

# PRESS KIT



A FILM BY  
LA'CHRIS JORDAN

# JANUARY 14TH



## TAGLINE

Some moments in life can never be forgotten.

## LOGLINE

A young couple's anniversary takes a bittersweet turn when a police officer pulls the husband over on a questionable traffic stop. Inspired by true events.

## SYNOPSIS

Set in modern-day Los Angeles, **JANUARY 14TH** explores the day-in-the life of Michael and Carina Anderson on their third-year anniversary. On the surface, Carina and Michael are the ideal couple – educated, professional and affluent. Michael is a loving and devoted husband to Carina and she, in turn, is proud to be his wife. Yet, as the story unfolds, Carina's joy turns to concern as she waits for Michael to return home from work.

# INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS.







## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

**JANUARY 14TH** was inspired by my parent's 30+ year marriage. They were best friends who had journeyed through heaven and hell together. To say they were in love would be an understatement. They were soulmates. The only time I saw my father cry was when my mother passed away in 2008.

January 14th was their wedding anniversary.

Making a film in commemoration of their life together began in 2018. The script had gone through several incarnations before I settled on the version audiences are seeing today. The 14-minute film was shot over two days in Los Angeles with a small, but talented crew. The cast was made up of local actors who we selected through a meticulous and rigorous audition process. Chemistry between all the actors, above any previous experience, was what we were looking for. The budget was small, but we focused on capturing the soul of the story despite the limitations.

In essence, **JANUARY 14TH** is an exploration of the day-in-the-life of a young couple on their third-year anniversary and how they process a bittersweet reality.





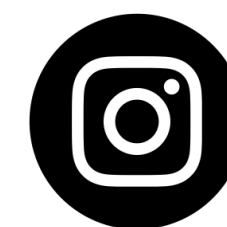
# LA'CHRIS JORDAN

WRITER / DIRECTOR / EXEC. PRODUCER

LA'CHRIS JORDAN is an award-winning playwright, screenwriter and filmmaker who has received over 60+ awards, grants and honors for her writing. Recently, she was a grant development winner at the Stowe Story Labs and a finalist for the SAGindie Fellowship for her feature **ROSES IN THE WATER**. She was a winner in the Script Lab's Screenplay Contest for her historical pilot **PINEY RIDGE** which was also a Second Rounder at the Austin Film Festival, a finalist for the WeScreenplay Diverse Voices Fellowship, and a semifinalist for the Sundance Episodic Lab and the MACRO Episodic Lab powered by the Black List.

In 2019, La'Chris made her directorial debut with **JANUARY 14TH** which won Best Short and Best Director at the Top Indie Film Awards. The short is currently on the film festival circuit, gaining acceptance at prestigious festivals across the country such as the San Francisco Black Film Festival, Pan African Film Festival, Miami Independent Film Festival and Indie Short Fest. La'Chris is currently in pre-production for her second short film **THE RIDGE** which was a semifinalist in the Cinequest Screenwriting Competition.

As a playwright, La'Chris was named '**One of the 50 Playwrights to Watch**' by the Dramatists Guild and a Semifinalist for the extremely competitive Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwriting Program at Juilliard. A former journalist and graduate from the University of Washington, La'Chris is the founder of [BlackCinemadb.com](http://BlackCinemadb.com), an entertainment and online movie database of over 700 films from the African-American and African diaspora. She is based in Los Angeles, California.







# TONI BULLOCK

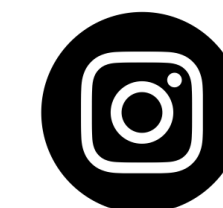
CO-PRODUCER

As a seasoned TV veteran, TONI BULLOCK has spent the last 10 years producing high-quality content on several successful shows for broadcast, cable and online streaming networks such as Bravo, OWN, Discovery, CBS, ABC, Fox, E!, Facebook and Netflix. Her extensive expertise in unscripted TV development, casting, pitching, and field production has led to work on Emmy-nominated shows such as *Red Table Talk* (Facebook), *The Amazing Race* (CBS) and *Top Chef* (Bravo).

Earlier this year, Toni served as field producer on Netflix's competition reality series *Rhythm & Flow* from executive producer John Legend, a 10-episode hour-long multi-city competition series set to premiere in fall 2019. Her most recent project was field producing on OWN's anticipated four-part series "Black Women Own the Conversation" which recently premiered on the network.

