Trek, DC Ent., Dr. Who, Night of the Living Dead, Vampirella, Major League Baseball, Cartoon Network, and many others.

Aside from creating the first sketch cards in the commercial market, he's designed and provided trading card art for Topps, Clubhouse Diamonds, Cryptozoic, Dynamite, Upper Deck, and Leaf, just to name a few.



Rusty has been providing voice over work for films and video games such as "Eternal Wars", "Captain Corpse", "Left 4 Dead", "Mr. CarrotMan", the "Elementals" comic film, and motion comics for Marvel and DC. Recently, he's provided production art for films including the award-winning "Bigfoot!", "Dr Who", "Night of the Living Dead", "Fatal Encounter", "Bloody Summer Camp", "Odyssey", among others. His studio publishes comic books based on his "Mac and Trouble" property - as well as publishing trading card sets based on the Wizard of Oz, Pulp Magazines, and the recent Earth Trembles dinosaur set.



Rusty is an award-winning artist and actor, former professional wrestling champion, and is listed on IMDB at



A "Mac and Trouble" film is in production now from Boobidos Studios in England...

BEVERLY HILLS

LISA KOVACS

Sense and Sensibility through Music



With producer Arnie Brown



I'm so excited to announce my record release party for my complete album BLUEBIRD. It will be coming up in February or March of 2026 and will most likely be in Asbury Park, New Jersey at The Wonder Bar. Which has an amazing stage and sound system. I will announce it on my public website for Facebook Lisakovacsmusic-

I also have another scheduled performance coming up in the spring of 2026. I will be the featured artist at a place called THE LOFT. In Ocean County New Jersey. I'm very excited for these shows and I'm designing my own concert T-shirts as we speak. One of them will be a special drawing for my latest release of FALLEN AWAY. I'd like to say a special thank you to everyone who has been so supportive of my music over the years.

And I can't wait to perform with my band for all of you

Love and peace
Lisa Kovacs

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WILL PRESTON

Nominated again by Soultracks for Best Male Vocalist of the Year



Atlanta singer-songwriter Will Preston has been nominated again this year by Soultracks Readers' Choice Awards for Best Male Vocalist of the Year. Preston is very excited and grateful: "I've been nominated once again for the SoulTracks Readers' Choice Awards, which is one of the most respected honors for independent artists in the R&B and Soul genres. This marks my third nomination, and I'm truly grateful for the continued recognition from both SoulTracks and the indie Soul community.

This year, I'm nominated for Male Vocalist of the Year, a recognition that stems from my single *Merry Go Round*, which was released toward the end of last year. The song has resonated with listeners for its emotional honesty and the raw vulnerability behind its story of love, loss, and the cycles we can't always break free from. Eligibility for nomination required that artists release a song between October 1, 2024, and September 30, 2025, so *Merry Go Round* fell perfectly within that window".

SoulTracks is widely regarded as the premier outlet for independent Soul and R&B news, celebrating artistry that thrives outside the major label system.

The Readers' Choice Awards are completely fan-driven, with ballots sent exclusively to SoulTracks subscribers. Voting opens Friday, November 14, and fans can sign up for free at www.soultracks.com to receive their ballot.

BEVERLY HILLS

ALESSANDRO GARBAGNA

TALENTED, CREATIVE AND PASSIONATE



Recent credits include leading roles in *The Wrestler*, nominated twice at the New York Theater Festival, *It Was Hers* at the Staten Island Playhouse, and the short film *To the Universe*, directed by L.E. Woods and coached by Bebe Wood. In the U.S., Alessandro is represented by Merci Talent Agency, which described him as: "A light in the room, Alessandro truly sees you. With a bright, sensitive nature and a sense of humor that instantly feels familiar, he loves chasing — and landing — the roles meant for him."

Alessandro Garbagna is an Italian actor with a career spanning theater in Europe and stage and screen work in New York. Originally from Italy, he discovered his passion for performance early, earning Second Place in a national monologue competition in Assisi as a child. In the early stages of his career, he starred with the theater company *Ser Tea Zeit* at the historic Fraschini Theater in productions such as *Cyrano de Bergerac*—for which he was named Best Lead Actor—and Ionesco's *The Rhinoceros*, winner of the Fraschini Festival.

He signed with Giancarlo Caremoli Talent Agency and worked as a model and commercial actor for Italian and international brands (*MSC Cruises, Ruster Fitness, Bremi Abbigliamento*). Based in Milan, Alessandro served as President of *BLPSA*, a professional musical theater company operating under the prestigious *Bocconi Institution*, producing and starring in sold-out productions including *Grease* and *Mamma Mia!*.

In 2022, director Maurizio Colombi cast him as the male lead in *Gli Sposi Promessi Show*, staged at Teatro Villoresi and Teatro Carcano in Milan, which he also toured nationally. After receiving a merit scholarship to AMDA in New York City, Alessandro moved to the U.S., starring as the male lead in *Loveville High* and performing at *Green Room 42* in Broadway Abroad Cabaret.

BEVERLY HILLS

PATRICIA SOLEDAD

A Multi-Talented Artist in New York



Patricia Soledad is a Filipina musical theater singer, actress, and dancer based in New York City. She was born in Cebu City and raised in Davao City, Philippines by her mother and grandparents. From a young age she always knew the stage was for her. Patricia began vocal training at 14 and dance training at 15, performing in the styles of hiphop, jazz, tap, and ballet. Though her heart will always be in musical theater, she took a break from the arts and explored other options. In 2019, she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology with a minor in Sociology and taught Social Studies and English for 3 years. When the pandemic hit, her heart began to ache for the stage. She took online musical theater and acting workshops with The Philippine Educational Theater Association and Repertory Philippines. It was through these classes that she decided to bet on herself and took a leap of faith: she left her teaching job to pursue theater in New York City. Patricia began her training in The American Musical and Dramatic Academy under their Musical Theater Conservatory program. Through this 2 year intensive, she honed her acting, singing, and dancing skills, determined to emerge as a stronger and smarter performer.

After completing her program at AMDA, Patricia made her Green Room 42 debut fresh out of graduation performing at the *The Thesis Statement*. She also performed with *Chasing Dreams Cabaret* in their show entitled *Goddess Night*. She was accepted into the Karla Puno Garcia Performance Intensive, training under Karla Puno Garcia, a Filipina Emmy-award winning choreographer whose Broadway and Off-Broadway credits include *Hamilton* (original Broadway cast), *Days of Wine and Roses*, and *Romy and Michele*. Patricia is an original cast member of the play *ROWAN*, an off-Broadway original play that debuted to sold out audiences at THE FRIGID NYC.

On top of being a performer she also works as an artist teacher, teaching ballet and musical theater in after school programs in New York City public schools. Patricia is living proof that it is never too late to chase your dreams and that starting over is always the best thing you can do for yourself.

"Always bet on yourself", she says "it can be scary but it is always worth it."



BEVERLY HILLS

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