

SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL

EPK

MAKTUB MEDIA ENT. PRESENTS

SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL



A FILM BY TAMIKA LAMISON

- OFFICIAL SELECTION VisionFest Film Festival 2023
- OFFICIAL SELECTION Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION AIF 2024
- ESIFF 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION DIVERSITY IN CANNES SHORT FILM SHOWCASE 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION Essence Film Festival 2024
- WINNER A Day In The Sun 2024
- 2023 SHORTS COMPETITION QUARTER FINALIST PITTSBURGH shorts film festival
- OFFICIAL SELECTION Chesapeake Film Festival 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION DC Black Film Festival 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECT ON Festival of Cinema NYC 2024
- INTERNATIONAL BLACK THEATRE FESTIVAL 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION BraveMaker Film Fest 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION DWF LA 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION RICHMOND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION THE AMERICAN PAVILION EMERGING FILMMAKER SHOWCASE presented by GOLD HOUSE 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION THE PAN AFRICAN FILM FESTIVAL 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION Sistas 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION THE VIRGINIA BLACK FILM FESTIVAL 2024
- OFFICIAL SELECTION SEPTIMIUS AWARDS 2023



Diversity in Cannes American Pavilion Showcase
SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL



Cleveland Int'l Film Festival
SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL



Sistas Are Doin' It For Themselves
SUPERMAN DOESN'T STEAL

Festival Schedule

- July 29-August 3
Accra Indie Film Fest (Accra, Ghana)
- August 3
North Carolina Film Festival
- August 9
Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival
- Aug 17
DC Black Film Festival
- August 19 & 20
Septimius Awards (Amsterdam)
- Sep. 24-29
Richmond International Film Festival
- Oct. 20-21
Dumbo Film Festival
- Oct. 29-Nov. 2
Las Vegas Film Festival

- Pan African Film Festival
- Virginia Black Film Festival
- BronzeLens
- VisionFest
- Cleveland International Film Festival
- Sistas Are Doin' It For Themselves
- Diversity in Cannes
- American Pavilion Short Film Festival
- Dances With Films
- Black Girls Rock
- Echelon Studios Intl Film Fest
- BraveMaker
- Accra Indie Film Fest
- Intl Black Theater Fest

- Festival of Cinema NYC
- Martha's Vineyard Film Fest
- Tylerman Intl Social Consciousness
- Septimius Awards
- Essence Film Fest
- Chesapeake Film Fest
- Richmond Intl Film Fest
- International Children's Media
- DC Black Film Festival

- Black Girls Rock (postponed/ new date TBA)
- Martha's Vineyard African American Film Festival
- Richmond International Film Festival
- Make A Film Foundation Honors Presentation at Festival of Cinema NYC
- International Children's Media
- DC Black Film Festival
- Haiti International Children's Festival



Press



Press

Oscar Qualifying Pan African Film Festival (Premiere)

Audience Award

Vision Fest

Audience Award

A Place in the Sun Festival

Award Winner

Tylerman International Social Consciousness Film Festival

Best Original Short

Diversity in Cannes

Best Director, Best Short Film & Best Original Song

BraveMaker Film Festival

Pitch Fest Winner

Black Women Film Network Film Showcase

Best Screenplay Award

Virginia Black Film Festival

Best Cinematography Award



LOGLINE

Superman Doesn't Steal is a coming of Age story, seen through the eyes of 8 year old Harriet, who is as fascinated with superheroes as her older brother Jackson, however when they experience a troubling series of events that impact their family leaving emotional scars and causing them both to grow up fast, they must redefine their definitions of heroes, villains and yes, even Superman.



THE STORY

The late 70's to 1980 was a terrifying time for Black families in America as there was a child murderer on the loose- targeting and killing Black children in Atlanta. In this slice of life coming-of age story a young African-American brother and sister- Jackson & Harriet, fascinated with superheroes, villains and comic books- discover that good and evil, heroes and villains- are not always easy to distinguish.

