

KOMATIK FILMS PRESENTS:  
A SHORT FILM BY KELVIN OMORI

# A CLOSE EYE



DEVANTE  
GOULBOURNE

CRYSTAL  
ROSE

ALEXANDRINE  
M'BANGA

ERIC  
PARRIS

# A CLOSE EYE

[Narrative Short]

*Running Time:* 30 Minutes

*Directed By:* Kelvin Omori

*Written By:* Jaskaran Gill & Blay Armah

*Produced By:* Kelvin Omori, Jaskaran Gill & Blay Armah

*Production Company:* Komatik Films

*Edited by:* Kelvin Omori

*Cinematographer:* Augustin Petre

*Production Designer:* Janicka Auguste

A SHORT FILM BY KELVIN OMORI

# A CLOSE EYE

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE AT ALL

KOMATIK FILMS PRESENTS 'A CLOSE EYE' STARRING DEVANTE GOULBOURNE, CRYSTAL ROSE WITH ALEXANDRINE M'BANGA AND ERIC PARRIS  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY AUGUSTIN PETRE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR STEVEN GRIFFIN MUSIC BY DARYL EMBRACK PRODUCTION DESIGNER JANICKA AUGUSTE  
PRODUCED BY KELVIN OMORI, BLAY ARMAH AND JASKARAN GILL EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ROSE-ANN BAILEY  
WRITTEN BY JASKARAN GILL AND BLAY ARMAH DIRECTED AND EDITED BY KELVIN OMORI

KOMATIK

# LOGLINE

A young man is forced to question his life decisions after being confined to house arrest but his patience wears thin as his mental health begins to dwindle.



# SYNOPSIS

After serving time for gun possession, Brandon is confined to house arrest. During this time, he is forced to question his past choices. He moves from a lavish lifestyle dealing drugs to a more quiet and humble one working in construction. However, an electronic monitor secured around his ankle at all times limits him from truly being free to make this change. Brandon must abide by a curfew as a grown man, check-in with his parole officer, and is locked into a life of stagnation and boredom. Not only does this tarnish his connections with loved ones, but it makes it difficult for him to form new bonds. His mother's constant worrying, instability of his job, and daily reminders of his old life force him to wrestle with negative thoughts, depression and trust issues. To cope, he smokes marijuana and takes prescription medications, but it's going to take more than this to ease his mind.



# GENESIS

This project and script was developed, co-written and pitched by Jaskaran Gill and Blay Armah. Many people in Armah and Gill's community turn to criminal behaviour because of the hardships growing up in low income communities. Both Gill and Armah grew up in Jane-Finch and have seen childhood friends go through the difficulties of the prison system. Armah himself has gone through home confinement, therefore the experiences to be filmed are very real and personal to him. Having to cope with the stress of dependency, limited freedom and loss of close relationships led to depressive episodes. Gill has also witnessed her friends deal with these issues. Often times young men deal with this depression using vices because they don't have access to healthier ways to deal with it. This is a pressing concern for many young men, who are expected to rehabilitate in order to be productive members of society but their means to do so are restricted. The contention lies in trying to navigate this contradiction or relinquish back into old habits. Unfortunately for many, the pressure becomes too much to handle, thus having a profound negative impact on one's mental health.



# ABOUT THE CAST



## Devante Goulbourne

A professional working TV/film, theatre and commercial actor. Born in Toronto, Canada - Devante started his career in elementary school as a class clown. He later attended and graduated from Wexford Collegiate School for the Arts majoring in musical theater, drama intensive and dance. He continued his post-secondary education at Seneca College where he studied Acting for Camera and Voice. Soon after completing his final year he found representation with Toronto's most reputable agency, Artist Management Inc. Throughout the following years his career has ascended to new heights, and this is just the beginning. Continuously adding more and more titles to his ever-growing resume, Devante is poised for a bright future.



## Crystal Rose

A Canadian actor from Toronto, Crystal took on her first acting role in 2008. With the encouragement of her drama teacher, she played Harriet Tubman in a riveting screenplay titled, *Harriet sees a therapist*. Crystal's performance in her first role won her the Best Performance award at the Ontario Theatrical Sears Festival, motivating her to focus on exploring her love for stage and film. Along with her practical experience, Crystal has also traditionally studied theatre, gaining a Bachelor's degree in Theatre Studies at York University. More recently, Crystal made the decision to transition into film/television acting. A few months into her transition, Crystal booked her first feature film, *OFFWORLD*.



