look at the moon & honto88 present



WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY GABRIELLA A. MOSES

#### #logline

A recently adopted 8-year-old refugee spends a day preparing for her first red carpet appearance with her new pop star mother when she is haunted by reminders of the life she left behind and awakened to the fragility of her new one.

#coming\_of\_age #drama #latinx



#### #director's statement

We live in a celebrity fueled society where, thanks to social media; celebrity is no longer reserved to just artists or athletes. This obsession with fame has heavily influenced a new Generation through the rise of platforms like TikTok. This obsession endlessly fascinates me. It's captivated the world & consumes our days.

I've often thought about what the repercussions of celebrity are & wondered what kids who are adopted by celebrities go through since they are flung into the spotlight and not easily protected.

Many celebrities are models of the American dream; think J.Lo or Rihanna, children of immigrants or immigrants turned millionaires and role models. They inspired, YAHAIRA, an Afrolatina 1st Gen pop star who has recently adopted a young El Salvadorian refugee. Yahaira sees herself in Alma, but has she done more damage than good? What are the consequences when someone adopts of a child of their own diaspora and essentially uproots them to regain their own roots selfishly.

SIN RAÍCES digs deeper into what it is to want to belong as immigrants in this America and how we're affected by our society where we seek validation through identity. It is an ode to immigrants' successes and the things we leave behind told in a portrait of the day of the life of a girl who has unwittingly been served the "American dream."

## written & directed by gabriella a. moses

executive produced by

joan smalls shruti ganguly polina buchak

produced by lissette feliciano annalie gernert charlie schmidlin

sin raíces original title rootless

english title



runtime

starring viktoria luna sasha merci











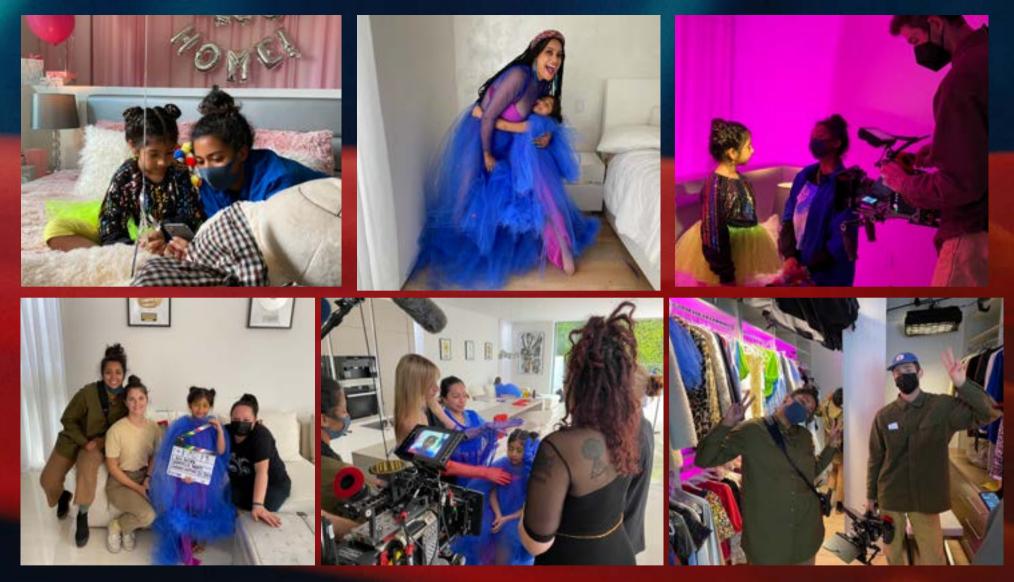




#### #film stills

#### #pov

### #close-up



Les gusta a YAHAIRA y 50M más

#### #inclusion #womeninfilm #behind the scenes

# LALIFF NETFLIX Inclusion Fellowship

LALIFF's Inclusion Fellowship Series, sponsored by NETFLIX, is an ongoing program focused on building a more inclusive and equitable industry for all members of the Latino community awarding a grant to five visionary directors that identify as Indigenous Latino and five visionary directors that identify as Afro Latino.

a seed fears neither light nor darkness,





**Gabriella A. Moses** is a director, writer & production designer based in Brooklyn, NY and graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Gabriella has received support from the Sundance Institute, New York Women in Film & TV, Tribeca Film Institute, The Black List, SFFILM and The Gotham.

She has most recently was featured on the 2023 Black List Latinx List and was selected for the 2022 LALIFF x Netflix Latinx Inclusion Fellowship Program with her short SIN RAÍCES.

Her directorial debut feature film, BOCA CHICA, filmed in the Dominican Republic with Selene will premiere in 2023. She believes in sharing stories with underrepresented protagonists that test viewer's perceptions of identity and their imaginations.

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## #starring



#### (O)@msviktorialuna

### Sasha Merci as YAHAIRA

Viktoria Luna as ALMA

LALIFF & LOOK AT THE MOON PRESENTS SIN RAÍCES IN ASSOCIATION WITH HONTO88 STARRING VIKTORIA LUNA SASHA MERCI MUSIC BY NITZIA "NITTY" SCOTT EDITED BY POLINA BUCHAK, GABRIELLA MOSES SOUND DESIGN BY PATRICK BURGESS COSTUME DESIGN BY ELA DOBS WARDROBE DESIGN BY HILLARY SPROUL PRODUCTION DESIGN BY CARLA SENDINO CINEMATOGRAPHY BY FREDDIE WHITMAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY JOAN SMALLS, SHRUTI GANGULY, POLINA BUCHAK PRODUCED BY LISSETTE FELICIANO, ANNALIE GERNERT, CHARLIE SCHMIDLIN WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY GABRIELLA A. MOSES



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> > Gracias.