

Magnolia Pictures, Lorton Entertainment and Page 1 Entertainment

Present

PLAINCLOTHES

Written & Directed by Carmen Emmi

2025 | USA | 95 minutes

Official Selection

2025 Sundance Film Festival – World Premiere, U.S. Dramatic Competition 2025 Frameline 2025 Nantucket Film Festival 2025 Provincetown Film Festival

FINAL PRESS NOTES

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SYNOPSIS

Set in 1990s Syracuse and featuring breakout performances from stars Tom Blyth (HUNGER GAMES: THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS & SNAKES) and Russell Tovey (LOOKING), director Carmen Emmi's Sundance award-winning thriller follows a promising undercover officer (Blyth) assigned to lure and arrest gay men who defies orders when he falls in love with a target (Tovey).

At his mother's New Year's Eve party Lucas, a young police officer, loses a letter no one was ever meant to read. Amid the backdrop of the suffocating family party, the search for the letter unlocks memories of a past he's tried to forget: months earlier, while working undercover in a mall bathroom, Lucas arrested men by seducing them. But when he encounters Andrew, everything changes. What begins as another setup becomes something far more electric and intimate. As their secret connection deepens and police pressure to deliver arrests intensifies, Lucas finds himself torn between duty and desire. With time running out and his past closing in, PLAINCLOTHES builds toward a New Year's Eve reckoning where everything he's buried threatens to erupt.

FILMMAKER'S NOTE

The idea for this film came to me in 2016. At the time, my brother was becoming a police officer, and I was just beginning to live openly as a gay man. I was shocked to learn about a 2014 sting operation in which undercover officers lured and arrested men in a Long Beach park bathroom for indecent exposure. The idea that sting operations such as this still existed haunted me, forcing me to confront the reasons I had closeted myself for so long.

To process these feelings, I found myself reflecting on my childhood in Syracuse, NY, in the '90s. I remembered deepening my voice, lying about my favorite music and movies to appear more "masculine" — more "straight." I realized that, shaped by societal expectations of what a man should be, I "policed" my feelings and became my own harshest enforcer.

In the 90's, being "gay" felt like a death sentence, amplified by the pervasive fear of AIDS. I vividly recall a mother in a Wegmans grocery line flipping around magazine covers with the word "gay" on them so no one could see. Without the knowledge, confidence, or cultural acceptance to embrace myself, I lived in a constant state of fear of exposure.

Which is why writing this story for my hometown was something I had to do. I wanted to honor the place that raised me, even if I hadn't always felt I belonged. Revisiting key locations — my childhood mall, the Landmark Theater, the greenhouses where my grandfather taught me to pot flowers — felt essential.

In order to bring Lucas' story to life and answer the question of what it feels like to police your feelings, I turned to films like The Conversation and Vertigo. I wandered the woods near my home listening to Lana Del Rey and R.E.M., music I would've been embarrassed to admit loving as a kid. I even dusted off the Hi8 camera I used at age 10 to make my first movies. Filming my surroundings as I did back then became a meditative exercise and ultimately influenced my approach to tell Lucas' story. My editor, Erik Vogt-Nilsen, and I wove this Hi8 footage — most of which was shot on-set between takes — into the final cut to represent Lucas' inner thoughts: what he sees and what he believes he sees.

Making this movie in my hometown and seeing how the community rallied behind the project was a dream. Their enthusiasm and support made the entire process unforgettable, and I'm deeply grateful for the way they embraced our work.

I made this film so that my seven-year-old self could exhale. I made it for the countless people — queer and non-queer alike — who hold their true selves back. I made it because of a familiar image that resurfaced while I was writing: a kid in the grocery line, watching their mom turn over a magazine to hide the cast of Queer Eye for the Straight Guy. That kid can't watch this movie, but they can watch me turn the magazine back around.

- Carmen Emmi (writer/director/co-producer)

FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHIES

CARMEN EMMI | WRITER/DIRECTOR/CO-PRODUCER

Carmen Emmi is a filmmaker with deep roots in Syracuse, New York, where he grew up in a family of farmers. After graduating from USC's School of Cinematic Arts, Carmen began his career as an independent Director of Photography, contributing to a range of projects, including short films, commercials, and feature-length productions.

