

**‘Goodbye Charm City’**  
**SHORT FILM ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT**



**WRITTEN & DIRECTED & EDITED BY:**

CHRISTIAN J. GRIER

**PRODUCED BY:**

DAVID M. NIGHT MAIRE, ZACH HASSELBRING,  
NICOLETTE MORENO

**CINEMATOGRAPHY BY:**

CALE NICHOLS

**STARRING:**

NIKKI MARTIN – *as Robyn*  
FRANCESCA REALE – *as Izzy*

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## LOG LINE

A mother prepares her final impact statement to the man that murdered her son.

## SHORT SYNOPSIS

Robyn, a single mother, prepares her final impact statement and must decide whether to encourage capital punishment upon the Baltimore-based gang member who murdered her son. In the process, she unexpectedly forms a rapport with the killer's sister, Izzy, a delinquent teen with no other family.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

“Goodbye Charm City” is Christian J. Grier’s NYU: Tisch School of the Arts thesis short film.

The story behind “Goodbye Charm City” is inspired by real stories, recounted during support groups hosted at Roberta’s House by mothers who have lost their sons to Baltimore, MD, gang-related violence.

The runtime of “Goodbye Charm City” is 17 minutes 58 seconds.

Cinematographer Cale Nichols and 1<sup>st</sup> A.D. Melissa Garcia both previously collaborated with Christian J. Grier on his previous short film “Sugar” (2014) in the same roles.

“Goodbye Charm City” was shot over the course of 7 days on location in Baltimore, MD. Locations include The Children's Home in Catonsville, MD, the Clarence M. Mitchell Jr. Courthouse, HomeSlyce Pizza, the American Visionary Art Museum, Roberta’s House, WBAL-TV news station, amongst others.

“Goodbye Charm City” was produced in association with the Maryland Film Office and in accordance and permittances from the Baltimore Film Office.

“Goodbye Charm City” was filmed on a RED Epic camera with a package of Zeiss Ultra Prime lenses. The project was edited in Final Cut 7.

Production equipment for “Goodbye Charm City” was donated from New York University: Tisch School of the Arts, and leased from New York City rental houses Adorama and DuAll Camera, as well as Maryland based Brumar Films.

“Goodbye Charm City” is available to stream on Amazon Prime, Mubi, CodeBlack Network, and ComCast Xfinity Streampix.

## TALENT BIOGRAPHIES

### **NIKKI MARTIN** *as ROBYN CARRINGTON*

Nikki Martin is known for “Latin Lives” (2014), “Mad Full of Dreams” (2015) and “The Fantastic Two” (2007).

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm4862127/>

### **FRANCESCA REALE** *as IZZY STERN*

Francesca Luisa Reale is an American actress known best for her roles on the Netflix series “Haters Back Off” (2016) and “Stranger Things” (2016). Reale was born and grew up in Los Angeles and received a BFA in acting at New York University: Tisch School of the Arts. She also studied at the Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute and Stonestreet Studios. She received a 2012 National Youth Arts Award for Outstanding Youth Choreography for "Bordan vi Haller" in Winter Dance Concert, Hamilton Academy of Music.

Reale appeared for two seasons in 2016 and 2017 in the Netflix original series Haters Back Off, in which she played the supporting role of Emily, Miranda’s sister. In 2016 she also played Gabriella Moretti in the episode "Down the Rabbit Hole" on the CBS television series “Blue Bloods.” She played the recurring role of Heather, a lifeguard, on season 3 of “Stranger Things,” a Netflix original series, where her character is "the centerpiece of a dark mystery." She plays Laura in the 2019 comedy film “Yes, God, Yes.”

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm5590588/>

### **STEPHEN STAPINSKI** *as JUDGE*

Based in New York City, Stephen was born and raised in Northeastern Massachusetts. He has been a musician, an athlete, attended colleges in Boston and Atlanta, and has developed a huge portfolio of life experiences before moving to New York. He has been employed as a Construction Engineer, a Civil Engineer and Land Surveyor, a College Professor and a Real Estate Developer.

Stephen is a licensed pilot, a boat captain, a keyboardist and an Eagle Scout. All of these acquired skills have served him well as a professional actor over a 25 year film, television and stage career in both NYC and Boston. He has shared the screen with Morgan Freeman, Christopher Walken, Adam Lazarre-White, Heather Matarazzo, Christine Sutherland, Carolyn McCormick, John Rothman, David Thornton, Adrienne Shelly, Jeremy Sisto, Matthew Del Negro, William H. Macy, Alberto Colon, Paige Turco and Miguel Gomez, appeared as a rapping priest in a Rick Ross music video, on Showtime in SMILF and in the film Delivery Girl which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Most recently, he filmed a role in director Paul Tamasy's SIC for Paramount Pictures with Dermott Mulroney, Taylor John Smith and Victoria Justine in Bangkok.

