

LET'S FIRE PEOPLE TOGETHER

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
DREW VAUGHAN
BRENNAN JAMES

PRIMARY CONTACT
BRENNAN JAMES
+1 732 532 3037
BRENNANJAMESACTOR@GMAIL.COM
@BRENNANACTS



OVERVIEW

LOGLINE

After delivering record results at a cutthroat tech startup, a high-performing manager is pushed by the CEO to prove her boldness — but at what cost? A satirical short film about ambition, AI, and the brutal logic of corporate leadership.

SYNOPSIS

After delivering record results at Dingo, a cutthroat tech startup, Mara expects a long-promised promotion will finally earn her a seat at the table. Instead, she’s challenged by the CEO, Ivan, to prove she has “fire” in a culture that treats fear as leadership and empathy as a liability amid AI-driven layoffs.

Mara tries to reconcile her values with the rules of a system that keeps moving the goalposts. When her closest ally ends up on the chopping block, it forces her to decide how much she’s willing to trade for advancement, with unexpected consequences.

SPECIFICATIONS

TITLE: Let’s Fire People Together
GENRE: Satire/Drama
COUNTRY: United States
PRODUCTION YEAR: 2026
LANGUAGE: English (English .srt available)
RUN TIME: 14 minutes 25 seconds
ASPECT RATIO: 1.90:1

KEY CAST & CREW

Director/EP: Drew Vaughan
Screenwriter/EP: Brennan James
Cinematographer: Alex Palumbo
Editor: Nico Litonjua
Sound Design: Dusty Albertz
Colorist: Kevin Ratigan

Brennan James as **MARA**
Ben Shaul as **IVAN**
David A. Gregory as **COLIN**
Jennifer Jang as **BRITT**






Dingo





DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT

When Brennan came to me with the script for Let's Fire People Together, she told me almost every scene came from a conversation she had actually experienced in tech. The script was sharp and funny, but clearly sat on top of something real and lived in. You should laugh, and then feel a little bad that you did.

I felt all of this immensely, because I came from, and still sometimes live in, this corporate world. So much of the film is about trying to break out of the cycle, but also knowing you have to rely on it to pay the bills while keeping the dream alive. I related to that in my own journey of trying to direct my way out of the rat race.

While the subject of AI is in the film, it's not an AI short. It's really about how capitalism's love of efficiency and "making it" leads us to do things we're not proud of and become people we never thought we'd be. This ideal is all too real, and also supremely absurd, and I want to keep making films that poke at those nasty parts of ourselves and our culture.

– Drew Vaughan



WRITER’S STATEMENT

“Let’s Fire People Together” began as catharsis. It's also a real invitation I once got from a person who meant it as a perk.

Several years ago, I was burned out and conflicted about a corporate culture I had never intended to be in, let alone help to sustain: one that treated empathy as a liability and layoffs as routine.

Thankfully I am no longer in that place, but I found myself still trying to make sense of the experience. You can’t hear the words “let’s fire people together” said gleefully and not think about it every time there’s news about layoffs as stocks soar.

AI as a technology gets all the angst and attention, while the people pushing its use rarely do. And sometimes the ones making the call don't even understand what it can do. They just know it makes shareholder greed sound like “efficiency.” Some of these decisions get made at the top, and some by reasonable everyday people. That's the part that should scare us.

– Brennan James



KEY CAST/CREW BIOS

BRENNAN JAMES
Screenwriter, Executive Producer, Actor (as MARA)

Brennan has appeared in numerous short films and her theatrical work has been praised by Broadway World. She trained at The Barrow Group, Heidi Marshall Studio, UCB, and The Walnut Street Theater. She also has an M.A. in Media & Cinema Studies from The University of Pennsylvania.

brennanacts.com
@brennanacts

ALEX PALUMBO
Director of Photography

Alex is a cinematographer whose work spans commercial campaigns and international festival cinema. His films have screened at the Tokyo International Film Festival and Seoul International Film Festival, among others.

slacktidefilms.com
@alxpalumbo

DREW VAUGHAN
Director & Executive Producer

Drew is a director whose work is offbeat, subversive, and dramatic. He’s been featured in Shoot's new director showcase. A standup special he directed is on Hulu. Werner Herzog said he should grow a mustache.
Awards: Emmy, One Show, Cannes Shortlist

drewvaughan.com
@rattlesnake_bolo

KEY CAST/CREW BIOS



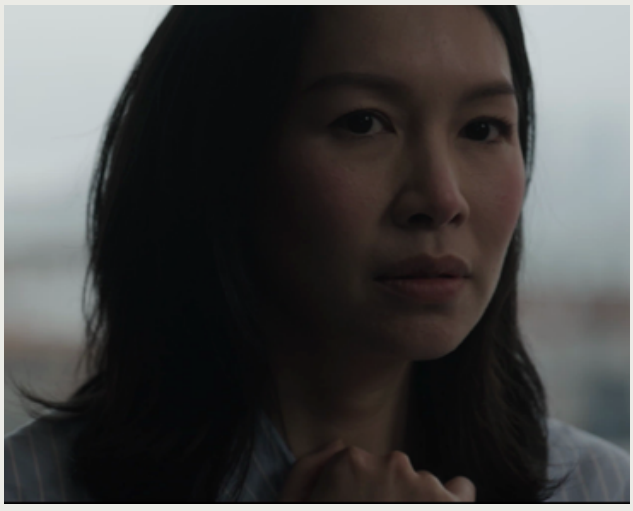
BEN SHAUL
as IVAN

Originally hailing from London UK, Ben’s work has led him all over the globe working on-camera and with print and commercial clients. He has secured lead and support roles in a series of shorts destined for film festivals. Classically trained and using skills learned on set and through further tuition, he is very natural on camera and opens channels with cast and crew. IMDB



