gemini
SYNOPSIS

The structure of Gemini is framed within the event of the main character, Gemini, drowning in the ocean. Another lead actor, Libra, carries Gemini out to the ocean, teaching him to swim, when he begins to struggle. Gemini blinks and Libra is no longer there to help, and he sinks into the water as the camera pans out. In the very end of the film, Libra saves Gemini from drowning by pulling him up.

Between these two points of narration, the film moves through a series of surrealist scenes. We use dream state to transition between reality and surrealism. One scene shows black ballerinas in white leotards dancing across an abandoned lot. Another scene takes place at a human art exhibit, where humans stand on display in open coffins against the wall, a crowd of people walking through. The scenes are carefully arranged to speak to one another in terms of tone, style, and theme, but they share no linear plot.

By the time Gemini resurfaces, viewers have moved through intense displays of genius, childhood, individuality, polarity, and tension between static structure and black radical imagination. Although we have a specific story to tell, our hope is to allow each viewer a very personal experience, uninhibited by a rigid story line, such that they each take away from the film something different, something that they needed to see rather than what we wanted to show them.

Historically, African American films have had to rely on white funding and Hollywood production. This has produced distorted representations of the same story lines; watered down slave narratives, rags to riches, and blaxploitation. Now, we’re witnessing a movement. With advancements in technology and online streaming, the current media culture has a large capacity to access and appreciate independent films. Stories are coming to us straight from the minds that lived them. With Hidden Figures, Fences, and Moonlight dominating the screens in the past year, this film leans and builds on this momentum. This is approximately a 25 minute film.
STORY ELEMENTS AND STYLE

• JAMAICA

A majority of the scenes will be shot in Jamaica near Bull Bay. Opening and closing scene will take place in water. Jamaica scenes will include both main characters, Gemini and Libra, and three other male actors who will dance near / into the water. A drone will be used to capture overhead footage.
UPSTATE NEW YORK

Upstate scenes feature Aries dragging a cross through the barren, rural landscape of Syracuse, New York and its surrounding areas. Setting includes cows, hills, confederate flags, gas stations, small shops. He is near nude, and his individual struggle with the cross is juxtaposed against the great expanse of the land.
A few scenes will be shot in my hometown, Chicago. This anchors the story in a real-life setting of a city, that most people will recognize as more familiar than Upstate New York or Jamaica. These are the scenes that move quickly and grounding the film within real life experience, rather than surrealism. Friends in a car; a school setting, a protest; these scenes bring familiarity to the film to deepen connection with viewers.
• SOUND DESIGN

All sound tracks made by the music team. The music ranges from dark, electric beats to intimate recordings of vocals and poetry. Music will drive most of the film as there is limited dialogue. (break down).

• INSPIRATIONS

Holy mountain by Alejandro Jodorowsky is an example of the movement of the film; loosely attached to a linear plot, but anchored in a larger storyline. Swimming In Your Skin Again by Terrence Nance is a close equivalent to our style of aesthetics, in terms of setting and visual quality.

PROOF OF CONCEPT

https://vimeo.com/209989520

password: iso
CURRENT STATUS AND NEEDS

The script is complete and a full team of directors, producers and sound designers has been assembled.

All locations have been mapped and nearly 2/3 of audio has been completed. This represents approximately two years of work, including research and experimentation in New York, Chicago, California, Florida, Canada, Jamaica and London UK.

1/3 of the film was shot in Jamaica through the middle of March. We’re in the process of condensing the footage into a working trailer to represent the project. The trailer will be done by April 8th.

Our most immediate need is funding to cover the Hamilton scenes. Our first shoot is April 3rd. We are building a set, designing costumes, crafting props, renting gear and venues. Additionally, funds will go towards the purchase of editing and sound design plug ins to ensure the best quality production of the trailer.

ARTISTS STATEMENT

This film is an ode to creatives /crazies that have yet to close their eyes to the duality of the world. For anyone who’s experienced the black dual consciousness of a people who have been the fabric of a society and yet never been fully accepted into it. Anyone who has been simultaneously accepted and denied, integrated and segregated, hated and loved, numb and in pain at the same time. For them, this film offers no answers. It is merely an expression of tension; a visual and sonic representation of an existence defined by the dance between opposites. It is designed only to be experienced and not understood, to be processed below the level of consciousness and intellectualization. It is images and sounds, and nothing more.
The target public premiere date for *Gemini* is Fall 2017.

