ISSUE 10 OCTOBER 2023

Springfield, St. Louis & Kansas City's rising artists New releases from local & international filmmakers...

# ILM - ART - MUSIC -WRITING MOOD TO THE

FILM - ART - MUSIC - WRITING THEATER - COMEDY - NEWS THEATER

REAPERROAD

PAGE 4

Poetry, MMA, Clothing
Design, Visual Artists,
Comedy, Film Directors,
Musicians, TV/Film Acting,
Theater, abroad art
& more inside...

PRINGFIELD CONTEMPORARY THEATRE

FAIRVIEW

DIRECTED BY KEISHA MCMILLEN Page 46





# WERE BIKE FILMS

### WELCOME TO OUR MAGAZINE!

## THIS ZINE...

Welcome to the 10th issue the Yellow Bike Magazine! What's the point of this new and awesome zine? Well, we want to showcase all of the amazing artists in Springfield, St Louis, Kansas City and beyond. All three of these great cities of Missouri seem to produce hard working and dedicated creatives.

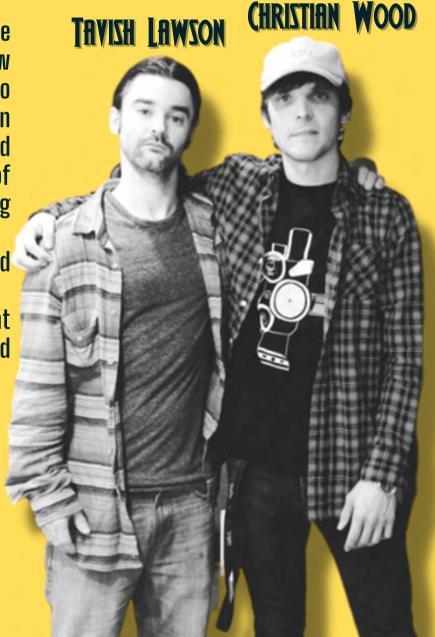
We think that deserves more press and we want to give it directly to <u>YOU</u>.

Sit back and dive into the many different arts produced in Missouri and beyond with this issue of Yellow Bike Magazine.

### MEET YELLOW BIKE









# PATREON\_COM/YELLOWBIKEFILMS

### WHO WE ARE

We're Yellow Bike. Among many other aspects of content creation, we focus on creating high quality art pertaining to cinema. Yellow Bike Films was founded in 2016. We started off making comedic sketches on our phones and editing through iMovie. Fast forward to today, we're a multinational award-winning film production company. We're based here in Springfield, Missouri and have been practicing the craft ever since. In 2020, we released our first short film titled "ANATHEMA". Later in 2021, we released our short film "CHIMERA" into the festivals and it performed very well, winning over 5 awards for best direction and best film. It's now 2023 and we just screened the prequel to CHIMERA, PITIFUL, LOST CREATURE. Our new short film "BRINE" is out on Patreon NOW! Check out the past issues for anything you may have missed about YBF! ISSUU.COM/YELLOWBIKEFILMS.

In 2023, we're more than just a film company. We'll be putting our time towards practicing our main passion through filmmaking, but also towards new avenues for the brand such as our YBP, a new podcast coming in January of 2024, our Patreon, our local presence in MO, smaller sketches on our YouTube and TikTok, and even this inclusive magazine. There's so many other paths we're taking this year to push YB across the world on all platforms. We want to first establish YB in not only Springfield, but St. Louis and Kansas City as well. But why? Well, to simply be able to include more creative people within our company in every way we can. To help ARTISTS, our COMMUNITY, and our COMPANY grow TOGETHER. A YB team in STL & KC to direct films, to produce a magazine, to literally produce any content they want to make under the umbrella that is Yellow Bike.





# SIGN UP FOR OUR PART CON

### PATREON\_COM/YELLOWBIKEFILMS



Please consider signing up for our
Patreon! This truly helps us more than you
may know. We're able to fund our films
and other projects without using every
single dollar from our own pockets. A
small amount of \$5/mo would go SO far for
us. The Patreon page will be launched the
moment Issue #2 is launched so please,
help us continue to do what we love.
Become a Patron for YBF and get tons of
cool perks and services that will be
launched very soon! For now, simply
support us by signing up and get on our
Patreon Wall!

### SUPPORT US BY SIGNING UP!

# SUPPORT LOCAL FILM:



**CHECK US OUT!** 

# REAPERROAD

a film by St. Louis filmmaker Mando Franco

PREY FOR THE WOODS REXPERROXD Imagine being on a long dark road in the woods late at night.

Maybe you took a wrong turn.

Now you're lost.
What if, while driving down this never ending abyss... You heard things.
Something unhuman. What if you saw something...
Something... Not human.

No one knows where you are. There is No GPS. No Phones. No lights. Scary Right?

Welcome to Reaper Road.