Jackson and Harriet ride their bikes outside on a hot summer day, playing Batman and Robin and chatting about superheroes and villains. After placating his sister about why she can't be Batman, and creating an original villain that she can make her own- they ride home, tossing their bikes in the yard and entering into a family gathering in full swing.

Harriet hangs out with her Mom (Betty), watching her make Jiffy Corn Muffins and listening to the radio with news of the Atlanta Murders whispering in the background. Jackson runs upstairs to check his comic book stash, then grabs his jacket and joins his Mother Betty and Harriet in the kitchen. He immediately asks for money for the next issue of Superman. After being told no to money for comic books and sent to the local store for milk, Jackson and Harriet cut through the woods to get to the convenience store.

While there, Jackson steals a comic book and gets caught. When Jackson is dragged into the back office of the store, he yells for Harriet to go home. Harriet, who is only 8, takes off on a harrowing run home through the woods alone. When she arrives, her Mom/Betty questions her about her brother. As she does, Betty and other friends and family at the party, notice a police car cruising down the street and pulling up with Jackson in the back seat. Betty yells for her husband Gil who enters and sees the Police car and Jackson. They open the door as the Cop brings Jackson to the home. After delivering Jackson with a warning about how this could have ended differently, the Cop leaves and Jackson goes inside.

Betty & Gil are filled with disappointment, fear, sadness and embarrassment. Gil reprimands Jackson in front of the guests and family, takes off his belt and commands him to go upstairs. Betty tries to intervene but Gil is resolute. Some guests leave as Betty holds Harriet with tears in her eyes listening to Jackson's cries from upstairs being whipped by Gil.

After a while, Jackson comes into the living room with a handful of comic books. He turns on the fireplace. Remaining guests slowly leave. It's too hot for a fire. Jackson methodically tosses his comic books in the fire and watches them burn, with tears streaming down his face. Betty places a hand on Jackson's shoulder but he shrugs it off. She goes upstairs. Harriet comes over and asks: "Did you steal all of these?" Jackson responds, "Not all of them." Harriet then watches him and says, "Superman doesn't steal." Jackson replies: "I'm not Superman. I'm just me."

Harriet goes upstairs and sees Betty comforting Gil through a crack in the door. She notices something out of the corner of her eye. It is a comic book that Jackson dropped on his way to the burning. She picks it up and goes into her room. Later- the calm after the storm. The home is quiet and littered with the remnants of a half-enjoyed party. Betty and Gil sleep cradling each other. Jackson is in a fetal position on his bed. Harriet finishes reading the last page of the comic book. She then takes it and exits to the hallway. She knocks on her brothers' door. He tells her to go away. She then slips the comic book under the door. He sees it and gets up taking it. He opens the door. They share a moment... little sis has saved the day... for him. He opens the door wider, inviting her into his inner sanctum.





THE CAST



DAD

Mustafa Shakir

Cowboy Bebop



MOM

TAMIKA LAMISON

(Last Life)



HARRIET

Jordyn McIntosh

(Unprisoned)



