

DECK #1

DECK #2

DECK #3

GO

DOWN.

DILLER

HOLD BRIGHT CONTRAST



POWER

H.HOLD V.HOLD BRIGHT CONTRAST



H.SIZE V.SIZE V.LINE

H.HOLD V.HOLD BRIGHT CONTRAST

POWER



H.SIZE V.SIZE V.LINE

Video Monitor w/v 783

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## Tagline

**That bear made you feel like a bad dad.**

## Logline

**An anxious single father seeks to protect his teenage daughter from a talking bear that works at a fast-food restaurant.**

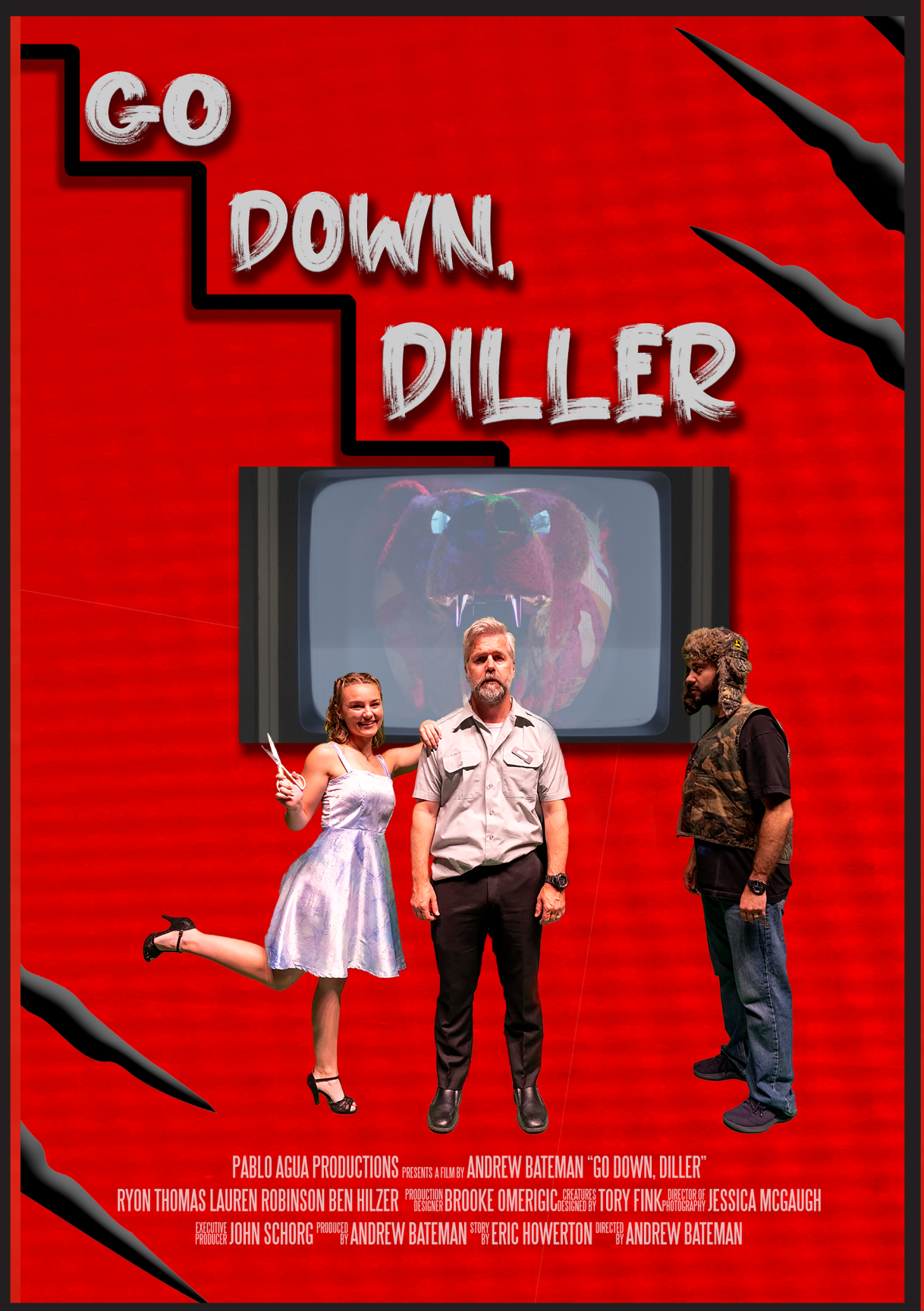
# Synopsis

Stressed-out single-father and hotel security officer, Diller McCasslin, world is thrown upside down when at his favorite fast-food restaurant he encounters Seamus, a bear that talks. Diller attempts to speak with his teenage daughter, Shelly, about this but she is busy preparing for the school dance, something Diller takes little interest in due to his pre-occupation with the talking-bear.

Meanwhile Diller's hotel garbage bins are being ransacked. Diller believes this may be the work of ne'er-do-well hotel sommelier Leon "The Wine Guy" or perhaps it might be the talking-bear. Diller returns to the restaurant, this time with Shelly, to investigate, when he discovers it is not just this bear that talks but all bears—Shelly already knew this. That night Diller dreams that Shelly's safety is compromised by a bear.

Diller, seeking confirmation of talking bears, questions his co-workers and queries the internet, only to find that bears do indeed talk. Diller's epistemological understanding of reality is completely shaken and turns to Leon for advice. Leon assures Diller that the root of his problem resides with Seamus and that Seamus must be taken care of. Diller and Leon sneak up to Seamus' house, rifle in hand, to "show that bear who knows best". Diller's finger is on the trigger but can't bring himself to pull it.

Diller runs home in a sickened panic to check on Shelly, who is still at the school dance. Diller rifles through her belongings, looking for answers, only to find mementos of his deceased wife's love for their daughter. Diller heads downstairs but is met by a mysterious small red door that he is compelled to enter. As he proceeds beyond the door into the darkness, he is confronted by a gigantic bear head that emits the worst behaviors of Shelly that Diller can imagine. Diller confronts this bear ultimately finding himself standing in his living room in front of his television while Shelly questions what he is doing.



