



BENNY GOES METHOD

HOW FAR WILL HE GO TO GET THE PART?

Written by Sam Permar

Directed by Nina Zehri & Sam Permar

After going to an audition with food poisoning, an unemployed actor realizes the more he destroys his mind and body the closer he'll be to getting the role.







THE STORY

“Benny Goes Method” is a dark comedy about Benny, an unemployed actor struggling to make it in the competitive film world. With his agency threatening to drop him and his roommate Molly’s acting successes sparking jealousy, he rushes to an audition for a major film role, but just as he arrives, he gets hit with a wave of food poisoning. To his surprise, he gets a callback for the film and begins to realize his food poisoning may have given him this success. As Benny continues the casting process for the film, he begins to push the limits of his body along with his friendship with Molly to do whatever it takes to book the role...





THE DIRECTORS

Nina Zehri is a director, editor, and cinematographer currently based in Boston, MA. Born and raised in Pakistan, she has dedicated her efforts to creating impactful documentaries and narrative films that focus on climate change, women empowerment, and social injustices. One of her recent achievements includes the selection of her short film "In Terram" at the Salem Film Festival. She is currently pursuing her MFA in Film and Media Art at Emerson College.

Sam Permar is an actor, screenwriter, and narrative film director currently based in Boston, MA. He grew up on Martha's Vineyard and got his BFA in drama at NYU Tisch. His work has screened at NewFest, No Budge, and The Martha's Vineyard Film Festival, and he's produced, edited, and assistant directed numerous independent short films around Boston and New York City. He's currently earning his MFA in film at Emerson College.



DIRECTOR STATEMENT

As filmmakers and artists we're often told that the best art comes from pain. This has become an ideal for so many actors, and "method acting" is a term that might (for outsiders) be synonymous with serious actors doing outrageous things to get into character. Benny's journey is inspired by Sam's years of living in New York studying acting and trying to book roles in the competitive film and theatre worlds, and the idea for this film came after watching one too many Oscar campaign interviews. We wanted to explore how an actor might process those interviews when they're at rock bottom. The result is a film that satirizes the mainstream concept of "method acting," following a desperate dreamer who's celebrated the more he ruins his own life. We hope the film leaves audiences thinking about what happens when art does come from pain, and who is affected through the process.





THE TEAM

Crew

Directed by Nina Zehri & Sam Permar

Written by Sam Permar

Produced by Juan Gracia & Sam Permar

Director of Photography Sarasa Kikuchi

Production Designer Emma Angen Rose

Editor Natalie Peracchio

Original Music by Tyler R. Jenkins

Make-Up/SFX Artist Claire Maske

Assistant Directors Trinity Hodges & Natalie Peracchio

Key Grip Karen McKeen

Assistant Camera Tati Chavitage & Karen McKeen

Gaffers Karen McKeen & Tomas Orrego

Sound Recordists Karim Emara Trinity Hodges Alex Nezam Stella

Wilkins

Colorist Max Mollring

Sound Design Natalie Peracchio & Sam Permar

Sound Mixing Severino Villanueva

Score Mixing and Mastering Bruce Chen

Poster Design & Graphics Tomas Orrego

Cast (in order of appearance)

Benny: Sam Permar

Mike: Tomas Orrego

Maggie: Emma Angen Rose

Molly: Emily Kokidko

Jackson: Quinton Kappel

Linda: Trinity Hodges

Paula: Polina Geraskina

Becky: Emmaline Berlin

Special Thanks

Ougie Pak

Hayley Bohn

Brendan McCue

Bennie the Cat

Tessa Permar

Jane Dreeben

Brad Permar



AWARDSEASON
ACTOR
TO
ACTOR



SUBSCRIBE

A woman with long, straight blonde hair and a serious expression is the central focus of the image. She is wearing a dark red top. The background is a textured, light-colored wall. In the upper right corner, there is a blurred rectangular object, possibly a screen or a framed picture.

TECHNICAL

Title: Benny Goes Method

Runtime: 15 minutes 30 seconds

Genre: Dark Comedy

Year of production: 2024

Country: United States

Language: English

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Color / B&W: Color

Sound: Stereo

Shooting format: 4K Digital

Exhibition formant: HD Digital File



CONTACT

samdpermar@gmail.com

sampermar.com





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