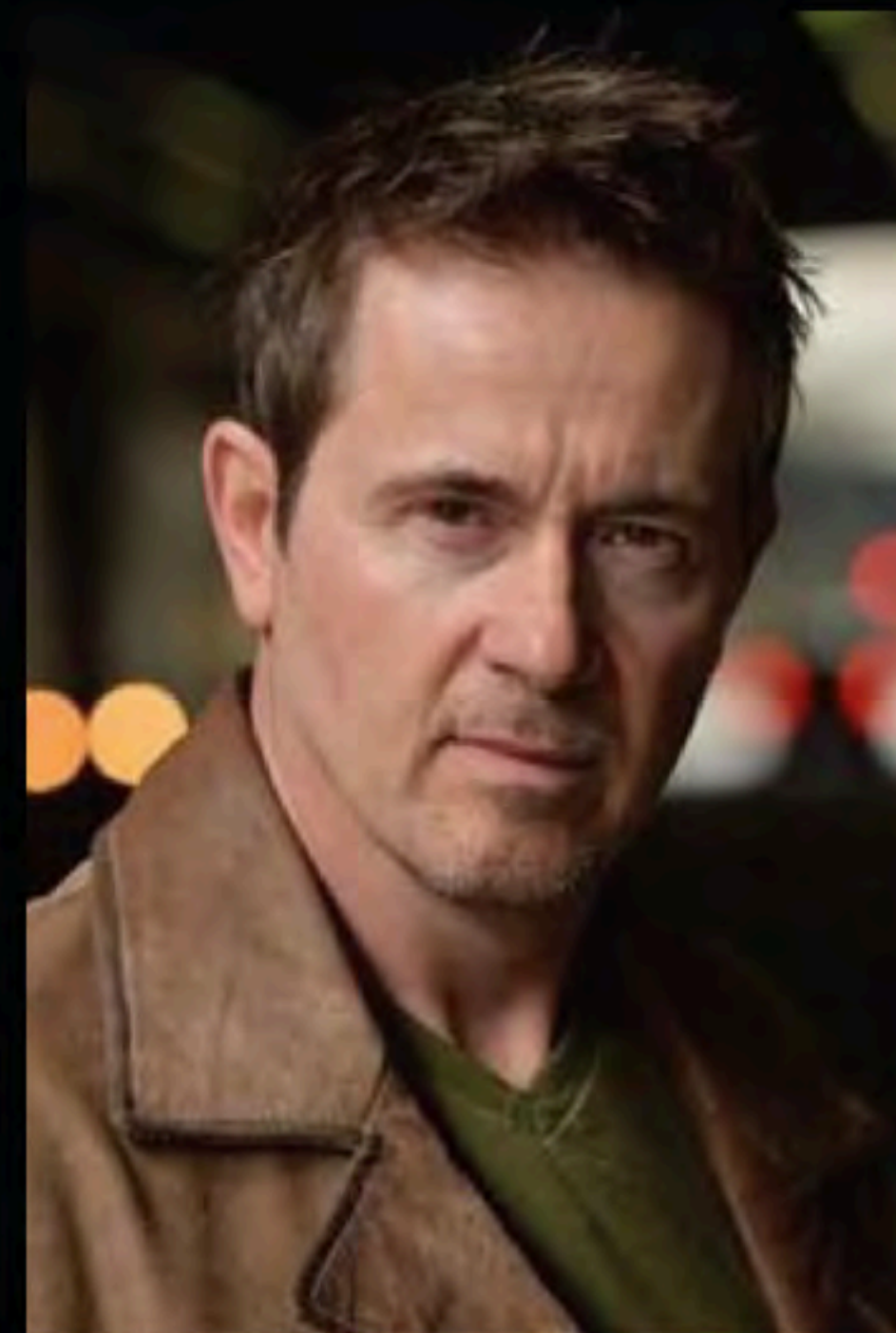
JACKSON

Ellis Hobbs IV.

(Possum Trot)



GOOD COP
Kellen Boyle
Florida Man



BAD COP
Mark Totty
(Criminal Minds)



