



Maya

a short film by
one-eyed rabbit

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Logline

A Queer NYC stage manager reflects on her break-up while trying to manage the rehearsal of a play about a gay couple falling in love.

Synopsis

Maya, a Queer, Korean-American stage manager in New York City, struggles to run the rehearsal for a play about a gay couple falling in love as she pores over the details of her real-life break up from the night before. In a series of flashbacks, we watch Maya and her white partner, Phoebe, reenact their first date, in an attempt to rekindle their romance, which ultimately unravels into an argument about race, class, and privilege within their relationship. In the end, Maya must choose between letting go of her grievances or the woman she once loved.

Run Time

7 min, 39 sec



Director's Note

Maya was particularly exciting for me to direct because the only visible characters were women. We specifically chose to keep the men that appear in the film out of sight, which left me with two strong and dynamic femme characters that could take up space and fill the screen.

I had worked with both Erin and Aury before, which meant that we had a lot of room to play on the day. And specifically bringing Aury into the development end as we built the script, I knew I was working with an incredibly eloquent and passionate artist whose vulnerability and openness would bring a raw groundedness to both the script and the performances.

Maya is a story about the universal desire to be loved and both the pain and freedom that comes from letting go of the things (and people) that no longer serve us.

-Maren Lavelle, Director/Co-Writer





A Word from Aury



"A story like Maya could have disrupted the detrimental effects of the palatable and exclusionary narratives I consumed growing up. In diverging from these narratives, we arm ourselves with the hope of a more comprehensive path to visibility and empathy."

-Aury Krebs, "Maya"/Co-Developer



About One Eyed Rabbit

One-Eyed Rabbit is an NYC-based production company founded and run by Maren Lavelle and Matt Steiner. We create original work that offers new perspectives through character-driven narratives in order to illuminate the full scope of our shared humanity.

On top of being writing and producing partners, Maren and Matt are life partners too. We write every project together, with Matt often focusing on the initial idea and structuring of the story, while Maren contributes to world-building, specificity of dialogue, and fleshing out the characters.

Maren directs and Matt always has an acting role within the film.

OER's style consists of intimate, personal stories that exist within dynamic and playful structures. Our films are driven by complex protagonists at a precipice in their lives and we're interested in shining a light on characters who aren't typically in the spotlight of mainstream narratives.





Cast & Creative Team



Maren Lavelle (Director, Co-Writer, Producer) is a Brooklyn-based director, writer, and producer. A graduate of Pace University's BFA Acting Program, and an original member of the José Rivera Writer's Group, Maren's plays have premiered in various venues in NYC: "Composition of a Woman" (Westside Theatre, 440 Lafayette Studios), "The Holding Room" (The Sheen Center). Maren's screenwriting and directing are featured in the short films "The Yard" (2019) and "Beyond Bone" (2018). In 2020, Maren co-wrote and directed the short films "Maya" and "Keeper".
Website: marenlavelle.com



Aury Krebs (Co-Developer, Maya) is a Queer Brooklyn-based artist who is committed to the exploration and elevation of dynamic, intersectional storytelling. On-screen, Aury has appeared in the ABC Discovers Talent Showcase, Pink and Blue and Triple Threat. Last seen onstage in Darling Grenadine at Roundabout Theatre Company.



Erin McCarthy (Phoebe) (she/her) is a multi-faceted artist from Atlanta, Georgia. After moving to NYC and receiving a BFA in Acting, Erin moved back to Atlanta where she is currently working in finance in an effort to make economic and financial education more accessible. She returned to acting to play Phoebe in One-Eyed Rabbit's short film *Maya* in the summer of 2020, and is currently pursuing her Securities License.

Thank You Five



*Maya was developed as both a stand-alone short film in addition to serving as a proof of concept for **Thank You Five**, a new short form anthology series about the unique and often unseen lives of stage managers as they live, work, and love behind the curtain.*

Each episode will explore the life of a different stage manager in New York City and other theater-making cities around the world. The series is a love letter to the hardest working people in show business and a chance to shine a light on those typically in the shadows.

Think "High Maintenance" meets "Slings and Arrows"--but with stage managers!

Laurels





Links

One-Eyed Rabbit

one-eyedrabbit.com

Maya Official Webpage

one-eyedrabbit.com/maya

Facebook

shorturl.at/bmx12

Instagram

[@maya_theshortfilm](https://www.instagram.com/maya_theshortfilm)

IMDB PAGE

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt13799836/?ref_=ttfc_fc_tt

Production Stills

shorturl.at/fqyO9

Trailer

<https://vimeo.com/515506873>



FAQ

Q: Where did the idea for Maya come from?

A: We wanted to film a proof of concept for this series idea we had called Thank You Five, which focuses on theatrical stage managers in NYC, and Maren had suggested Aury as a potential lead before we even began writing the script. We met with Aury a few times for intimate chats about life, art, and possible storylines, and one of the things that really stood out to us was when Aury shared some of the painful microaggressions that often happen within Queer biracial relationships. The idea of two people fighting for the same relationship but from two different perspectives really interested us. And so that was the seed from which Maya grew into what it is today.

Q: What was your biggest challenge?

A: Our biggest challenge was trying to get our living room wall to look like a rehearsal room! But Maya was OER's first official project, so it functioned as a bit of a test run for us as producers. The budget was nearly non-existent (\$3,000) and we only had 1.5 days to film in our lived-in apartment. It was like speed-filming, trying to get through all of the shots in such a limited amount of time, but it was also incredibly thrilling!

Q: Why stage managers?

A: The two of us actually met while running a theater company some years back, and in the theater world stage managers are always thought of as the hardest working folk who never get enough credit. So we were interested in taking someone who is typically in the shadows and putting them center stage in our film to see what we might learn about them, ourselves, and our community.



Credits

Directed By

Maren Lavelle

Written By

Maren Lavelle

&

Matt Steiner

Co-Developed By

Aury Krebs

CAST

Maya Aury Krebs

Phoebe Erin McCarthy

Actor #1 (Voice) Matt Steiner

Actor #2 (Voice) Xavier Reminick

CREW

Director Maren Lavelle

Assistant Director Matt Steiner

Director of Photography Chris Harral

Production Sound Mixer Anna Fernández

Composer Keith Boratko

Produced By

One-Eyed Rabbit

Starring

Aury Krebs

&

Erin McCarthy

Filmed & Edited By

Chris Harral

Inspired By & Conceived For Thank You Five

