

# SURVIVING PULSE:

Life After a Mass Shooting

Press Kit



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# SYNOPSIS:

- ▶ “On June 12, 2016 in Orlando, Florida, Pulse nightclub’s weekly “Latin Night” was in full swing on South Orange Avenue. Just over 300 patrons were dancing and laughing as last call rolled around 2AM. Moments later a terrorist attack shattered the seemingly “safe space.” When the madness subsided, 49 beautiful souls were lost, dozens more injured, and a community of thousands was left broken. In the aftermath, blood was donated, memorials were held, millions of dollars raised, fingers pointed, and some politicians offered hope for change, while others offered little more than lip-service. But what has happened since that night to the survivors—the ones who lost friends and lovers, who are bonded together by an unthinkable act of violence? This powerful and amazingly hopeful testament gathers together many of the people who hunkered down in bathroom stalls and behind the bar (many of whom have never spoken before) and allows them a space to share the details of that night and the ongoing effects of living through a “national tragedy” from an incredibly intimate perspective. How have their lives changed and what struggles remain?”

▶ -Florida Film Festival 2022

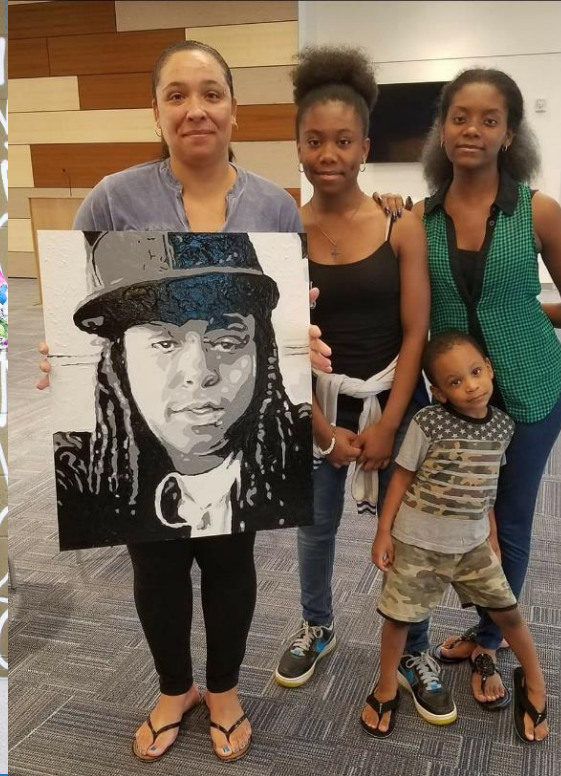
# PRODUCTION:

- ▶ Executive Producer: Nancy McBride
- ▶ Producer and Director: Alexa Sheehan
- ▶ Editor: Julie Chalhoub
- ▶ Presented by:
  - ▶ Reel Kasting, LLC
  - ▶ Harbordashery Productions, LLC
  - ▶ Guise Only LLC



# THE SURVIVORS AND ADVOCATES:

- ▶ Keinon
- ▶ Ramses
- ▶ Emily
- ▶ Demetrice
- ▶ Aleesha
- ▶ Cha-Cha
- ▶ Robin
- ▶ Daphne
- ▶ Shawanna



- ▶ Theresa Ritz LMHC and MCAP

# THE FILM'S LONG JOURNEY:

- ▶ Advocate Aleeha Yates approached Executive Producer Nancy McBride a year after the tragic event (2017) and voiced her concern over her friends and survivors that were getting overlooked after the media buzz of the attack had switched to the next national tragedy. Nancy began the production process and asked Alexa Sheehan to come on board as producer and director. Through Sheehan's production company, they were able to move forward over 5 years documenting the stories of these courageous people who allowed them to film as they relived the unimaginable and share intimate stories of their struggles to persevere. The last piece of the puzzle fell into place four years into filming when editor Julie Chalhoub came on board to bring the story together. Julie's passion and skill brought the whole project to fruition with class and grace. The world premiere was in April of 2022 at the Florida Film Festival in Orlando where they all agreed the film should come to light. Even Orlando's mayor was in attendance. The documentary has won multiple awards and continues its run in the circuit. Hopefully the heart of the film will continue to spread awareness and help those in need of healing themselves.



# AWARDS

# MEDIA ATTENTION:

- ▶ **'Surviving Pulse: Life After a Mass Shooting'** is a documentary featuring exclusive interviews with survivors of the Pulse nightclub tragedy in 2016 where forty-nine lives were senselessly lost and countless others have been changed forever... *Florida Film Festival* Director Matthew Curtis says, "I think we were waiting for this movie... (It chronicles the event through) five years after and you're getting to hear an incredibly large amount of survivors telling stories of that night... It's giving a lot more insight into what occurred that evening, but also dealing with it..." (*Orlando Sentinel* 03/20/2022)



- ▶ "This powerful and amazingly hopeful testament gathers together many of the people who hunkered down in bathroom stalls and behind the bar (many of whom have never spoken before) and allows them a space to share the details of that night and the ongoing effects of living through a "national tragedy" from an incredibly intimate perspective." (*Florida Film Festival*) *Official Selection 2022*

# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

- ▶ This documentary began filming a year after the Pulse tragedy in 2016 which at the time was the largest LGBTQ-targeted mass shooting in United States history. As we interviewed the survivors over the months and years following, we found that the survivors of mass shootings have a very trauma-specific journey that needed to be shared. Sadly, the issue has become more prevalent in today's society and its ripple effect on those that are collateral damage is real. These amazing people have endured and fought and persevered, these stories are exclusive. Hear their journeys of strength and hear the human side of the frenzy that often occurs after such an horrendous event occurs. How it is portrayed in the media versus what happens in the lives of those involved, and what it is like to be left behind. We hope we have helped them be heard, and we are honored for them to allow us into their lives as an unconventional vehicle towards healing. They never asked to be survivors.
- ▶ -Alexa Sheehan



# LINKS AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Find links to the trailer and short clips at:

[PulseDocumentary.com](http://PulseDocumentary.com)

Contact:

[Production@PulseDocumentary.com](mailto:Production@PulseDocumentary.com)

Executive Producer: Nancy McBride

386-690-2237

[Facebook.com/pulsedocumentary](https://Facebook.com/pulsedocumentary)

[Instagram.com/survivingpulse](https://Instagram.com/survivingpulse)