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

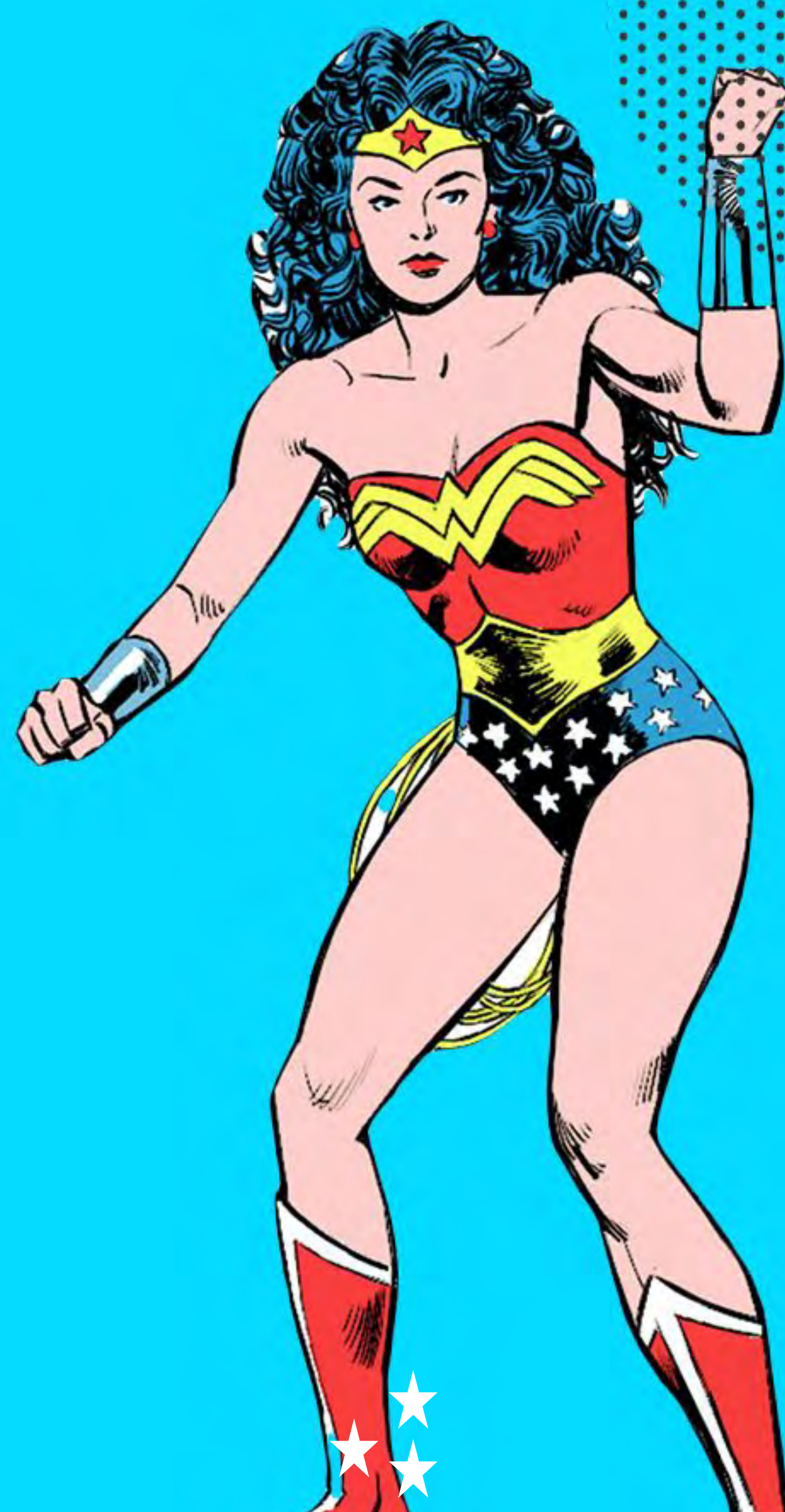
Writer/Producer

Growing up in the South, well before the internet, cell phones and society's current love-fest with technology, my brother and I would amuse ourselves by playing outside, riding our bikes and creating stories while inhabiting the spirits of our favorite superheroes. During one particularly memorable summer when all Black families were on edge and more nervous than usual due to the ongoing saga of the Atlanta Child Murders, a series of events unfolded that have haunted us both ever since. After many attempts at writing this incident as a short film, I believe I have finally captured it on the page.

Black Love is complicated. Black Love in families expresses itself- sometimes in traumatic & painful ways, often to protect Black boys (and girls) from their own mistakes, but really from a society at large which often doesn't allow them to make any.

Set in the suburban south on a hot summer day that only gets hotter as events heat up and combust, this is a coming-of-age story that involves the first time my brother and I were called the "N" word. It's a story of an innocent summer of family and fun that turned dark and painful. It's a story that highlights the sad truth that when inhabiting a Black body- there is no such thing as an innocent mistake in a world where it could cost you your life.