His debut screenplay, Plainclothes, garnered acclaim in several industry competitions, including placing in the top 50 of the prestigious AMPAS Academy Nicholl Fellowship. Set in 1997, the film follows a promising undercover officer assigned to entrap gay men, who defies professional orders when he falls in love with one of his targets.

Plainclothes is set to premiere in the U.S. Dramatic Competition at the Sundance Film Festival. The film stars Tom Blyth (The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes, Billy the Kid), Russell Tovey (Feud, American Horror Story: NYC), Maria Dizzia (My Old Ass, Orange Is the New Black), and Amy Forsyth (Coda, The Gilded Age), and marks Carmen's directorial debut.

COLBY COTE | PRODUCER

Colby, a PGA-nominated producer and founder of Page.1 Entertainment, is a leader in film finance and development, specializing in storytelling across traditional and emerging platforms. With a proven track record of collaborating with major networks, production companies, and digital mediums, Colby excels in adapting stories designed for next-generation audiences.

Colby's diverse portfolio includes independent films like the Sundance-selected Plainclothes and Call Jane, action thrillers such as Bandit (starring Mel Gibson and Josh Duhamel) and Cult Killer (starring Antonio Banderas), and the coming-of-age comedy Screams From The Tower. In television, he has produced popular shows like RuPaul's Secret Celebrity Drag Race, Lip Sync Battle, Drag Me to Dinner, and Legendary, among others.

ARTHUR LANDON | PRODUCER

In 2005 Arthur Landon completed his media degree in Bristol and joined "Between the Eyes" as a partner and director with producers Rory Aitken and Ben Pugh. He wrote, produced and directed a series of short films and a feature whilst working as an independent script editor. Arthur joined Lorton Entertainment in 2018 as a producer but still worked independently with external production companies on script development. He has since become a partner at Lorton where he has eight projects currently in development.

ERIC PODWALL | PRODUCER

Eric Podwall is a Talent Manager, Producer and former Music Agent who has worked across the board within film, TV, theater and music. From 2000-2005, he was a music agent, representing artists such as the Backstreet Boys, O-Town, 112, Kelis, Phantom Planet and D12. In 2005, he started his full-service management company Podwall Entertainment, representing an array of talent including Brody Jenner, Matthew Morrison, JC Chasez, Smokey Robinson, Chace Crawford, Kyle Hanagami, Joe Mazzello and many more. Between clients who have reached the pinnacle of their professions and himself having Executive Produced charting albums, live music TV specials and reality TV shows, Eric has built a global network spanning the entire entertainment industry.

VANESSA PANTLEY | PRODUCER

Vanessa Pantley is an accomplished film producer with over 13 years of experience managing high-profile productions and multi-million-dollar budgets. An alumna of USC's School of Cinematic Arts, she produced the university's first-ever feature, Don Quixote: The Ingenious Gentleman of La Mancha. Her latest film, Plainclothes, was selected for the 2025 Sundance Film Festival. Vanessa has worked with clients like HBO Max, Fox Studios, and Condé Nast, emphasizing storytelling, budget precision, and creating high-quality, impactful productions. Known for her precision in budgeting and leadership, she has managed over \$50M in production funds.

APRIL KELLEY | CO-PRODUCER

April Kelley is an award-winning producer and writer. Founded in 2012 by April, Mini Productions is co-owned with Sara Huxley. They made their name with a slate of short films that screened worldwide and garnered prestigious awards, including Deadline's Women and Hollywood's First-Time Female Filmmaker Award. She has since built a reputation that has carved a path into feature films and television.

Her debut feature film, directed by Jennifer Sheridan, Rose: A Love Story, premiered at the BFI London Film Festival and was nominated for the Raindance Discovery Award at the 2020 BIFAs. Written by and starring Matt Stokoe, with Sophie Rundle as a co-star, the film received wide acclaim.