Toni is also the Founder of Callsheets to Cocktails (C2C), a professional networking organization that was established in 2017 to help connect, educate and empower women in the media industry through networking mixers, panel discussions and educational brunches. In the last two years, C2C has hosted several networking events in Los Angeles and New York which has attracted over 1,300 attendees from 25 media outlets and networks.

Toni holds a Master of Arts in Television, Radio and Film from Syracuse University and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Hamilton College. In her spare time, Toni enjoys hiking, attending sporting events and spending time with friends and family.







# MEET THE CAST

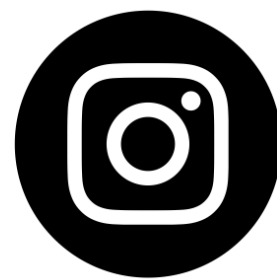
J A N U A R Y 1 4 T H



# JASMINE RUNNELS

CARINA

JASMINE RUNNELS was born and raised in South Texas. She recently received her Master's in acting for Film from the New York Film Academy (NYFA) in Burbank, California, and received a Bachelor's degree in acting from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. Since moving to California in May 2018, Jasmine has worked on several projects including a supporting role in a short film as well as making one of her own. In her spare time, Jasmine enjoys drawing and painting. Jasmine plans to further her endeavors in film and television and make a mark as an actor by creating content the world will love.



@\_lovejazz\_



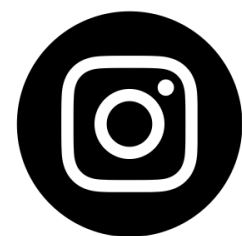
@jasmine.runnels.3



# TYREE JAMAR

MICHAEL

Tyree Jamar was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. Prior to acting, Tyree played football as a defensive back at Washington State University on a four-year scholarship. He received All Conference honors during his career and went on to receive his Bachelor's in Sociology and Sports Management. For the past five years, Tyree has appeared in national sports commercials, shorts, features and pilots, including *Cuffing Season* which he recently starred in, co-wrote and produced.



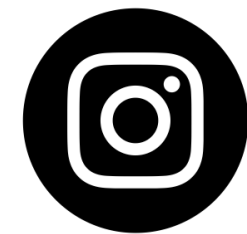
@tyreejamar



@tyree.toomer







@tabitha.aneise



@tabitha.mitchell.50

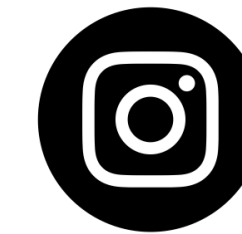


## TABITHA MITCHELL

LISA

TABITHA MITCHELL is a theatrically trained actress. She has recently completed the First Year Meisner Technique at The Sanford Meisner Center in Burbank, CA. In 2017, Tabitha received her Bachelors in Theatre Arts at Loyola Marymount University where she trained in acting for the stage, film, Shakespeare, and voice development. Her stage credits include The "Journey Through," an autobiographical solo piece on the actors' journey. She is also known for her work as Nairobi in "Raft of The Medusa," Dr. Livingston in "Agnes of God," and Sara in "Rhyme, Reason and Circumstance." Tabitha was first introduced to the stage in 2012 after being cast as the stepmother in a production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, "Cinderella." Tabitha has worked in various short films and commercials since 2017. Tabitha continues to expand her interest beyond performance through learning new languages such as American Sign Language and Japanese. She's been studying Japanese at the Fuji School since early 2018.





@brianmbadolato



@wildeh2o

B R I A N   B A D O L A T O  
OFFICER RODRIGUEZ

Brian Badolato is honored to be apart of *January 14th*, playing Officer Rodriguez. Brian is a professional actor living in Los Angeles. His time is currently invested working on independent projects that can help tell important stories. He has specialized handgun combat training which is beneficial for roles as police or military. He was lucky to work with such an amazing cast of actors and production team.