Superheroes, Villains, Tough Love, Black Love- this coming-of-age film, based on a true, personal story- is an exploration of all of these things through the pov of a little girl and a little boy who want to be superheroes in a world determined to only see them as villains.



DIRECTOR'S BIO



Tamika graduated from the American University, Howard University and is an AFI alum of the prestigious Directing Workshop for Women. She was a research consultant at the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences**, prior to being tapped as the Exec. Director of the **Commercial Directors Diversity Program (CDDP)** - a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion program she built for the **DGA & AICP**. She has won numerous honors, awards and fellowships including IFP's Gordon Parks indie film award, ABC/Disney Screenwriting Fellowship, CBS Director's initiative and others. Tamika created the non-profit, **Make A Film Foundation (MAFF)** which grants film wishes to children with serious or life-threatening medical conditions by teaming them with noted writers, directors & producers who help them to create short film legacies. She has produced 4 Award winning shorts and over 100 short docs via MAFF. She is a writer and supervising producer for the television show "Monogamy", currently in its 3rd Season. Tamika is also the SVP of Development & Production at **PhilmCo**, which has a double bottom line of Art Advocacy and Commerce. She is currently developing a feature with Catherine Hardwicke attached and was a Writer & Showrunner on a series of shorts for Effie T. Brown/Gamechanger films. Her Original Pilot "B.E.E.S." is a finalist for the PGA Power of Diversity Workshop. Tamika produced the Tribeca Audience Award winning doc feature "Ferguson Rises" (PBS Independent Lens/ Amazon Prime), the hybrid doc/narrative short "Bourn Kind" that premiered at "Tribeca" this year and the short doc "Are we There yet" about Christian Nationalism, which is beginning its festival run. She also helped develop and sell 2 TV series to Paramount and Searchlight, respectively with Billy Porter and Hanelle Culpepper attached as EP/Directors. The award winning feature narrative, "Last Life" which she produced and stars in can be found on TubiTV.



Erin G. Wesley

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Erin G. Wesley is a Director of Photography based in Los Angeles. As a storyteller, Erin's aim is to create visual experiences that inspire freedom, purpose and imagination. She values connectedness and firmly believes that through storytelling, our shared experiences emerge. Her commitments are to provide inclusive, boundless imagery that represents who she is and depicts the world we share.





PRODUCERS



Carol Ann Shine is an award-winning producer who has produced over 50 titles for film and television. A graduate of USC's School of Cinema & Television, "SHINE," as she is affectionately known in the industry, has focused her career on empowering marginalized communities by helping to tell compelling stories that uplift and inspire everyone. Shine's storied career spans film, scripted and unscripted television, shorts, and books. Highlights from her long list of credits include "Blackbird" starring Academy Award® winner Mo'Nique, I Am Legend starring Academy Award® nominee, Will Smith, the groundbreaking LOGO television series, "Noah's Arc," a Student Academy Award® national finalist, Waking Mele, Dirty Lies also produced by Catherine Hardwicke, and "Pastor Brown", a critical and commercial hit on Lifetime.

In addition, Shine served as consulting producer on Jada Pinkett-Smith's directorial debut, "The Human Contract", that premiered at the Cannes Film Festival. Shine's latest endeavors include development of a Latinx Xmas Carol, "Mr. Avaros and the Ghosts of Christmas Past", a feature film with Lionsgate Entertainment, "Superstition: Final Chance" (a thriller-horror film by Jeffrey Reddick of the Final Destination franchise and Stephen Susco, writer of The Grudge), a new comedy series, "Comedy Cabaret", a new reality series featuring the rise of new cooking star and entrepreneur Chef Yealang Smith called "Soul: Hollywood", and a millennial focused religious series called "Victory" and "What Next?". On the literary front, Shine is creating and writing an African-American adaptation inspired by the Agatha Christie stories of Miss Marple, Sidney Sinclair and the Southside Tales. SHINE lives in Los Angeles and is a proud member of the Director's Guild of America and Producers Guild of America.