Mini's BIFA and BAFTA long-listed short film Edith was the directorial debut for actor Christian Cooke and starred BAFTA-winner Peter Mullan. In January 2022, they went on to shoot Christian's debut feature film Embers. Co-produced with Lorton Entertainment, the film premiered at Raindance Film Festival, where it was nominated for Best UK Film.

During the infamous 2020, April teamed up with musician Dylan Holloway to shoot Summer on Ice, a mini-documentary about the lockdown. During this time, Dylan came out as transgender. April is currently in post-production with New Regency on a feature-length documentary titled Tomorrow's Too Late, which explores Dylan's transition. The film is set for release in 2025, along with Mini's next feature, Murder at the Embassy, a 1940s murder mystery set in Cairo.

Mini is also developing two more features: Primary Debates, starring Ben Whishaw, Russell Tovey, and Laura Aikman, and My Loneliness Is Killing Me, written and directed by BAFTA-nominee Nat Luurtsema.

April is also working on a television series, Do This for Me, which is a long-form adaptation of a trilogy of short films exploring mental health and sexuality, all written by April herself.

The first in the trilogy, Treacle, directed by BAFTA-nominated Rosie Westhoff, premiered at BFI Flare in 2019. That same year, April was selected as one of six queer filmmakers for the BFI Network & BAFTA at Flare Mentorship. The film was chosen as part of the 2021 'Fresh Flare', a worldwide touring programme showcasing the British Film Council's favourite shorts. It went on to screen at over 70 festivals worldwide, picking up numerous awards, including Best Women in Film at the Bolton Film Festival. The film was created in collaboration with the Bisexual Resource Centre.

The second film, Just in Case, stars Philip Glenister and was executive produced by New York Times best-selling author Terri Cheney.

The final film in the trilogy, Do This for Me, premiered at BFI Flare and is in collaboration with Bipolar UK.

In 2023, April won the 'Crip Script Pitch' for the television series at the ReelAbilities Film Festival: New York and was awarded industry engagement/mentorship with AMC Networks.

Beyond her accomplishments in the entertainment industry, April is known for her active advocacy work. She serves as a vocal ambassador for Bipolar UK, actively promoting mental health awareness and LGBTQ+ rights.

ALEXANDER WENGER | CO-PRODUCER

ALEXANDER WENGER (p.g.a.) is a film and television producer with over a decade of industry experience. His film credits include SCREAMS FROM THE TOWER (winner of best feature at Toronto LGBT fest), PAINTER, and THE CLEANER (starring Luke Wilson and Eden Brolin). His television credits include TOP CHEF, SWIPE RIGHT, and SIMI VALLEY.

Throughout his career, Alexander has produced with a wide range of production companies, including Throughline Films, Tailight, RYOT, Magical Elves, and Matador Entertainment. Alexander was the Global Manager of Snapchat Studio Operations as well as a Creative Supervising Producer.

Currently, Alexander serves as an Executive Producer and Vice President of Production at Agency Stray Angel.

ETHAN PALMER | DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Ethan Palmer has been working in film production for over 20 years. His recent cinematography work can be seen in Taylor Swift's FOLKLORE: THE LONG POND SESSIONS (Disney +), ADOPTING AUDREY starring Jena Malone and TED K (Berlin 2021) starring Sharlto Copley. He also photographed GOAT (Sundance 2016) starring Nick Jonas and James Franco, BREAKING A MONSTER (SXSW 2015), STAND CLEAR OF THE CLOSING DOORS (Tribeca 2013) and KING KELLY (SXSW 2012). Ethan also regularly shoots commercial and short form projects. As a partner at SeeThink Films, he produced DARKON (SXSW 2006) and the feature documentary ALICE NEEL (2007). Ethan graduated from NYU's Gallatin School with a concentration in Film Studies and Comparative Religion and lives in NY's Hudson Valley.

ROXY MARTINEZ-MICHAUD | PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Roxy was born and raised in Manila, Philippines and moved to New York to study filmmaking. In film school, she discovered her love for building worlds and telling a story through Production Design. Her imagination and passion has drawn her to many different types of projects, from feature films to advertising and everything in between. She has developed a unique style and aesthetic for each project, adding in elements of her own experiences and creative layers of character, story and setting.