@ @reaper.roadfilm

experience with sound design and practical FX. It is possible to make a truly terrifying and small film to the highest and most effective standard. We are passionate bunch and bring many talents to the table. The film is a female led, character driven horror film with a queer love story and plenty of thrills and chills. While not specific what year it is, this film is set in a time with no cell phones and being gay was not as accepted. This film is a horror film, not only about being lost in the woods, but also about trying to find out who you are and how to find yourself. I've been dreaming about making movies my whole life. While I've played film festivals all over the world, the time has come to make a feature film. To do this, I've assembled an amazingly talented team of actors, artists and filmmakers from all over the Midwest and the country. One of the biggest feats of making this movie a reality, are the making of monsters. The entities and creature FX are all practical and created with a strong sense of nostalgia for the golden era of horror. Monsters from the 80's. I've brought on master sculptor and award winning FX Artist Logan Cole to help me design and create this monsters. We have shot more than half of the film already. Your donations will help us finish production and move into post production. Funds will be spread out across, craft services, materials and props and additional production costs. We are a small and passionate bunch, but we bring something unique to the table. Why help us? because we're making a terrifying movie. This film will scare you and plant nightmarish imagery in your head. AND! There are perks! Downloads of the film, posters, props and more! Help us make nightmares come true and take a ride down Reaper Road with us." -Mando Franco

"While a small production, we up the ante in making a creepy and innovative



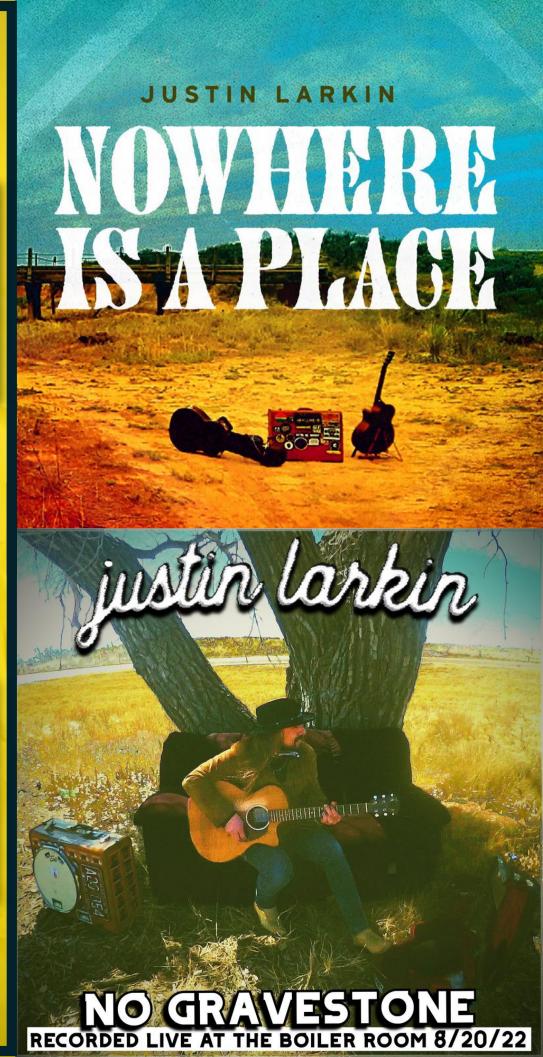
Jessica Johns, the witty and fearless comedian, has carved her unique path in the world of comedy, transitioning from a small-town life in Butler, MO, to the stages of Los Angeles and beyond. After pursuing acting in LA, Jessica found her true calling in comedy. In 2017, she stepped into the iconic Belly Room at the Comedy Store, a moment that changed her life forever. Embracing her vulnerability and sharp wit, Jessica discovered her authentic voice, captivating audiences across the country. Her perspective on the human experience, shaped by her own journey, brings a fresh and relevant angle to comedy. Back in Missouri, she found her home at The Blue Room, becoming the first woman to grace the new main stage in 2021. Opening for renowned acts like Kelsey Cook and Maria Bamford, Jessica is now taking her laughter-inducing talents on the road, with upcoming performances at the Boomerang Comedy Theatre in Baton Rouge, LA, on November 10. Comedy enthusiasts, be prepared for an unforgettable night of humor and insight with Jessica Johns.













