

STRAY

A FILM
BY
WANJIRU M. NJENDU



LOGLINE

A spirit metes out vengeance when a young girl ignores her mother's warning about the Pied Piper myth.

[Narrative Short]

Film Color: **Color**

Running Time: **2 min 15 seconds**

Genres: **Horror**

Country of Production: **USA**

Directed by: **Wanjiru M. Njendu**

Produced by: **Diana Ward**

Written by: **Peres Owino**

Cinematographer: **Bongani Mlambo**

Key Cast: **Peres Owino**

Trinity Moriah Jones

Production Design by: **Brittany Ingram**

Edited by: **John Cantu**

Music: **Dara Taylor**

Contact: wanjiru@magicworksproduction.com

TRAILER



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT **Wanjiru M. Njendu**

Stray addresses the ongoing issue of missing black girls who are snatched and disappear with no trace or mass media coverage.

The Ice-cream truck driver which is a faceless creature with only a grotesque mouth represents the faceless men and women who pull our children off the streets.

The sewn mouth is symbolic of their unbreakable vow of silence and secrecy that protects them from capture.







BONGANI MLAMBO

Litemat 1/Kino 4 (daylight) aimed at door

Litemat 1/Kino 4 (daylight)

Tungsten Units dimmed with CTB (for room tone in BG)

#artisansbreakdown

DIRECTOR

Wanjiru Njendu



Wanjiru Njendu is an award-winning Kenyan-American filmmaker. Her creative imagination earned her the nickname 'Magic' at a young age.

Her films have played in over 100 Festivals. Her award-winning short film **Boxed** has played over 100 film festival selections, was selected for the 2021 Nuits en Or - Académie des César, **Boxed** won Best Short Film At the Hague Global Film Festival and the African Movie Academy Awards among numerous wins and nominations.

Wanjiru recently directed a horror short film **Stray**, which was acquired by 20th Digital Studios with a feature option. She was the shadowing director on the Netflix series "Daybreak" under Mark Tonderai. Wanjiru is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (2020) and currently in development of several film and television series.

PRODUCER

Diana Ward



Diana Ward has produced award-winning short films, music videos and feature docs, including documentary **Roller Dreams** and shorts **Liberty** by Faren Humes, **Were You Gay In High School?** by Niki Ang and stop motion animation **The Coin** by Oscar nominee Siqi Song. Most recently she produced the Hulu streaming **Bite Size Horror** shorts **Reborn** for Alexandria Collins and **Stray** for Wanjiru Njendu for 20th Century Digital. Proud of her Australian-Chinese-Malaysian heritage, Diana is most interested in stories about belonging, change and diaspora. Diana is a Film Independent Fellow and recipient of the Amazon Studios Visionary Filmmaker Fellowship.

WRITER - LEAD ACTRESS "MOTHER" **PERES OWINO**



Award-winning writer/director/actor behind "BOUND: Africans vs African-Americans," winner of the Women In Film- Lena Sharpe Award at the Seattle International Film Festival and the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Pan African Film Festival in Los Angeles, "Seasons of Love", produced by Taraji P. Henson for which she received an NAACP Image Award nomination for Outstanding Writing of a Television Movie, the short film "Glimpse" and the 20th Century Fox Digital Studio produced short, "Stray." Peres is currently developing her narrative feature screenplay, "The Basket Weaver," winner of the International Screenwriters Association Fast Track Fellowship, Meryl Streep NYWIFT Writer's Lab Competition, and finalist at the Universal Studios Global Talent Writing Fellowship. She is also developing TV and Film projects with Gaumont TV, Berlanti Productions, Heartbeat Productions, TinkerToy Productions, and Echo Studios.

An LA Actor Ovation nominee, Peres has also appeared in dozens of plays in both New York and Los Angeles, playing coveted roles like Hamlet in the LATC presentation of "Hamlet: Princess of Nubia" and Lady Macbeth in the Coleman and Smith Artistic Company's presentation of "Mocbet". She appeared opposite David Oyelowo in "Default" and has lent her voices to films like "Inception", "The Brothers Grimsby" and Hulu's, "The Looming Tower". A student of Improv at the Groundlings School she performs Standup across Los Angeles and a collection of her musings are featured in her debut novel, "On The Verge", published by Underground Voices.

LEAD ACTRESS "ANEESA" **TRINITY MORIAH JONES**



From very early in her life Trinity Moriah Jones began performing in children's theater and school plays. At the tender age of 6, she was accepted into DeAbreu Modeling Agency, in Columbia, South Carolina to begin formal training. In 2018 Trinity and her parents moved to Los Angeles where Trinity is currently represented by A3 Artists Agency..

Trinity has worked in commercials, short films and television since moving to Los Angeles. In her very first supporting role she portrayed Young Latasha Harlins in "Latasha Harlins: A Rose That Grew From Concrete" Winner of the 10th Annual Charlotte Black Film Festival for Best Short Film.