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1100320/>

## KEY CREW BIOGRAPHIES:

### **CHRISTIAN J. GRIER**

*WRITER & DIRECTOR & EDITOR*

CHRISTIAN GRIER is an on-going senior in New York University: Tisch School of the Arts under the department of Film & Television. Before then, he was known as a boy that was raised in a funeral home in Maryland that became a production assistant for Guillermo Del Toro's Mirada Studios in Los Angeles. He's now known for his recent successful short film, SUGAR, that has thus far brought him to visit and meet some of the committee from the Directors Guild of America and jumpstarted his supporting actor into HBO's THE LEFTOVERS tv show. Grier's also known for his screenplays as he's earned many recognition and awards from his feature-length scripts from the New York Screenplay Contest to the Big Break Contest. Grier continues to produce and direct short films as he's prepping himself for his NYU Thesis: GOODBYE CHARM CITY.

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3597072/>

### **DAVID. M. NIGHT MAIRE**

*PRODUCER*

DAVID M. NIGHT MAIRE ,Cosmopolitan in nature, is a Bilingual International Baccalaureate Diploma recipient, and an alumnus of the prestigious NYU: Tisch School of the Arts, earning his B.A. with honors in Film & T.V. and Minors in Producing for Film & T.V. and Psychology. This native Alpine's passion for directing and producing led him to pursue a Masters in Directing at the School of Visual Arts under famed music video and commercial director Bob Giraldi, and has garnered dozens of laurels for his various short form projects. Co-founder of Airebedd Productions.

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm4731396/>

### **NICOLETTE MORENO**

*PRODUCER*

NICOLETTE MORENO is a fiery 1st AD and seasoned Producer. Moreno is a native from Los Angeles and a Fall 2013 S&S Studio Finalist. She's interned the last two semesters with the programming and production teams at Univision both in Los Angeles and New York. Graduating this May from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts with a total of 13 short films under her belt, she can't wait to produce the moving story of Goodbye Charm City alongside her fellow producers.

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6734191/>

**ZACH HASSELBRING**  
*PRODUCER*

ZACH HASSELBRING is an all-American, innovative character. Starting at the prestigious Portsmouth Abbey School, his strong intra-personal skills and team working wisdom has lead him on numerous professional and academic voyages around the globe. Currently studying Global Liberal Studies at NYU, his ethnographic research of the Independent film culture and community in New York City has landed him on the set of numerous professional and student independent films. With a humanistic passion for collaborative work and a will of steele, he is quickly burgeoning into a successful and metropolitan producer.

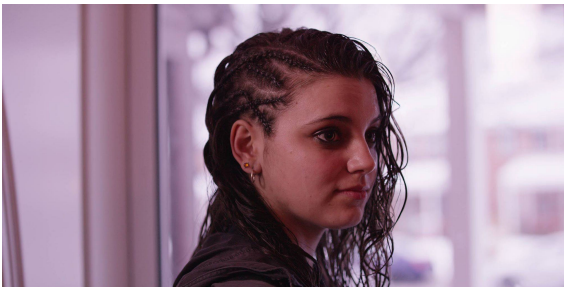
IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm7192772/>

**CALE NICHOLS**  
*CINEMATOGRAPHER*

CALE NICHOLS is a California native and has been an indie filmmaker, cinematographer and photographer for the last 5 years. In just the past year he has gone from just a student working on perfecting his craft to getting paid for his work on a regular basis; all the while building up an impressive reel.

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6559743/>

# FRAME GRABS & PROMOTIONAL IMAGES



## FULL CAST & CREW LIST

### Cast:

Nikki Martin as Robyn Carrington  
 Francesca Reale as Izzy Stern  
 Brayden Smith as Conrad Carrington  
 Doug Goodin as Ben  
 Katherine Schmoke as Surviving Mother  
 Andrea Randall as Surviving Mother  
 Shayna Brink as Surviving Mother  
 Iva Jean Ambush as Maria  
 Anthony Maldonado as Gregory Stern  
 Darin Guerrasioas Sean Coxfield  
 Stephen Stapinski as Judge  
 Gemma Smith as Office Lady  
 Sharrie McCain as Delinquent Teen  
 Isabel Benyanmin as Court Guest  
 Justin Grier as Court Guest  
 Shanelle Marie as Court Guest  
 Tim Toda as Court Guest  
 Tyler Randall as Little Conrad

Ihazi Phoenix as Gang Member  
 Cassell A. Ferere as Gang Member  
 Dan Verkman as News Anchor  
 Aaron Wiggins as Douglas Washington  
 Melissa Garcia as Pizza Guest  
 Luke Graglia as Pizza Guest  
 Steven Wang as Pizza Guest  
 Brian Perez as Pizza Guest & Thug  
 David E. Munz-Maire as Pizza Guest & Thug  
 Zach Hasselbring as Pizza Guest & Juror  
 Clyde Munz as Juror  
 Lauren Plotkin as Juror  
 Aidan Ritchie as Juror  
 Martin Jamal as Juror  
 Indeira Foye as Juror  
 Daniel Walker as Juror  
 Emme Grace Dunbar as Juror

Written & Directed & Edited by Christian Grier

Producers: David M. Night Maire, Zach Hasselbring & Nicolette Moreno

Executive Producer: Michael Beddome  
 Associate Producer: Lyndon J. Barrois & Melissa Garcia