Justin Larkin, a talented musician hailing from the heart of Springfield, Missouri, has spent the last 15+ years serenading Midwestern America with his soul-stirring melodies. A singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist, Larkin is the creative force behind the entrancing tunes of Mood Ring Circus, a rock'n'roll band that has charmed audiences far and wide. Inspired by the musical legends like Rolling Stones, Gram Parsons, and Tom Petty, Larkin embarked on his musical journey as a teenager, busking on street corners across the country. His experiences on the road shaped his distinctive style, blending Roots, Soul, and Rock'n'Roll into what he calls "Cosmic Ozarkana Music". In 2017, Larkin and his band ventured to Cleveland, Ohio, crafting their first full-length album "Limbo Daze" with platinum producer Jim Wirt. Larkin's solo performances are equally mesmerizing, featuring his modified suitcase drum, foot tambourines, harmonica, and acoustic guitar, creating a symphony as captivating as a full band. In 2022, he unveiled his much-anticipated debut album, "Nowhere Is a Place," a sonic masterpiece weaving tales of the Ozarks' spirit and love, a testament to Larkin's musical prowess and heartfelt artistry. Scan Justin's QR code to hear his music!







Shannon Joy, a vibrant painter hailing from Springfield, Missouri, has transformed life's challenges into powerful strokes of resilience and creativity. Originally from Kansas, she settled in Springfield 22 years ago, where her artistic journey truly blossomed. Her passion for art ignited in 2013 during her stay at a Women's shelter, where an art therapy class became the canvas for her dreams. Since then, her artistic odyssey has been nothing short of inspiring. Shannon's artistic endeavors took a turn in 2015 when her first commission found a home, marking the beginning of her illustrious career. The year 2016 witnessed her debut show, a testament to her growing talent. Officially establishing her art business in 2021, Shannon's work transcends the canvas; she is a celebrated author, co-authoring 7 published books in the past 12 years. Her eloquence and resilience have graced various platforms; she's been a keynote speaker at numerous events and a guest on seven podcasts. A staunch advocate for women, Shannon has championed five bills at the state level. Her upcoming project, "In The Black - stories of women who have turned a negative life event into a positive impact on society," reflects her dedication. In this transformative endeavor, Shannon portrays 52 remarkable women in black dresses, each a testament to overcoming challenges such as abuse, drug use, neglect, and health issues. Through her art, Shannon paints not just portraits but stories of strength, resilience, and the extraordinary power of the human spirit. Scan Shannon's QR code now!



### CHRIS BURROS

In the heart of Springfield, amidst the ebb and flow of university life, a talented poet emerged, casting a vibrant light upon the local literary landscape. Chris Burros, a native of Springfield and a former student at Missouri State University, found his poetic voice under the mentorship of Gemma Campanini, a respected figure in the Springfield poetry community. It was during a workshop led by Campanini that Burros discovered the power of his words. Since that transformative experience, he has been weaving tapestries of emotions through free verse poetry, captivating audiences at open mics and slams across the Springfield area. Burros' poetry is as diverse as life itself, spanning a spectrum of topics. Yet, his true brilliance shines in his ability to infuse humor into his verses. Despite grappling with the shadows of depression, Burros believes in the healing power of laughter. He sees poetry not just as words on paper, but as a conduit to bring moments of joy to others, illuminating the world, if even for a brief moment.





#### THE DEFINITION OF ANALOG"

01101100

Analog:

The opposite of digital. Of, relating to, or being a mechanism Or device in which information is represented by

Continuously

Variable

**Physical** 

Qualities.

Digital

Is a hug emoji on Facebook,

**Analog** 

Is a hug.

An actual embrace -

How tight you squeeze,

How long it lasts,

How it makes you feel.

Continuously

Variable

**Physical** 

01101111

Our hearts have been replaced

By a computer.

Our spirits have been replaced

By code.

We are merely the ghosts That haunt a data center

In Seattle.

01110110

Al stands for Artificial Intelligence

And we are worried

IT will take our jobs.

If you rename Al Artificial Interaction

You will see our jobs

Are the one thing

IT has left us.

Search my name on social media,

The photo you see is not me,

IT is a soul-less series of zeroes and ones

That look like me.

A series of zeroes and ones, Like those you have read so far

And they end with:

01100101

And that series of zeroes and ones represent

What Al can never touch,

What I.T. can never replicate,

For that series is the binary for the word LOVE

A continuously

Variable

**Physical** 

Quality.

#### "FORTITUDE"

I opened my heart to the painter -

Upon blank canvas paint my pain.

Upon blank canvas paint a reminder,

Life is best lived in this moment

Not in the moments passed,

Nor in those yet to come.

Fortitude hangs above my bed -

A tree battered by seasons of storms,

Leaves now stripped to reveal its bruises.

Another storm is passing through,

Branches bend to nature's will.

In this moment bark stripped away.

But the tree stands in hope

That its strength be renewed by the sun's distant rays

The canvas holds more than paint -

Every storm I have faced,

Yet the branches grow.

In the branches hides the painter's heart,

"Face the wind and find your strength,

You don't face this struggle alone"

All the trees in the forest feel the same breeze

Yet the branches grow.

I asked the painter to paint my pain,

But she painted my hope.