DAVID A. GREGORY
as COLIN

Born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, David is best known as Robert Ford on ABC sudser "One Life to Live". He's played recurring characters on "The Good Fight" (CBS), "Insatiable" (Netflix), "Constantine" (NBC), and "Deception" (NBC). IMDB



JENNIFER JANG
as BRITT

Jennifer Jang is a New York based actor, born and raised in California. Having trained at the Atlantic Acting School’s Evening Conservatory and the Barrow Group’s 1 year training program, she has acted in various short films in the last two years. She has also done improv at BCC, and continues on camera work at the Brownstone Class. IMDB

CREDITS

CAST

- Mara — Brennan James
- Ivan — Ben Shaul
- Colin — David A. Gregory
- Britt — Jennifer Jang

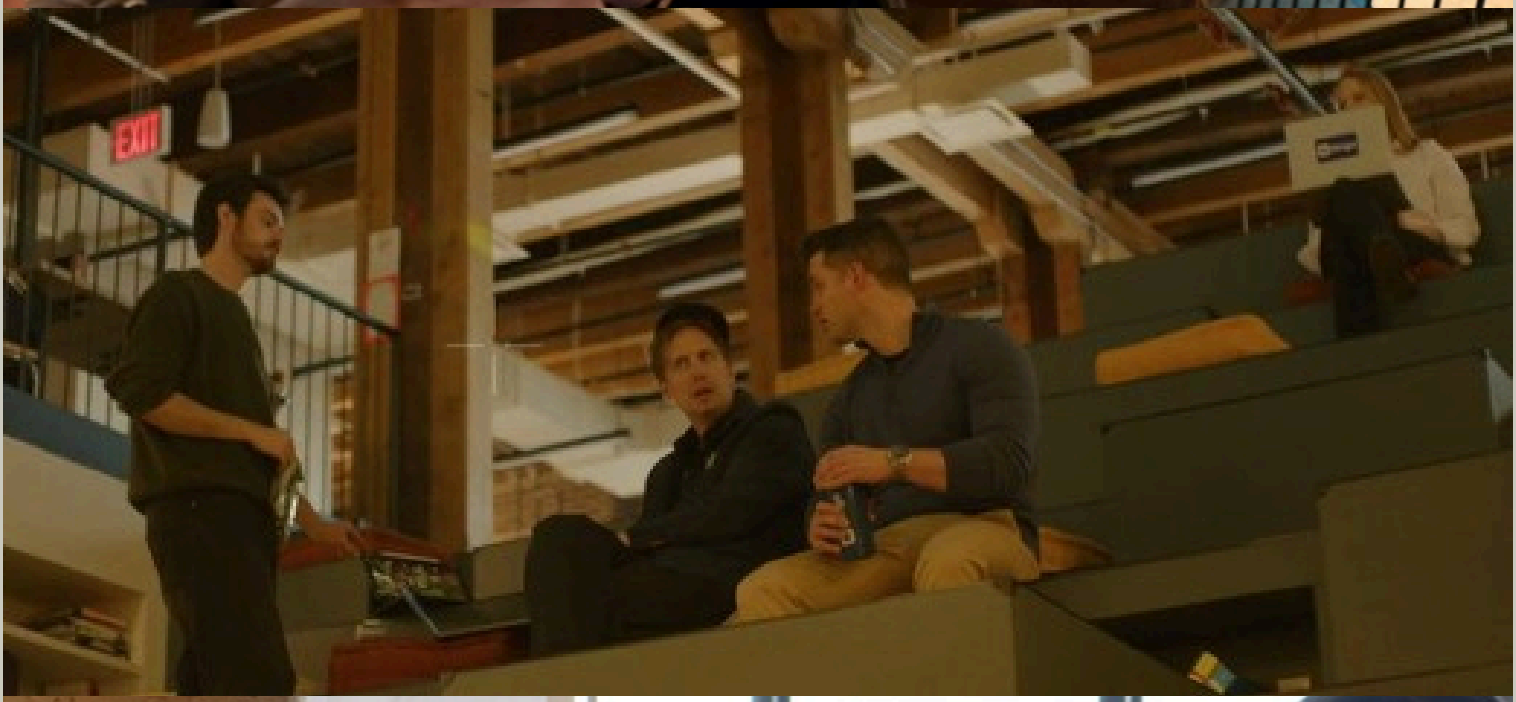
Additional Dingo Employees:

- Andie — Anna Dlugi
- Tyra — Brandi Martin
- Timothy — Emmanuel Mato

CREW

- Director / Executive Producer — Drew Vaughan
- Writer / Executive Producer — Brennan James
- Director of Photography — Alex Palumbo
- Editor — Nico Litonjua
- Colorist — Jake White
- Sound Designer — Dusty Albertz
- Sound Mixer — Anthony Charles
- 1st AD — Mason Baxter
- AC / Swing — Mike Vassallo
- Set Photographer — Bahia Rozan
- PA — Rory Lucey




EXIT


13131503

LINKS

Poster
Production Stills
Set Photos

