

BEVERLY HILLS STUDIOS

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LOS ANGELES (USA), SPAIN

EDITOR: Micaela Soler Astorga

**Emerging
New York
Artists**

**iPOP! Los
Angeles 2026**

**Exclusive Interview with Award-winning
Actor, Producer Entertainer and Teacher**

**LEJON
STEWART**



- Exclusive Interview: Lejon Stewart.....03
- Exclusive Interview: Lejon Stewart.....04
- Exclusive Interview: Lejon Stewart.....05
- Shakespeare on the Rocks.....06
- Shakespeare on the Rocks.....07
- Shakespeare on the Rocks08
- iPOP! Los Angeles 2026.....09
- iPOP! Los Angeles 2026.....10
- iPOP! Los Angeles 2026.....11
- Tom Anderson.....12
- Sherry Severs.....13
- Interview: Will Preston.....14
- Interview: Will Preston.....15
- Film Review F1: M.L. Ruiz Monclova.....16
- Film Review F1: M.L. Ruiz Monclova.....17
- Christos Arfanis.....18
- Film Review 'A Rift aPart' by M. L. Ruiz Monclova.....19
- Paul Smit.....20
- Katherine Ramirez.....21
- Emily Nolan.....22
- Alessandro Garbagna.....23
- Artists from New York.....24
- Maggie Lega.....25
- Gary Greenberg.....26
- Sonny King.....27
- Lisa Kovacs.....28
- Lisa Kovacs.....29
- The Lunchbox Killer.....30
- Yeena Fisher.....31
- Back cover: Kadrolsha Ona Carole.....32

Index

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LEJON STEWART

The Lion of the Stage



Exclusive Interview

Actor, Producer and Director Robert Amico and Award-winning Actor Lejon Stewart

2025 was a year full of projects, successes, and your Best Actor award. You're starting 2026 with a play, Shakespeare on the Rocks. Tell me about this experience and your upcoming projects for this year.

Performing LIVE on stage at The Hollywood American Legion Post # 43 in the heart of Hollywood on Highland Ave was more than a dream come true for me as an actor. Two U.S. Army Veterans Tom (Tommy) Anderson, Producer and George Cantero, Director created a unique production titled "Shakespeare On The Rocks," featuring a small selection of Shakespeare's greatest works.

These two geniuses collaborated to create a unique format for sharing William Shakespeare's works through sonnets, monologues, vignettes and readings performed by seasoned actors, first-time artists and those in between. Our performance date was January 23, 2026 which was also my 1 year anniversary of being cancer-FREE. I truly believe that this was a divine intervention that allowed me to celebrate my renewed life in the greatest way.

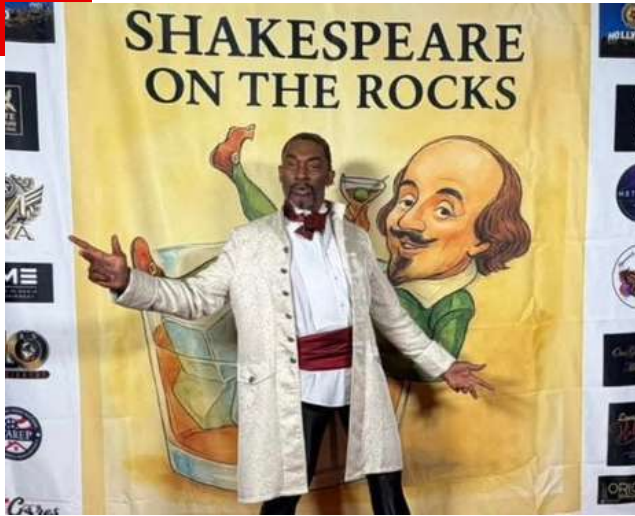


Lejon Stewart and his mother Frankie Stewart

LEJON STEWART

The Lion of the Stage

Exclusive Interview



Veteran actors Pamela Clay, Harry Kiernan, Brynda Mattox and Andrew Libby were part of this diverse group as well as comedian S. Rachel Lovey. Newcomer actors Peach Fox, Westly Smoke, Sherry Severs and Michael Meyer also delivered amazing performances that night. Sean Francis provided the piano accompaniment for the entire production and also acted in a vignette with Ms. Clay. Dawna Lee Heising opened the show with a heartfelt Lady Macbeth monologue. During Act 1 Erin Marie Tulley, John Mendoza, Pamela Clay and myself marched from the rear of the theatre, captured Ms. Maddox (seated in the audience) and dragged her 'soon to be persecuted character' on stage to deliver the heartwrenching "Sonnet 29 - When, in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes".

A major highlight of this Shakespearan experience was working with all of these talented actors. Another unique plus was working with Tom Anderson and George Cantero.



Lejon Stewart with Dawna Lee Heising, Suzanne Schaack and Maeya TV.

The two of them had the pressure of putting together this rare event in order to raise funds for U.S. military veterans. These gentlemen also were part of the cast. I was an extra and Stand-In for Lenny Kravitz in "Zoolander" and I was amazed with Ben Stiller, acting and directing this great classic. I was very impressed by witnessing Tom Anderson & George Cantero "pulling a Ben Stiller". I was very honored to work with Pamela Clay who brought her very talented and adorable sister, Nancy Magathan unto the project. The two of them delivered very compelling performances. The director George Cantero gave me the greatest honor of being the first performer after the intermission. Emcee Suzanna Brown (another actor) announced "We will go dark for Act 2." I hit the stage as Iago from Othello (Act 1, Sc 3) "Thus do I ever make my fool my purse ..." And it was one of the greatest moments of my acting career for many reasons. To perform Iago, a sinister and calculating character who is the vehement opposite of who I really am. Iago is DARK, and I am LOVE AND LIGHT. This full-circle moment further empowered me when I reflected upon my previous profession: teaching Shakespeare at Colton High School in Colton, California and I realized that God, The Universe, Director Cantero and myself all aligned at that moment allowing me to render my performance of Iago from the great William Shakespeare exactly one year (to the date) from being declared cancer-FREE.