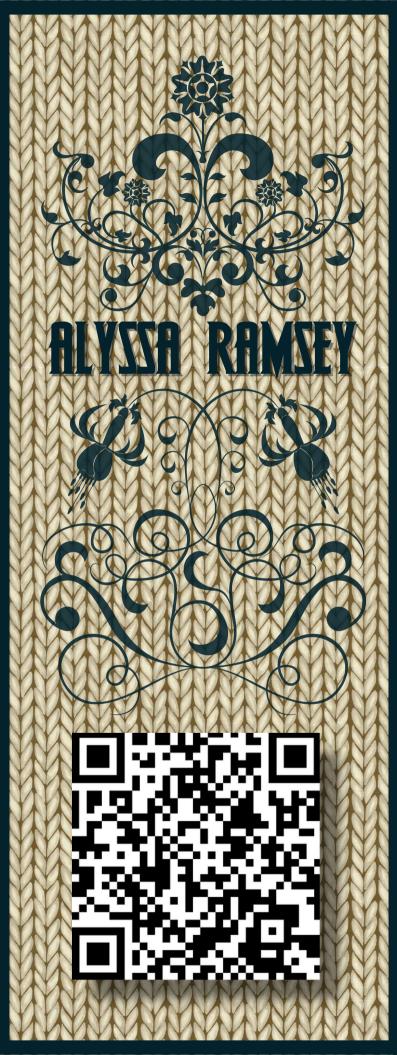


2021 was a difficult year for me. I shared some information with Shannon about the struggles I was going through and she painted the painting pictured in this article.

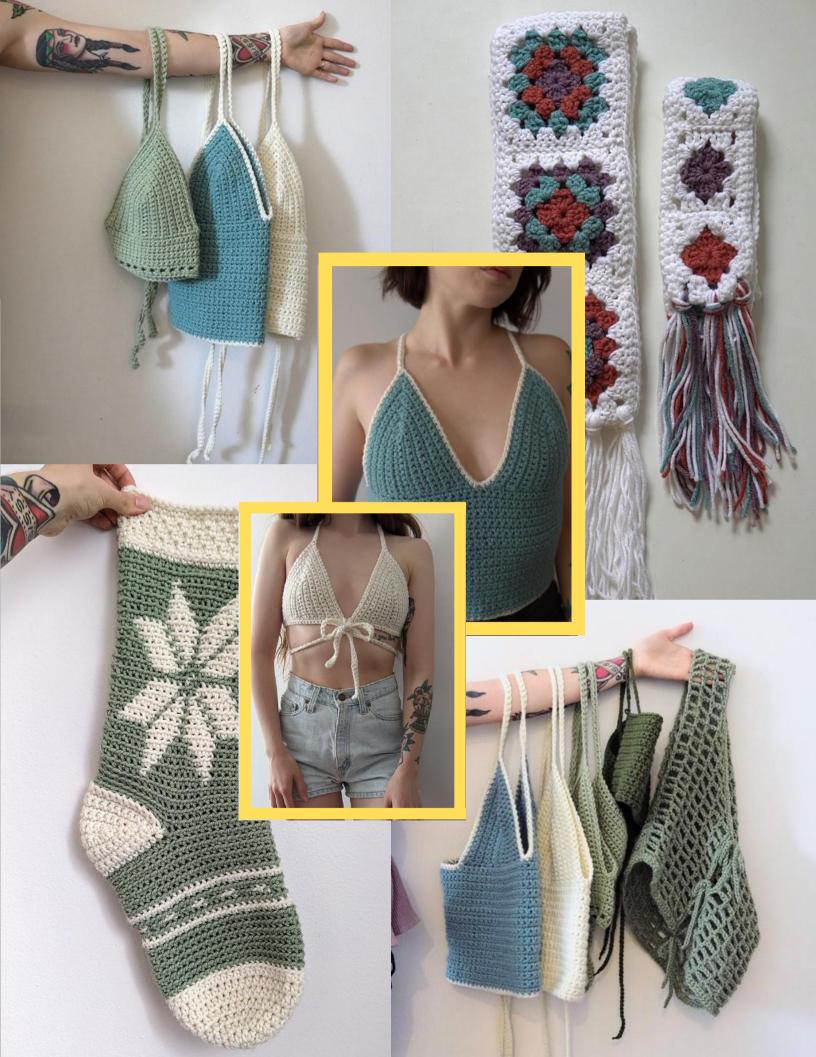
- Chris Burros











Meet Alyssa Ramsey, the creative forcebehind the enchanting crochet designs of Just Girly Strings. Based in St. Louis, Alyssa discovered her passion for handcrafted crochet clothing and accessories in January 2023.





