



The image features a central graphic with a purple and grey color scheme. At the top, two thin purple lines curve upwards from a central point. Below these are two large, rounded purple shapes. A dark grey rectangular box with a thin white border is centered horizontally across the middle of the image, containing the word "Emergence" in a white, bold, serif font. Below the box, two purple silhouettes of people are shown in profile, facing each other. The bottom part of the graphic consists of two rounded purple shapes, each containing a silhouette of a person. The overall design is symmetrical and uses a limited color palette of purple, grey, and white.

Emergence



Logline

When a socially anxious athlete is asked out by a teammate at college lacrosse tryouts, they strike an unlikely relationship and emerge together into their newfound queer identities.



Synopsis

College freshman Tori arrives at college shortly after the pandemic and still carries trauma from her conservative high school. Tori is a transgender athlete and faces crippling gender dysphoria in various social situations, such as changing in locker rooms and making new friends. As a result, Tori was content to lead her life in isolation, changing alone outside and keeping to herself. Yet, when she meets fellow teammate and first-year Amanda, she finds herself letting her guard down for the first time, and through their growing relationship, each individual can confidently step into their newfound identities for the first time.



Director's Statement

Conventionally, transgender coming-of-age stories focus primarily on when trans teens begin to reconcile with their gender identities. That is, there's a stifling one-size-fits-all traditional narrative for trans characters and queer characters overall.



I wrote and directed Emergence in direct response to this gap in storytelling. I believe that some of the most interesting points of the LGBTQIA+ experience comes with living within our identities - that is, what comes after the initial coming out? Through Tori, I'm excited to explore these unique intersectionalities that transgender queer women occupy. In athletics and specifically within the bathroom/locker room spaces, the gender binary is enforced in a way that clearly is harmful towards transgender people - specifically to trans femme athletes like Tori. Furthermore, I'm excited to portray a trans and lesbian couple, a combination that I'd only ever seen in Euphoria. Yet, unique and fascinating differences still occur, such as how liking Disney princesses (which could be empowering to trans femmes yet disempowering to cis femmes).





The queer experience is so unique and varied. Traditional narratives have failed to capture several nuances. Yet, with *Emergence*, I'm psyched to bring to life this unique sliver-of-life piece that explores some of these fantastically specific moments.



Director Biography

Rey Tang began writing scripts and making short films in the seventh grade, after becoming inspired by Asian-Americans showcasing their videos through YouTube. In high school, while writing, shooting, and editing shorts with friends, Rey won a National Medal from the Scholastic Arts and Writing Competition for her work "Just Another File". Later, she wrote and directed "Noodles & Incense", a queer Asian-American short film that played at several festivals including New Filmmakers LA, QWOCCMAP, and Aladerri International Film Festival. Currently, she hopes to give other transgender students a voice through "Emergence".

Cast and Crew

Producers - **Sam Hassett & Annika Weinberg**

FULL CAST **Jesse Robkins Ariel Bastida Erin Zhang Sarah Johnson**

Writer and Director - **Rey Tang**

1st AD & COVID Safety Officer - **Annika Weinberg**

Director of Photography - **Sumin You**

1st AC/Key Grip - **Amelia Mylvaganam**

Sound Recordist/Designer - **Julianna Lee**

Gaffer - **Marisa Ray**

Production Designer - **Erin Zhang**

Costume/Makeup - **Claire Scavone**

Editor - **Drew Thomas**

Graphics - **Maia Brown**

Colorist - **Jackson Morgan**

Composers - **Kate Feldstein & Slade Warnken**

Casting Directors - **Tuxford Turner and Sam Hassett**

Technical Information

[Full Film Available Here](#) // Password: ButterflyWings60201!

Different file format available upon request.

Title: Emergence

Completion Date: June 2021

Duration: 14 min 15 sec

Country of Origin: USA

Production Budget: \$2,500

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Sound: Stereo Mix

Color

Language: English

Subtitles Available Upon Request.