



Cooking with

Claudia

A Priscila Torres Film



Logline

Claudia's routine cleaning day takes a surprising turn, reigniting her true passion.

Synopsis

Claudia is a Salvadoran housekeeper in Georgia with a hidden talent for cooking. When a client books her for an unexpected cooking session, she hesitates to share her recipes. But a connection between the two will show Claudia that her culinary skills have a greater purpose.



Specifications

Project Type: Short

Genres: Drama, comedy

Runtime: 13 minutes 35 seconds

Country of Origin: United States

Country of Filming: United States

Language: English

Shooting Format: Digital

Director's statement

In 2008, a video I created about my grandmother's traditional Christmas turkey unexpectedly garnered over 18,000 views on YouTube. I made it when cooking videos were not as popular as they are now, and going "viral" wasn't a thing. Naturally, I grew curious about the individuals who were watching, and after reading the comments, I realized that most viewers were Salvadorans abroad.

Cooking with Claudia was born from my experience as a Salvadoran living in Atlanta, Georgia. Being away from my family and community made me long for home in ways I never imagined. Like many immigrants, I sought comfort in the food I grew up eating. I would crave the taste of Salvadoran sauces made with spices like Relajo and Alguashte and the sweet and sour notes of desserts made of tropical fruits such as Jocotes en miel.

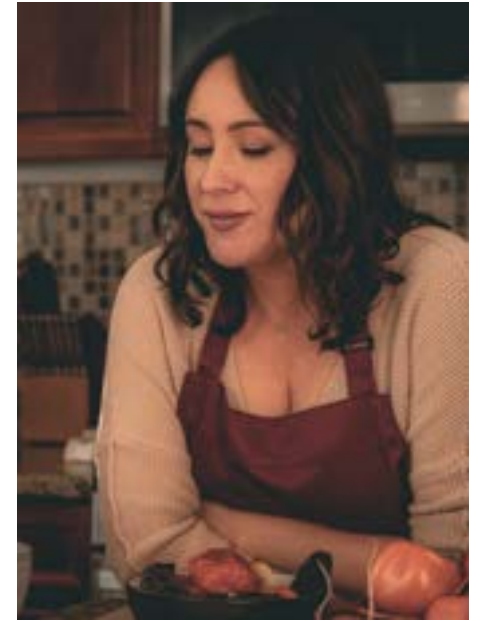
I turned to YouTube for help and quickly fell into the rabbit hole of Salvadoran women cooking my favorite dishes from home. Suddenly, I realized I had become one of those viewers of my grandmother's video, I was desperately trying to reconnect with my roots.

As a new member of the Salvadoran diaspora, I recognize these women play an essential role in keeping our culinary traditions alive. You only have to read the comments under each video to comprehend the value they bring to our community abroad. This film celebrates their passion for cooking and sharing their recipes with the world.

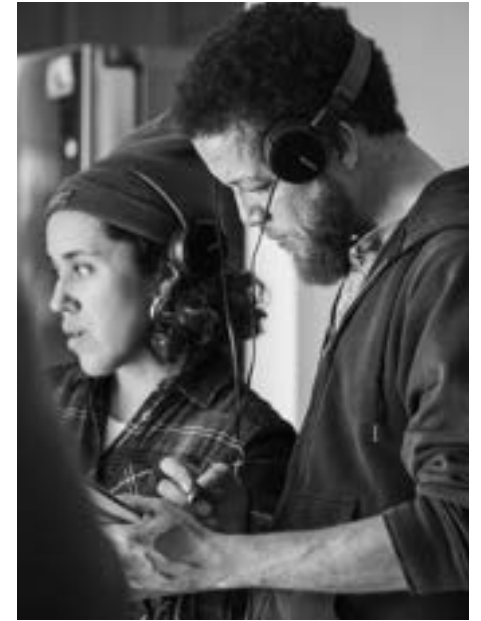


Behind the Scenes









Stills











Principal Cast



Claudia - Sylvia Galan

Sylvia began her acting career in New York. She received a BA in drama from The City College of New York; where she studied under Omar Shapli; an original member of the storied Second City Comedy Club. She has worked on several Atlanta main stages. She can be seen as Selina in “Mad Money”; Marianne Winterpock in “The Fat Boy Chronicles; Officer in “Dead Beat”; Dr. Maria Lopez in “Blossoms for Clara”; and Marie in “The Therapist. Sylvia can also be seen as Easton Maid in “The Game”.