LEJON STEWART

The Lion of the Stage

Exclusive Interview



Interview at Maeya TV, holding OriGinaL MagaZine UK.

What's your secret? You're always so radiant and your energy is infectious!

How do I stay so happy and radiant all the time? I believe maintaining happiness throughout most of one's life requires many things. I must start by saying the first component of my happiness is definitely from God. God created me to be a happy soul. I will break that down in a story that my mother Frankie Stewart told me. The first two sons were twins (Lonnie and LeBaron) and Mom says she had the most difficult time transitioning them from baby food to solid food. The third son, Leon hated baby food, so Mom had to liquefy solid food to avoid it ending up in her face. She recounts that I was very happy eating any and all types of food. I was just happy being fed. Unfortunately, all three of my brothers are in Heaven now but I am blessed to have great childhood memories of my entire family, despite being raised in Compton in the 50s, 60s & 70s. During that time period it wasn't a perfect lifestyle for a lot of African Americans (referred to as Negroes during those times to finally reach being called Blacks in the 70s and beyond). When the Watts Riots of the 1960s occurred, we lived less than 17 miles from the chaos and destruction. My Dad, Leon Stewart was a great father, protector of the family and breadwinner as a Deputy Sheriff for Los Angeles County. So obviously we did not grow up with the belief that law enforcement (police, sheriffs etc.) were the enemy.

We knew our Dad was a loving man, both a father and an officer. He actually was known for having the most arrests with the least violence. I recall during Black History Month being proud to take a local Compton newspaper featuring my Dad and his Caucasian partner on the front page because they caught a Sniper that had randomly shot several people in the community. My father talked him down from hiding in the attic at his mother's house. This component of my happiness truly belongs to God, who created me and placed me in a loving family environment that always provided for and protected me. As a young man and mature adult I have purposely allowed my natural instincts and my foundation of family love to guide me toward happiness. One might ask if my life has always been perfect and of course the answer is no. But I have learned to see my glass as always half full rather than half empty. I believe that ones human existence should be primarily happy. And even when things don't go my way—as they often don't—I work to figure out what I need to do to create this happiness that makes living worthwhile. I've had to be extremely introspective and critical to understand that I am the common denominator of my life's experiences and results. I must realize that I cannot control certain circumstances and accept that fact. Ultimately, my responsibility is to shape the circumstances I do control. When I feel unhappy, I focus on what I need to do to achieve the greatest happiness possible for me. A major example of me doing this is changing professions from teaching public education to pursuing success in the entertainment field. I am not at the status of Denzel Washington nor Will Smith (yet) but I'm very happy pursuing that goal. I keep the faith that it is God's Will as long as I dedicate my heart and soul to achieving personal success in the business that is most important in any aspect of our lives. For me, the journey is the success of becoming who I know God created me to be. I am happy because I love my life. I love my life because I am happy.

SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS

A Modern Spin on Shakespeare That Still Honors the Classics

A Modern Shakespeare Movement Rooted in Tradition

By: Amanda Hamilton

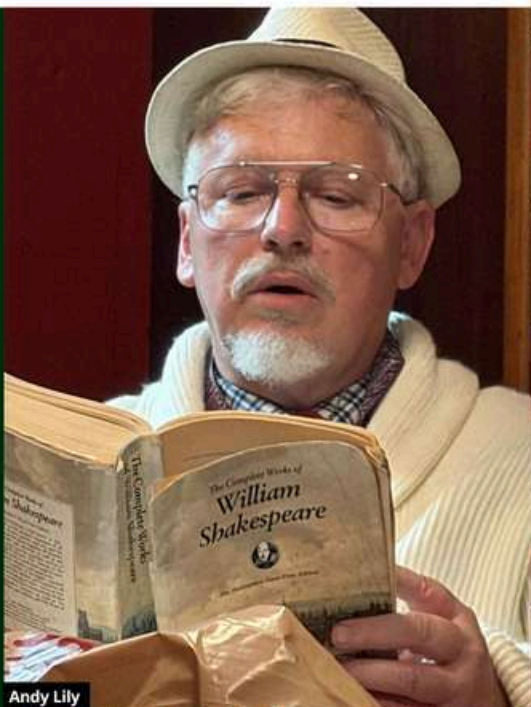
Shakespeare on the Rocks is a project unlike any other — a bold, modern reinterpretation of Shakespeare's timeless stories that still honors the emotional depth, poetic language, and spirit of the classics.

While the documentary that is being filmed is also called *Shakespeare on the Rocks*. It highlights the in-depth process that George and Tommy follow to create this modern tribute to Shakespeare. They both work to keep the way the scenes were originally written and put them into a modern contemporary setting that will truly demonstrate how timeless Shakespeare truly is. It follows actors, writers, producers, cast directors and teaches them how to perform Shakespeare and the pitfalls and challenges of pulling everyone together into a successful show. Be it distances with one actress Sherry Severs rehearsing online from Calgary, Alberta Canada or actors who have never even studied Shakespeare.

What originally began as a creative idea from Executive Producer and Director George Cantero and shared with Tommy Anderson it has evolved into an innovative cultural movement making its way to Hollywood, driven by passion, community, and unwavering respect for the original works.

At the heart of this evolution is producer and filmmaker George Cantero, whose vision brings Shakespeare into fresh settings while preserving the authenticity that makes the plays enduring.

George was drawn to the project because it seamlessly blends the old with the new: modern staging, unconventional locations, diverse performers — all grounded by a deep reverence for Shakespeare's original themes of love, power, betrayal, resilience, and redemption.



Andy Lily



The past January 23, 2026, Hollywood live stage performance marks a major cultural moment — not just for the Actors, but for the larger artistic community embracing Shakespeare's works in new, accessible ways.

SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS

A Modern Spin on Shakespeare That Still Honors the Classics

By: Amanda Hamilton

It is George and Tommy's belief that this will expose a new wave of younger talent to the works of Shakespeare. It also shows how every iconic movie that has been made is based in some respects on a Shakespeare play. The project's strongest collaborator is producer and creative director Tommy Anderson, whose background as an actor, filmmaker, award winning screenwriter, author, military veteran, and producer gives him a unique perspective on storytelling. Tommy immediately recognized the project's significance: with its modern twist that invites new audiences into Shakespeare while honoring everything that makes the classics timeless.

George Cantero: Blending Innovation with Authenticity

George's approach to the documentary is grounded in one core idea: innovation should enhance tradition, not overshadow it. He captures performers delivering Shakespeare with a modern spirit — but still with the cadence, intensity, and emotional truth of the original works.

His live performance and documentary honor the classic text, the visual storytelling updated for contemporary audiences, and the heart of Shakespeare portrayed in a way that feels alive, raw, and relevant.

A Modern Shakespeare Movement Rooted in Tradition



Tommy Anderson: Champion of Modern Storytelling with Classic Integrity

Tommy's involvement has amplified the project's reach and grounded it in artistic credibility. He understands the importance of introducing Shakespeare to a new generation — without diluting the genius of the original material.

Under George and Tommy's leadership roles, this live performance and subsequent documentary both holds a modern yet deeply respectful look at Shakespeare's works that maintain his bold timeless vision yet stay firmly rooted in artistic tradition.

Hollywood 2026: Celebrating a Classic Reinvented

The January 23rd, 2026, live performance is set to be a celebration of art that evolves without losing its soul.

Shakespeare on the Rocks introduces new audiences to Shakespeare through modern visuals, diverse casting, unconventional locations, and accessible formats — all while honoring the original text and emotional depth that makes Shakespeare timeless.

This event will unite theatre lovers, filmmakers, actors, and supporters who believe in keeping classic art alive — not by preserving it in the past, but by allowing it to grow.

A Modern Tribute to Timeless Art Shakespeare on the Rocks proves that Shakespeare does not need to be confined to traditional stages. His stories can thrive anywhere — in the desert, in community spaces, on film, and soon, in Hollywood — if they are told with passion and integrity. This live performance and documentary are more than a modern adaptation. It is a tribute, a celebration, and a bridge connecting centuries of storytelling with the creativity of today.

BEVERLY HILLS

SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS

A Modern Spin on Shakespeare That Still Honors the Classics

A Modern Shakespeare Movement Rooted in Tradition

By: Amanda Hamilton

Lejon Stewart and Sherry Severs

About George Cantero

George Cantero is a U.S. Army veteran who served in Vietnam and a visionary actor/filmmaker known for emotionally grounded storytelling and capturing authentic human experiences.

About Tommy Anderson

Tommy Anderson is an actor, filmmaker, screenwriter, author, and a U.S. Army veteran who also served during the Vietnam War the same time as George Cantero but was stationed in the United States. Tommy is a creative leader committed to elevating impactful art and meaningful stories.



Amanda
NETWORKS
RELATIONSHIP
MANAGER

Cast Spotlight

<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>PEACHY FOX</p>	<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>BRID MARIE TURLEY</p>	<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>GEORGE CANTERO</p>	<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>FELIX MENDOCZA</p>	<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>LEJON STEWART</p>	<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>HARRY SHERMAN</p>
<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>PAMELA LEE</p>	<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>SUZANNA BROWN</p>	<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>SHERRY SEVERS</p>	<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>TOMMY ANDERSON</p>	<p>SHAKESPEARE ON THE ROCKS</p>  <p>CAST SPOTLIGHT</p> <p>DANNA LEE JENSEN</p>	

A Global Entertainment Summit Where Careers Begin



Design by Kiki Wang

The iPOP! Awards Night & Gala, which includes the highly anticipated Awards Night Fashion Show, was held on January 8, 2026. The event took place at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles.

The brilliant model, actress, and film producer Suzanne Von Schaack organized, choreographed, and produced the Awards Night Fashion Show. It was an event defined by elegance and style, featuring incredible designers Kiki Wang and Alex Angelino.

Each year, young performers from across the United States and around the world converge in Los Angeles for one extraordinary week that blends education, production, networking, and opportunity. Known internationally as iPOP — the International Presentation of Performers — this five-day experience is far more than a talent event. It is a full-scale entertainment summit, designed to prepare, professionally present, and help launch the next generation of performers.



All photos in this report are by Jaime Lim (Liquid Star Photography), excluding the Getty Images photo.



Design by Kiki Wang

The International Presentation of Performers: What iPOP Truly Means

At the heart of iPOP is its defining concept — the professional presentation of performers.

Throughout the week, each participant is carefully prepared and ultimately presented to the entertainment industry in a structured, curated, and professional environment. This is not an open call or a mass audition. iPOP is designed to replicate how talent is evaluated, introduced, and considered in the real world.

Performers are presented through multiple industry-relevant formats, including:

- Live auditions and showcases across acting, singing, dance, and modeling
- Runway and performance presentations during the Awards Night Fashion Show
- On-camera work through professionally produced short films
- Industry interviews and callbacks with agents and managers

Every element is intentional — from staging and pacing to industry access — ensuring that talent is seen in their strongest, most professional light.

This is what separates iPOP from traditional competitions or conventions: the focus is not on winning — it is on being properly presented.



Kiki Wang Designer

A Global Entertainment Summit Where Careers Begin



Suzanne Von Schaack, organizer, choreographer and producer of the Awards Night Fashion Show; Kiki Wang Designer and her models.