## Alexandrine M'Banga

Alexandrine was born in Montreal, Quebec, where she first embarked on classical music training in voice and instrument before moving to Toronto to continue the same. She can now proudly call herself an accomplished pianist. After completing her diploma training at the Toronto Film School for Theatre, Film, TV and Writing, where she expanded all relevant skills as an actor, she began taking on various roles. She has appeared in productions such as Table 7 for Toronto Fringe, collective characters in the Pia Bouman Theatre Production and Love and Information.

# SUPPORTING CAST



## Eric Parris

Eric's interest in acting started early in elementary school. His love of acting developed further in high school and later at the University of Guelph. From there Eric continued to work on his craft and participated in numerous commercials, TV shows, foreign films and independent projects. Many of these went off to various film festivals. Eric wants to increase his knowledge, not just in acting but in film production as well. His end goal is to become a massive figure in the entertainment business and help others to establish themselves too.



## Joel Mensah

Emerging out of Toronto's ever growing music scene Joel Mensah also known as "Jo Knox," is a multi-talented up and coming rap artist. He studied Psychology and Business at York University in addition to enrolling into several acting courses that has since then galvanized him to pursue an acting career starting with his first short film appearance in A Closed Eye film. Joel aspires to continue pursuing this journey by building his acting repertoire in aims of securing greater opportunities. He also plans to release plenty of new music in 2020 so stay tuned!



## Sashay Simmonds

Sashay is a young aspiring actress from Toronto. From when she was young she has always had a passion for acting. Whether it was acting in a high school theatre production or making up a small skit to perform in front of her parents, she was always happy doing what she loved. After attending college for the "Acting for TV" program, she decided to broaden her skills by pursuing acting as a career. She has starred in numerous music videos by Toronto artists, appeared in commercials, web series and have played amazing heartfelt characters in short films; most recent being *Different Waters*.

# ABOUT THE CREW



## **Jaskaran Gill, Screenwriter and Producer**

After taking a screenwriting course at George Brown College in 2016, Jaskaran began writing short film scripts. These were independent, low-to-no-budget films and self-produced. To date, she has completed four short films, with many other projects underway. Her short film *Affirmative (Re)action* was accepted into the Atlanta Comedy Film Festival in 2019. Her short script *From Far and Wide* reached semifinalist and quarterfinalist accolades from Screencraft Shorts Competition and WeScreenplay, respectively. Jaskaran aims to tell unique stories of underrepresented individuals.



## **Blay Armah, Screenwriter and Producer**

Known to the musical world as Blaze The Fireman, Blay is a young and talented artist from Toronto, Canada. He has performed various shows overseas. Adding to that, he also performed alongside two-time Juno Award Winner Liberty Silver. Aside from music, Blay has experience working in film as well. However, this is his first time writing a script and producing a film. Blay is also the executive producer for the soundtrack of *A Close Eye*. Now that he's gotten his feet wet, he's ready to branch out further in the film world.



