

CALLING YOU
ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT



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An HB PRODUCTIONS Productions
@_calling.you_ on Instagram

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LOGLINE

After a late middle-aged father falls mysteriously into a coma that transports him to an idealised version of his past, his daughter must do all things necessary to rescue him from an eternal trap.

OUTLINE

Calling You is a psychological drama with surreal and sci-fi elements, exploring the dangers of nostalgia, memory, and the generational divide between a father and daughter. The story is told non-linearly through two perspectives. One is from Mike, a middle-aged father, inebriated in his quest to live in his past, and his daughter Layla, in her mid-twenties, visiting her childhood home, navigating her own reconciliation of her past.

FILMMAKER'S STATEMENTS

The film will be a meditation on memory, especially how music and spaces influence it, and a cautionary tale for living in the past. It will also be an exploration into a generational divide between two subjects of different childhoods, Layla and Mike (*Millennials and Gen X*), respectively. The initial desire to devise the story came from wanting to write a scene in a school at night. There is something incredibly liminal about the concept, and in developing, many eerie questions arise—would the person in the space be alone? What else would be there? Is it your 'home' anymore? The inspiration for the film comes from a fascination with liminal spaces, or more the modern term 'backrooms,' both ideas having a recent cult resurgence in internet and gaming pop culture. Liminal spaces are physically described as spaces that show a familiar setting, such as a school, train stations, or office rooms, that are now reduced to stillness and lifelessness. But metaphysically, it represents a state of mind, a transitional period between one stage of life and the next.

There are many theories as to the psychological drives for such an idea, but my theory is that it is rooted in nostalgia and in one's subconscious desire to return to it. This is the desire that Mike has. Furthermore, one of the arcs of a child's maturity is recognising the flaws in their parents, sometimes taking aggressive steps to counter manifesting those flaws themselves, which is what Layla represents. Layla's childhood is implied through the events in the script. In Mike's vision, we see a young Layla curled up in a ball in distress at the end of the party table, implying some kind of trauma, that Mike remembers, of sensory overload. Mike's implied history comes in the form of the figures or dancers, which are revealed to resemble a picture of his childhood friends in his living room. I like to think that in his youth he was an avid dancer with this troupe, with this enthusiasm and energy fading away with age.

The tone and pacing will be different in the dreamlike hallucination sequence (Mike's POV) and the real-world scenes (Layla's POV). Mike's visions, especially the dance sequence, will be shot not unlike a music video in terms of coverage, lit as practically as possible through the disco lights and Mike's torch. The visual language will contrast between the vast widths of the space Mike inhabits, tapping into the liminal space look as discussed before, and the uncomfortable 18mm lens close-ups on Mike's reactions and emotional arc from hesitant to open to utterly hypnotised and absorbed in an eternal dance. For cinematography and editing, inspirations and references include *Climax* (2018), *At Eternity's Gate* (2018), and *Insidious* (2010), to name a few. The real-world scenes, with adult Layla, will contrast this with a simpler, stripped-back style of filmmaking and coverage, akin to a kitchen sink drama. Films of Mike Leigh such as *Secrets and Lies* (1996), *Life is Sweet* (1990), and *Abigail's Party* (1977) come to mind as good references to what we want the style to achieve—a quaint family drama to contrast with the wonders and horrors of Mike's visions. **DANIEL HOWARD BAKER**

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DANIEL HOAWARD-BAKER

Director / Producer / Editor



Daniel is a film editor and archivist by day and an award-winning writer / director by night. After graduating from the University of Westminster in 2021, he has since worked on shorts, features, documentaries and fiction that have gone onto festival and award recognition in national and international screenings. His directorial work, focusing on surreal and experimental storytelling has gone onto awards such as at the *Nottingham Film Fest*, *Liverpool Indie Awards* and *Big Fringe Film Fest*.

His previous directorial short *Ball-Pit. Wednesday. Lemonade.* was an experimental psychological surrealist drama shot half on Blackmagic digital 4K and Panasonic VHS, expressing his love and interest in the analogue format and how it can be utilised in certain stories. These stories emulate themes and emotions of nostalgia and degradation, matching the physical qualities of the VHS analogue format. This mixed media approach has allowed Daniel to expand the storytelling horizon, with a particular focus on archive documentary and the limitless flexibility of the format for story.