Chris Beal has over 20 years of experience in the entertainment industry. She has worked at Warner Bros. as a Production Management Trainee, where she worked on big-budget productions from development to release. A few films included "Message In A Bottle", "The Green Mile", "Deep Blue Sea", "Romeo Must Die", and "Bait".

Soon after she landed a position at Lions Gate where she served as the Distribution Coordinator for Worldwide Television. After a few years at Lions Gate Beal decided take a leap of faith and start the International Diversity Film Market to help filmmakers of a diverse background get distribution as well as get an open door with ideas, scripts and Indie films.

In addition, Chris has done Line Producing for movies such as, "I-See-You.com" with Beau Bridges and Rosanna Arquette, "House of Flesh Mannequins", "Detention", "Hollywont". She also served as Producer on "The Lost Coast Tapes". She also is a producer for Spike Television Network, Discovery Channel and The Travel Network on such television shows



Dominique DeLeon earned his undergraduate degree at Harvard University, where he studied Government.

Realizing that he was more interested in storytelling than politics, Dominique began a winding journey that started in music and ended up with an MFA in Film from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

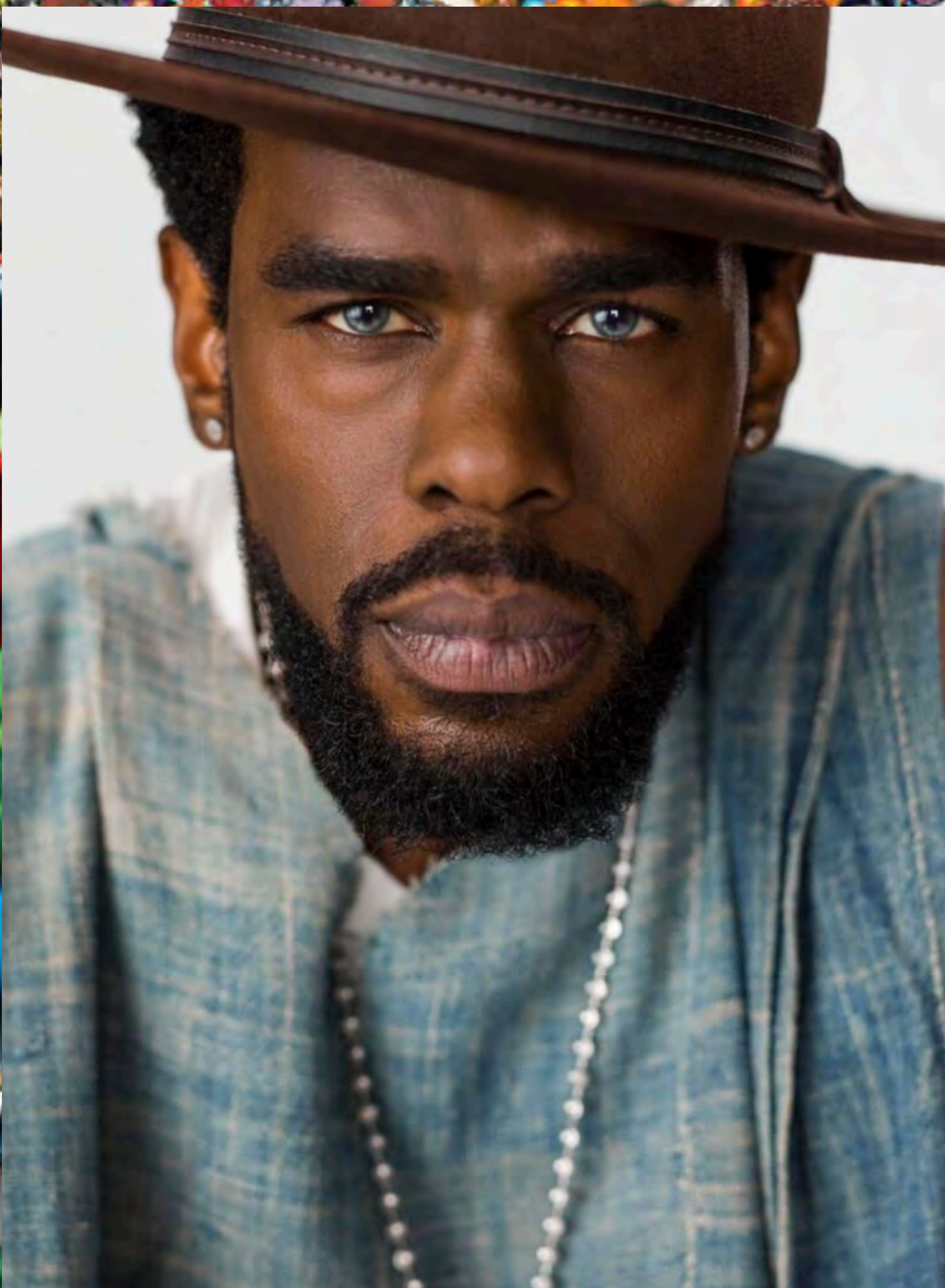
Currently based in Los Angeles, Dominique divides his time between photography, directing and developing his first feature film.

