

A FILM BY
BRYAN UVALDO

EPK

PLAYIN' around

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About the Film

Title Playin' Around

Directed by Bryan Uvaldo

Logline Determined to buy the perfect gift for her little brother, a young woman must fight her way through crazed customers at a toy store turned madhouse.

Technical info Runtime: 13m46s
Genre: Action, Comedy
Shooting Format: Digital, Alexa Mini
Medium: Live Action Short Narrative
Screening Format: DCP and ProRes available
Digital | Color | 2:1 | 5.1 Surround Sound | 24.00 fps | English

IMDB https://www.imdb.com/title/tt27975978/?ref_=ext_shr_lnk

Letterboxd <https://boxd.it/lwe2>

Contact Us

Director

Bryan Uvaldo
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(914) 364-0723

Producer

Mason Kidd
masondylankidd@gmail.com
(310) 465-5317



Synopsis

In order to save her brother's birthday, Anna begrudgingly enters a crowded toy store with a singular objective: to secure a coveted, seemingly sold out "hot ticket" toy as a last-minute gift. When a customer catches Anna attempting to swipe the display-only toy, however, she garners the attention of the rest of the riled-up shoppers. Caught in a ridiculous tug of war, her actions have created a violent domino effect that grows into store-wide mayhem. Determined to do whatever it takes, Anna employs her playful surroundings to escape and get the gift her brother deserves.





Director's Statement

When making *Playin' Around*, I knew that I wanted to keep pushing the limits of what I can do as a young filmmaker in the action genre. As a director/editor I wanted to challenge the limits of what we can achieve, and by setting the film in a toy store, we had set ourselves up for success in creatively crafting an action film that we could go above and beyond in production value.

I want to inspire! I need to reignite that inner child within us, to encourage audiences to protect that fresh way of looking at the world for how surreal and crazy it is. *Playin' Around* is a film about going to great lengths for your loved ones. How do we show our love? For Anna, why not show her literally fight for it. Anna is pretty reasonable in her desire to get the toy her brother wants, but she's also willing to go the extra mile by fighting her way through crazy customers. It's a normal thing to want, but a crazy thing to do.

As a Brazilian-American, I have always searched for a sense of belonging as I moved twelve times in my life. As I continue growing in my filmmaking journey, I've been committed to making my film productions opportunities in building community. I have had previous experience with the action genre in my short *Love Bomb Baby*, and something I took away from that was just how fulfilling a massive production can be. With *Playin' Around* I was able to create something ambitious in front of the camera, but also create massive opportunities behind the scenes.

This production was an opportunity to give back to my community. My team and I reached out to various toy companies and ended up getting hundreds of free toys that we were able to use in our production design for the film. After we wrapped we donated all the toys to a family shelter in Brooklyn and a children's hospital in Harlem. I can only imagine the difference those toys made to the children there. I was also able to film in my hometown Mamaroneck, where I was able to get high school students from the same class I took when I was there and have them be on set to experience what an NYU Senior thesis film set was like. It was an experience I am incredibly proud of providing these students, as they had the biggest smiles on their faces every day on set.



Meet the Director & Star



Bryan Uvaldo | Director, Editor

Bryan Uvaldo is a Brazilian-American filmmaker with a B.F.A. in Film & Television from NYU Tisch School of the Arts. Passionate for the action film genre, Bryan is set to debut his first action short *Love Bomb Baby* in 2024 and follow that up with his NYU thesis, *Playin' Around*, early 2025. Bryan has edited ten short films, multiple promos for HBO Max, and is now the lead editor for a feature film. An intern at Warner Brothers Discovery, Bryan worked as an editor for the marketing campaigns of *Pretty Little Liars: Original Sin* & *Edge of the Earth*. Bryan is determined to use his post-production experience as a building block for his path to becoming a director for blockbuster films.

Amanda Whyte as ANNA

Amanda Whyte is a renowned actor, model and stuntwoman who focuses on telling character driven stories that aren't afraid to tell the truth. The recent NYU Tisch Drama BFA graduate is no stranger to action films, also having sparred in Geneva Pierre-Jerome's *Valentine, Texas*, and Bryan Uvaldo's first award-winning action film, *Love Bomb Baby*. Most recently, the work of this brown belt has taken her to Off-Broadway (*The Gospel of Joan Crawford*), Off-Off Broadway (*Caricature of Intimacy*), Edinburgh Fringe (*The Gospel of Joan Crawford Revival*), NYSFF (*Acceptance*), and countless other film festivals, theaters, and countries.