Ballpit went onto a successful festival run nationally and internationally, being screened at 44 festivals in the UK and internationally, nominated for 14 awards and winning 4, including Best Experimental Film at the *Liverpool Indie Awards* and *Nottingham Film Fest* respectively.

He returns to his hometown of Plymouth to explore the storytelling potential in the region, working as a film editor, photographer and archivist for local creative collaborators and communities, such as for *Plymouth University*, *Everyman Cinema*, *Theatre Royal Plymouth*, *Novel Pictures*, *Neo Noire Studios* and *[EK!] Productions*. Daniel looks to expand the horizon of storytelling and show the South West as an arena of cinema.



Ray Redmond came to acting later in life after leaving a busy career working in the Met Police, to relocate to Cornwall with his wife. He trained with a respected theatre company based in the Southwest and now splits his time between west London and south east Cornwall. *Ray* is represented by *Nic Knight Management*.

Previous Credits include: The Boy (2026), Poc'Han (2025), Carclew (2025), Blood Ties (2024), Christmas 1978 (2024)

RAY REDMOND portrays "MIKE".

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Drew Lucia is an English actor with bases in Devon and Bristol. Recent work includes playing Layla in "Calling You" and Jamie in "Embers". She has a strong interest in comedy, period drama, and character-driven roles.

Previous Credits include: CLOWN (2026), Embers (2025), The Hooded Wood (2024), Phantom Peak (2022)

DREW LUCIA portrays "OLDER LAYLA".



Isabell is a confident, happy child who finds joy & fun in everything that she does. She is a natural performer who is able to take direction effectively. She is confident in front of the camera and on stage, she attends weekly musical theatre and singing classes. She is interested in stills and talent work. She is represented by Charlotte Stone at Rotten Orphans talent agency.

ISABELL CLARKE portrays "YOUNG LAYLA".

Fearless Collective is a Plymouth-based Hip Hop Theatre Company founded by Chloe Fear, focusing on blending hip hop with dance theatre, accessible movement, and storytelling. They produce, workshops, performances, and films, including work at Barbican Theatre Plymouth. Our work is deeply rooted in personal experience, exploring themes like identity, fear, vulnerability, and empowerment. What drives them is a commitment to making dance accessible, engaging, and meaningful, especially for those who might not normally see themselves reflected on stage. As well as producing performance work, we engage with schools and community groups in Plymouth and beyond. Over the next five years, their vision is to build a strong professional performance company that tours nationally and internationally, with accessibility and outreach at its heart.

FEARLESS COLLECTIVE portray the "DANCERS".



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CAST CREDITS

Ray Redmond
as Mike

Drew Lucia
as Older Layla

Isabell Clarke
as Younger Layla

**Elle Hood, Caitlin
Gibbeson, Christopher
Hodkinson**
as Dancers

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Director, Writer & Editor	Daniel Howard-Baker	Colourist	Zain Harris
Producer	Daniel Howard-Baker	Sound Designer	Isabel Derr
Director of Photography	Louis Holder	Online Editor	Louis Holder
Steadicam Operator / Assistant Camera	Sam Cox	Make-Up Artist	Cristie Bowcher-Ryce
Sound Recordist	Sam McLoughlin	Production Assistant	Bess Howard-Baker
Boom Operators	Harry Houlberg Steve Todd	Location Manager	Rachel McGowan
Stills Photographer	Gavin Parsons	Dance Choreographer	Chloe Fear

MUSIC

'Calling You'

By Aqua
Written and Produced by Søren Rasted,
Claus Norreen, Peter Hartmann, Jan Langhoff & René Dif
Licensed under Universal Music Publishing,
TG Management & BMG Rights Management

'Popcorn'

By Gershon Kingsley & First Moog Quartet
Written and Produced by Gershon Kingsley
Licensed under of Bourne UK and 43 North Holdings

'Retro LSD'