The Pep Rally: Setting the Tone

The experience begins with an electrifying Pep Rally, uniting performers, families, and industry leaders under one roof. It's a celebration of passion, preparation, and possibility. This year, the opening reached an unforgettable high when legendary music producer Jimmy Jam made a surprise appearance, sharing words of encouragement and spreading a powerful message of "Change the World."

The moment captured the heart of iPOP — using talent as a force for impact.

Elite Training Meets Real Industry Insight

Throughout the week, performers immerse themselves in elite coaching across acting, singing, dance, and modeling, guided by working professionals who understand today's industry demands. Every session is structured to mirror real audition rooms, callbacks, and professional expectations.

Beyond training, iPOP offers rare access through industry workshops with:

- Film and television casting directors
- Over 100 talent agents and managers in attendance
- Music producers and vocal coaches
- Commercial, runway, and performance choreographers
- Industry executives across film, television, music, and digital platforms

Together, these elements transform iPOP into a true entertainment summit — combining high-level education with real-world exposure.

Lights, Camera, Credits — and the Red Carpet

One of iPOP's most distinctive features is its commitment to real production and real exposure. During the event, performers audition for:

- The iPOP Awards Night Fashion Show
- Two original short films, cast, filmed, and professionally edited during the week

These films premiere during the Awards Night Evening, where the experience takes on the energy of a Hollywood red carpet. The event is covered by Getty Images, providing performers with professionally captured imagery typically reserved for major industry events.

Performers featured in the films receive:

- Official production credit
- A copy of the finished project
- IMDb accreditation

These are résumé-ready assets and recognized industry credentials.



Design by Kiki Wang

A Global Entertainment Summit Where Careers Begin

High Fashion on a Grand Stage

The Awards Night Fashion Show is a show-stopping centerpiece of the week, featuring original designs by celebrated designers Kiki Wang and Alex Angelino. The showcase is choreographed by Suzanne Von Schaack, delivering a runway experience that rivals professional fashion weeks — where couture meets performance.

Where Opportunity Becomes Reality

The final day of iPOP is often the most transformative. Performers receive callbacks and meet face-to-face with agents and managers in professional interview settings. These are authentic industry conversations that frequently lead to representation, mentorship, and long-term career guidance. Over the years, iPOP has helped pave the way for performers who have gone on to achieve major success, including alumni such as Ariana Grande, Olivia Holt, and Madelaine Petsch.

Leadership With Vision

iPOP is owned and led by Courtney A. Stewart, German E. Morales, and Kirsten Poulin — a leadership team united by a commitment to mentorship, education, and authentic access to the entertainment industry.



The owners of iPOP :
Kirsten Poulin, CEO-Partner;
Courtney A. Stewart, President - Partner and
German Morales, Managing Partner.

More Than an Event — A Movement

At its core, iPOP is about confidence, credibility, and career readiness. It's where education meets exposure, where talent meets opportunity, and where the next generation of performers is professionally presented to the industry. For many families, iPOP isn't just five days in Los Angeles. It's the moment everything changes.



Alex Angelino Designer



Suzanne Von Schaack, organizer, choreographer and producer of the Awards Night Fashion Show (to the left) and Kiki Wang Designer (to the right)

TOMMY ANDERSON

BEST-SELLING AUTHOR, SCREENWRITER, ARTIST, ACTOR,
PRODUCER & INTERNATIONAL HOST



Tommy Anderson is a best-selling author, award-winning screenwriter, artist, actor, producer, and co-host of the podcast *Real Talk with Tom & Sherry*. His diverse body of work spans books, film, television, and visual art, where his creativity is matched only by his commitment to authentic storytelling.

He has written and produced acclaimed projects including *Life After Oblivion*, *PTSD: A Soldier's Revenge*, and *The Broken Road*, along with the pilot *The Tale of Richard Pic*.

His screenplay *Where the Sweetgrass Grows* has been greenlit for production, further cementing his place as a powerful voice in contemporary filmmaking. As an actor and producer, Tommy has contributed to

multiple independent film and television projects, while his artistry extends into painting and photography through his online galleries.

Tommy's career in service began in the U.S. Army before transitioning to the Air Force, where he rose to deputy fire chief. In civilian life, he continued his service as a full-time firefighter and medic.

This foundation of courage and commitment informs his work as a storyteller and advocate for veterans. He earned an Emmy Award as part of the PBS documentary *Take Me Home Huey*, honoring Vietnam veterans, and has also worked as a journalist and photojournalist with ABC7-LA News. Appearing at film festivals worldwide and co-hosting Hollywood galas, Tommy bridges his creative and professional experiences to inspire audiences everywhere.

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 *Real Talk* with Tom and Sherry 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.



WILL PRESTON

Paving the Way



Will Preston is a renowned American R&B and soul singer-songwriter based in Atlanta, Georgia. With over 20 years in the music industry, he was recently nominated for Male Vocalist of the Year at the 2025 SoulTracks Readers' Choice Awards. In 2024, he released the singles *Merry Go Round* and *I'll Give It Right Back*. He is currently working on his next full-length album, titled *Erratic Heartbeats*.

In addition to his music career, Preston is an entrepreneur in the fashion world. He founded the luxury lifestyle brand *My Best Interest Apparel*, which seeks to merge identity and self-expression through design.

INTERVIEW

As an independent artist, do you prefer the freedom of the music you make over being part of a label? Is a label signing something you'd like to have?

There's definitely a freedom in being independent that I love—I control my sound, my message, and how I connect with my audience. That said, I've never been anti-label. I've enjoyed being an independent artist, but I'm not opposed to a label deal if it aligns with my vision. It's all about the right partnership. I want to create without limitation, and if a label enhances that rather than restricts it, I'd be open to it. But so far, all of my talks have led me to remain on the path I've navigated as an independent artist.

How did your upbringing in Virginia influence your music style and artistic vision?

I was fortunate to grow up in a family that appreciated music. It was always present. Church, family functions, special occasions, etc. There's something about things that you are exposed to as a child like music that stays with you. It has certainly influenced my musical journey.