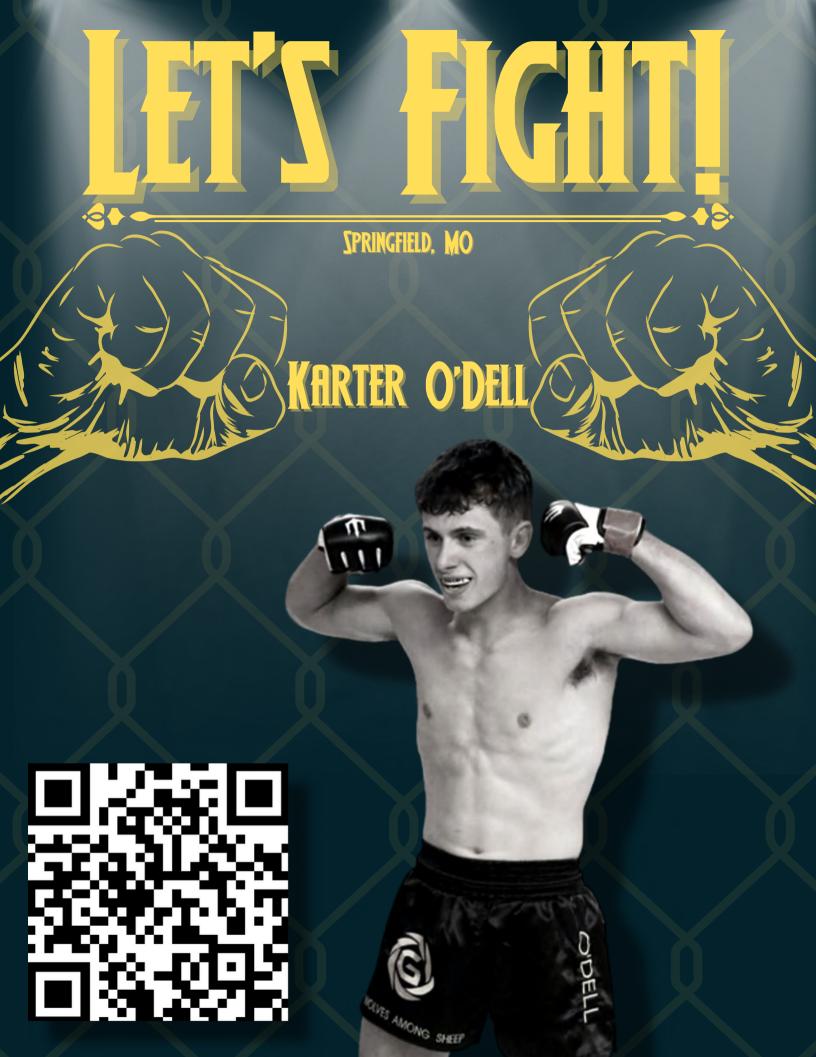


With each stitch, she weaves not just threads but also a story of creativity, resilience, and feminine strength. Join the ever-growing community enchanted by the delightful designs of Just Girly Strings, where Alyssa's love for her craft shines through every handmade piece. Scan Alyssa's QR code and check out her amazing work for yourself.

Starting with a basic crochet kit, she delyed into the art of crochet, initially crafting accessories like hats and scarves. As her confidence gr<del>ew,</del> Aly<del>ssa</del> ventured into making intricate tops and bralettes, embracing the unique challenges and endless possibilities of each project. What began as a sideline soon transformed into a profound passion, empowering her and others with newfound confidence, especially after the journey of motherhood. Alyssa's -creations not only radiate beauty but also inspire a sense

of self-assurance in everyone

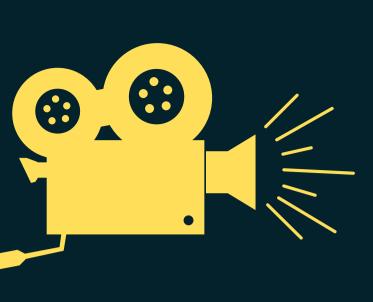
who wears them.







Meet Karter O'dell, the rising star in the world of MMA hailing from Marshfield, Missouri. At just 18 years old, Karter boasts an impressive record of 4-0 in the MMA arena, showcasing his exceptional talent and dedication to the sport. With aspirations to go pro and ultimately make it to the prestigious UFC, Karter is driven by his passion for mixed martial arts. His journey began two years ago, and since then, he has relentlessly honed his skills, committing himself to rigorous training and countless hours at the gym. Karter's story is one of determination and ambition, and the MMA world eagerly awaits to see how this talented young fighter will continue to make his mark in the sport. Scan Karter's QR code and get your tickets to his next fight!