KADEN O'KEEFE | COSTUME DESIGNER

Kaden O'Keefe is a Costume Designer based in Los Angeles with 15 years of experience primarily in period film and TV. He's worked on Emmy nominated shows including Netflix's Hollywood, Hulu's Why Women Kill, and Paramount's 1883 and Palm Royale. As well as upcoming projects American Primeval and The Studio. His most recent design work includes Plan B (Asst. Costume Designer) and the recently released Dexter: Original Sin (Asst. Costume Designer)

ERIK VOGT-NILSEN | EDITOR

Erik Vogt-Nilsen is a Los Angeles-based film editor whose work spans features, shorts, music videos, and commercials.

His feature credits include the screen life thriller Don't Log Off (2021), directed by Brandon & Garrett Baer, and the religious horror Inhabitants (2023), directed by Matt McClung, which won the Dark Matters Feature award at the 2023 Austin Film Festival. He also edited the coming-of-age comedy Big Boys (2023), directed by Corey Sherman, which won the 2023 Outfest Grand Jury Prize for Outstanding Performance and Audience Award for Best Narrative Feature, and also received two 2025 Independent Spirit Award nominations: Best Breakthrough Performance and the John Cassavetes Award.

His latest feature, Plainclothes, directed by Carmen Emmi, was selected to premiere in the U.S. Dramatic Competition at the 2025 Sundance Film Festival.

Erik's music video portfolio includes work for renowned artists like FINNEAS, Harry Styles, and PVRIS, while his commercial clients include Chase, Impossible Foods, and Hoka.

Driven by a passion for amplifying marginalized voices, Erik collaborates with filmmakers to tell authentic and impactful stories. He believes in filmmaking as a powerful tool for social change and actively seeks projects that challenge perspectives, promote inclusivity, and foster greater understanding and empathy within audiences.

Erik earned a bachelor's degree in dramatic arts from the University of Southern California, where his background in theater and dance shaped his approach to storytelling. His keen understanding of character, movement, and their dynamic interplay translates into a meticulous editing style that supports narratives with emotional depth and sensitivity.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Erik draws inspiration from his Cuban-Norwegian heritage. He is a proud member of the LGBTQIA+ community and joined the Motion Picture Editors Guild LGBTQIA+ Committee in 2025. When not in the edit suite, Erik can be found practicing his handstand, expanding his reggaeton library, or indulging in the occasional gluten-free treat.

EMILY WELLS | COMPOSER

Forging a bridge between pop and chamber music, polymathic composer, producer, and video artist Emily Wells (she/her) builds songs from deliberate strata of vocals, synths, drums, piano, string and wind instruments.

Wells has toured extensively throughout the world, including headlining performances at the Guggenheim Museum, Lincoln Center, The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles, Sundance Film Festival, and the National Gallery of Art, and has shared the stage with artists such as Wilco, Japanese Breakfast, The Roots, and Son Lux. She has released six critically acclaimed albums including 2017's "visionary" (NPR) This World is Too For You, and 2022's "complex, vibrant, and dynamic" (Pitchfork) Regards to the End. She appeared on The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon in 2016 to promote her album Promise, called "dramatic, meticulous, and gothic, by The New York Times. She is a 2022 NYU Center for Ballet and the Arts & National Sawdust Toulmin Fellow, and a 2020 New York Foundation for the Arts grant recipient.

Wells has written original music for film including an end credits song for Park Chan-Wook's Stoker (2013) "Becomes the Color". Her music has been extensively licensed across film, TV, and advertising, including features in Sharp Objects (HBO), Orange Is The New Black (Netflix), Bates Motel (A&E), Riverdale (CW), and The New York Times' Diagnosis (Netflix), as well as in promotional media for Apple, Adidas, Nike, IKEA, among others. In 2022 Wells published an essay "I am not lost, I'm Looking" alongside Jia Tolentino, Samantha Irby, America Ferrera, and others in Amber Tamblyn's collection Listening in the Dark (Harper Collins).