WILL PRESTON

INTERVIEW



Paving the Way

What role did your grandmother's record collection play in your musical journey?

Her collection was my first real music education. She had everything—Aretha Franklin, Marvin Gaye, Al Green, Gladys Knight, Smokey Robinson and so many more. Those records taught me about emotion, soul, and the art of making music that lasts. They shaped my ear for melody and storytelling, and to this day, I try to infuse that classic essence, that timelessness, into my own music.

How do you feel about the success and recognition you've received since your debut? What has been the most rewarding aspect for you as an artist?

I'm incredibly grateful. Every piece of recognition means a lot because it comes from people who connect with my music. The most rewarding aspect is hearing how my songs have touched people. When someone tells me a song made them smile, got them through a tough time, or made them feel seen, that's the real success for me.

Can you share your most memorable experiences in your career so far?

There have been many, but one that stands out is doing in-store CD signings in the beginning. The idea that people who I didn't even know were coming out to meet me and wanting me to sign their CD was a powerful moment. It brought a heightened level of realness and gratitude to the whole process. Also, being nominated for Best R&B Male Artist at the Georgia Music Awards was surreal. Another was performing Caught in the Act...The LIVE Experience—bringing my music to life in that setting was unforgettable.

FILM REVIEW **F1**



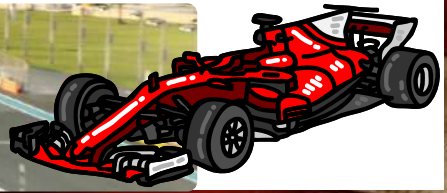
By María Luisa Ruiz Monclova

F1 is a dramatic sports film released in 2025, produced by Lewis Hamilton and directed by Joseph Kosinski. With a clear realistic approach, the film is set in contemporary Formula 1 and stands out for having been shot on official circuits during real Grand Prix weekends, reinforcing its visual and narrative authenticity. The story follows a veteran driver, played by Brad Pitt, who returns to competition to mentor a young talent, facing not only his own physical limits, but also a sport radically transformed by technology, data and media pressure.

The film explores themes such as legacy, driver identity and generational conflict within modern Formula 1. Through its protagonist, it reflects on the passage of time, ego management and the need to adapt in an environment where every millisecond counts. The script places special emphasis on the human dimension of the sport, showing the loneliness of the driver, the psychological burden of competition, and the constant tension between risk and control.



The precise, powerful sound and use of real locations make the film an intense sensory experience. Lewis Hamilton's direct involvement lends credibility to the portrayal of the paddock and ensures a respectful and detailed representation of the sport. Within the history of Formula 1 cinema, *Grand Prix* (1966), directed by John Frankenheimer, occupies a seminal place. The film portrays Formula 1 in the 1960s from an ensemble perspective, combining personal drama and competition. It was revolutionary for its use of cameras in the cars and for its sound design, which earned it recognition from the Academy.





FILM REVIEW FI

By María Luisa Ruiz Monclova

Formula 1 cinema has continued to develop with diverse approaches: *Le Mans* (1971), starring Steve McQueen, focuses on a sensory and minimalist experience, where silence and speed define the driver. *Rush* (2013), directed by Ron Howard, revives the genre with a classic narrative centred on the rivalry between James Hunt and Niki Lauda, delving into their contrasting personalities and the psychological toll of competition. In the documentary field, *Senna* (2010) offers an intimate and emotional portrait of Ayrton Senna, highlighting his spirituality, ethical commitment and legacy on and off the track.

The evolution is clear: while early films focused on physical danger and the epic story of the driver as a tragic hero, more recent productions delve deeper into psychology, media pressure and the weight of legacy in an increasingly technological and global sport. F1 encapsulates this transformation by combining visual spectacle with a mature reflection on the passage of time, identity and adaptation to change, providing an authentic insight.

Thus, these works confirm that Formula 1 offers not only speed and excitement, but also universal stories about ambition, fear, sacrifice and overcoming adversity. By capturing these elements, cinema turns racing into deeply human stories, capable of transcending sport and connecting with viewers on an emotional and reflective level.





BEVERLY HILLS
FILM REVIEW

**A RIFT
 APART**

By María Luisa Ruiz Monclova

The short film *A rift aPart* is a drama that explores themes such as mental health, suicide, guilt, and the need to exist. It is an intense work with a running time of 14:26. Its director is James Frederick Spake, an American actor, director, and writer. Known for his work in independent cinema, his recent projects include writing, directing and starring in several short films. Spake began acting in commercials at the age of 6 and is also a musician, playing bass, guitar and drums, making him a multidisciplinary professional.

We follow the story of a woman, the monotony of her life and a series of intrusive thoughts that she ruminates on throughout the day and gradually wear her down, until she can't take it anymore and tries to take her own life. But she is unable to accept this either and creates a parallel story in her head that falls apart at times.

As viewers, we are drawn into the existential anguish that unfortunately haunts many people every day, although life tries to find a way forward and leaves us with that hopeful phrase that breaks your heart at the same time: 'I'm still here'.

A film that leaves no one indifferent. It has a unique style, with frequent cuts, the use of slow motion and fast motion, and a combination of close-up shots that help us focus our attention and somehow draw us deeper into the story. The lighting and colour palette bring us closer to the characters, not only setting the scene but also generating emotion beyond the actors' performances. The surround sound makes us feel the protagonist's anguish and her attempts to escape what has happened. Even in the interrogation room, the sound, lighting and colours provide great visual support.



The acting is particularly noteworthy, as with few words they manage to create the atmosphere necessary to make the story flow and fully engage the viewer. They convey so much with just their gestures and glances; the sparkle, or lack thereof, in their eyes is what makes the difference and shows us that we are watching true professionals.

