

Director's Statement

For a long time, I have carried within me a deep desire to create and direct films. However, my professional life left me with very little time to make this dream a reality. *Just A Regret* was born from this tension: the story of a man forced to choose between his duty and his most intimate pain.

The film tells the story of a palliative care physician who finds himself confronted with his worst nightmare: having to treat the drunk driver who killed his son ten years earlier. Through this moral chamber piece, I wanted to explore the fragile boundary between revenge and forgiveness, between the Hippocratic Oath and a father's suffering.

The choice of anthropomorphic characters is not incidental. The lion embodies wounded pride and broken dignity, the red fox brings softness and humanity, while the boar represents guilt and decay. These animals allow me to speak about the human condition with poetic distance and greater emotional truth.

Faced with an extremely limited budget, I chose to use artificial intelligence tools (Runway Gen-3, Kling AI, and Grok Imagine) as a genuine means of cinematic creation. Far from replacing my vision, AI enabled me to bring this story to life with a cinematic quality and visual consistency that I could never have achieved through traditional means.

Just A Regret is not only a film about grief and regret. It is also the story of a man who learns, through pain, that justice and healing sometimes come through one very simple act: listening to the other, even when that other is the person who took everything from him.

This is one of my first short films. It was born out of a visceral need to tell a story, despite the constraints of time and money.

Adrien Pereira

Director of *Just A Regret*