Trinity is currently training with John Rosenfeld Studios and training in Voiceover with the Susan Boyajian, Roger Scott and Barbara Wright through the Voiceover Connection. She has also studied with Patrick Malone, Shari Shaw Studios and David Tom. . Alongside acting and modeling Trinity enjoys gymnastics, tennis, roller skating, DIY projects, dancing and singing.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Bongani Mlambo



Bongani Mlambo is a Zimbabwean South African cinematographer based in Los Angeles obsessed with telling visually creative and compelling stories and exploring the world. Bongani's recent projects include All Creatures directed by Collin Schiffli, starring David Dastmalchian (Blade Runner 2049, The Dark Knight) and Karen Gillan (Guardians of the Galaxy, Jumanji); Three Days In August by Johnathan Brownlee; Upstream Color by Shane Carruth; and Woodshock starring Kirsten Dunst.

His work has won awards at the NBC Universal Short Film Festival, SXSW, and numerous other festivals; he is a 2018 Film Independent Project Involve Fellow; and recipient of the 2019 ICG Emerging Cinematographer Award. Beyond his artistic pursuits, Bongani loves to dance, drum, and ponder on social issues and the meaning of life. He is passionate about sharing his knowledge and talents and plans to establish arts & film workshops, programs, and residencies in Zimbabwe, inspiring and helping the next generation of Africans to tell stories and pursue their dreams in the visual and performing arts.

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Brittany Ingram



Brittany is an Asian-American production designer dedicated to transforming visually stimulating stories into real physical worlds. Much of her film work has been recognized by a unique look and style that is distinctive and memorable. In the first five years of her career, Brittany has designed 9 features, 12 shorts, as well as numerous music videos and commercials.

Commercial clients include Lays, Ziegenbock, Ford, Pizza Patron, Suave, Valero and many more. In between ad work, Brittany explores new stories in narrative genres. She recently designed Puppet Master: The Littlest Reich starring Tom Lennon, a reboot to the original cult classic, and 1985 starring Corey Michael Smith and Virginia Madsen, which premiered at SXSW 2018.

COMPOSER Dara Taylor



Dara Taylor emerged as a fresh voice in the world of scoring music to picture as evidenced by her score to the upcoming Lionsgate comedy Barb and Star Go To Vista Del Mar starring Kristen Wiig and Jamie Dornan, co-composed with Christopher Lennertz. Her credits include the Netflix docuseries Trial By Media, the independent film Turner Risk, and the Karen Allen-starred film Colewell, for which she won a 2019 Hollywood Music in Media award. Up next for Dara is the FX series Pride and the action crime drama Echo Boomers starring Michael Shannon.

Dara currently lives in Los Angeles and is a proud Industry Relations committee member for the Composers Diversity Collective, as well as a member of the Television Academy, Society of Composers and Lyricists, Alliance of Women Film Composers, and Women in Media.

EDITOR John Cantu



John Cantú is a writer and director who also works as a trailer editor for Universal Pictures. He has cut award-winning trailers for GET OUT, NIGHTCRAWLER, and SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK and US. He was one of the 2 people behind the remixed tethered version of "I've got 5 on it".

SPX Makeup Sarah Brill



Sarah Brill is a makeup artist that specializes in creating fantastic creatures and characters through prosthetic makeup effects. She is currently based in Dallas, Texas but works around the country on films, music videos, and TV shows. She recently was makeup department head on the indie feature, Autumn Road, and she just completed production this spring on the action feature, Free Dead or Alive. You can check out her work on her [website](#).

CREDITS

Directed by: Wanjiru M. Njendu **Written by:** Peres Owino **Produced by:** Diana Ward.

CREW

Director of Photography: Bongani Mlambo
Unit Production Manager: Shannon Kummer
Composer: Dara Taylor
Editor/Sound Designer: John Cantu
First Assistant Director: Whitney Shumaker
Script Supervisor: Sia Aleskovskaya
Stunt Coordinator: Robert McGowan
Production Designer: Brittany Ingram
Set Decorator: Shannon Hardison
Set Dresser: Vanessa Wilson
Lead Person: Daniel Deal
First Assistant Camera: Kylie Hazzard
Second AC/ Digital Imaging Technician: Juan Chavez
Gimble Operator: Scott Hilburn
Key Grip: Bevis Tran
Grip: Kyle Thor

CREW

Grip: Guilia Governo
Jib Operator: Victor Pancerev
Gaffer: Victoria Chenoweth
Electrician: Harper Thomas
Electrician: Dominic Butts
Location Sound: Dillon Kane
Special Effects Makeup: Sarah Brill
Production Assistant: Cornelia Hanes
Production Assistant: Kady Le
Production Assistant: Cameron Raser
Assistant Editor : Darren Roark
Visual Effects by: Wonderland Post
Digital Intermediate by: EFILM
Digital Intermediate Colorist: Andre Rivas
Digital Intermediate Producer: Jared Arkulary
Sound Post Production Services: RBS Gallery and Sound
Re-recording Mixer: Robert Selvaggio

CAST

Aneesa- Trinity Moriah Jones
Mother - Peres Owino
Creature / Truck Driver - Robert McGowan
Aneesa Double - Ayana Taylor

PRODUCERS

Wanjiru M. Njendu
Diana Ward
Peres Owino

ORIGINAL MUSIC BY

Dara Taylor