

# Where in the Hell



**ST. LOUIS**  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL  
OFFICIAL SELECTION  
2024

MELBOURNE  
QUEER  
FILM  
FESTIVAL  
OFFICIAL SELECTION  
2024

NEWFILMMAKERS LA  
OFFICIAL SELECTION  
2025

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
**POPPY JASPER**  
2025  
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL





**LOGLINE**

A pair of defectors from the crumbling LA film industry find themselves on an unlikely road trip to track down a missing girlfriend.





## SYNOPSIS

When her girlfriend disappears mid-road trip, sardonic prop master Kasey is left stranded in a California backwater.

Panicked, she hitches a ride with cash-strapped actor Alan on his trek to an audition in Canada. Together, the unlikely duo dodges Reno psychics, stale corn nuts, and border security on a quest to find a missing soulmate and maybe validation.



## CONTACT

Laramie Dennis  
[ld@laramiedennis.com](mailto:ld@laramiedennis.com)

Ricky de Laveaga  
+1-323-999-1170

[Trailer](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Website](#)

## EARLY REVIEWS

“Kasey is bitterly cynical while Alan is blindingly optimistic, which makes for a hilarious odd-couple road movie. Featuring beautifully shot landscapes, Laramie Dennis’s laidback debut feature film draws on, and queers, the work of Sam Shepard, and will delight fans of offbeat indie comedies à la the ‘90s works of Hal Hartley and Alison Anders.” Valerie Webb, MQFF

“Where in the Hell is a gem of a film—a lighthearted yet thought-provoking tale about letting go of control and embracing the absurdities along the way.” Paul Hibbard, [Zekefilm](#)

“Dennis has done a masterful job... Killion and Lee have a laidback chemistry reminiscent of siblings forced to spend extended periods in the car together, both wishing they could be elsewhere but, at the same time, giving off an air that it’s them against the world.” Lisa Nystrom, [FilmInk](#)

★★★★★ “What a delight, featuring one of my favorite long scenes of the year that could’ve gone on forever.” Michael Doshier, [Letterboxd](#)

## INTERVIEWS

[3CR On Screen](#)

[Greg King's  
Film Reviews](#)

## FILM FESTIVALS

St. Louis International  
Film Festival

Nomination for New Filmmakers Forum  
Emerging Director Award - 2024

Melbourne Queer Film  
Festival

2024

Poppy Jasper International  
Film Festival

2025

NewFilmmakers Los Angeles

2025

## DIRECTOR'S BIO

Laramie Dennis (she/her) is a writer/director intent on deploying sly humor, deft subtext, and "a knack for lively, naturalistic dialogue" in her exploration of complex women and other underrepresented characters. She got her start in New York developing and directing Off-Off-Broadway plays, most notably at the Flea Theater, where she was a resident director, and at Soho Rep, where she co-founded and chaired the Soho Rep Writer Director Lab. Laramie's background in theater continues to inform her directing style. She prioritizes close collaboration with her actors, workshopping and rehearsing scripts weeks in advance of shooting, and borrowing details from her actors' lives to enrich their characters.

Where in the Hell, an offbeat road movie completed in 2024, marks her feature film debut. Life on sMars, a feature project inspired by a real-life NASA experiment, earned her a spot at THROUGH HER LENS: The Tribeca Chanel Women's Filmmaker Program, along with a development grant from The Tribeca Film Institute. With sMars, she made finalist for the TFI Sloan Filmmaker Fund, the SFFILM Sloan Fellowship, and the Women in Film Production Program. Girl Pretending to Read Rilke, her adaptation of a quirky coming-of-age novel by her mother, has made finalist for Script Pipeline and, in 2025, The Athena List.

Her movies have been programmed at festivals including the Vancouver International Film Festival, the St. Louis Int'l Film Festival, the Melbourne Queer Film Festival, the Poppy Jasper Int'l Film Festival, and NewFilmmakers LA. She has a BA from Wesleyan University, and an MFA from USC.



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In 2020, I was frustrated creatively. Covid had forced me to shelve a different project, and I felt lost. But after driving up Highway 395 on a two-day escape from LA, I got interested in capturing the lockdown. I was inspired by the visuals of empty, open roads. Trash. Birds. The absence of humankind. Misery became opportunity.

I stole the premise for *Where in the Hell* from a short story by Sam Shepard, plucking out the straight male protagonist who's been abandoned by his wife and replacing him with a queer female character, newly abandoned by her partner. Though I don't identify as queer, there's a lot of me in Kasey. Through her, I'm exorcising my demons. Exploring a suspicion that I'm selfish in my relationship, putting my own needs and aspirations first. And to what end? My life partner/producing partner, Ricky de Laveaga (who does identify as queer), often rails against Los Angeles, advocating that we move away—to Colorado, to Canada, to Uruguay. "What would I do in Uruguay?" I say to him, dumbfounded. In the movie, Kasey says to Alan, "What would I do in Montana?" torn between going after her girlfriend or going back to LA to salvage her career, even as the movie industry is crumbling.

Alan is my comedic interpretation of the mysterious, dark-haired woman who appears in Shepard's story. I wanted to force Kasey into close quarters with this straight, square-seeming actor guy, someone she wouldn't be friends with in a million years. I wanted to make them both uncomfortable, and see what would happen when they set out on a road trip together. My intention, I thought, was to magnify the unsettling dystopia of the lockdown, and delve into what the pandemic was doing to human relationships. What came out was a buddy comedy. A surprising, life-affirming story about two people reluctantly being there for each other.