# MEET THE CREW



JANUARY 14TH

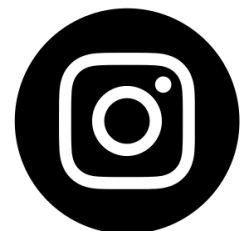


# BRIAN ISOM

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

BRIAN ISOM moved to Los Angeles from Gadsden, Alabama in 2011. He received his Bachelor's degree in Cinematography from Columbia College Hollywood in Tarzana, CA. He proceeded to work in showbiz as soon as he moved to the West Coast. Brian's first job was playing the role as a bailiff on "We the People" with Gloria Allred which is a syndicated court show where he was nominated for a Daytime Emmy Award. Shortly after that, he began working behind the scenes as a camera operator as well as becoming a stage manager on shows ranging from sitcoms to daytime reality.

Brian is passionate about working in the entertainment industry and continues to work creatively with others who are equally passionate. In addition to that, he also served 16 years in the military as a staff sergeant working in Multi-Media Illustration, Infrastructure Rebuilding as well as an Instructor. In his spare time, Brian spends his time volunteering at Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Los Angeles where he shares his experience with young African-American males.







# Q&A WITH BRIAN ISOM

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

**Q: What type of camera and lenses did you use for January 14<sup>th</sup>? Why?**

A: The camera I chose for JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> was the Sony A7RII – lenses used were XEEN primes 24mm, 35mm, 85mm. The reason for the camera and lens choice was that the Sony A series are just as competitive as other cameras in its class. The camera shoots 8-bit and has S-log for toning down highlights such as windows and anything that would appear overexposed in native format. When using S-Log to shoot, performing grading in the post-production process will allow you to create image effects matching each scene with a great degree of flexibility. The XEEN lens I chose for its quality, latitude and dynamic-range compared to higher-end lens – most of all, it was inexpensive to rent.

**Q: What type of feel and look you were going for?**

A: Initially, the idea of the film was to have an earth tone look, but we ended up with blues and reds to accent the story line. I wanted a warm feel and we achieve that by having a warm filter in front of the lenses to give the truest color especially dealing with darker skin tones. The lights used were ambient sunlight and two-Kino Flo (Diva Lite 400) which was brought into push ambient light onto the actors. The idea was to use reflective lighting on the actors faces so it provided a softer and subtle look.



# Q&A WITH BRIAN ISOM (Cont'd)

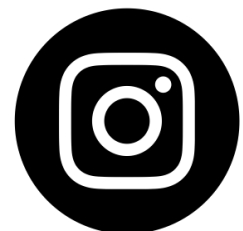
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

**Q: What were some of the challenges you faced during shooting?**

A: The challenges faced were time, the sun, manipulating light and myself. Challenges are sometimes self-inflicted, depending on the individual. I tend not to use excuses as to why I cannot get certain shots or wishing I had more equipment. The idea for me is to put limitations and expectancy on my ability to be creative with the tools I have at any given moment.

**Q: Overall, how do you feel about the project?**

A: Overall, I feel great about JANUARY 14TH. I am always learning more to see how I can improve myself from experiences. Again, I can be an over-thinker sometimes which drives me through the roof (laughing). What I learned from this process was to trust my own abilities and to remove self-doubt.



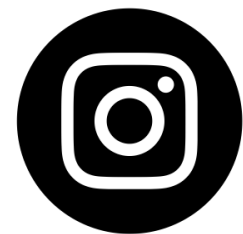




# TIA LEWIS

EDITOR

TIA LEWIS has worked as a freelance editor since 2012, and has edited everything from award-winning documentary shorts, to music videos, to behind-the-scenes footage, to news packages and interviews. Most recently, she's worked as a story editor for various TV shows on Bravo and Lifetime, such as *Vanderpump Rules* and *Growing Up Supermodel*.





# STILLS & BEHIND-THE-SCENES PHOTOS

For Stills and Behind-the-Scenes photos, visit our website at

[www.january14thmovie.com](http://www.january14thmovie.com).





# AWARDS & FILM FESTIVALS

Principal photography for JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> wrapped on October 20, 2019. The film completed post-production in December 2019 and was subsequently submitted to film festivals across the world.