In conclusion, far from offering easy answers, *A Rift aPart* invites reflection and leaves a lasting emotional mark on the viewer, reminding us of the fragility of existence and, at the same time, the strength it takes to move forward. An intense, uncomfortable and necessary film that confirms James Frederick Spake's talent within independent cinema.

BEVERLY HILLS

PAUL SMIT

A Creative Soul

Paul Smit creates legacy-level bodies of work that bridge beauty and becoming. Through photography, immersive design, and transformational writing, he crafts sensory worlds and spiritual narratives that help people feel more alive, more connected, and more capable of change. His mission is to elevate everyday environments and inner lives into places where growth, beauty, and purpose converge.



A polymath creative, Paul thrives on helping others see their full potential. One of his favorite ways to work is with celebrities and public figures who are seeking to pivot in their careers — those who want to highlight talents or facets of their identity that they have previously been unable to capitalize on. By translating their unique stories into visual, spatial, and narrative experiences, he helps them redefine their personal brand while maintaining authenticity and depth.

Beyond high-profile collaborations, Paul is always keen to connect with other creatives, visionaries, and innovators who are looking to build out their portfolios and push the boundaries of their craft. Whether through photography, immersive design, or storytelling, he values partnerships that challenge conventional thinking and foster growth for all involved.

For Paul, creativity and evolution are inseparable; every project is both an act of making and an invitation to transformation. By engaging with his work, clients and collaborators alike are encouraged to step into new possibilities, explore untapped potential, and leave a lasting mark — not just on the world, but on themselves.



KATHERINE RAMÍREZ

The exquisite jewelry captivating the US market



Katherine Ramirez is a jewelry designer, gemologist, and journalist with over 17 years of experience in fine jewelry. Born in Quito, Ecuador, she has established a firm renowned for its excellence in diamond selection, technical precision, and sophisticated design with an international reach. Currently based in Valencia, Spain, she has presented her collections in Europe and Latin America, strategically focusing her growth on the United States, where a significant portion of her clientele purchases her exclusive pieces. Her jewelry stands out in the U.S. market for its superior quality, elegance, and impeccable finishes. She has designed custom pieces for influencers and high-profile clients and was a jeweler for Count Sánchez Ocaña, developing exclusive, high-end designs.

She also plans to continue her training at the Gemological Institute of America (GIA) in the United States to further her academic qualifications as a diamond specialist and expert grader, solidifying her position in the demanding North American market. In the fields of communication and fashion, she is a journalist and was a fashion interviewer for the Valencian online channel *MasqStyle*, where she covered and conducted interviews related to the fashion and lifestyle sector. She has also modeled for fashion designers and participated as a model and actress in two music videos directed by Ecuadorian filmmaker José Peñafiel, whose film production was presented in Hollywood, USA.



Model: Katherine Ramirez
Dress: Soledad Villa Designer
Jewelry: Katherine Ramirez

EMILY NOLAN



A Booming Career

"My name is Emily Nolan, I am a British singer/ songwriter, actor and multi-hyphenate based in Manhattan, New York. I grew up in Liverpool, England, and trained in Musical Theatre at Rare Studio, Liverpool, receiving a National Level 3 Extended Diploma. Upon receiving a scholarship at the American Music and Dramatic Academy, i moved to New York by myself at 18 to continue training in musical theatre. Since Graduating in February 2025, I have been lucky enough to be a part of some amazing projects around the city".

INTERVIEW

● **Do you feel this experience has enriched you as an artist and as a human being?**
 Definitely! New York in particular is full of different cultures, people, styles, it's very enriching as someone who grew up around people who were very similar to me culturally, to see such variety and beauty in people who come from so many places across the world. It's very enlightening as an artists and as a person on my perspective and knowledge of the world.

● **What prompted you to come to NYC?**
 I've always wanted to move to the United States, even as a kid. The idea of everything being bigger and better, especially in the world of theatre, mesmerised me, so when I auditioned for the American Music and Dramatic Academy, and was lucky enough to receive a scholarship (as well as having an extremely supportive family), I couldn't pass on the opportunity.

● **What do you miss about your country?**
 I miss my family, and the comfort and familiarity that comes with being with them. I also sometimes miss the security of being in my native country.

● **What projects are you currently working on?**
 I am currently apart of the development process of the Women's Playwright Collective's 2026 Not Forgotten Play Festival. So far we've been doing readings of new material, extending from the play I was in last year, which won the festival and is now being extended.

● **What inspires you about New York?**
 The work ethic and drive of the people in New York is the most inspiring. It truly is a city where nothing stops, everything keeps running and keeps alive through the people here. It's incredible.



ALESSANDRO GARBAGNA



The Road to Success

Interview



What prompted you to come to NYC?

I came to New York because I wanted to challenge myself at the highest level. I grew up in Italy, where art is everywhere — it's history, it's beauty — but I felt the need to put myself in a place that moves fast, that demands more from you. New York felt uncomfortable in the best way. I knew if I could survive and grow here, I could grow anywhere. I didn't want comfort — I wanted expansion.

What do you miss about your country?

I miss the depth of connection. In Italy, relationships feel slower and more intimate — long dinners, family, familiarity. There's a warmth that's automatic. And honestly, I miss the ease of beauty. You walk outside and you're surrounded by history. Here, beauty feels more raw and constructed. But that contrast has taught me a lot.

Do you feel this experience has enriched you as an artist and as a human being?

Absolutely. Living here forces you to confront yourself. There's no hiding in New York — emotionally or professionally. It's made me more resilient, more independent, and more aware of who I am without the safety net of my culture. As an artist, it has expanded my emotional range. As a human, it has taught me humility and courage at the same time.

What projects are you currently working on?

Right now I'm performing in the musical *9 to 5*, which has been such a fun and energizing experience. Being part of a show that's bold, satirical, and so ensemble-driven is teaching me a lot about timing, collaboration, and stamina.

What inspires you about New York?

