

# THE GAME

A FILM BY ALDO VASSALLO

FEATURING:  
NICOLAS CALERO  
ADRIENNE LAUREN  
SHAH MOTIA



# SYNOPSIS

Set in early 2000's suburbia, The Game portrays a bewilderingly tense period in ten year old George's life. Mother and Father are in a marital crisis, and George is stuck in the middle of it with nowhere to go. He progressively develops a sense of awareness as conflicts escalate until his understanding of life is irreparably changed. In this heart-wrenching drama portrayed as a recollection of distant and unresolved memories, George does his best to maintain his innocence as his parents come to terms with the impact of their own negligence. Based on a true story.



# LOGLINE

One night, as he attempts to drown out his parents' constant and escalating conflicts by gluing his eyes to his Gameboy, he's startled by the sound of a deafening scream coming from his mother's bedroom.



# SPECIFICATIONS

**Genre:** Drama

**Runtime:** 21:05

**Completion:** March 25th, 2022

**Production Budget:** \$6000

**Country of Origin:** USA

**Language:** English

**Shooting Format:** Digital

**Aspect Ratio:** 2:39:1

**Available Screening Format:** DCP, DNxHD, HEVC





## OUR STORY

Written and directed by Aldo Vassallo and wholeheartedly produced by Ana Naumovska, this film is a passion project in its truest form. Initially a graduating thesis project that was stalled by the pandemic, *The Game* is Aldo's most reflective and vulnerable piece. A recollection of distant and unresolved memories portrayed as a means of processing his own childhood trauma.





## Nicolas Calero as *George*



Nicolas Calero is a first-generation American actor, model, singer and dancer born and based in New York City. He is of Puerto Rican and Russian descent. His acting career began at age 8, when he appeared in the educational video series, "Get Ready". Since then, Nicolas has had the opportunity to act in a number of different roles in several different genres, including feature films, TV series, commercials, Web series and voice-over projects. Nicolas is a member of SAG-AFTRA. His latest role is a Guest Star on the "Law and Order" SVU episode #23010 , which is set to air on January 6, 2022.

## Adrienne Laurén as *Mother*



Adrienne Laurén, the oldest of 5, was born in Edison, NJ. She is a NYC based actress with an edge, and has most recently landed a role acting opposite Oscar-Nominated actor Eric Roberts in "My Last Best Friend"; a role that even landed her face on a billboard in NYC Times Square. Since a young age, Adrienne's energetic and outgoing demeanor shined through her personality. Adrienne often put on little performances for her family, would dress up in character to play with her brother and sisters and would often create her own little stop motion videos - she was drawn to acting before she even knew it. With this, Adrienne was constantly on the hunt for adventure. Adrienne went to college at Rutgers University in NJ and after graduating, went full-throttle into the world of acting.





## Shah Motia as *Father*

Shah Motia has performed in *Condo Rondo* for Theater for the New City, *Everyday Murder* at La MaMa ETC, and *Sleeping Car Porters* at The Brick, which was named a New York Times “*Critic’s Pick*”. He is a 2019 graduate of the Terry Knickerbocker Studio conservatory.





# DIRECTOR'S BIO

Aldo Vassallo is an award-winning film director, writer, and producer born in Barranquilla, Colombia and is currently based in New York City. He focuses on hyper-realistic storytelling and has gone on to write and direct several shorts. His most recent film titled *The Game* has been recognized at several festivals in the country, including the CSA-qualifying NY Shorts International Film Festival, and Queens World Film Festival.

As a graduate of The City College of New York in 2020 with a BFA in Film Production, he continues to draw inspiration from traumatic and confusing aspects of his upbringing in a suburban world as a Latino immigrant. His goal is to utilize the medium of cinema to not only voice these experiences through a unique lens, but to heal from them, and to inspire others to do so as well.



# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



I believe that our first major traumatic experience as humans is when we are born. It's interesting to reflect on your childhood and realize how absurd things really used to be. You were handicapped in a way. Helpless and alone. Everything is happening around you and you have no choice but to ingest it all. The stigma that children have so much freedom, no worries or a care in the world is senseless. We are constantly discovering, understanding, and evolving overtime.

The Game is very much an extension of myself and what I believe to be true. It is a story of self-reflection as a means of catharsis. Innocence and imagination can be fleeting as this crazy world is revealed before us. George represents a kind of hope and triumph over this sentiment, the kind that exists inside each and every one of us.







TRAILER



# CREDITS



## Cast

Nicolas Calero - *George*

Adrienne Lauren - *Mother*

Shah Motia - *Father*

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## Crew

Written and Directed by: Aldo Vassallo

Produced by: Ana Naumovska

Edited by: Aldo Vassallo, Steven Baerga

Associate Producers: Patrick Crawford, James Treadwell

Executive Producers: Ana Naumovska, Aldo Vassallo, Steven Baerga

Director of Photography: Steven Baerga

Production Design: Olivia Antonecchia & Christina Shrewsbury



# CONTACT

## Director

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