## FESTIVALS

- Official Selection, San Francisco Black Film Festival, San Francisco, CA (Virtual Event TBA)
- Official Selection, Indie Short Fest, Los Angeles, CA, April 2020 (Live Event TBA)
- Official Selection, Pan African Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA, February 11-23, 2020
- Official Selection (Monthly Edition), Miami Independent Film Festival, Miami, FL, January 2020

## AWARDS

- Runner-up – Filmmaking Category, Hollywood Chills 12: Entertainment Summit, Los Angeles, CA (Virtual Summit-June 2020)
- Honorable Mention – Black Truth Film Festival, April 2020
- Finalist – First Time Filmmaker, New York Movie Awards, February 2020
- Winner – Best Short, Top Indie Awards, Tokyo, Japan
- Winner – Best Director, Top Indie Awards, Tokyo, Japan
- Nominee – Best Cinematography, Top Indie Awards, Tokyo, Japan
- Nominee – Best Writing, Top Indie Awards, Tokyo, Japan
- Nominee – Best Editing, Top Indie Awards, Tokyo, Japan
- Nominee – Best Music, Top Indie Awards, Tokyo, Japan
- Quarterfinalist, Southern California Screenplay Competition, San Diego, CA

J A N U A R Y 1 4 <sup>T H</sup>





# JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup> TRIVIA

- January 14<sup>th</sup> is La'Chris Jordan's directorial debut as a filmmaker. Prior to this film, La'Chris had only directed stage plays.
- January 14<sup>th</sup> was filmed over two days.
- January 14<sup>th</sup> was the anniversary of the directors' parents. The script supervisor, **Dora Hopkins**, said she was attracted to the project's title because it was the same day as her mother's birthday. But she didn't tell La'Chris this until after the project was complete because she didn't want her to think she was saying that just to get the job.
- **Jasmine Runnels** (Carina) and **Tyree Jamar** (Michael) hadn't rehearsed together prior to filming and took minimal takes of their scenes.
- Actor **Brian Badolato** says that playing the role of Officer Rodriguez changed him not only as an actor but as a person.
- Actor **Tabitha Mitchell** (Lisa) said she was secretly hoping that Jasmine would be cast as her sister because of their chemistry at the audition and callback.



## 100+ ACTORS

117 actors submitted their headshots and resumes to Hollywood Casting & Film for the four (4) roles. Only 20% were called back for the first round of auditions.





# CREDITS

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY **LA'CHRIS JORDAN**  
PRODUCED BY **BLACK GODDESS PRODUCTIONS**  
CO-PRODUCER **TONI BULLOCK**  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **BRIAN ISOM**  
FIRST ASSISTANT CAMERA **GUILHERME FREITAS**  
EDITOR **TIA LEWIS**  
POST-PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR **MEGHAN GHERITY**  
SCRIP SUPERVISOR **DORA HOPKINS**  
GAFFER **DAVID GORDON**  
KEY GRIP **DAVID FLORES**  
SOUND MIXER/BOOM OPERATOR **ROBERT STRONGER**  
MAKEUP **NICKY NORMAN & JENNY NORMAN**  
STILLS PHOTOGRAPHY **CARLOS DELAROSA, JR.**  
POLICE TECHNICAL CONSULTANT **QUINCY VIDAURI**  
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT **TYLER MITCHELL**  
PRODUCTION INTERN **ANDREA BAYLIS**

J A N U A R Y 1 4 <sup>T H</sup>

CARINA **JASMINE RUNNELS**  
MICHAEL **TYREE JAMAR**  
LISA **TABITHA MITCHELL**  
OFFICER RODRIGUEZ **BRIAN BADOLATO**

MUSIC PROVIDED BY **FILMSTRO**  
CATERING BY **LA CAFÉ**

## TECHNICAL DETAILS:

**Run Time** | 4:34

**Shot on** Sony A7iii

**Format** mov, mp4 (HD)

*Special Thanks to Hollywood Casting & Film, Brilliant Screen Studios, Creatrix Visuals, Ryan Matteson, Marci Miller, Paul Jordan, Timothy McQueen, Arun K. Vir, A. Russell Andrews*

*Filmed in Los Angeles, California*



JASMINE RUNNELS TYREE JAMAR TABITHA MITCHELL BRIAN BADOLATO

# CONTACT US

Black Goddess Productions

Los Angeles, CA

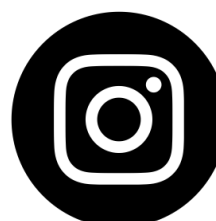
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