



# 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 <a href="https://www.imdb.com/title/tt27975978/?ref\_=ext\_shr\_lnk">https://www.imdb.com/title/tt27975978/?ref\_=ext\_shr\_lnk</a>

Letterboxd <a href="https://boxd.it/lwe2">https://boxd.it/lwe2</a>

#### **Contact Us**

Director

Bryan Uvaldo

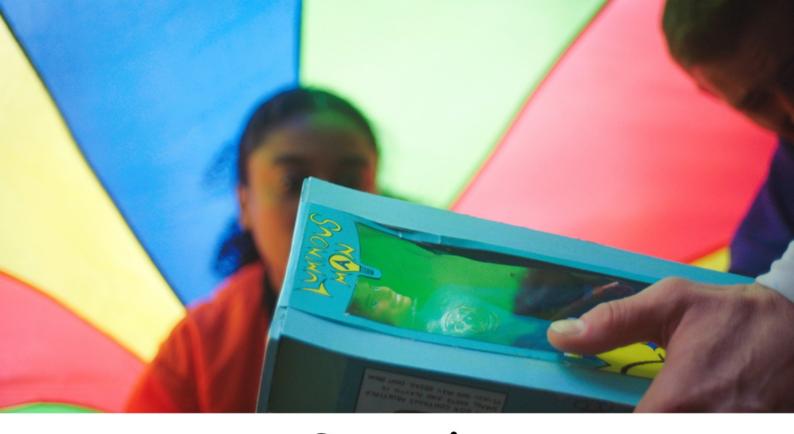
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Producer

Mason Kidd

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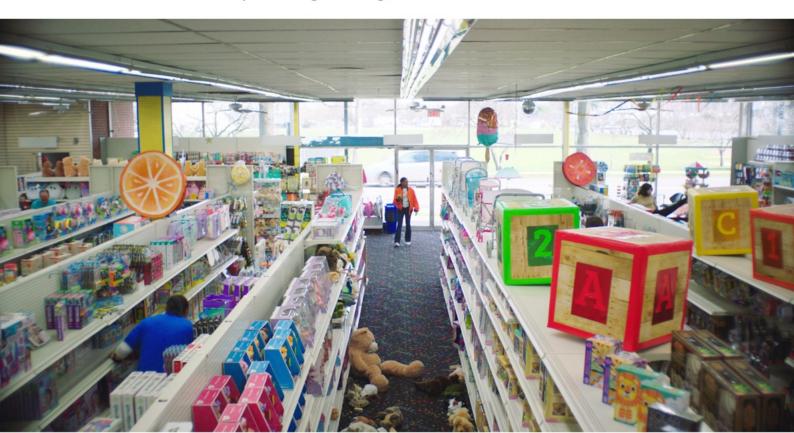
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# **Synopsis**

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 postproduction 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 actioncomedy 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

**Production** 

**Director:** Bryan Uvaldo **Assistant Director:** Tucker Papa Writer: Sebastian Hunt

**Unit Production Manager:** Arabella Sharkey

Producer: Mason Kidd Stunt Coordinator: Ian Dugan

Post Producer: Nic LeBlanc **Director of Photography:** Ari Isenberg

**Executive Producers:** Maggie Soik, Casting Director: Parker Sack

Jessi Thomas, Sunil Thomas, Bryan Uvaldo Easy Rig Operator: Chris St Lawrence **Associate Producers:** 

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

**Original Soundtrack** Written and Composed by

Jayla Matthews, Christine Yu

Anna: Amanda Whyte

Lois: Alice Kelly Bahlke

Michael: John Tabaniag

Jimmy: Brian Sterling Chan

Mom: Shevonne Monique

Alec Inagamov, Ian Dugan

Costumers: Michael Monroe, Alex

Grech, Minami Ando, Kerry Mosier,

**Lily:** Scarlet Presley

Alec: Thomas King

Ryland: Levi Blaise

Carl: Chris Hahn

Cast

Joshua Conway Dani Martinez

**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



