

This is Jan

FILM OVERVIEW

Title: *This is Jan*
Genre: Drama, LGBTQ+
Runtime: 21:36
Country of Production: USA
Language: English

CONTACT

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Logline

Alone in a hotel room, Jan transforms between the person the world expects of them and who they perceive themselves to be in an intimate and powerful journey towards self-discovery.

Synopsis

Set in the conservative world of the 1950s, Jan checks into a hotel seeking to escape the outside world. Once alone, they are free to shed the identity society has imposed upon them. Jan embraces the chance to explore who they truly believe they are. As they relish this new identity, a surge of confidence emerges, but they soon realize that not everything is as it seems. Faced with a choice between internal pressures and embracing their authentic self, Jan takes a bold step forward.

Director's Statement

Growing up in a small town, I thought the queer movement began with Stonewall. I didn't know that people like me lived authentic lives long before then. Unaware of the long-lost millennia of queer history and with no historical reference, I assumed that queer life just recently evolved.

Jan came into my life after a dear friend transitioned. My muse led me to the trove of information that gives life to her imagined story and the histories I didn't know. Through Jan, I was introduced to the Cooper Donut Riots and inspired by the story of Casa Susanna, a secluded house in the Catskills that offered respite to crossdressers from around the world.

Stories like this might have vanished if not for the discovery of a box of photos, revealing people who found solace in being themselves among others just like them. I can't imagine what it took for them to find each other; the clandestine networking, the long journey to a place that felt like home.

Now that I know of them, I feel obliged to share their stories through this medium that I love so much. With Jan as the vessel, I hope viewers will be moved by her story and inspired to help all their stories live on...

CAST & CREW

Director / Writer / Producer

Robert Larriviere

Robert Larriviere is an actor, writer, and director with an extensive background in theatre and film. His career spans regional theatre, television, and independent cinema, with a focus on deeply human stories. *This is Jan* marks his directorial debut in film, a project crafted with care and personal resonance.

Cast

Jan – Lyle Brocato

Lyle Brocato delivers an intriguing and nuanced performance as Jan, bringing depth to a character in introspective turmoil. Known for his work in *The Big Short* and *Bad Moms*, Lyle's restrained portrayal of solitude and self-exploration is both captivating and unforgettable.

Key Crew

Cinematography: Rob Senska

Editor: Rob Senska & Melissa Goslin

Production Design: Jonathan House

Costume Design: Jillian Kreiner

Music: Elias Ransom

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS & RECOGNITION

Panavision New Filmmaker's Grant Recipient

Official Selection, Narrative Short Film – Sedona International Film Festival 2024

Special Jury Award, Narrative Short Film – Cinema on the Bayou 2025

Winner, Best Short Screenplay – Sedona International Film Festival 2024

Winner, Best Short Screenplay – Santa Barbara Indie Film Fest 2023

Winner, Best Short Screenplay – New York International Screenplay Awards 2023

Winner, Best Short Screenplay – LGBTQ+ Toronto & Los Angeles Film Festival 2024

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Shooting Format: Digital, Panavision

Available Formats: DCP, ProRes, H.264

Sound Format: Stereo 2.0

Subtitles: Upon request

POSTER, STILLs:

Download at www.whoisjan.com