Wells's evocative music (described as "thrilling" by Pitchfork) and performances (called "quietly transfixing" by The New York Times) impel listeners to be attuned. Her latest release, the ten-song album Regards to the End, explores the AIDS crisis, climate change, and her lived experience watching the world burn. A work of radical empathy, Regards to the End foregrounds the power of art, critique, and care to connect and perhaps redeem us.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

TOM BLYTH | "LUCAS"

TOM BLYTH recently finished filming the male lead in Netflix/Sony 3000/Temple Hill's PEOPLE WE MEET ON VACATION based on the #1 New York Times' bestselling novel written by Emily Henry.

Prior to PWMOV, he filmed three back-to-back projects: the independent feature PLAINCLOTHES, written and directed by Carmen Emmi, opposite Russel Tovey and Maria Dizzia, based on the true story of underground "plainclothes" officers entrapping gay men; the gritty prison drama WASTEMAN opposite David Jonsson, written and directed by Calum Macdiarmid for Agile Films/Lionsgate UK/Bankside; and the highly anticipated film adaptation of the popular UbiSoft video game WATCH DOGS for New Regency opposite Sophie Wilde, directed by French genre director Mathieu Turi.

BLYTH can be seen as the lead in THE HUNGER GAMES: BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS AND SNAKES, playing young Coriolanus Snow, a role which was originated and made famous by Donald Sutherland. HUNGER GAMES, released in November of 2023 for Lionsgate, also stars Rachel Zegler, Viola Davis and Peter Dinklage. By 2024, the film had grossed over \$300 million worldwide.

This spring, 2025, BLYTH will film the 3rd season of BILLY THE KID, premiering on MGM+, in which TOM plays the titular lead role. Tom also starred in BENEDICTION opposite Jack Lowden directed by Terrence Davies and was also seen in THE GILDED AGE.

Having studied at the prestigious drama conservatory, Juilliard, he is a chameleon and skilled in comedy and drama.

RUSSELL TOVEY | "ANDREW"

Award-winning actor Russell Tovey has just completed filming *The War Between the Land and Sea*, a *Doctor Who* spin-off in which he stars alongside Gugu Mbatha-Raw for Disney+. Most recently, he starred as John O'Shea in Ryan Murphy's *Feud*, an anthology series exploring infamous rivalries, including those of Bette Davis and Joan Crawford, and Truman Capote with the New York elite. Russell also played the leading role of Patrick Read in the eleventh season of Ryan Murphy's FX horror anthology *American Horror Story: NYC* and starred in the BBC drama series *Juice* alongside Mawaan Rizwan.

In 2020, Russell was nominated for a Critics' Choice Award for Best Supporting Actor for his performance in the critically acclaimed BBC/HBO drama *Years and Years*, by Russell T. Davies alongside Emma Thompson and Jessica Hynes. He also had a standout role in Bill Condon's *The Good Liar* for Warner Bros., opposite Ian McKellen and Helen Mirren.

Beyond acting, Russell is a passionate art collector and co-hosts the popular art podcast *Talk Art* with his friend and gallerist Robert Diament. Together, they aim to make art more accessible by interviewing leading artists, curators, celebrities, and gallerists about their shared passion. You can find them on Instagram at Talk Art.

Other notable film and television credits include Other notable film and television credits include Sony's Love Again; Warner Bros. Allelujah; *Grabbers; Blackwood; The Lady in*

the Van; Mindhorn; The Pass; Hymm of Hate; Pride; The Sea; ITV's/Hulu's The Sister; ITV's Flesh and Blood; BBC's Him and Her, Starstruck, Doctor Who, Little Dorrit; Ashes to Ashes; Rob Brydon's Annually Retentive; Sherlock; Looking; The Night Manager; What Remains; The Job Lot and Quantico.

On stage, Russell gained widespread recognition for his role as Rudge in Alan Bennett's *The History Boys*, both at the National Theatre and on Broadway, later reprising the part in the 2006 film adaptation directed by Nicholas Hytner. In 2017, he earned critical acclaim for his portrayal of Joseph Pitt in *Angels in America* at the National Theatre, which later transferred to Broadway. Russell was also on the judging panel of the 2021 Turner Prize and has curated a number of exhibitions over the last years including teaming up with Sotheby's for the 'Contemporary Curated' auction where he handpicked a personal edit of works from the most established to the emerging generation of artists, bringing a fresh perspective to the series in the tenth iteration.