# HOTABLE CORS ACCORS SOLUTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

LENNY HERNANDEZ

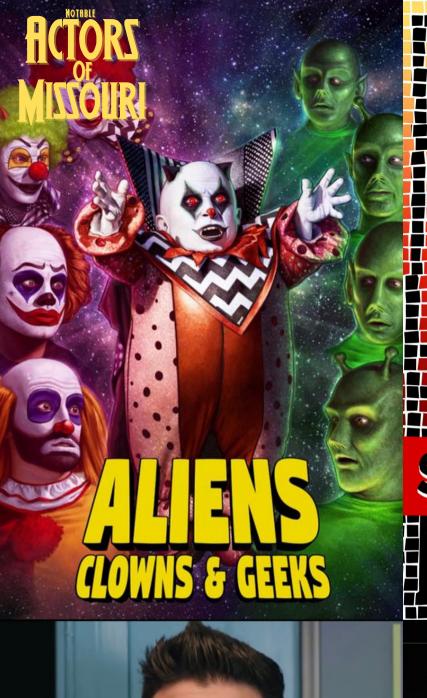
STEVEN DENTON







SPRICE OF THE SPRINGS HCTORS MISSOURI Lenny Hernandez, the quintessential Midwest spirit hailing from Springfield, Missouri, is not entertainment world. A SAG-AFTRA actor, producer, podcaster, YouTube host, and selfproclaimed "Jack of all trades," Lenny's journey started in the beart of Missouri. Graduating from Central High School and later obtaining his BFA in Theatre Performance from Missouri State University, he embarked on a theatrical odys performing "American Tall Tales" to elementary schools nationwide. However, it was in Los Angeles where Lenny truly spread his wings. Amidst the glitz and glam, he found his niche commercials, landing major campaigns for brands like Tapatio Hot Sauce, Tylenol, and T-Mobile. Yet, Lenny felt a creative void, leading him to the world of radio. Hosting the radio show 'el L.A. with Jake & Lenny,' he delved into the minds of emerging filmmakers and artists, forging invaluable connections in the industry. His journey took an unexpected turn during the pandemic. With auditions shifting online, Lenny returned to Missouri and embraced the virtual landscape. Armed with a wealth of knowledge acquired in LA, he ventured into filmmaking, creating his short film "PARADISO." A testament to his versatile skills, he not only produced and starred in the film but also edited, colorcorrected, and created foley for scenes. PARADISO now graces festival screens, a testament to Lenny's unwavering determination and creativity. His advice to aspiring filmmakers? Ignore the naysayers. Armed with the vast resources available online, Lenny exemplifies the spirit of a true filmmaker. His inspiring journey continues in his home office, where he produces podcasts, crafts new creative ideas, and hosts the weekly YouTube show Arrow Nicely News. For a glimpse into his vibrant world, follow him on social media @LennyHernandez.



### SAVING CAIN A PLAY BY AARON KOZAK

DIRECTED BY DAVID CHRZANOWSKI | PRODUCED BY AARON KOZAK | CO-PRODUCED BY LENNY HERNANDEZ & LEAH VERRILL THE HUDSON THEATRE | 6539 SANTA MONICA BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90038

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# HEIGHBORING FILMARKERS



TRAY WHITSELL

WEST PLAINS

CHRIS CANOTE

<u>Brhnzoi</u>









In the heart of Branson, a creative force of nature thrives: Chris Canote, a professional videographer and multi-disciplinary artist, whose work transcends conventional boundaries. With a style that weaves through decades and genres, Chris's artistry has captured the attention of millions across various online platforms, earning him a dedicated following and numerous accolades. Notably, he's a veteran of the demanding SAT048 short film festival, clinching an impressive nine awards, solidifying his legendary status in Southwest Missouri. Chris's portfolio reads like a who's who of entertainment, collaborating with industry giants like Corey Feldman, Afroman, and Riggs of Scum of The Earth. His talent has graced the screens alongside renowned names such as Dennis Quaid and RJ Mitte from Breaking Bad. His expertise extends beyond film, making waves in radio and television, including appearances on Sway's Universe in NYC and Eminem's Sirius XM Radio channel, Shade 45. In 2020, Chris was crowned Missouri's Best Videographer by Missouri Magazine, a testament to his exceptional skills and dedication. For those seeking to collaborate with a visionary artist, Chris Canote welcomes you to connect through his website, canotefilms.com, promising a creative journey unlike any other. Scan Chris's QR to see more of his valuable







In the heart of West Plains, Tray Whitsell stands as a testament to the vibrant arts scene in this close-knit community. With a career spanning decades, Whitsell has become a beloved figure, known for his exceptional talent both on and off the stage. As an actor, his performances are nothing short of captivating, drawing audiences into the intricate worlds of characters he portrays. His nuanced approach and dedication to his craft have earned him accolades and a dedicated fan base. Beyond his acting prowess, Whitsell has also carved a niche for himself as a director. Guiding productions with finesse and vision, he has brought to life numerous plays and performances, each leaving a lasting impact on West Plains' cultural landscape. His directorial ventures are marked by creativity, a keen understanding of storytelling, and a commitment to pushing artistic boundaries. What sets Whitsell apart is not only his talent but also his deep-rooted connection to the local community. He actively engages with aspiring actors, offering mentorship and support, thereby nurturing the next generation of talent. His contributions extend beyond the stage, organizing workshops, and community events that enrich the cultural tapestry of West Plains. In every role he undertakes, Tray Whitsell brings passion, dedication, and a touch of magic to the West Plains theatre scene. His artistic journey continues to inspire, reminding us of the transformative power of the arts in our lives.

