



ACRYLIC

&

BILE

Beauty is a violent rejection.

LONE PINE MEDIA PRESENTS A FILM BY NICHOLAS KOSCIK "ACRYLIC & BILE"
STARRING HANNAH BRENNEN ERICA FEI WANG JULIE MCCARTHY
MUSIC BY MICHAEL SPIROFF COSTUME DESIGNER CELINA FAZIO EDITOR ERIC METZLOFF PRODUCTION DESIGNER LOGAN GRAHAM GREENE PHOTOGRAPHER DYLAN M. YOUNG
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS KATIE WOOD PRODUCED BY DAVID M. JAMES NICHOLAS KOSCIK RICK COULOMBE WRITTEN BY RICK COULOMBE DIRECTED BY NICHOLAS KOSCIK
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LONE PINE
MEDIA

MELESS FILMS

Studio
205

ACRYLIC

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Country: Canada
Runtime: 14:55
Language: English
Aspect Ratio: 2.00:1
Frame Rate: 24 FPS
Image: Colour
Shooting Format: ARRI ALEXA Open Gate (ARRIRAW)
Sound: 5.1 Surround / Stereo
Year of Completion: 2026
Exhibition Format: DCP, ProRes 4444

CONTACT INFO:

Nicholas Koscik

Director / Producer

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GENRE:

Psychological Drama

LOGLINE:

Rhonda's art depends on Zoe's violent reaction to beauty. As a career-defining deadline approaches, Zoe refuses to keep suffering for the work, forcing their creative partnership to unravel.

SLOGAN:

Beauty is a violent rejection.

SYNOPSIS:

Rhonda's art only exists if Zoe is sick.

Zoe suffers from Stendhal syndrome—a rare condition that causes her to vomit at the sight of great beauty. What began as a debilitating reaction has become the foundation of Rhonda's work, transforming a physical symptom into a toxic creative ritual.

As a career-defining gallery deadline approaches, the cost of that ritual becomes impossible to ignore. When Zoe begins to resist the role her body plays in the art, their relationship fractures, exposing the fragile line between devotion and exploitation.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

I've never believed in the idea of "perfect" art. Growing up in rural Northern Ontario and later working in Toronto, I became aware of the distance between art that feels lived-in and art that feels manufactured for approval. *Acrylic & Bile* is rooted in that tension.

At its core, this isn't a film about status or the art world. It's about a relationship strained by ambition and ego. Rhonda and Zoe love each other, but their bond has been distorted by the pressure to succeed, and by Rhonda's inability to see where the art ends and Zoe begins. I wanted the physical space of the film to reflect that imbalance. Rhonda's studio feels alive and chaotic, while the world waiting at the door is rigid, soulless, and impersonal.

Visually, we began the film with control: steady frames, balanced compositions, a sense of order. As the relationship destabilizes, that control erodes. The camera becomes more immediate and unsettled, mirroring the collapse of the ritual Rhonda depends on. The film culminates in a frenetic, unbroken one in which Rhonda destroys her own work, a formal release of the control she has spent the entire film trying to maintain. The shift isn't about spectacle. It's about allowing the image to reflect the emotional truth of the moment.

People often ask: Why vomit? For my creative partner, Rick Coulombe, and me, the answer was instinctive. Nausea is involuntary. It's the body rejecting something it cannot process. *Stendhal Syndrome*, a real but little-known condition, gave us a way to ground that idea in reality. By placing a biological response inside the controlled environment of high art, we could explore what happens when the body refuses to cooperate with ambition.

Ultimately, this film is about control—who has it, who gives it up, and what it costs. If the industry demands polish, *Acrylic & Bile* asks who gets hurt in the pursuit of it.



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CAST BIOS:

Hannah Brennen (Zoe)



Hannah Brennen is a Toronto-based actor whose work spans independent film and festival projects. She has built a character-driven body of work rooted in subtlety and emotional precision.

In *Acrylic & Bile*, Hannah portrays Zoe, whose rare physical response to beauty becomes both the catalyst for Rhonda's art and the emotional centre of the film. Her performance balances vulnerability with quiet resolve, grounding the story's exploration of ambition and control.

Erica Fei-Wang (Rhonda)



Erica Fei-Wang is a Toronto-based actor with a background spanning performance and film industry strategy. A graduate of Western University with dual honours degrees in Business Administration and Media Studies, she began her career in entertainment consulting and studio development before transitioning to a full-time acting career.

In *Acrylic & Bile*, Erica portrays Rhonda, an ambitious artist whose drive for validation begins to eclipse her relationship. She brings restraint and precision to the role, navigating the fragile intersection of ego, intimacy, and control.

Julie McCarthy (Angélique)



Julie McCarthy is an actor whose work spans independent film and television. Known for her grounded presence and sharp command of character, she brings authority and nuance to each performance.

In *Acrylic & Bile*, Julie plays Angélique, the uncompromising gallerist who offers Rhonda opportunity—and imposes consequence. Her performance embodies the external pressure of the art world, balancing composure with quiet threat.

CREW BIOS:



Nicholas Koscik

Director / Producer

Nicholas Koscik is an award-winning filmmaker and production sound mixer based in Toronto, originally from rural Northern Ontario. His work spans narrative fiction and documentary, including *Nature Boy* (2018), *Dear Friend, Where Have You Gone?* (2023), *Stanislaw* (2026), and *Flower* (2017). He has also worked in the sound department on major television productions such as *The Umbrella Academy*, *Star Trek: Discovery*, and *What We Do in the Shadows*.

