

“  
The  
Rehearsal”

A short film by Jaclyn Bethany



# Synopsis

The Rehearsal is a glimpse in to the fictional rehearsal of a new Off-Broadway production of Strindberg's Miss Julie.

The story follows Anne, a twenty-something actress - in her "comeback" role following a scandal which effected both her personal life and her public persona as an emerging actor in the New York City theatre scene. Populated with an ensemble of eccentric yet alarmingly realistic characters; the circumstances of the play begin to merge with Anne's own life as she becomes increasingly paranoid, fueled by her manipulative surroundings. Ultimately, Anne is torn between two different but equally dangerous worlds – her married, controlled yet tempestuous home life, and her all consuming career in the unpredictable and competitive world of the theatre.

# The Team

## **Jaclyn Bethany — Writer, Director, “Anne”**

A native of Jackson, Mississippi, Jaclyn Bethany is an actress and filmmaker, a “rising star” of the film world. With her company BKE Productions she has produced numerous short films including Olivia Martha Ilse starring James Frain and Emmy Award winner Tammy Blanchard, the Award winning *Between Departures*, *Sunday Tide*, *The Last Birthday*, and *Indigo Valley*. As an actor she has appeared in the feature films *Trumbo*, *I Saw The Light*, *Worry Dolls*, *Miles* and several festival favorite short films. Her first feature *Indigo Valley* is based on the short of the same name. Her work has screened at festivals and venues worldwide.

Ms. Bethany holds a B.A. in Acting from Fordham University, an M.A. in Screenwriting from The London Film School and and M.F.A. in Directing from the prestigious American Film Institute. Her AFI thesis film, *The Delta Girl* stars Isabelle Fuhrman, Caitlin Carver and Ashley Bell. It will premiere at an Oscar qualifying festival this fall.

Her theatre credits include a touring production *A Bright Room Called Day* by Tony Kushner, a workshop of Adam Rapp’s *Red Light Winter*, *A Map of Virtue* directed by Tony winner Pam MacKinnon and a rehearsed reading of *Anna Karenina* at The Arcola Theatre in London. She is also the co-editor of online female arts driven publication *Constellation*, where she curates an ongoing female filmmaker portfolio. Projects in development include short film *The Rehearsal*, set in the New York theatre world, *The Willow*, following nuns in World War II France and the play *My Name is Rachel Corrie*.

## **Ashley Hall — Producer**

Born in the City of Angels and has managed to stay. She has undergrad degrees in Digital Media & Business and is currently attending the prestigious AFI Conservatory for her M.F.A. in film producing. Recent producing credits include the AFI thesis film *Fishnet*.

## Suze Myers — Producer

Suze Myers is a graphic designer and filmmaker based in New York. She received her BA in Art History from Barnard College of Columbia University in New York City, and went on to gain a postgraduate degree in design from the acclaimed University of the Arts London in the UK. She co-founded and currently serves as the art director and designer of *Constellation*, an online magazine highlighting emerging women and non-binary creatives, particularly in the film industry.

Though she has several years of art department working with industry filmmakers, she made her producing debut in 2018 with *Jetty*, a short film written and directed by her close friend Logan Lanier. In addition to *The Rehearsal*, she is currently slated to produce Jaclyn Bethany's *The Willow*, a UK-based web series following a convent in World War II France.

As an artist, Suze's goal is to use her creativity to foster a sense of community amongst people, especially other young women. She is excited to oversee a talented cast and crew for *The Rehearsal*, and hopes to promote diversity in the independent film industry in new and progressive ways.

## Logan Lanier — Assistant Director

Logan spent most of his younger days in Huntsville, Alabama, but also lived in Telluride, Colorado for many years. He holds his time spent in Telluride responsible for his reckless love of the film industry, where he could watch films at the annual Telluride Film Festival through his living room window.

Logan's most recent short, *Jetty*, is his first professional production since making a number of student films at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. *Jetty*, currently in post-production, follows a deaf girl whose imagination creates happiness for herself even in her loneliest moments. The film was produced by his close friend and collaborator Suze Myers.

Logan was a production assistant on the upcoming Ken Burns documentary *Country Music*, a multi-episode series set to release in 2018. He also has worked in the production department at the Telluride Film Festival for two years.

As a writer and a filmmaker, Logan's material usually consists of father-child relationships, instinctive responsibilities to achieve ambitions, and leaving questions unanswered. In his work, Logan seeks to spark conversation around the dilemma of what a character does and what a character ought to do. His goal is for readers and viewers to find meaning by reflecting their own traditions and ideas through their interaction with his work.

# Character Breakdown

ANNE – (lead), 20s, a young theatre actress at a crossroads in her career. Anne is consumed by her passion for the role of Julie, as it blends with her personal life – specifically - her complex, manipulative relationship with her much husband and her handsome, contemporary – her co-star Adam. As the story progresses, she becomes entirely engrossed in the world of the play - unable to separate reality from fiction.

TATE – (lead) late 40s-early 50s, handsome and sympathetic, Anne's older husband. An acclaimed theatre actor. Possibly European. He fell in love with Anne during a raucous affair during a production nearly a year ago. Simulated by his physically passionate and “unaccepted” relationship with Anne, which is shamefully also affecting his professional life through his ex-wife, the power hungry, prolific New York theatre goddess, Helen.

ADAM – (lead) 20s-early 30s, playing “John” opposite Anne in Miss Julie. In many ways, born to play the part. An up and coming talent of the theatre scene, Adam is a New York born and bred actor. He is serious about the work, and also charismatic, flirtatious, a bit wild - and unpredictable.