Gabby - Denise Santos

Actress Denise Santos is a Miami, Florida native with parents from Ecuador and Colombia. Raised by her mother, she insisted that Spanish be spoken at home. Being bilingual created many opportunities for her to work on a variety of productions. After moving to Atlanta in 2009, she immediately signed with an agent and hit the ground running. It didn't take long for Denise to notice that Latinx representation was very much needed in Atlanta. Feeling inspired to create a platform, Denise organized a Facebook group in 2017 and in 2018, she and two other actresses founded Latinas in Media Atlanta. LIMA would then go on to showcase original one-act plays directed and performed by Georgia talent to the community and industry professionals.

Principal Cast

Claudia's Daughter - Alia Skye Khan

Alia is a young Mexican - American actress from Greenville South Carolina.



The Crew



Director/Co-Writer/Producer

Priscila Torres is a filmmaker from El Salvador based in Atlanta, GA. Her work features heartfelt explorations of the human experience, often highlighting the importance of community. Her short films have been selected for numerous film festivals, including Cleveland International Film Festival, Macon Film Festival, and NewFilmmakers LA. Priscila is a 2024 Hambidge fellow and a 2020 Sundance Knight Fellow. She is currently developing her first feature screenplay.



Co-Writer/Producer

Vincent is originally from South Carolina and was also a participant in the 2019 Sundance Screenwriters Intensive - Macon with the feature screenplay Undercurrent. He holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology from South Carolina State University and a Professional Master of Architecture from the Savannah College of Art & Design. In 2013, he decided to pursue a career within the film industry as a set designer. Since then, he has accrued numerous set design credits for films ranging from Ant-Man and the Wasp to Jumanji: The Next Level. Vincent is also a 2020 Sundance Knight Fellow.



Cinematographer

Bryan is an Atlanta based director and cinematographer. He strives to create narrative films with driving focus and deep humanity.

Bryan grew up in the suburbs of Atlanta. He began filmmaking when he was just twelve years old when, after winning a school science fair, he purchased his first video camera with the prize money. For Bryan, from that first frame onward, the joy of creation has never lost its luster. In Fall, 2014, he graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design with a BFA in Film and Television.



Composer

Up-and-coming composer Rachel Elizabeth Jacobs (née Matthews) brings a fresh twist to classical music and film scores. The daughter of a classical pianist mother and a 70s rock fan father, she grew up with an eclectic love of music and can just as easily be found listening to a Wagner opera as The Moody Blues or the Southern rock group Family Force 5. Her diverse work spans multiple genres, challenging traditional ideas of music from contemporary neo-Romantic to modern soundscapes. Since 2013, more than 30 of her original compositions have been premiered nationally, including Haunt: for video and stereophonic playback for the TurnUp Festival for Women Artists (2018), The Heart of Grief: for mixed ensemble and stereophonic playback (2019), and Closing Costs: an opera for written for Emory University. (2022)



Assistant Director **VINCENT BATES**

1st Assistant Camera **ALEX BURNHAM**

2nd Assistant Camera **RINNY WILSON**

Gaffer **DANIEL ELLIS**

Grip **DENNIS ALBERT**

Sound Mixer/Boom Op **LOU ROSADO**

Production Assistants **KENNETH TRUJILLO**
POOJA PRABAKARAN

Sound Design by **MAIS 55 AUDIO**
FABRIZIO FERRI
LOWIS BIANCO
LUCAS MUNIZ

Casting by **DENISE SANTOS**

Key Craft Services **LESLIE MOFFETT**

BTS Photographer **GABRIEL TRUJILLO**

VFX Artist **EMAD AL KHATEEB**

Color Correction by **BRYAN TAN**

Editing by **BERNIE GOMEZ**

VINCENT BATES

PRISCILA TORRES

Production Designer **VINCENT BATES**

Graphic Designer & Food Stylist **PRISCILA TORRES**





1 BEDROOM STUDIOS

PRISCILA TORRES
Director/Co-writer/Producer
torresmiranda88@gmail.com
(857)277-8340

VINCENT BATES
Producer/Co-writer
bates_v@hotmail.com
(803)348-7646