

JULIA MASON

DESTINY GREER

# IN BLOOM

Written, Produced, & Directed by K. MAXWELL MUNGENAST

Executive Producer AARON WALKER

RUNNING TIME ~ 15 minutes 52 seconds

ASPECT RATIO ~ 4:3 ~ COLOR/B&W

YEAR ~ 2021

PRESS CONTACT:

~ Ky Mungenast ~

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## LOGLINE

Lily longs to turn her romantic dreams into a reality while taking shelter with her traveling companion, May, amid a snowy 1890s Utah frontier.



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

As the frontier dissolved at the closing of the 19th century, the development of our modern gender and sexual systems were finally forming. Where America longed for the west as a frontier myth, at the core of this myth stood the romantic heterosexualization of gender non-conforming women.

The essence of the genre is entirely constructed around longing for this male-gaze nostalgic fantasy, and I searched my mind for a way to challenge the western notion in relation to my personal life at the time. In searching, I found May who owns her femininity in a wholly unique way to herself, and in a way I wouldn't rest until I saw breathing in western genre cinema. In hopes to fully grasp and discover what would be there, I had to reach elsewhere in my mind. I searched again, and I found Lily. I knew that Lily's gaze toward May would not conform to the heterosexualized trope which has defined the western myth, and I became obsessed with the filmic format in relation to this idea throughout the genre's history. Through hand-processed 16mm film, Lily's dream is a tight 4:3 black & white box waiting to burst, but rather into a traditional western cinemascope, it instead explodes into full digital color picture to manifest a nuanced, complex grasping of her emotions which transcend the gendered constructs of the period which have forever repressed her until this moment.

With an absolute dream of collaborators on set, we found a radiant field of energy unlike anything I had ever felt before in my life. Together, I believe this cast and crew discovered something transcendent, and we are delighted to share it with you. I hope our proof-of-concept captivates your imagination and challenges your preconceived notions of the western genre's boundaries. However, as the term "proof-of-concept" implies, this is only a glimpse of Lily & May's story and what we are capable of exploring through them. Consider it an invitation to trust us with the resources and vision to tell their full tale. We are determined to see *In Bloom* come to life as the feature length rey of love it is for any restless seeker of bliss.

# BIOGRAPHIES

WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER~ K. MAXWELL MUNGENAST

K. Maxwell Mungenast (Ky ~ they/them) is a trans feminine screenwriter and director with a BFA in Film & Media Arts from the University of Tampa College of Arts and Letters. They are passionate about pushing the boundaries of humanistic exploration and queer identity in narrative cinematic expression. Mungenast believes in safe sets which bring out unique collaboration between the director &



talent, and which treat visual media with the careful consideration it demands as a powerfully influential and soul searching art form. In 2020, on behalf of the UT Film, Animation, New Media (FMX) department, Mungenast was the recipient of the Jonathan Demme Award in honor of extraordinary creative and technical achievement in storytelling. Mungenast is known for their proof-of-concept short film *In Bloom* (2021 ~ writer/director) and for their work on *Rapture* (2021 ~ intimacy coordinator). *In Bloom* is a passion project, and their dream is to soon tell Lily & May's full story as a feature length film. They are honored for the opportunity to work with a visionistic cast & crew in exploring the hearts of these characters through short film form.

## MAY~ JULIA MASON

Julia Mason is so grateful to be working on a production as meaningful as *In Bloom* and she thanks Ky for letting her take on the role of May. She is a Senior Musical Theatre Major and was born and raised in Lebanon, NH. Her most notable theatre credits in the Tampa Bay Area include her performances in Mad Theatre's *American Idiot* (Heather) and *Heathers* (Young Republicanette), in NYNE's *Cabaret* (Helga/Gorilla), along with collegiate performances in *Dutchman* (Lula) and in *Cementville* (Nola). She would like to thank her family for supporting her and letting her follow her dreams.



## LILY~ DESTINY GREER

Destiny Greer is a maker of art in many forms. She has been acting for 10 years and has her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Visual Art with a minor in Film and Media. She is passionate about every role and looks at each character as an opportunity for growth. Her notable works are *Come In; Him, her, them;* and *V for Vulva*. In her spare time she sells hand produced clothing and art on her etsy. She is hopeful for the adventure this year brings through her acting, art, and filmmaking.



# CREDITS

Written, Produced, & Directed by K. MAXWELL MUNGENAST  
Executive Producer AARON WALKER

## CAST

May JULIA MASON  
Lily DESTINY GREER

## CREW

First Assistant Director MAVERICK GAGLIANO  
Second Assistant Director GABY ALMEIDA  
Director of Photography (Key/Digital) ROSE CALTRIDER  
Cinematographer (16mm) DAN WESTCOTT  
2nd Unit Cinematographer TAYLOR BYBEE  
Key Grip MALAK KRAYEM  
Gaffer DAN WESTCOTT

Production Designer TAMSEN SIMPSON  
Set Designer KRISTOFER ATKINSON  
Hair & Makeup DESTINY GREER  
Location Sound Engineer ALEX MARTINSON  
JAKE BUTLER  
Set Production Assistants HANNAH SAM  
ANDERS MCLENNAN  
MARIA RADULESCU  
REIKO PHILIPS

Edited by CAROLINE LUKENS  
K. MAXWELL MUNGENAST

Composer CAROLINE LUKENS  
Colorist ROSE CALTRIDER  
16mm Processing & Digitizing DAN WESTCOTT  
WARREN COCKERHAM

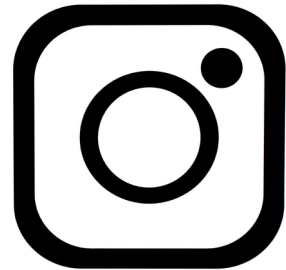
Poster Designer KALISTA CELINE  
Social Media Coordinator GABY ALMEIDA  
Additional Thanks GREGG BACHMAN  
CYNTHIA SAVAGLIO  
CHARLES GROH  
GREGG PERKINS  
SANTIAGO ECHEVERRY  
DANA PLAYS  
LAUREN SANTANA  
GARRET BALLINGER  
JEFFREY COLEMAN ST. AUBIN  
STEVEN NYE  
MORGAN CAMERON  
THE MUNGENAST FAMILY  
JOHN BLOMQUIST

dedicated to the memory & mentorship of JOHN GIANCOLA

LINKS

IN BLOOM

OFFICIAL SITE



## STILLS



## BEHIND THE SCENES



