

# YOUNG

**A DIGITAL MINISERIES**

Press Kit

Written and directed by Henry Vumbaca  
Produced by Beatrice Black

## **CONTACT**

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## **TECHNICAL**

Shot on:

- Episode 1: Arri Alexa Mini
- Episode 2: Arri Amira
- Episode 3: Arri Amira

Shooting format: Digital

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Resolution: 2048 x 1152

Audio format: Stereo

Total Series Run Time: 55 Minutes

- Episode 1 run time: 13 Minutes
- Episode 2 run time: 19 Minutes
- Episode 3 run time: 23 Minutes

## **PRODUCTION INFO**

Total budget: \$8,000

Shooting location: Boston, MA

Language: English



# WHAT IS YOUNG?

## LOGLINE

A three episode webseries following different peoples' romances with the vibrant but troubled Jonah Young at different phases in his life—culminating in a trilogy about the shifts in identity and relationships that unravel as we grow up.

## EPISODE ONE SYNOPSIS

Jules, the brainy but rebellious student at an elitist charter school, falls hard for the aloof burnout Jonah and his love for the niche “Nu Free Jazz”. Despite his effort to hide them, Jonah’s demons slowly reveal themselves as Jules’ elitist little sister turns their parents against the relationship.

## EPISODE TWO SYNOPSIS

While hiding from a party at his apartment, Jonah bursts into the room of Jasper, a reclusive college student with a love for 80’s media and aesthetics. Over the course of the night the two get drunk and wind up hooking up. Jasper then finds he must reconcile his introverted personality and repressed bisexuality with his desire to connect with Jonah despite his promiscuity and guardedness.

## EPISODE THREE SYNOPSIS

During a particularly stressful assignment Star and Ash, a longtime, adventurous couple turned middle management employees, are charmed by Jonah who works IT in the building. They decide to include him in their open relationship wherein he finds himself in the middle of their opposing views of the firm. Ash woos Jonah into running away but Jonah is conflicted when sees what stability of the career means to Star.



# ARTIST STATEMENT

Drama, storytelling, and visual art. My love of these things is why I've decided to take on the sleepless nights and maxed out credit cards that independent filmmaking demands. Yet as a creative's debut work calls for a sort of statement of identity, *Young* also is a reflection of my efforts to dodge that question. So this— a cop-out essentially—is why I made *Young*.

Mirroring Jonah's experience, each episode struggles for a stylized identity of its own and yet changes in the next one. His point of view is not the focus however. As I believe identity is transitive throughout life, so often are relationships. In focusing on his romantic partners instead of him, I hope to show the profound effect our changing identities have on others. This, and also how such significant relationships can be so short lived yet so influential in forming who we are.

Specific to these episodes are conflicts of toxic, masculine stoicism, classism, internalized homophobia, and career alienation. I included them for their personal resonance but also to imbue the series with a larger perspective. These aforementioned themes are part of systemic, existential barriers that conflict one's ability to authenticate their identities in those early crucial years. I hope if *Young* can provide anything for its audience, it's widened perspective and empathy for how other's identities are complicated by these barriers.

—Henry Vumbaca

# THE CREW

## WRITER/DIRECTOR/EDITOR



Henry Vumbaca is a filmmaker from Massachusetts and alumni of Emerson College. His past work includes the shorts *Nice 'n Easy* and *Submerge*. He freelances in the New England industry when he's not writing and directing. He is passionate about depicting organic, human stories and exploring themes such as mental illness, existentialism, and queer identity in his work.

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## PRODUCER

Beatrice Black is a filmmaker, editor, and production designer currently based in New York City. She recently graduated magna cum laude from Emerson College in May 2020, and worked on 30+ film and television productions at Emerson.

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## DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Ben Grant is a Los Angeles based director of photography specializing in narrative and commercial productions. He loves experimenting with the nuances of lighting to create dynamic images that serve the story being told.

[-www.bengrantdop.com](http://www.bengrantdop.com)



# THE CAST

## JONAH

Elliott Purcell is a New England actor, Technician, and artist. He's an alumni of Boston College and a regular performer at the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company and Newton Nomadic Theater. Recent credits include Mikey Downey in Acropolis Stage Company's Cherry Docs and Konstantine in Arlekin Players Theatre's The Seagull.



## JASPER

Luke McDonough is an actor/writer currently residing in Brooklyn. He grew up in Boston and began pursuing professional acting training at a young age, going to Walnut Hill School for the Arts as a theater major for high school. He then went on to get his BFA in musical theater at Emerson College



## JULES

Madison Burtan is an actor living in Massachusetts. She graduated from Emerson College in 2020 with a BA in Acting.



## STAR

Liv Brennock is a Boston based actor who has studied acting in Chicago and Boston. She's excited to make her festival debut in *Young*. past projects include Shannon Magnaldi's *between the devil and the deep blue sea*, and Julia Ju's *Just a Feeling*.



## ASH

Ian White is a New York/Connecticut based actor and musician with a degree in Theater and Performance from Emerson College. He's very excited to be making his festival debut in "Young."