FILMMAKING

HRTISTS THIS WAY



HOME AND ABROAD
ABROAD
ACCORDANCE OF THE ABROA

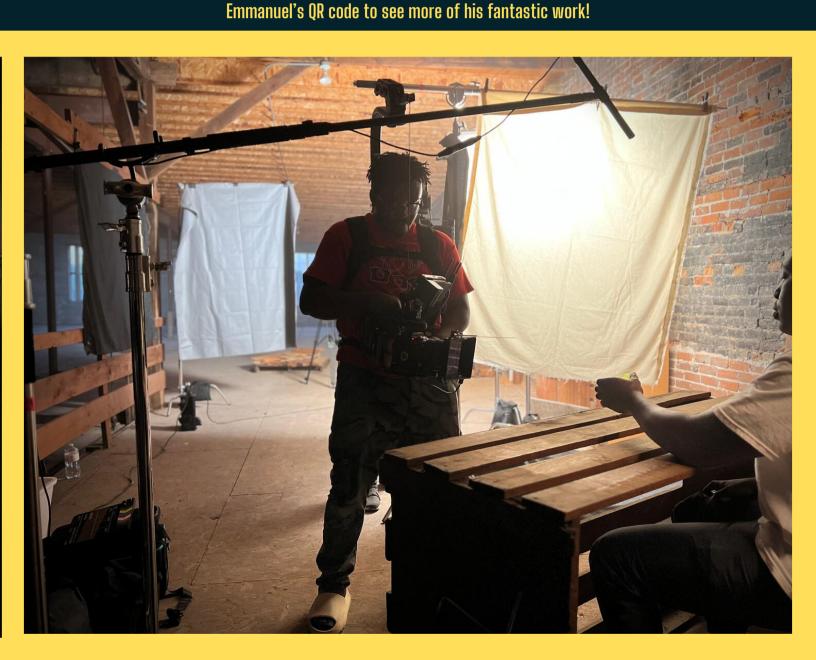






HERE AT HOME

In the quiet corners of Springfield, a passionate storyteller wields his camera like a paintbrush, creating cinematic tapestries that resonate with depth and emotion. Emmanuel Nkwocha, a gifted cinematographer, embarked on his filmmaking odyssey during his high school years, crafting short, humorous skits shot on his cell phone. These early endeavors served as the foundation for his artistry, propelling him into a journey that would define his life. Nkwocha's cinematic style is a symphony of mood and finesse, with a distinctive penchant for crafting shadows that dance with light. Unlike many cinematographers, he revels in pushing the boundaries of light and shadow, employing them as tools to evoke specific emotions and reactions. His lens gravitates towards stories that echo his own emotional and mental landscapes, delving deep into the human psyche with a profound understanding. Driven by an unyielding passion for his craft, Nkwocha seeks not only to tell stories but to master the technical intricacies of his art. His goal is ambitious: to shoot a feature film that not only captures hearts but also clinches prestigious filmmaking awards. With a determination that knows no bounds, he aspires to join the ranks of the revered ASC cinematographers, a dream that took a significant step forward when he was accepted into the esteemed ASC mentorship program for the 2022-2023 class. In the realm of Springfield's filmmaking community, Emmanuel Nkwocha stands as a beacon of creativity and dedication. Through his lens, he weaves narratives that resonate, leaving an indelible mark on the art of cinema. Scan















Meet Bouba Kam's, a visionary Ivorian filmmaker whose artistic journey began in 2016 but whose passion for imagery has been a lifelong companion. Inspired by the gripping American series "Prison Break," Bouba decided to explore the intricate world of film production. Wearing multiple hats as a director of photography, cinematographer, and editor, Bouba brings a unique blend of creativity and versatility to his projects. His portfolio boasts a diverse array of work, from music videos to institutional films, all the way to compelling cinematic ventures in Côte d'Ivoire. As a two-time recipient of the esteemed Best Video award at the Wiki Loves Africa competition, Bouba Kam's stands as a testament to dedication, excellence, and the ability to craft unforgettable visual narratives. His work continues to shape the landscape of Ivorian cinema, captivating audiences with each frame. Scan Bouba's QR code to learn more about this amazing and thoughtful filmmaker!