**July - December 2016:**
- Script finalized
- Production team established
- Storyboard for all scenes complete
- 50% of sound design finished

**January - February 2017:**
- Location scouting through Upstate New York complete
- Travel logistics established
- 70% of sound design finished
- Casting

**March 2017:**
- 85% of shooting finished

**April 2017:**
- Trailer complete *to be shown at Colgate University Entrepreneurship Weekend and featured on GoFundMe fundraising page*
- All sound design complete
- Launch GoFundMe

**May - June 2017:**
- Final edits finished
- Final post-production: sound design, color, titles, online edit and mastering
- Promotional team assembled

**July - December 2017:**
- Festival submissions begin

**September 2017:**
- Private screening at Colgate University
## Gemini Budget Form

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<tr>
<th>TOTAL BUDGET:</th>
<th>$11,525</th>
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### TRAVEL

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Airfare</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Car Rental</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Transit</td>
<td>$400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lodging</td>
<td>$350</td>
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### EQUIPMENT

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RIG &amp; Follow Focus System</td>
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<tr>
<td>DJI Phantom 3 QuadCoptor4K</td>
<td>$800</td>
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<td>DJI Ronin M + Wireless Follow Focus System</td>
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<td>Infrared BW Filter</td>
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<td>UltraViolet Lights x3</td>
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<td>Underwater Housing A7SII</td>
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<td>16-35mm F4FE Lens</td>
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<td>Small HD Monitor</td>
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<td>Travel Case x2</td>
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<td><strong>$6,575</strong></td>
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### PROPS

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<td>BlackOut Eye Contacts</td>
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<td>Bus Rental</td>
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<td>Gowns (Black &amp; White)</td>
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<td>Glass Cases</td>
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<td>Cross Material</td>
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COLLECTIVE RESUME

Brandon Alexander, Director, BALEX.CO

Spring 2016 - Independent Film
BARDO // Director

Spring 2016 - Aliiive Exhibit

Winter 2016 - Publication in Colgate Scene

Fall 2015 - Captured by the Lens Exhibition

Summer 2015 - Eye Love You Camp
Founding Member, Head of Marketing, Documentarian, Photography Instructor

Fall 2015 - Between Us Performance
Collaboration with artist Hana Van der Kolk

Fall 2015 - present - Paid Student Video Journalist
Communications Department

Fall 2014 - Publication in The Point
Volume 18 Issue 1

Fall 2014 - Opening DJ for DJ Enuff
Palace Theatre, Hamilton NY

Fall 2014 - Opening DJ for DJ Sliiink
Palace Theatre, Hamilton NY
Fall 2014 - present - Freelance Work
Client List // Colgate University Art Department, Colgate University Commons, Tri-Delta Gamma Sigma Chapter (Colgate University), Lepenseur Youth and Family Services, Silver Room Chicago, 13th Annual Sound System Block Party, Alexander Swain Denim, New Kingz, Roosevelt The Titan, ELAW

** for more work go to balex.co

Lauren Sanderson, Executive Producer

Fall 2017 - Publication in Storm Cellar Literary Magazine

Summer 2017 - Feature Poet
WoW Production // dir. Felicia Cade

Spring 2016 - Independent Film
BARDO // Executive Producer
Spring 2016 - Publication in Colgate Portfolio

Fall 2014-present - Colgate Women’s Varsity Volleyball Team

** for sound design work visit www.soundcloud.com/bnsanderson

Tyler Maxie, Associate Producer

Spring 2016 - Independent Film
White Lives Matter // dir. Imani Ballard, Ané Wanliss, Tyler Maxie

Spring 2016 - Colgate University Theatre
A Map Of Virtue // Mark

Spring 2015 - Colgate University Theatre
Really, Really // Davis

Fall 2015 - Colgate University Tinapas
This Is Not A Play About Sex // Ensemble

Fall 2015-current - Colgate University Cabaret
Musical Cabaret // Ensemble

Summer 2015 - The Drama Group
Spring Awakening // Otto

Summer 2014 - SLATE Theatre/Governors State University
In The Heights // Graffiti Pete

Summer 2013 - SLATE Theatre/Governors State University
Legally Blonde // Sundeep Padamadan

Summer 2012 - SLATE Theatre/Governors State University
Ragtime // Harlem Ensemble

Fall 2010 - Homewood Flossmoor High School
The WIZ // Scarecrow

** in addition to 24 more productions.