Ian Dugan / Stunt Coordinator

Ian “Danger” Dugan is an aspiring action designer & film editor. Graduating from NYU Tisch Film & TV in 2023, he is currently an assistant editor at Saturday Night Live. Following their initial collaboration on *Love Bomb Baby*, Ian was thrilled to reteam with director Bryan Uvaldo to design and choreograph a kinetic action-comedy labyrinth in *Playin’ Around*.

Mason Kidd / Producer

A graduate of NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Mason has produced over \$200,000 of student films currently in festivals. A freelance photographer and videographer on the side, he is also responsible for directing concerts, weddings, and parties with small venues in New York, Vermont, and Connecticut. He is currently based in New York City. For more information, visit his site at Mdkidd.net

Ari Isenberg / Director of Photography

Ari Isenberg is a cinematographer for various projects including narrative and experimental films, commercials, documentaries, music videos, and more. Based in New York City and originally from Atlanta, Ari graduated magna cum laude in 2024 with a BFA degree in filmmaking from NYU Tisch School of the Arts. Recently, Ari’s work has premiered and won awards at festivals such as New York Shorts International Film Festival, NFFTY, Holly Shorts Film Festival, Big Apple Film Festival, London Music Video Festival, and more.





PRODUCTION CREDITS

Director: Bryan Uvaldo
Writer: Sebastian Hunt
Producer: Mason Kidd
Post Producer: Nic LeBlanc
Executive Producers: Maggie Soik,
Jessi Thomas, Sunil Thomas, Bryan Uvaldo
Associate Producers:
Jayla Matthews, Christine Yu

Cast

Anna: Amanda Whyte
Carl: Chris Hahn
Lois: Alice Kelly Bahlke
Lily: Scarlet Presley
Michael: John Tabaniag
Jimmy: Brian Sterling Chan
Alec: Thomas King
Ryland: Levi Blaise
Mom: Shevonne Monique
Costumers: Michael Monroe, Alex
Grech, Minami Ando, Kerry Mosier,
Alec Inagamov, Ian Dugan

Original Soundtrack

Written and Composed by

Joshua Conway
Dani Martinez



Production

Assistant Director: Tucker Papa
Unit Production Manager: Arabella Sharkey
Stunt Coordinator: Ian Dugan
Director of Photography: Ari Isenberg
Casting Director: Parker Sack
Easy Rig Operator: Chris St Lawrence
1st Assistant Camera: Tara Zulfikar
2nd Assistant Camera: Carter Chun,
Sarah Westrich, Fronia Raharso
BTS Still Photographer: Josh Li, Ruben Sevilla
Gaffer: Griffin Bowie
Key Grip: Vadium Garbaty
Grip: Liam Stine, Renzo Olivieri
Production Sound Mixer: Alec Inagamov, Cooper Smith
Boom Operator: Raya Farage, Edo Barel
Script Supervisor: Maria Quezada
Script Consultants: Zishan Sun, Jack Whitehurst
Production Designer: Dasha Fogelson
Supervising Art Director: Sara Ettinger
Set Construction: Heather Alexis
Graphic Designer: Atlas Lee-Reid
Art Department Assistants: Olivia Gao,
Ben Kadish, Zane Reimer
Makeup: Zoe Poppenega
Costume Designer: Charli Einhorn

Post Production

Post Production Supervisor: Heather Alexis
Editor: Bryan Uvaldo
Co-Editor: Pedro Rojas
Assistant Editor / On-Set DIT: Pedro Rojas
VFX: Danielle Benedict
Color: Muhil Vaseekaran
Sound Designer: Rae King
Re-Recording Mixer: Rae King
ADR Engineer / Foley Engineer: Nina Sundermeyer
End Credits Design: Heather Alexis
Title Design: Sam Henderson
End Graphic Designs: Zoe Poppenega, Atlas Lee-Reid
Concept Art: Caroline Ho
Poster Design: Breanna VandeBurgt
Poster Photo Shoot: Ruben Sevilla