

COUSIN

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## Director Statement:

Underneath the absurdity of a personified couch, I was looking at the couch as a symbol of sanctuary and exile. Getting kicked out of bed after a fight with a romantic partner can suck, but sleeping on the couch might present one with some peace of mind. This idea is layered with the concept of losing things beneath the cushions and how it would be nice if the things lost in the couch would better our lives. I felt the best way to depict this concept on screen was to center the film around an unraveling relationship.

A few of my friends, and friends of friends, found themselves in messy living arrangements because they would move in with their significant others early on in their relationship or they would start sleeping with their roommates.

Couch is inspired by these domestic tragedies that are destined for disaster by a leasing agreement.

## Director Bio:

Ross Chavez is a creative director with a passion for storytelling through filmmaking. His love for cinema stems from the way it creates a communal experience, bringing people together behind the camera, in the theater, and on the screen. As a queer man from Texas, Chavez brings a unique perspective to his work. Chavez draws inspiration from his own experiences and the genres of horror, dark comedy, satire, and queer storytelling. Currently based in Chicago, Chavez is studying at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago where he will receive his BFA in Studio Art with an emphasis in Film, Video, and New Media in May 2024.



## Contact Information

### **Ross Chavez**

Position: Writer and Director

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### **Ellie Jackson**

Position: Producer

Phone: +1 (470) 258-3546

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## Technical Information

**Title:** Couch

**Runtime:** 12:22

**Format:** Digital, Color

**Aspect Ratio:** 64 : 27

**Dimensions:** 2560 x 1080

**Mode:** Landscape

**Language:** English

**Completion Format:** DCP &  
Apple ProRes File

**Genre** Horror, Drama

### **Taglines**

- Sharing a space can be very revealing...
- Take a seat.

**Logline** After Dallas' relationship with her girlfriend Avery takes a turn for the worse, she discovers something living beneath the cushions of her newly thrifted couch.

Couch Poster





Emily Marcheschi as Dallas in *Couch*



Connar Brown as Avery in *Couch*



Aden Bickler as The Couch in *Couch*

# Cast and Crew

Emily Marcheschi as Dallas

Connar Brown as Avery

Saige Vizcarra as Woman

Aden Bickler as The Couch

Dillon Orth as Jared

**Writer and Director:** Ross Chavez

**Producer:** Ellie Jackson

**Assistant Director:** Ellie Jackson

**Assistant Director:** Ike Peters

**Director of Photography:** Xinyi Mo

**First Assistant Camera:** Huajun Tang

**Second Assistant Camera:** Emma McCloud

**Gaffer:** Erika Janasz

**Key Grip:** Grant Boehne

**Location Sound Mixer:** Yulin Chen

**Second Location Sound Mixer:** Kaela McVicker

**Boom Operator:** Ike Peters

**Art Director:** Bella Luna Fulk

**Special Effects:** Felix Serverino

**Makeup Artist:** Gray Travis

**Avery's Ceramics Provided by** Hannah Wagenmaker of Wagenmaker Studio and Ace Raney

**Noble Flower Graphics created by** Logan Florida

**Custom Screen Printing by** Juan Vizcarra

**Rabbit Town Diptych Paintings by** Emma Lacy

**Poetry by** Jess Lauren

**Editor and Colorist:** Cora Buntten

**Sound Designer and Post Sound Mixer:** Ian Kang

**Graphic Designer** Madison Carroll

**Music Composer:** Justin Graff

**'Eat You Alive'** Original Song Written and Performed by Knife Girl

**'Carlisle'** Original Song written and performed by Lola Bllue

**Production Advisors:** Meredith Zielke, Daniéle Wilmouth, and Gitanjali Kapila

**Casting:** Ross Chavez, Ellie Jackson, and Meredith Zielke

# Special Thanks and Acknowledgements

## Executive Producers:

Fern Ross  
Susan Stone  
Al and Lisa Laney

## Associate Producers:

Kyle Steinike  
Judy and Bill Jackson

Thank you to Paul Guizar and Saige Vizcarra at Pilsen Vintage in Chicago.  
Thank you to Bridget G. at the West Loop Apartment Location

## Extra Support:

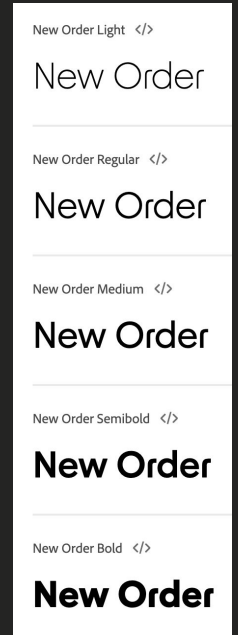
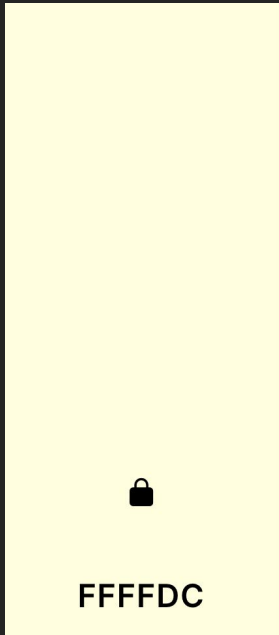
Valeria Cazares  
Kyle Benjamin Miller  
Matt Dickson  
Lillie Ward

## Special Thanks / Donors:

Annemarie Roos  
Jill and Tim Roos  
Tess Fancher  
Dean Coble  
Leon Bud Hammond  
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Laura Ward  
Nury Gulick  
Tyler Kell  
Bailey Cannon  
Jana Harrison  
Melanie Williamson  
Kay Lancaster  
Aurelia, Jonathan, and Jajay Chavez  
Stacey Evans  
Bridget McDonald  
Carl Cravens

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Melissa Triebwasser  
Emma Lacy  
Dr. Lance Jones  
Beth Ross  
Catherine Evans  
Annie Jackson  
Billy Jeffers

## Color Palette and Font:





Ellie Jackson, Emily Marcheschi, Aden Bickler, Huajun Tang, Bella Luna Fulk, Ike Peters, Xinyi Mo, and Ross Chavez behind the scenes of *Couch*.