LINE PRODUCER



Ben Ephraim is an award winning writer, director, and producer, known for American Halloween (2022), Hummingbird (2023) and No Looking Back (2022). Ben has several exciting projects currently in various stages of production.

Co-Producer



MUSIC



Black Love (end credit song)

[Mustafa Shakir](#) is an American actor best known for his work on the Marvel Netflix series *Luke Cage* and *Quarry*. Mustafa was born in North Carolina, but grew up in Harlem, New York City. Growing up there, he would attend readings at a local theater, where he took his first step into the world of acting. After high school, Mustafa attended The New School, a private research university in New York City, where he graduated from in 2001.

Mustafa made his acting debut in 1996, appearing on an episode of the police drama *New York Undercover* (1996) as Ronald Taylor. In 2000, Mustafa made his big screen debut in the action crime film *Shaft* (2000), playing the minor role of a protester. He would continue to appear in films throughout his career, but would find more work on the small screen, appearing in film & iconic television shows like *Law & Order* (2001-2004), *House* (2004), *NCIS: Los Angeles* (2014), and *NCIS: New Orleans* (2017). In 2016, Mustafa landed his first regular series role when he was cast as Moses on the neo-noir crime drama series *Quarry* (2016).

In 2017, Mustafa appeared on the HBO drama series *The Deuce* (2017-2019), in the recurring role of Big Mike. In 2018, Mustafa played the villain John "Bushmaster" McIver on the second season of the Marvel Netflix series *Luke Cage* (2018). He had to drop about 10 to 15 pounds in order to execute the Capoeira fighting style Bushmaster uses, training six to seven times a week on top of cardio. He was nominated for a Black Reel Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor, Drama Series for his portrayal of Bushmaster. He has completed the live-action adaptation of *Cowboy Bebop* (2021), playing the role of Jet Black alongside [John Cho](#) and [Daniella Pineda](#).

Outside of acting, Mustafa is also a musician and poet, using the alias Mustafa Effortless. He is a huge comic book fan and was excited to play the role of Bushmaster on *Luke Cage*.

