

ORDER MY STEPS **a short film**

An incarcerated woman reaches out to her daughter after 20 years of silence...

directed by Augusta Palmer and written by Kathryn Grant

Contact: Kathryn Grant ordermystepsfilm@gmail.com www.ordermystepsfilm.com

[Click for photos, trailer and poster](#)



synopsis

Peg Rives serves time for drug-related charges when she is offered a chance to reunite with her daughter, Dorian. Peg lost touch with Dorian 20 years ago when drug addiction made her unfit to parent. There is blame to pass around for why Peg faltered – poverty, inadequate social services, and sentencing overkill. But to find some way forward with her daughter, Peg must reckon with her part in her daughter's suffering. On the other hand, Dorian must keep a strong hold on her expectations and protect herself from the volatile woman who claims to be her mother. These are the people and this is the battleground dramatized in ORDER MY STEPS. This short film is a proof of concept for a longer feature now in development.

director's statement

Kathryn Grant's writing in "Order My Steps" captivated me from the moment I first saw the piece produced as a play in Fall 2020. **Growing up with a mother who suffered from mental illness and an absentee father who struggled with addiction, I can easily relate to Dorian's pain. As a mother, I can also relate to Peg's need for connection to her child.** These masterfully-written characters are deeply flawed - and deeply human. Creating a visual and dramatic world for these

women was an exciting challenge. The world of Dorian and Peg's past is more open than the confining prison walls, yet the possibility for them to act freely and reconnect exists as in the fractured online space of the present as it does in memory. I've tried to give each space danger as well as opportunity. Honoring Peg's experience of incarceration is deeply important to me. I've been privileged to teach and learn from some amazing formerly incarcerated individuals, men and women who continue to inspire me with both their grit and their compassion.

cast and crew

[Augusta Palmer](#) Director/Producer

Augusta Palmer is a filmmaker, scholar, and educator. Her award-winning feature documentary, *The Hand of Fatima*, was described as "a combination of personal history and glorious music that is deeply compelling" by New York Magazine. Her fiction short, *A is for Aye*, screened at festivals from New York to New Zealand, and inspired a series of workshops at the New York Public Library. **Her second documentary feature, *The Blues Society*, soon to be released), is the recipient of a 2021 National Endowment for the Arts grant, a 2021 NYSCA Grant, and a 2022 National Endowment for the Humanities grant.**

[Kathryn Grant](#) Writer/Producer

Winner of the Steinburg/ATCA Award, The Premiere Stages Festival Award, The Kaufman Award and two Premiere Stages Festival Awards. Her plays and fiction is published by Samuel French, Smith & Krauss, Applause Books and 24th Parallel Literary Magazine. She is developing a series based on the play, *The Good Counselor* with Sue Robin Pollock and producer, Vicki McCarty and Covington, Int.

[Eva Minemar](#) Producer

Eva Minemar is an award-winning producer of over 50 plays, one-woman shows, branded content, TV, and film. She is a member of the Actors Studio Director's Unit and has also conceived and directed the touring women's theatre staple, 'Angry Jello Bubbles', which was performed at the United Nations for International Women's Day. Eva is also the Co-founder and Artistic Director of both the LA LUPA Italian Cultural Arts Festival (LA LUPA FEST), and the Artistic Director of The Piano Store Theatre in NYC. There, she continues to fulfill her lifelong desire to provide opportunities and support for women in the theatrical arts, giving women writers a voice and the opportunity to have their work performed worldwide, without the pressure of commercial concerns.

[Dolores Diaz](#) Producer

Dolores Diaz produced the SVA Director, Janelle Yee's award-winning film, "Sell Your Body," and she has been working in film ever since. She partners with Eva Minemar producing series, commercials, short and feature films through [Mulberry Queens Films](#). Dolores has been happily married for well over ten years and dedicated everything she does to her mom, husband, step-daughter, and brothers! They inspire and push her to try to be the best she can be and have a

fantastic time while livin' the dream!

Meg Grant Producer

For 35 years, Meg Grant has worked for Keystone First, Pennsylvania’s largest Medicaid managed care plan in Pennsylvania. As a healthcare executive, Meg is responsible for creating programming to improve health outcomes, address health equity and remove barriers that prevent families from being healthy and self-sufficient.**As part of her work in supporting workforce development, Meg has hosted pardon and expungement clinics and will be launching a culinary arts program, targeted to people leaving incarceration.**

Carla Brandberg Actor/Peg



Trained in the theater, Carla began working in television in an episode of Queens Supreme in 2003 opposite Oliver Platt. She has continued to work in Theatre, Film and Television and has appeared in **Gossip Girl, Escape at Dannemora, Orange is the New Black, Manifest, Archive 81 (2022), Mindhunter (2017), Manifest (2020), The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel (2018), For Life (2020)** among other film and TV projects.

Gaelynn Lea Composer and performer “Someday We’ll Linger in the Sun.”

Gaelynn Lea won NPR Music’s Tiny Desk Contest in 2016. Since then, she has captivated audiences around the world with her haunting original songs and traditional fiddle tunes. Gaelynn Lea has opened for Wilco, The Decemberists, LOW, and the industrial rock supergroup Pigface. Most recently, she composed the music for Macbeth on Broadway, starring Daniel Craig and Ruth Negga. Gaelynn Lea is a sought-after public speaker about Disability Rights and accessibility in the arts. She has shared her perspective on PBS NewsHour, On Being with Krista Tippett, The Moth Radio Hour, NowThis, The Science of Happiness Podcast, and via two widely-viewed TEDx Talks.