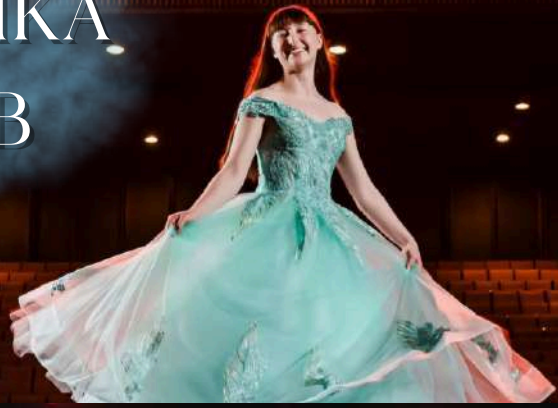
The intensity. The ambition. The fact that everyone here is chasing something. There's something incredibly inspiring about walking down the street and knowing the person next to you might be building a company, writing a novel, rehearsing a Broadway show, or just surviving. New York doesn't let you stay small. It pushes you to define who you are — and defend it.



BEVERLY HILLS

Artists from New York

DANIKA
ROBB



MARDI
MEGLIO



PATRICIA
SOLEDAD



BEVERLY HILLS

MAGGIE LEGA

An Italian Talent in New York

Maggie Lega is an Italian-born actress and singer based in New York City. She trained at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, with additional training at Berklee College of Music and the American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Her credits include *The Spinnerets*, *Girls World*, *You Belong to the City*, performances at *The Green Room 42*, *The Tiny Cupboard*, the *Producers Club Theatre*, and multiple productions in Italy at venues such as Teatro Litta Milano and Teatro San Domenico Crema. She has also appeared in various film and media projects, collaborating with *Neymarc Visuals* and student filmmakers from Pratt and Feirstein.



Interview

What prompted you to come to NYC?

I came to New York to train and grow as a performer. I wanted to be in a place that challenges me, inspires me, and pushes me to take my craft seriously every day.

What do you miss about your country?

I miss my family, the warmth of everyday life, and the sense of community. There's a simplicity and closeness in Italy that I carry with me wherever I go.

Do you feel this experience has enriched you as an artist and as a human being?

Absolutely. Living here has made me more resilient, more open, and more aware of who I am, both on stage and in life.

What projects are you currently working on?

I'm continuing to audition and develop new material, including original music, while also building connections and preparing for upcoming performance opportunities.

What inspires you about New York?

The diversity of people and stories. In New York, everyone is chasing something, and that energy constantly reminds me why I chose this path.

GARY E. GREENBERG



Between Knives and Passion: The Story of Sushi Chef

When did you decide you wanted to be a sushi chef and what motivated you?

I decided I wanted to be a sushi chef after havina sushi with friends and then I noticed that it's a creative way of handling fish and rice..a person needs to be disiplined. A knife becomes part of the chef and it is not just a knife. It's a way of thinking, slicing and preparing the presentation.
I started working as a dishwasher and then in a seafood restaurant and learned on how to handle fish and shellfish and what needs to be done. There is so much to learn and I gained so much knowledge. I got most of my experience working at *Gatten Sushi* in Granada Hills

What do you love about Japanese culture and food?

I gained so much respect for the art form that takes a lifetime to master. The japanese culture is filled with honor and culture..the way the mind works It's the way of handling the instruments and presentation.

Are you doing other jobs?

Finish Carpentry and I love cleaning and maintaining boats and yachts. The ocean is inside of me.



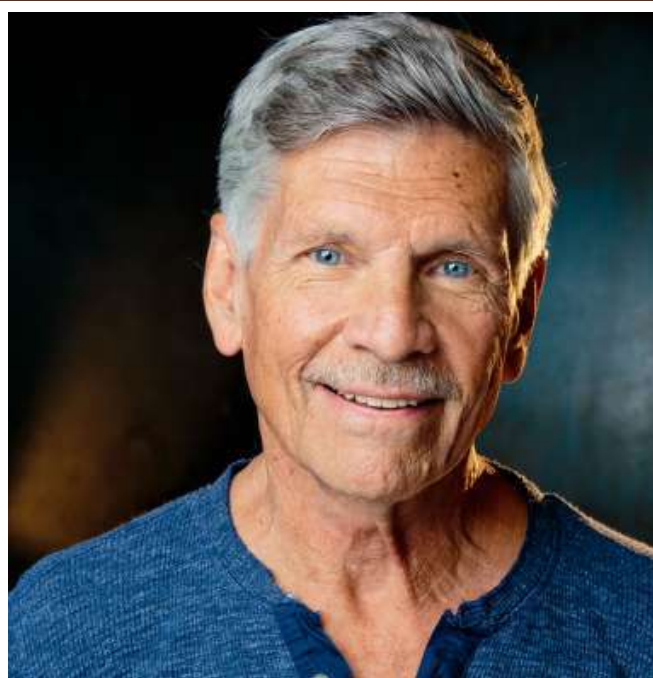
Contact



BEVERLY HILLS

SONNY KING

The King of the Stage



"I was born in Washington DC but grew up in Cumberland Md. I started acting at age 6 . My mother was a huge fan of stage, film, music and reading and saw to it that I started acting at age 6 in short plays that she wrote and directed. She was able to do this with the group of Cub Scouts that she was the leader of as "denmother". She also bought me a guitar, found a teacher for me and I also started music lessons and I still play as a professional musician to this day, playing nightclubs and events of all sorts. When I got to high school, I did theater, played in a band to earn money and after high school went to college. I spent 4 years in the US Navy and traveled the world including a stint in the Tonkin Gulf Vietnam. Traveled in Asia, the Pacific, the Atlantic, the Caribbean and the Mediterranean sea... loving every minute of the travel.