With over a decade in production sound, Nicholas brings an “ears-first” sensibility to directing—approaching image and sound as inseparable forces. In *Acrylic & Bile*, that philosophy shapes a controlled visual language that gradually fractures alongside the characters.



David M. James

Producer

Producer David M. James has premiered films at major international festivals including TIFF, SXSW, and Sundance. His recent projects include the narrative feature *Neurovenge* (2024) and the short documentary *Dear Friend, Where Have You Gone?* (2023). Additional credits include *Violation* (2020) and *Kitty Mamas* (2020).

David’s work centres on bold, character-driven storytelling. On *Acrylic & Bile*, he helped shepherd a project that blends psychological tension with biting satire of the art world.



Rick Coulombe

Writer / Producer

Rick Coulombe is a writer and production sound mixer based in Toronto. For over a decade, he has collaborated closely with director Nicholas Koscik, developing a creative shorthand shaped by years of on-set experience. He is also the author of *The One Percent* (2018) and several subsequent novels.

Drawing on both technical precision and narrative discipline, Rick crafted the script for *Acrylic & Bile*, grounding its surreal premise in character-driven tension and emotional clarity.

CREW BIOS:



Dylan M. Young
Cinematographer / Music Supervisor

Cinematographer Dylan M. Young works across fiction and documentary, with projects screening at festivals throughout North America and Europe. A graduate of the Toronto Film School, he has frequently collaborated with Nicholas Koscik, including on *Stanislaw* (2026) and *Dear Friend, Where Have You Gone?* (2023).

In *Acrylic & Bile*, Dylan's visual approach moves from composed precision to destabilized intimacy, mirroring the unravelling relationship at the centre of the film.



Eric Metzloff
Editor / Colourist

Eric Metzloff is an editor and colourist specializing in narrative film and television. A graduate of Loyalist College's Television and New Media Production program, he has also served as post-production supervisor on Canadian reality series, including *Drag Heals* and *Dating Unlocked*. His recent credits include *Dear Friend, Where Have You Gone?* (2023).

On *Acrylic & Bile*, Eric shaped the film's tonal descent—balancing restraint with rupture as the story moves from composure to collapse.



Michael Spiroff
Composer

Michael Spiroff is a composer, pianist, and music director whose work spans chamber music, theatre, and film. A graduate of McGill University and the Mannes School of Music, he has received recognition from the Toronto Arts Council and the Ontario Arts Council for his compositional work.

An active jazz pianist and bandleader, Michael brings both classical structure and improvisational tension to *Acrylic & Bile*, crafting a score that underscores the film's uneasy blend of elegance and disorder.

CREDITS:

Director

Nicholas Koscik

Writer

Rick Coulombe

Producers

David M. James
Nicholas Koscik
Rick Coulombe

Executive Producer

Katie Wood

Director of Photography

Dylan M. Young

Editor

Eric Metzloff

Composer

Michael Spiroff

Cast

(In Order of Appearance)

Zoe – Hannah Brennen
Rhonda – Erica Fei-Wang
Angélique – Julie McCarthy
Art Critic 1 – Logan Graham Greene
Art Critic 2 – Daphne Rhodes

Post-Production

Editor – Eric Metzloff
Colourist – Eric Metzloff
Assistant Editor – Chad Danger
Online Editor – Nusayba Mustafa
Supervising Sound Editor – Carlos Valdez
VFX – Nicholas Koscik & Eric Metzloff

Musicians

Keys – Michael Spiroff
Percussion – Kyle Sullivan
Bass – Clayton Harder
Brass/Woodwind – Laurent Humeau
Recording Engineer – Calvin Hartwick
Score recorded at DREAMHOUSE STUDIOS

Original Motion Picture
Soundtrack available on
major streaming platforms.

Production

1st Assistant Director – Lauren Vandelle
2nd Assistant Director – Austin Roberts
Script Supervisor – Cleo Brown
Assistant Script Supervisor – Jezabel Bamberg
Producer's Assistant – Rachel Hop
Production Assistant – Mónica Garcés

Camera & Lighting

1st Assistant Camera – Victor On
2nd Assistant Camera – Matthew Hemmerich
DIT – Eric Metzloff
Gaffer – Nathan Reinholds
Key Grip – Mahan Ashtari

BTS Stills Photographer – Dave Morgado

Art Department & Wardrobe

Production Designer – Logan Graham Green
Art Director – Dina Roudman
Art Assistant – Paula Soler Laveaga
Wardrobe – Celina Fazio
Graphic Design – Joanne Howard & Bill Howard

Sound

Sound Recordist – Keth Sivakumar
Boom Operator – Aidan Rhody

Special Effects & Makeup

Key Makeup Artist / Hairstylist – Cat Everson
Special Effects & Vomit Design
– Locked in the Cellar Creations
SPFX Technicians – Brian Rowe, Desirée van de Laar
Stunt & Fight Choreographer – Koldin Collie

Catering & Locations

Craft Services & Catering – Lovey's Kitchen
Catering Team – Shelley Harrison, Sandy Follett,
Rupie Kaur, Sharon Cummins

Location – Location A

Location Equipment – Sunbelt Rentals

Camera & Lighting Equipment – Ontario Camera

Special Thanks

Stan, Leokadia, Ula, & Hugh Koscik
Bob Hobbs & Daniel Shojei
Jeff Wilston
Mark Delottinville
Scott Rudderham
Rosie
The Residents of Englehart, Ontario
R. Reid

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