## **Rose-Ann Bailey, Executive Producer**

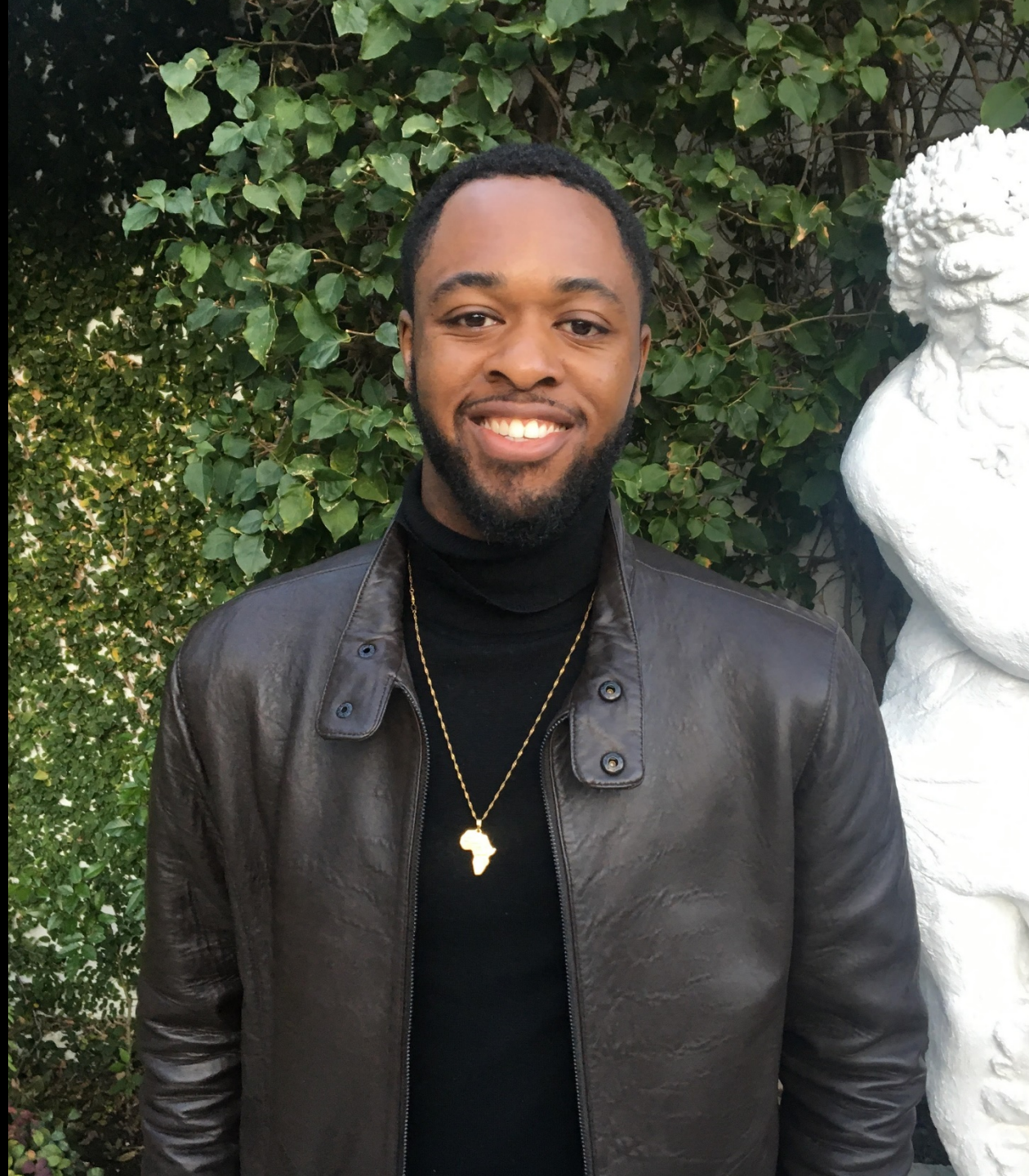
Rose-Ann M. Bailey is a graduate of York University where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Education, and a Masters in Education. Ms. Bailey, a visual artist, and a health educator has explored the inextricable link between racism, urban education and the social determinants of health, and how arts-based interventions can provide culturally relevant and responsive health education mandate for urban Canadian youth. Ms. Bailey is currently working to look at addressing domestic Human Trafficking, cannabis education and alternative interventions to address youth violence.

# DIRECTOR, Kelvin Omori

After graduating from the University of Windsor in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in communications, media and film, Kelvin Omori landed an opportunity of a lifetime interning for the acclaimed music video director, Director X with his production company in Toronto. During that internship period and subsequently, Kelvin worked with artists like Drake, Rihanna, Future, PartyNextDoor, and Majid Jordan.

In 2016, Kelvin started his own production company called *Komatik Films*, producing and directing over a dozen music videos for local artists from the Greater Toronto Area. In the quest to learn more and keep his foot in the industry, Kelvin moved to Los Angeles, where he attended and graduated from the University of Southern California with a certificate in Directing. His experience in L.A. gave him confidence to step outside the box of just focusing on music videos and step into the world of narrative filmmaking.

In 2018, Kelvin and his company directed and produced their first short film, *Tuition*. It went on to win 3 awards from both the National Black Film and the International Black Film Festival. It is currently available on Amazon Prime.



# CREDITS

*Director*

*Screenwriters*

*Producers*

*Director of Photography*

*1st Assistant Director*

*Production Designer*

*Editor*

*Sound Recordist*

*Executive Producer*

**Kelvin Omori**

**Jaskaran Gill & Blay Armah**

**Kelvin Omori, Jaskaran Gill & Blay Armah**

**Augustine Petre**

**Steven Griffin**

**Janicka Auguste**

**Kelvin Omori**

**Rory O'Keefe**

**Rose-Ann Bailey**

*Cast*

*Brandon*

*Tonya*

*Sarena*

*Roger*

*Jamar*

*Gina*

**Devante Goulbourne**

**Crystal Rose**

**Alexandrine M'Banga**

**Eric Parris**

**Joel Mensah**

**Sashay Simmonds**



# KOMATIK



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