By DZGRIMX
Courtesy of Jakey (YouTube)

'God Save the King'

Performed by Navy Band

ADDITIONAL FOLEY (SOUNDLY & FREESOUND.ORG)

Sbyandiji	Colorscremsontears	Hansl	Lukacafuka
Rap2h	Muel2002	Hmmm101	Danlucaz
Samueleunimancer	Atghgaffney	Cameronmusic	Miksmusic
Rsilveira_88	Izzylikesnoise	Irishcoder	Enganskameraten
Lozkaye	Soundlikefoley	legoj15	16fpanska
Valerie-vivegnis	Esmayorga	Khenshom	Abolla
Daandraait	13fpanska	Winslo_69	Thatjeffcarter
Marianna-emma	Jelloapocalypse	Milcahrawr	Szegvari
Kevp888	Reinsamba	Victek	Lukacafuka
			Richardfosterpersonal

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS & PRODUCTION INFORMATION

Technical Presentation (Specifications)

Running Time: 14 Minutes 56 Seconds
Screening Format(s): DCP, ProRes4444/422HQ

Production & Contact Information

Genres: Fantasy, Drama,
Experimental, Short Film

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H264, Vimeo, Blu-ray, DVD.

Image Resolution:	DCI 4K	Year of Release:	2026
Aspect Ratio:	2.39:1 (DCI Scope)	Countries of Production:	United Kingdom
Projection FPS:	24	Language(s):	English
Sound Mix:	5.1 Surround or 2.0 Stereo	Subtitles:	English Subtitles Available
Negative Format(s) / Camera(s):	Blackmagic Pocket 6K Pro / 6K G2	Production Company / Distributor	HB Productions
Offline NLE:	Avid Media Composer 2025	Press Enquiries:	callingyoufilm@gmail.com
Online NLE:	DaVinci Resolve Studio 20	Sales/Distribution/	
Sound Mix:	ProTools HD	Booking Enquiries:	callingyoufilm@gmail.com

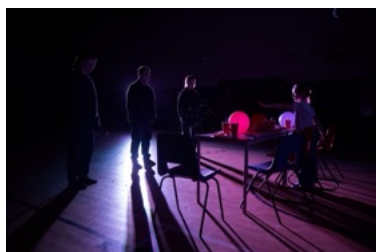
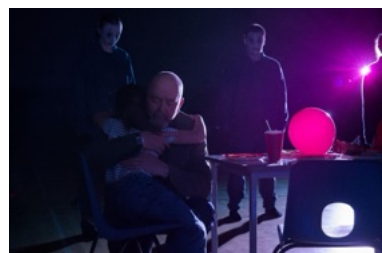
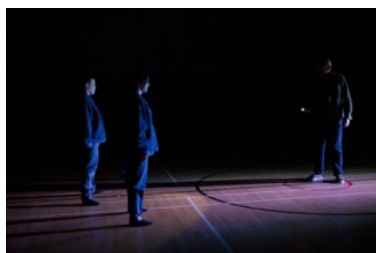
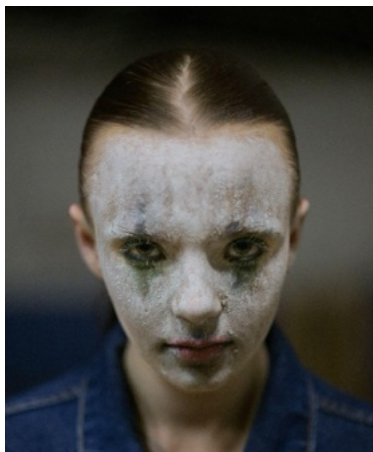
ABOUT HB PRODUCTIONS

HB Productions prides itself in making films and projects that are authentically alternative. Films made here are not intended to be experimental but to express a specific handwriting in storytelling that may just break a few rules along the way. With previous shorts such as *Nyctus*, *Ball-Pit*, *Wednesday*, *Lemonade*., each going onto success in the experimental festival sphere, now we present *W : A Return to Oz*, a documentary presenting something old and something new in documentary.

SELECTED STILLS



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