SADIE – (supporting) 16. Tate's daughter from his previous marriage to Helen. Sadie is rebellious, moody – wears her hair long, lots of eyeliner, and chokers. She wants attention and ultimately, wants her father to be more present. She cannot accept her parents' divorce. She wants Anne out of her life, and she consistently creating an edge between her parents.

WELLS – (supporting) 30s, an emerging director of the New York theatre scene. Intense, lithe, egotistical, passionate about his work. He seems to want to help re-invigorate Anne's career, but his intentions are questionable. Wears all black.

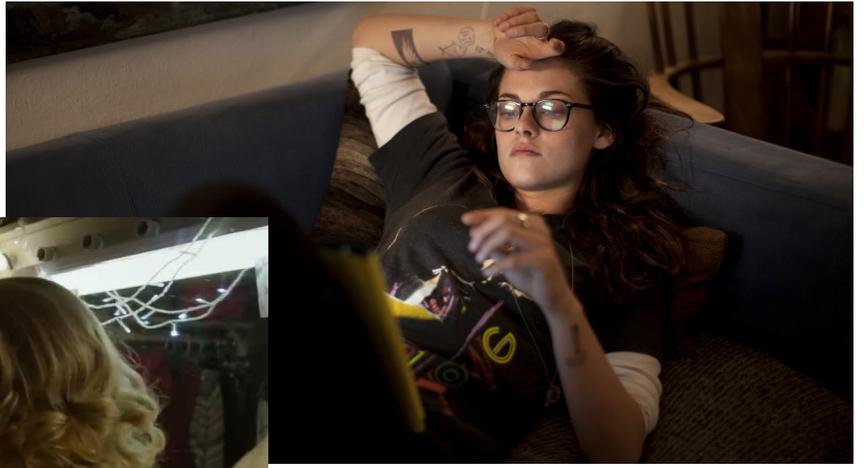
THEA – (supporting) early 20s. Wells' assistant, she worships the theatre. She is nervous and quirky, chatty, hardworking and eager to please.

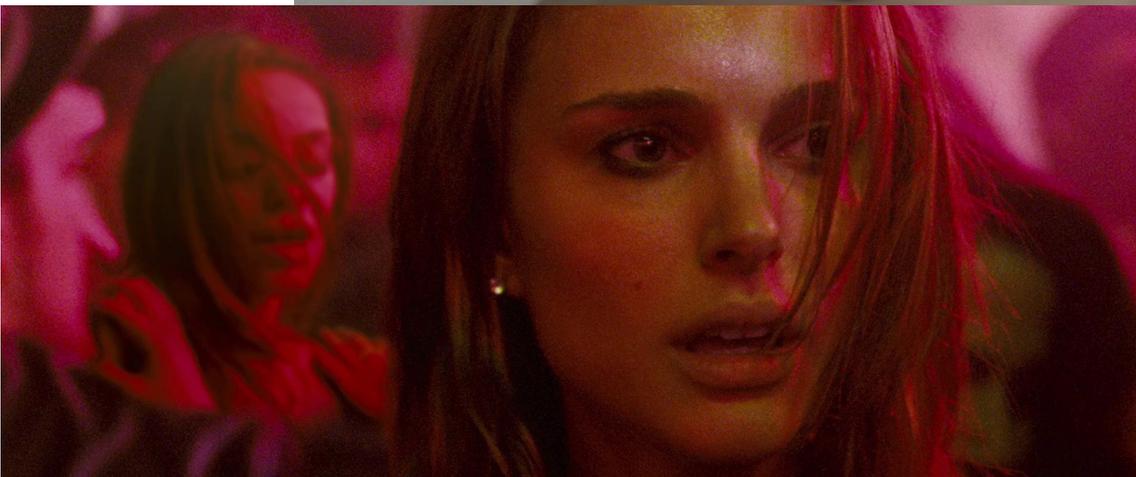
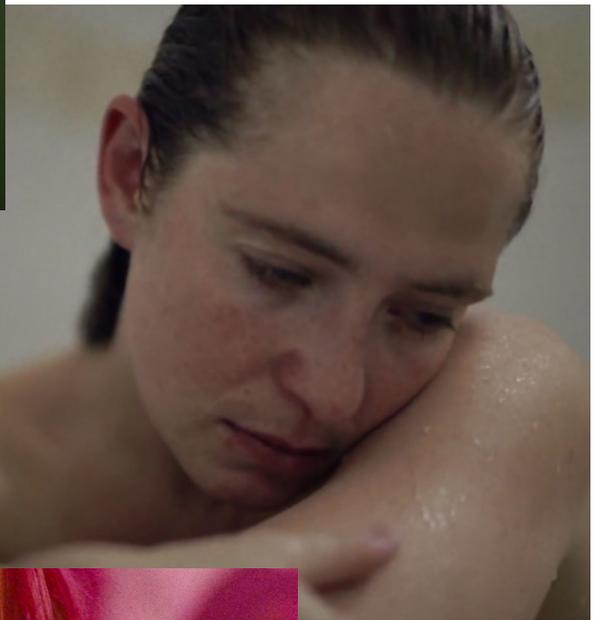
NAOMI – (supporting) 20s, British, magnetic, beautiful (model good looks), narcissistic. Playing “Christine” in Miss Julie in which she is totally miscast. Oblivious to the world around her - providing humor mixed with her competitiveness.

HELEN – (supporting) 40s, beautiful, icy and hugely admired– Helen is the queen of the New York theatre. She is broken from Tate and Anne's affair, but tries to hide it. As a result, she is determined to destroy Anne's career, and be in control of every scenario.

# Inspiration







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Designed by Suze Myers  
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