MARIA DIZZIA | "MARIE"

Maria Dizzia has established herself as one of New York's most versatile actresses with a career spanning across theatre, television, and film.

On screen, Maria can now be seen in a series regular role in the first season of Apple TV+'s *Winston*, as well as in a recurring role in Marvel's upcoming series *Agatha*. She has recently appeared in the feature film *My Old Ass*, which premiered to rave reviews at this year's Sundance Film Festival, as well as the film *We Strangers* which just had its premiere at SXSW 2024. She can also currently be seen in a heavily recurring role in *School Spirits* for Paramount+.

Other roles include three seasons of *Orange is the New Black* and recurring roles on *The Staircase*, *The First Lady*, *The Undoing*, *13 Reasons Why*, *Horace and Pete*, *Louie*, *Emergence*, *Red Oaks* and *Royal Pains*. Other select television and film credits include: *The Good Nurse*, *The Graduate*, *Life and Beth*, *Modern Love*, *The Outside Story*, *The Deuce*, *The Newsroom*, *Prodigal Son*, *Bull*, *While We're Young*, *Martha Marcy May Marlene*, *Margin Call*, *The Good Wife*, *Master of None*, *Elementary*, *A New York Thing*, *Fringe*, *Law & Order* and *Law & Order Criminal Intent*.

On stage, Maria has been nominated for a Tony Award for her performance in *In the Next Room* and a Drama Desk Award for *Belleville*. Maria was last seen on stage in the Broadway Revival of *Macbeth*.

She also starred in the national tour of Heidi Schreck's acclaimed play What the Constitution Means to Me. Other Theatre: If I Forget, The Layover, Belleville (2013 Drama Desk Nomination), Uncle Vanya, In the Next Room (2010 Tony Award nomination); Eurydice and many more. She made her directorial debut with the Amios Theater Company production of The Loneliest Number (2018 NY Innovative Theater nomination)

CHRISTIAN COOKE | "RON"

Christian Cooke is a dynamic British actor who will currently be seen in the feature, EMBERS, which he co-wrote, produced, directed, and stars opposite Ruth Bradley. It's adapted from the critically acclaimed play *Experience* by Dave Florez and follows a sexual surrogate who is employed to help a psychiatric patient overcome his intimacy issues after 18 years of high-security incarceration. He also recently filmed the independent feature PLAINCLOTHES, which will premiere at Sundance 2025.

Christian also starred in the AMC+ series, THAT DIRTY BLACK BAG. Next, he is the lead of the HBO Europe limited, REMATCH, in which he portrays Garry Kasparov, the chess champion who competed against IBM's supercomputer in 1997. Disney+ will release the series in the UK next spring.

Previously, Christian had a leading role in the Scott Rudin-produced limited series, BARKSKINS, for National Geographic. He appeared in the Netflix/Gaumont feature, POINT BLANK, opposite Frank Grillo and Anthony Mackie and the BBC adaptation of Agatha Christie's ORDEAL BY INNOCENCE opposite Billy Nighy and Matthew Goode. He has also made an impact on the stage, most recently in a critically acclaimed run of *Knives in Hens* at the Donmar Warehouse in 2017.

Additional select credits include: THE ART OF MORE (Crackle), ELECTRICITY, LOVE, ROSIE, in which he starred opposite Sam Claflin and Lily Collins, Relativity Media's ROMEO & JULIET, MAGIC CITY (Starz), STONEMOUTH (BBC), and CEMETERY JUNCTION, written and directed by Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant.

GABE FAZIO | "UNCLE PAUL"

Gabe Fazio's most notable film and television credits include playing a menacing patron at a bar with Bradley Cooper and Lady Gaga in "A Star Is Born", an affable insurance assessor alongside Mark Ruffalo in HBO's limited series "I know This Much Is True," where he also worked as Mark's identical twin acting double. Fazio also portrays a corrupt cop partnering with Ray Liotta in "The Place Beyond The Pines", directed by Derek Cianfrance, and as a grieving husband in Tobias Lindholm's "The Good Nurse". Other TV credits include: "Law and Order," "L&O SVU", "Blue Bloods", "Homeland "and as Harvey Keitel's son in the ABC mini-series "The Path To 9/11".