A movie I studied early on was Kelly Reichardt's *Certain Women*. I admire Reichardt so much. Her stark, arresting visuals. The way she stays out of her actors' way. (I admire Debra Granik for this too.) But our movie needed humor. An elevated sense of fun. Laughs are my way in to the emotional core. Alexander Payne's *Sideways* became a touchstone. Further sources of inspiration were *Morvern Callar*; *Paris, Texas*; and *Y Tu Mamá También*.

In shooting *Where in the Hell*, we set out to capture kinetic images that put the focus on the characters, favoring a handheld camera that roots us right there with them. Lingering inside a simple two-shot or an expansive wide, we've made space to discover spontaneous behavior and emotional truth. My hope is that our audience will find the movie funny and moving and, above all, human. The script, the setting, the camera work, the acting, all of it is in service of embracing our humanity.

## CAST + CREW BIOS

**CAM KILLION (he/they - KASEY)** is a trans actor and filmmaker who began his career working behind the camera on shows like HBO's *The Leftovers*. In front of the camera, Cam can be seen in Season 1 of HBO's *Sex Lives of College Girls* and Season 5 of *Grown-ish*, in addition to short films like *Citrus Juicer* and *Heart Throb* (*Outfest* 2019). They wrote, directed, and starred in a short film, *Euphoric*, co-produced with Laramie Dennis, that was selected for the 2024 Frameline Completion Fund, premiered at the Frameline Film Festival, and has since played at *Out on Film Atlanta*, the *Charlotte Film Festival*, and the *Way OUT West Film Fest*. *Where in the Hell is Cam's* feature film debut.

**JOOHUN LEE (he/him - ALAN)** is a Korean American actor/writer from New Jersey. He graduated magna cum laude from NYU studying biochemistry and went on to win a Fulbright Scholarship to research Dengue Virus in Honduras for one year. He then earned his MD from Johns Hopkins Medical School, where he spent his nights and weekends attending screenwriting classes, performing in an improv troupe, and frightening his Asian parents. His first feature script, *Transplant*, was selected for the 2020 Sundance Screenwriters Lab, and produced in 2022 by Nina Yang Bongiovi and Forest Whitaker. He has served as the principal actor in national commercials for Nissan, Chevy, Hotels.com and more. His docuseries, *Searching For My Half Brother*, garnered more than 6 million views across 8 videos and attracted nearly 30k Instagram followers in a span of 2 months.



**ASHLEY DIAZ (she/her - DOLA)** is an Afro-Cuban American actor and comedian. She began her comedy journey in her hometown of Miami, FL, where she performed weekly improv shows and stand up comedy, and did sketch writing. She made semi-finalist on “Ultimate Miami Comedian” and finalist on NBC's "Stand Up," and is a member of the UCB NYC writers room. Ashley is now based in LA, where she continues to do stand up and pursue her comedy career.

**HECTOR CEBALLOS (he/him - PRODUCER)** is a Mexican American filmmaker and multimedia content producer. His producing credits include the Hulu Original Series “East Los High,” and wrap-around social marketing content. His short film, Remember Me in Red, was shortlisted for the Iris Prize and played 40+ festivals, winning Audience Awards at the San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival (now known as Frameline) and elsewhere. In addition to his producing role on Where in the Hell, Hector is currently translating and adapting the Mexican true crime podcast series “Fausto,” which he will direct for Spotify.

**Ricky de Laveaga (he/they - PRODUCER/EDITOR)** was born an artist, started making movies in high school, and never looked back. He majored in film at UT Austin, concentrating on documentary editing and ethnographic film. Between shooting and editing commercials, television, and feature films, he collaborated with ad agencies producing and documenting audiovisual experiences and installations. For the past decade, he has been working as a digital media consultant, specializing in video and web design/development, as he continues to pursue cinematic projects.



**MARILYN FLORES (she/her - DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY)** is a narrative and documentary cinematographer, originally from El Salvador. Passionate about storytelling through visuals, she has shot numerous short films, music videos, and documentaries, often exploring themes of belonging, identity, and womanhood. She earned a BA in Cinema from San Francisco State University, and began her career in the Bay Area, producing videos and non-profit documentaries while working as a freelance videographer and video editor for major tech companies such as Google, Salesforce, and Bain & Company. In 2019, she shot a documentary on the Central American Caravans in Tijuana, funded by Creative Capital and the Internet Archive, deepening her interest and experience in guerilla, vérité documentary-style filmmaking. Having relocated to LA, Marilyn is expanding her work in narrative projects, continuously evolving as a cinematographer.

**ANNA EICHENAUER (she/her - COMPOSER)** was born in Bamberg, Germany, where she became interested in music production and songwriting at a young age. Although her roots are in rock music, she enjoys composing in a wide range of genres, including cinematic minimalism, electronic sound design, and ambient. In 2019 she won the 4th Sample Hero Scoring Competition. In 2021 she was awarded Composer of The Year by Protege. Her music has been featured in short films, commercials, documentaries, TV shows and video games. She lives in Los Angeles with her wife.

**IAN CHASE (he/him - SOUND DESIGNER)** got started in post sound editing and mixing audio on broadcast commercial work for Nike, Sonos, and Under Armour. Subsequently, he moved into theatrical work such as Marvel's Guardians of the Galaxy 3, Amazon Studio's Honey Boy, and A24's Everything Everywhere All at Once. He has been shortlisted for a BAFTA and an Academy Award (EEAO), nominated for a MPSE Golden Reel (She Hulk), and won a Primetime Emmy for Sound Editing (Moon Knight). Ian is passionate about complex, compelling storytelling. What he loves most about sound editing is solving the creative and technical challenges while building meaningful relationships with his teammates.





[whereinthemovie.com](http://whereinthemovie.com)