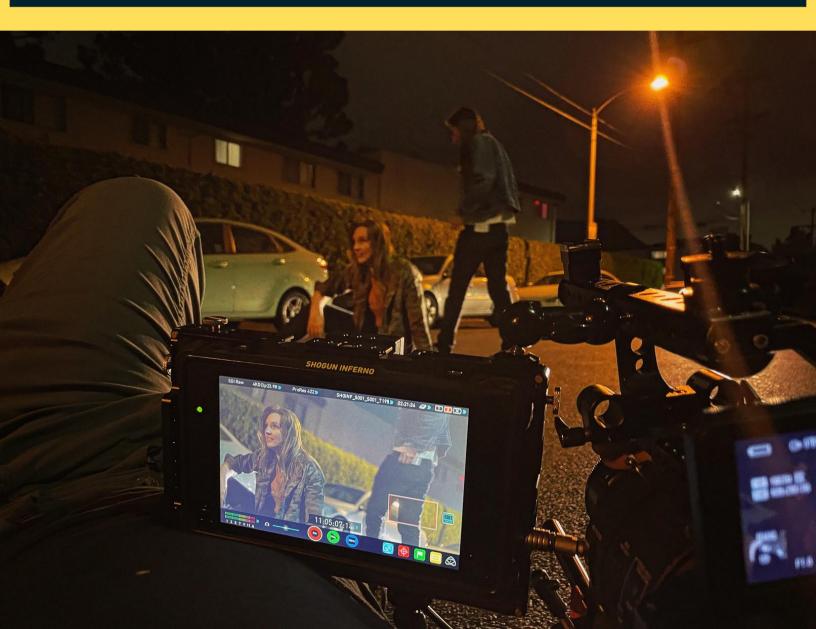
# OIT OF STATE ORT TOWN.







Jake Keating, a filmmaker hailing from the quiet town of lowa City, is making waves in the world of storytelling with his uniquely chilling narratives. Armed with a passion for dissecting the world's fears through the lens of horror, Jake embarked on his creative journey at the renowned American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Hollywood. With a penchant for satire, Jake delves into the unsettling aspects of the human psyche, crafting tales that provoke thought and conversation. His domestic horror tale "MID-CENTURY MODERN" garnered acclaim, reaching the finals of the 2022 Shore Scripts Short Film Fund, a testament to his storytelling prowess. In 2022, Jake made his directorial debut with the spine-tingling thriller "RIDE," a testament to his talent and dedication. Currently based in Fresno, California, Jake is in the pre-production phase of his next venture, a proof-of-concept short poised to mark his entry into the realm of feature films. As an artist who seeks to provoke, disturb, and stimulate, Jake Keating is on a mission to spark conversations and leave a lasting impact on the cinematic landscape. Get ready to be captivated, terrified, and thoroughly enthralled by his future creations. Scan Jake's QR code to learn more about this talented and upcoming artist.





When the play opens, we meet the Frasiers, a seemingly typical, middle class Black American family trying desperately to make everything perfect for Grandma's birthday celebration. But not too far into the festivities, we see the Frasiers' story through a whole new lens, leading to one of the most outrageous and jaw-dropping endings in theatre history. Fairview is a bold and disarmingly funny play that serves as "a glorious reminder of the unmatched power of live theater to rattle, roil, and shake us wide awake." (The New York Times). This production contains adult language and content.



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THANK YOU
FOR THE
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## INTIL EXT TIME

#### THNAKS FOR READING!

#### NOVEMBER...

Thank you so much for reading this issue of Yellow Bike Magazine! We hope you enjoyed learning about all of these talented artists.

Interested in being featured in a future issue?

Reach out to us and we will make it happen! With each issue, YB will introduce new art forms to showcase to the world. YB believes the arts, let alone the lost arts, don't get enough press and spotlight. That needs to change for Springfield & the surrounding areas. The folks at Yellow Bike work very hard to exhibit their standards in the work they produce within the YB brand, their presence in the arts community of Springfield, St. Louis & Kansas City, their attentiveness to fellows artists' work, and their passion for developing high quality cinema. Keep an eye out for new Yellow Bike Film shorts coming out within the next couple of months. Consider supporting us by signing up for our Patreon! This helps YB at it's core! Lots of awesome benefits, perks & services inside! We'll have a mailing list you can sign up for as well! Subscribe to our YouTube channel and follow us on Instagram & Tiktok! We'll be introducing so many new things within the YB brand this year! Join us!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YELLOW BIKE

O F D O Qyellowbikefilms



### YOUR AD HERE!

yellowbikefilms@gmail.com

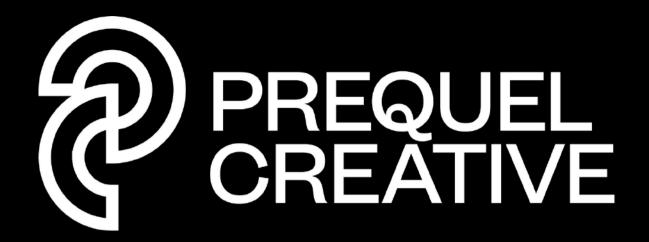


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