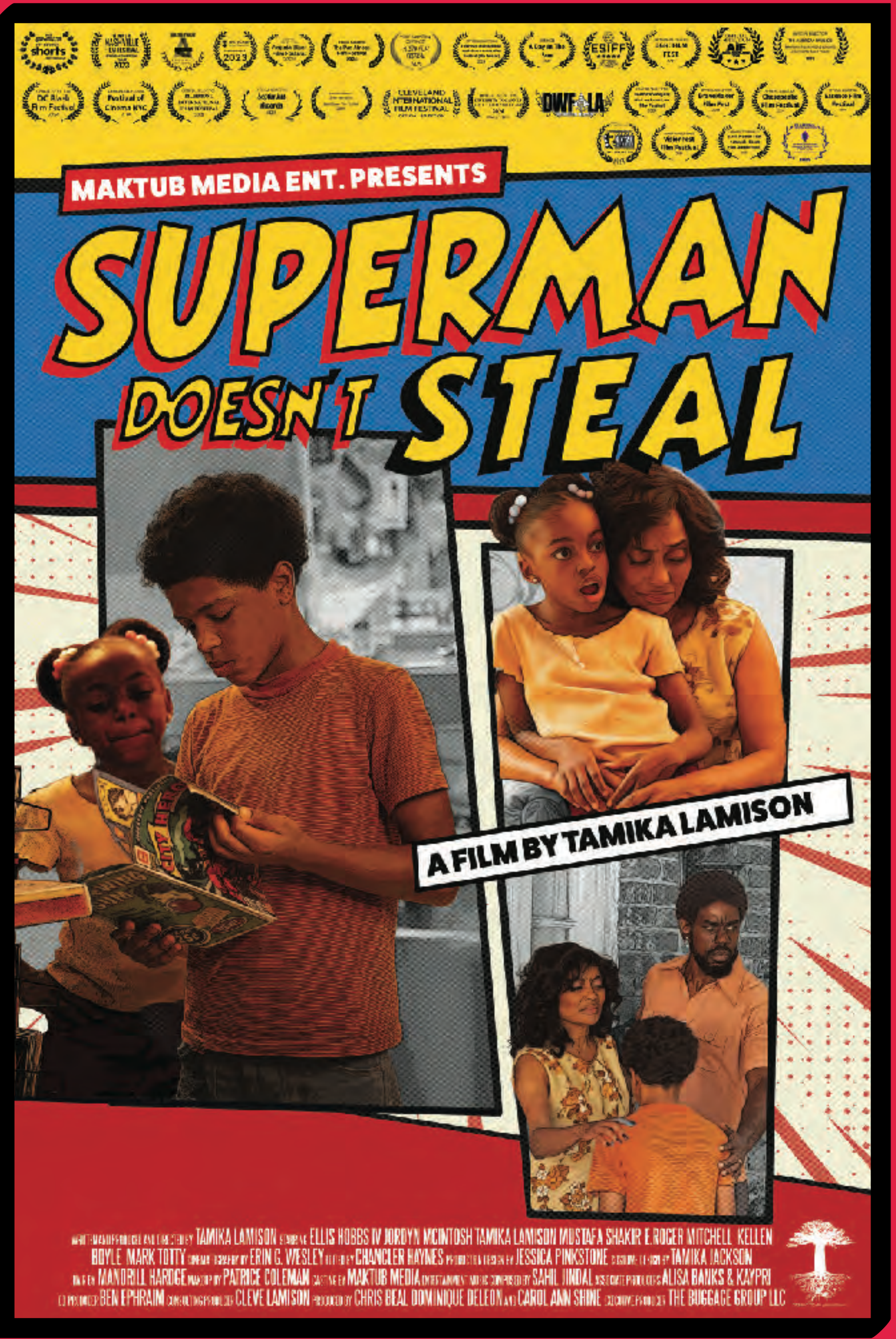


Cleve Lamison - Consulting Producer

Cleve Lamison is the author of the science fiction novel [Full-Blood Half-Breed](#) (Penguin Random House), and he is a contributing writer to Suvudu.com, a science fiction and fantasy blog at Random House. He is a staff writer for the television show Craig Ross Jr.'s Monogamy (Urban Movie Channel), and he wrote and directed the feature film Following Bliss, which won Best Feature Film at the Global Arts International Film Festival. His short film "The Story" won the Denver World Film Festival, and his short film "Jack for President" was a runner-up in the New York 24-Hour Filmmaking Contest. He was the artistic director of the BlackBird Theatre Company in NYC; created, wrote, and drew the cartoon strip Rick the Roach for the Richmond News Leader; and is a veteran of the U.S. Army Reserves. He holds a BA from Virginia Commonwealth University.







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THANK YOU!