Assistant Editor: Melissa Garcia & Ben Middlekauff

Composer: Alexis Martin

1st Assistant Director: Melissa Garcia  
 2nd Assistant Director: Cassell A. Ferere

Script Supervisor: Shelly Burke

Cinematographer: Cale Nichols

1st A.C.: Laura Hillard  
 2nd A.C.: Kelly Wurtz  
 D.I.T.: Tim Toda

Gaffer: Callum Shaw  
 Key Grip: Steven Wang  
 Best Boy Grip: Robert Newman  
 Electric: Reuben Ward

Sound Mixer: Brian Blum  
 Boom Op.: Luke Graglia

Production Designer: Hannah Alpert  
 Art Director: Ben Richards

Key Hair & Make Up Artist: Tymia Yvette

Produced by AireBedd Productions & NYU: Tisch School of the Arts

Special FX & Hair & MakeUp Assistant: Samantha Trionfo

Set Photographer: Julian Spath

Baltimore Coordinator: Fran Carmen

Stunt Driver #1: Rick Kain  
 Stunt Driver #2: Don Whatley

Production Supervisor: Christina Dehaven  
 Key P.A.: Brian Perez  
 P.A.s: Josiah Renken, Cazz Cerkez, Pete Thompson,  
 Ariana Grier, Raz Tzameret & Spring Leshiek

Color Correction Artist: Zac Gobetz

VFX Supervisor: Justin Scholar  
 VFX Coordinator: Mia Muschek  
 VFX Compositor: Christina Shi, Timmy Beekmann,  
 Owen Lazur & David Scherker

Music: "The Great Pretender" by The Platters  
 Courtesy of SyncSite by PeerMusic

Supervising Sound Editor: Dennis Hu & Jonathan Fang

Re-Recording Mixer: Dennis Hu  
 Foley Artist: Jonathan Fang  
 Background Sound FX Editor: Nick Seaman  
 Foley Editor: Jacob White



## ACCOLADES

### **Official Selections**

1. First Run Film Festival 2016
2. Uptown Short Film Festival 2016
3. D.C. Shorts Film Festival 2016
4. L.A. Shorts Fest 2016
5. The Creative Mind Group Special Screening: Le Festival International du Film de Cannes 2016
6. San Francisco Black Film Festival 2016
7. American Black Film Festival HBO Short Film Competition 2016
8. Forum on Law Culture & Society Film Series Best International Short Film 2016

### **Awards & Nominations**

1. Top 20 – American Black Film Festival HBO Short Film Competition 2016
2. Finalist – San Francisco Black Film Festival 2016 – Best Student Short Film
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Forum on Law Culture & Society Film Series 2016 – Best International Short Film

## REVIEW & INTERVIEW

Platform: We Are Moving Stories

Title: LA ShortsFest - Goodbye Charm City

- Interview with Writer/Director Christian Grier

*link:* <https://www.wearemovingstories.com/we-are-moving-stories-films/2016/9/7/la-shortsfest-goodbye-charm-city>

## HOST PLATFORMS

“Goodbye Charm City” is available to screen via the following platforms:

- Amazon Prime: [https://www.amazon.com/Goodbye-Charm-City-Nikki-Martin/dp/B06XQ6F6P6/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1493147543&sr=8-1&keywords=goodbye+charm+city](https://www.amazon.com/Goodbye-Charm-City-Nikki-Martin/dp/B06XQ6F6P6/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1493147543&sr=8-1&keywords=goodbye+charm+city)
- ComCast Xfinity Streampix: <https://tv.xfinity.com/entity/9119516338940173112>
- Mubi: <https://mubi.com/en/fr/films/goodbye-charm-city>
- CodeBlack Network : [http://codeblacknetwork.com/shorts/goodbye-charm-city/?fbclid=IwAR0pp-sLBDEtaBu08-MgUBHb7BK\\_5sg2lmoZ0zT0pW6flcgf\\_7Q7H4gipZI](http://codeblacknetwork.com/shorts/goodbye-charm-city/?fbclid=IwAR0pp-sLBDEtaBu08-MgUBHb7BK_5sg2lmoZ0zT0pW6flcgf_7Q7H4gipZI)

## CONTACT INFO

### **SHORT FILM**

webpage: [www.dmnightmaire.com/goodbye-charm-city](http://www.dmnightmaire.com/goodbye-charm-city)

IMDb: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4542668/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goodbye-Charm-City/887414727956572>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/gbcharmcityfilm>

Instagram: <http://instagram.com/goodbyecharmcity/>

Kickstarter: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/992598971/nyu-thesis-film-goodbye-charm-city>

Creative District: <http://creativedistrict.com/project/5550/>

### **WRITER & DIRECTOR**

**Christian J. Grier**

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IMDb: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm3597072/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/funeralboywriter/>

### **PRODUCER**

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IMDb: [www.imdb.com/name/nm4731396/](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm4731396/)

Instagram: <http://instagram.com/dmnightmaire/>