PABLO AGUA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS A FILM BY ANDREW BATEMAN "GO DOWN, DILLER"  
RYON THOMAS LAUREN ROBINSON BEN HILZER PRODUCTION DESIGNER BROOKE OMERIGIC CREATORS TORY FINK DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JESSICA MCCAUGH  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JOHN SCHORG PRODUCED BY ANDREW BATEMAN STORY BY ERIC HOWERTON DIRECTED BY ANDREW BATEMAN

A close-up shot of a young woman with her hair pulled back, looking intently at a fork of spaghetti she is holding. She is wearing a white lace-trimmed shirt under a vibrant, multi-colored floral patterned jacket. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting an indoor setting.

# Specs

**Title: Go Down, Diller**

**Running Time: 23:02**

**Shooting Format: Red Komodo 4k**

**Screening Fomrat: DCP / Pro Res 422 HQ / H.264**

**Aspect Ratio: 1.85:1**

**Sound: 5.1 / Stereo**

**Country of Production: USA**

**Year: 2025**

**Language: English**

**Production Company: Pablo Agua Productions**

**Copyright: Pablo Agua Productions**

# Director's Statement

In many ways *Go Down, Diller* started while I was a graduate student in American Studies at the University of New Mexico. There I was studying, to some degree, the revolutionary potential of love. It was at this same time that I met Eric Howerton, who was in his early stages of his writing career. But at this time, we were coffee shop friends and part-time racquet ball foes. It would not be for another 20 years that our paths would cross again when I reached out to him to see if he had any short-stories he thought might be suitable short film material. Eric sent a handful of stories and it was *Go Down, Diller* that captured my imagination. Yes, it was cinematic in its writing, and a bit “weird”, which I am naturally drawn to, but it really circles back to my studies at UNM and the power of love.