AMY FORSYTH | "EMILY"

Amy Forsyth is a versatile young actress who has quickly made a name for herself with credits spanning film, television and stage. Last Fall, she made her Broadway debut in Stereophonic, the most Tony Award-Nominated play of all time, taking over the role of "Diana." Forsyth recently wrapped production on the independent drama Westhampton. She stars alongside Finn Wittrock

and RJ Mitte in the film which follows a filmmaker haunted by an accident he caused in high school who must return to the scene of the tragedy and confront the old friends whose lives he ruined. She recently led the independent feature Inedia, a gripping cult drama and co-starred in Elevation Pictures' Shook which premiered at the 2024 Toronto Film Festival. Forsyth will next be seen in Carmen Emmi's feature debut Plainclothes premiering in competition at the 2025 Sundance Film Festival. Tom Blyth and Russell Tovey star in the film about a promising undercover agent assigned to lure and arrest gay men who defies professional orders when he falls in love with a target.

In 2022, Forsyth had a breakout year with the critical success of her supporting roles in CODA and The Novice. Premiering at the Sundance Film Festival in 2021, CODA received an unprecedented four awards – including the Special Jury Awards for Ensemble Cast, the Audience Award, and the Grand Jury Price. Forsyth starred alongside Troy Kostur and Emilia Jones in the coming-of-age drama which was bought and distributed by Apple. The film went on to receive global acclaim and earned many historic wins, including becoming the first film with a predominantly Deaf cast to win an Academy Award for Best Picture. Forsyth also co-starred in The Novice, a psychological drama about the competitive world of university rowing, which premiered at the 2021 Tribeca Film Festival. The film won the Best US Feature award at the festival. Released by IFC Films, The Novice garnered five Independent Spirit Award nominations, including Best Feature and a solo nomination for Forsyth in the Best Supporting Actress category. Adding to the successful year, she was seen alongside Connie Britton and Taylor Schilling in the Apple TV+ series "Dear Edward," written and executive produced by Jason Katims and Forsyth also recurred as "Carrie Astor" on the first season of "The Gilded Age" created by Julian Fellows ("Downton Abbey"). She continues to recur on the Emmy nominated HBO series.

An Ontario native, Forsyth's love for performing arts began with ballet at her local dance studio in Stouffville, a small-town Northeast of Toronto. She later transitioned to musical theatre. On the small screen, she broke out with a role alongside Aaron Paul and Hugh Dancy in Hulu's "The Path." Her passion for musical theater and television merged in the form of a series regular role in NBC's critically acclaimed series "RISE," playing Gwen Strickland, the queen bee of Stanton High School's theatre department. She also starred in the second season of Syfy's "Channel Zero", based on popular internet horror stories known as creepypasta. In 2018, she starred in CBS Studios' horror film Hell Fest, directed by Gregory Plotkin (Paranormal Activity) and had a supporting role in the Amazon Studios' and Plan B film Beautiful Boy opposite Steve Carrell and Timothée Chalamet.

CREDITS

CREW:

WRITER/DIRECTOR/CO-PRODUCER: CARMEN EMMI

PRODUCERS: COLBY COTE, ARTHUR LANDON, ERIC PODWALL, VANESSA PANTLEY

CO-PRODUCERS: APRIL KELLEY, ALEXANDER WENGER

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: ETHAN PALMER

PRODUCTION DESIGNER: ROXY MARTINEZ-MICHAUD

COSTUME DESIGNER: KADEN O'KEEFE

EDITOR: ERIK VOGT-NILSEN

COMPOSER: EMILY WELLS

CAST:

TOM BLYTH | "LUCAS"

RUSSELL TOVEY | "ANDREW"

MARIA DIZZIA | "MARIE"

CHRISTIAN COOKE | "RON"

GABE FAZIO | "UNCLE PAUL"

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