After my 4 years i came out and went back to the theater and music. After some years, I decided to come to Los Angeles and work in tv and film, which i am doing now. I believe I went the way most actors do when they come to Los Angeles: headshots, agent, classes, networking, etc. I was very fortunate to land a role in 2 weeks on the soap DAYS OF OUR LIVES, by writing a nice letter to the casting lady Doris Sabaugh who brought me in, had me read 3 scenes with her which led to many episodes, good practice, fun and paychecks.

Since those days I have been working in film, television, commercials, music videos, voice overs and back to the theater on occasion. I have been fortunate enough to work on big budget studio films with many A list stars and lots of indie films. I'm still having a great time and have met many wonderful folks. I look forward to playing many more interesting and fun roles, and being with lots of great people in this business. I want to thank ORIGINAL MAGAZINE for taking an interest in me and my journey .



BECOMING THE CHARACTER
True actors don't play roles—they live them.
SONNY KING

IMDb SONNY H. KING

BEVERLY HILLS

LISA KOVACS

A Voice that Paints Emotions

Exclusive Interview



How did you get your start in the music industry?

I wrote tons of lyrics before my first song came together with the words and the music -as a lot of songwriters have this story -and once I had my first song complete titled TELL YOU - I felt inclined to record it- So I went to a studio in Long branch New Jersey -Shorefire Recording studios and recorded it with Lamar Mitchell, who is now Stevie Wonder's keyboard tech- he's a great keyboard player, but with me, he was the producer and engineer -since then I have recorded TELL YOU - three other times through the years and it is now on my album BLUEBIRD Available on bandcamp -I was very nervous the first time in a recording studio and I knew while recording this song that I was in a place I wanted to stay for a long time. It felt Like such a burst of energy and passion and elation recording my first song and then stepping into the vocal booth to sing on a Neumann U87 microphone for the first time - it blew my mind - And then from there making records and then going out performing and eventually making my way to New York City and some label showcase performances, and singer /songwriter shows - /write -rehearse - record -perform -repeat - /-Then my first manager had some contacts in the music business and they heard my early recordings and said they were very good but not ready yet, but keep at it and so I did - as the years went by, I honed my craft and kept climbing up the ladder working with better musicians and better producers, and that's how I started getting into the music industry.



What emotions do you seek to convey when you sing?

Well, take, for instance the song BLUEBIRD - one of the singles off the album. I know that what I was feeling when I was writing it were feelings of positivity, happiness -trust- hope and desire - but I also I want the listener to feel whatever they want to feel - To move them in a way and feel something Other songs are about pain and heartbreak in relationships. I think everybody can relate to that at some point in their lives - and getting through those times are very important. It's cathartic when I write - and a lot of times I write best when I'm actually feeling these feelings in the moment. Sometimes it's after the fact.

BEVERLY HILLS

LISA KOVACS

A Voice that Paints Emotions

Exclusive Interview

Could you tell us more about your latest track, 'Fallen Away'?

FALLEN AWAY is clearly a song about a breakup and being able to try to let go - I actually Had tears coming down my face while writing this song. Sometimes I think that we don't actually ever let go of the people we have loved -they just go into a different part of our hearts



What was it like collaborating with a renowned professional like Arnie Brown?

Arnie Brown is amazing. I love everything about this man. He is kind -generous -patient and really knows how to get the best out of the music artist he is working with- plus he's an incredible guitar player. He has toured with many groups internationally, including the Temptations- I call him my little Santana. It was a pleasure and honor to work with this man. I was always comfortable in the studio working with him and through the years our music relationship Has grown into us really knowing each other and working well together, having the same collective vision - he Has mentored with Producer - Engineer - Eddie Kramer Who worked with Jimi Hendrix, The Beatles and David Bowie and then he also mentored with Dennis Ferrante, who had worked on many albums, including with artists John Lennon And Aerosmith - I feel blessed to be working with him In our joint venture - I feel we both bring out the best in each other in regards to making the best records we can make - My message to the world is -be kind - make peace -and love one another- Enjoy the music



BEVERLY HILLS

THE LUNCHBOX KILLER

A Story by TONI & RHONDA STANSBERRY



Toni and Rhonda Stansberry

It was Tuesday, November 20, 1989 — mid-day. Not too cold, but brisk enough that the wind had a little attitude to it. The trees along the street swayed like they were whispering secrets, and even the old willow tree bowed low, its branches dragged by the November breeze. That was Little Rock this time of year — a quiet kind of restless. What should've been an ordinary day shifted the moment the Mountain Express bus swung wide into the terminal. The brakes let out a long, aching screech, the kind that made folks turn their heads and mutter about maintenance. The station itself looked still, almost hickish in its calm, with people lined up on the side waiting for the next ride out of town. The bus jerked into its usual stall and came to a hard stop. "Everybody off — everybody off!" the driver barked, irritation dripping from every word. Passengers scrambled, grabbing suitcases from overhead racks and duffel bags from under their feet. The aisle filled with elbows, coats, and impatience. Then — a blur.

A young girl shot past, running so fast she nearly bowled over Ms. Gertrude, one of Little Rock's most well-known elders — sharp tongue, sharper eyes, and a reputation for not tolerating foolishness.

Ms. Gertrude caught her balance, snapped her head around, and let loose:

"Not today, you little heifer! You need to stop all that runnin'!"

The girl's mother rolled her eyes but kept her mouth shut. She knew better than to tangle with Ms. Gertrude on a Tuesday. The bus driver leaned out the door.

"You okay, Ms. Gert?" She waved him off, still catching her breath.

"Yeah... yeah, I guess so," she muttered, stepping down onto the pavement like she was reclaiming her dignity one foot at a time. The wind tugged at her coat as she walked, the world around her shifting in ways she couldn't yet name — the kind of day that starts ordinary but ends up remembered for all the wrong reasons.

TO BE CONTINUED

BEVERLY HILLS

YEENA FISHER

BTS



BEVERLY HILLS STUDIOS

KADROISHA ONA GAROIE
THE QUEEN OF THE PARANORMAL

