

christian sullivan

emily kirk



happenstance

GLASS IN SESSION PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
AN EMILY KIRK FILM CHRISTIAN SULLIVAN EMILY KIRK "HAPPENSTANCE"
MUSIC BY DEVIN L. JOHNSON EDITED BY EMILY KIRK DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY CHRIS VAN VALEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER EMILY KIRK CO PRODUCER KAREN LEE
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY EMILY KIRK

happenstanceshort.com



Happenstance

A short by Emily Kirk

Logline:

Two childhood friends reconnect at a birthday party and begin looking at each other in a new, exciting way.

Synopsis:

Christina and Keith are longtime friends who see each other at a friend's birthday party. While they recall memories, a song comes on that they danced to when they were twelve. Through the dance, old feelings rekindle.



Christina
Emily Kirk

Keith
Christian Sullivan

Director's Statement:

The underlying power of the romance genre of film is the shared desire that we all have in wanting to be loved. This reason is why this genre is so near and dear to my heart. Being a stand up comedian, I'm frustrated that romance films have become lumped into two extremes: romantic comedy or epic drama. I believe there is an audience out there who want to see a love story that can exist in both worlds.

One of my largest issues I have when watching romantic comedies is that the characters are unrealistic; not just because of their glamorous looks and witty banter, but they always perfectly execute whatever they're trying to do. This is why when creating *Happenstance* I wanted to show an honest portrayal of what I think many people find romantic- acceptance that is also admiration. These characters not only accept each other's perfections and flaws, but they admire those qualities and couldn't imagine that person any other way. Classifying the characters in this way helps reveal that the most precious moments are best because they are flawed and not perfect.

Christina is not a skinny woman and Keith is not a tall man. In the current film environment, these are not physical traits of people cast as romantic leads. Many films and television shows that have a large woman character romantically involved with a smaller man have to stress how funny she is, because that's the only reason why he could possibly be attracted to her. However, if the roles are reversed (Ex: Flintstones, Knocked Up, etc.), society has no problem believing the relationship. My goal was to show these characters authentically interested in each other without falling on old ideals and caricatures. The attraction is understood between Keith and Christina and the audience doesn't need an explanation of why a man like him is into a woman like her.

Happenstance is about how impactful a moment can be. It shines a spotlight on the comfort of nostalgia and recalling feelings of a first crush, but also the thoughts of inadequacy that tag along with it. The cinematography is meant to be incredibly close and sensual; allowing the audience to be as involved in the dance as Keith and Christina.

This was a beautiful challenge and I hope that audiences embrace and enjoy it as much as my team of artists and I loved creating it.



~Emily Kirk



Film Information:

Run Time: 6 minutes 44 seconds

Genre: Romantic Dramedy

Camera Shot: RED

Sound: Stereo Mix

Language: English

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Theatrical Teaser: [Click Here](#)



Los Angeles, 2019



Cast & Crew

Emily Kirk

Director, Writer, Producer, **Christina**

Emily Kirk is a Los Angeles actress and stand up comedian originally from Southern Indiana. She received her Bachelor of Science in Theatre Arts from University of Southern Indiana where she also studied music and improv. Respecting film as well as the stage, she challenged herself to not only star in productions, but to bring her own stories to life.

Her directorial debut was a short entitled *Little Talks* and audiences found the material relatable and the moments memorable. Shortly after, she created an almost entirely silent short called, *Untitled*. Emily loved and learned from the experiences of creating both pieces, but continued forward to make *Happenstance* a stronger and more mature moment, while still containing the heart and honesty of her previous projects.

Emily is a performer in two sketch groups, Mixed Nuts and The Madcap Underground and has been doing stand up comedy since 2016. Including *Happenstance*, her acting repertoire includes: starring lead in Prey Film's feature film, *Vengeance Girl*, starring lead in the short film *Farah*, performing stand up comedy at the *4th Annual Laugh Riot Grrrl Comedy Festival* and producing and starring in *CLOSER: A Scene Reimagined*. Along with acting, she loves working as a production assistant on *Hey Qween TV*, being a karaoke DJ, and performing vocals in the cover band, Devily. (emilynkirk.com)



Christian Sullivan Keith

Christian Sullivan is an actor and musician who comes from St. Louis, Missouri. After studying in St. Louis, New York, and Los Angeles, he continued performing on camera and on the stage. Along with *Happenstance*, he's starred in the short films: *Buttons The Great*, *Playing Ourselves*, *My Names Are*, the web series *Like & Subscribe* and also the popular Friday the 13th fan film, *Mythos*. His theatre career has been diverse, embracing performances in *King Lear*, *Fight The Play*, *Stop The World, I Want To Get Off* and as the very memorable Angel in *RENT*. Including all of his acting projects, Christian enjoys performing with the Los Angeles indie band, Temple Monarc.



Chris Van Valey Director of Photography

Chris Van Valey moved to Los Angeles to pursue music and studied acting for 5 years. To learn as much as possible, from all angles, he worked in the production world of commercials, music videos, and cinema for nearly a decade. He then started a new business and spent time traveling the U.S. and the world, meeting people from all walks, seeing spectacular earth, witnessing incredible light, and gathering amazing and simple experiences while capturing many of them with his camera. He's covered subjects from fashion, travel, fine art, portraiture, sneakers, runways, short films, promo videos, and much more. He was accepted and studied in the Mastered-Photography program with Nick Knight and has most recently turned his focus into cinematography and has studied with some of the best people in that world through the Global Cinematography Institute.

Devin L. Johnson Composer

Devin Johnson is a composer from Los Angeles, California. Deeply inspired by Alfred Hitchcock's long time collaborative composer, Bernard Herrmann, Devin attended the UCLA composer's program and eventually began working as an assistant at Remote Control Productions. Since then, he has composed music for films that went to festivals including Cannes, Toronto Film Festival, Sundance, and South by Southwest. Upcoming films he has scored in 2018 include "Carte Blanche" and "Butcher Boy" directed by Eva Doležalová and additional score for the video game "Just Cause 4" in collaboration with Zach Abramson and YouTooCanWoo. When he's not composing music, he enjoys covering songs with his girlfriend and cheering on the Los Angeles Kings.



Richard Trejo Sound

Richard Trejo has worn many hats in the film industry as a Location Sound Mixer, Director, Producer, Cinematographer and also as a composer. He has had the chance to work on several short films, as well as commercial projects. He has worked on sound for the upcoming features: *Ugly Sweater Party*, *Vengeance Girl*, *Serena Waits*, *Snake Outta Compton*, and recently *I Am Fear* directed by Kevin Shulman.

On top of doing location sound he also enjoys sound design, foley, and post sound mixing. He's accomplished this with short films, *The Night* and recently the feature *Prey*, *In Cold Blood*, now on Amazon Prime.



It must be said that *Happenstance* could not have been made without the amazing talents of everyone on the team:

Brett Emanuel (Assistant Director)
Michelle Gernon (Script Supervisor)
Ryan Dismukes (Gaffer)
Erika Barillas (Makeup)

Madeleine Perez (Production Assistant)
Nikki Vanbroekhuizen (Production Assistant)
Walter L (Additional Music)
ALL of our background actors

Production



Film Stills





Follow Happenstance Online



Official Website: <https://www.happenstanceshort.com/>

IMDB: [Click Here](#)

Official Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Happenstanceshort>

Official Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/happenstanceshort/>

FilmFreeway: <https://filmfreeway.com/Happenstanceshort>



Contact:

Emily Kirk

812-266-3225

enkir89@gmail.com