In our main character Diller, we have the much maligned (rightfully so) cisgender, white, male and a representation of the culture of domination. Diller's job is to be in control. He is good at, and takes pride in it. Leon the Wine Guy's solution to Diller's anxiety about losing control is to “kill the bear”—that which Diller blames for his loss of control. However, as the social commentator and poet bell hooks argues: “A culture of domination is anti-love. It requires violence to sustain itself” and it is only through a “ethic of love” we might be guided to turn away from an ethic of domination. This in a nutshell is Diller's dilemma and why I was inspired to make *Go Down, Diller*. In this historically fraught moment, I believe it is vital to tell stories of love, and that at the core of this film is a recognition of the healing and revolutionary power of love.

# Cast



## Ryon Thomas | Diller McCasslin

Ryon Thomas is an actor, writer, and musician known for his roles in BET's *The Missing*, the AMC streaming series *Surviving the Cartel*, and Fox Nation TV movie *Christmas with the Foxes*. He also played Paul Tibbets in the National Geographic documentary *Heroes of the Sky: The Mighty Eighth Air Force*.

An Advanced Meisner graduate of The Ruskin School of Acting in Santa Monica, CA, Ryon moved to Los Angeles in 2002 where he created a boutique design studio called SOTU Creative and continues to work as a web/graphic creative and marketing professional. He is also an active musician, singer, and songwriter, releasing 5 albums/EPs with various bands. Ryon is currently living the West LA dream with his wife Megan and his two daughters, Evely and Brya.



## Lauren Robinson | Shelly McCasslin

Lauren Robinson is a Colorado based actress and model and a student at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs where she studies social work and psychology. Though acting is not her career, Lauren enjoys it and has been since she was very young. Any opportunity to act is filled with new connections and lots of fun! She loves learning more about herself and others from the characters she plays. She hopes you enjoy watching her work as an actor as much as she loves doing it!



## Ben Hilzer | Leon the Wine Guy

Ben Hilzer is an acclaimed actor and comedian known for his work in "Army & Coop", "Rook.", and "Ben & Gary: Streaming" for which he has received numerous awards and recognition from film festivals around the world. Ben is a member of the comedy troupe *The Dads* and co-founded the award-winning video production company *Letterpress Films*. You may have seen Ben in commercials for companies such as Verizon, Manscaped, and Webroot.



## Seamus the Bear | Seamus

Born in the Jemez Mountains of New Mexico in 1986, Seamus the Bear began his professional career as a stunt-double for Hollywood legends like Winnie the Pooh and Paddington. After suffering a detached retina during a high-wire gunfight on the set of the ill-fated *My Dinner with Andre II: Reckoning* and *Remingtons*, Seamus briefly stepped away from film, touring the country as a member of the electro-pop trio *Ursus Major Key*. With *Ursus Major Key* retired, Seamus returned to his first love—acting—and saw a successful revamping of his career after being selected to play the titular character in Quentin Tarantino's off-Broadway production of *Cocaine Hamlet*. Audiences fawned over Seamus's trenchant delivery of Hamlet's soliloquies, ability to mouth-foam on demand, and domineering stage presence. Since his return to the silver screen, Seamus has starred in over two dozen films, and is an executive producer of HGTV's *Extreme Cave Makeovers*.

# Key Creatives



## Andrew Bateman Producer & Director

Andrew Bateman is a Denver-based filmmaker who looks to tell stories of the human condition in unique and beautiful ways. Andrew was thrilled to screen his last short film *Loose Change: A Memoir of Childhood* to festivals around the world. Andrew's work has thus far been recognized by grants and fellowships received from the Bay Area Video Coalition, California Humanities, Comcast, Philadelphia Independent Film and Video Coalition, and SOMArts Neighborhood News Network.

Andrew earned a Master of Fine Arts in Film and Media Arts from Temple University and a Master of Arts in American Studies from the University of New Mexico where he wrote his master's thesis on the prescient and omnipresent artist Sun Ra. Currently, Andrew serves as a faculty member for the University of Colorado Denver where he teaches film production.



## Eric Howerton Screenwriter

Eric Howerton is a writer, musician, backpacker, and professor of English at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. He earned a PhD in Creative Writing and Literature from the University of Houston, an MFA in Creative Writing from the Pennsylvania State University, and BAs in English/Philosophy and Psychology from the University of New Mexico. He is the author of short stories, flash fictions, magazine features, restaurant reviews, poetry, and screenplays. He currently serves as the Director of the Center for Poets and Writers (OSU-Tulsa), is an avid skier, and advises campers in the Rockies to use a bear can and make plenty of noise on the trail.



## Jessica McGaugh Director of Photography

Jessica McGaugh is an award-winning filmmaker and a tenure-track faculty member in the School of Theatre, Television, and Film at San Diego State University.

Jessica's work celebrates diversity and inclusion through her use of underrepresented characters, storylines, and project collaborators. Her films have screened across the globe including the Vancouver Film Festival, Mumbai International Film Festival, Denver Film Festival, NDTV and Rocky Mountain PBS. Jessica's feature films *Red Pearl* and *Three Worlds, One Stage* are available through iTunes/AppleTV, Amazon, Roku, Vudu, and Walmart.



## Victoria Lundy Composer

Victoria Lundy has played theremin in the Denver experimental/underground scene since the 90s. She was a member of the avant-garde Carbon Dioxide Orchestra and was a founding member of Denver's acclaimed nerd rock band, The Inactivists. Victoria was featured in the Westword Best Ambient-Music Showcase 2017 Textures and was honored as one of Denver's Top 100 Creatives 3.0.

Today, Victoria is a member of the Carbon Dioxide Ensemble, a trio that emphasizes improvisational performances of musique concrète. Victoria's current solo work emphasizes exploring the expressive qualities of the theremin.

# Key Creatives



## Brooke Omerigic Production Designer

Brooke Omerigic is a LA based production designer and set dresser. She has held the visual arts close to her heart since the first time she watched sci-fi and horror movies with her family. She aspires to create TV and movies akin to those which have changed the way she views herself, others and the world. She enjoys many creative mediums. Some of which include sewing, crocheting, and collage. In her free time, you'll find her doing yoga and playing video games.



## Tory Fink Bearhead Design & Fabricator

Tory Fink is an Art Director and Fabricator for museums, theater, television and film. He was Lead Builder on "The Raygun Gothic Rocketship," a 40-foot-tall retro-futurist art sculpture, which is now permanently installed in front of Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum in Denver.

Tory was hired and ultimately promoted to Lead Builder and Art Director for Discovery channel's "MythBusters" spanning seasons 10 through 19.

Tory was highlighted in Cinefex magazine's 40th anniversary issue for his work on "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker" as part of the special effects team. He also worked in the Art Department for "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" and "The Matrix Resurrections."



## Abby Pellien Gaffer

Originally from Black Forest, Colorado, Abby attended the University of Colorado at Denver, where she earned a degree in Film and Television Production with an emphasis on cinematography.

Abby's love for lighting has quickly become a defining aspect of her career. She continues honing her skills by working on a diverse range of projects, from commercials to narrative films as a grip/electric. Evolving a stylized eye and a deep understanding of light and color telling a story, Abby aspires to become a Director of Photography in the narrative filmmaking world.

As she continues to master her craft, Abby remains dedicated to collaborating with creative teams to bring their visions to life. Her ultimate goal is to create visually and emotionally resonant stories that captivate audiences and tell the stories that need to be told.



## Michael Henderson Sound Mixer & Sound Montage

Born in Denver, CO, Michael has been a sound designer & editor, Foley artist, and re-recording mixer for over a decade. Beginning his career in broadcast television during the early 90's, he has since led or participated in the sound department of dozens of shorts and features. He owns Plan 9 Sound as a nod to his love of B-movies, providing sound post services worldwide.

Mike sits on the Board of Directors for The Bug Theatre in Denver and hosts The Emerging Filmmaker's Project, a monthly screening event showcasing locally produced shorts in the Rocky Mountain region.

A man in profile, wearing a plaid shirt and dark pants, stands in a dark, blue-lit environment. He is looking towards a large, furry creature with glowing eyes. The creature's fur is dark and textured, and its eyes are bright blue. The background is dark with some light streaks, suggesting a stage or a film set.

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**Social Media: <https://www.instagram.com/balthazarkrasnow/>**

**Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/862715416>**