

NORTH

1

9

1&9



Logline:

Seen entirely through the perspective of his car, a rideshare driver tries to get his life back on track and avoid the temptations of the dangerous world he is a part of.

Synopsis:

A ride sharing driver, Vic, with a suspended license drives up and down one of New Jersey's grimmest thoroughways, Route 1&9, trying to save enough money to pay for his daughter's hospital bills. Problems occur when he picks-up an old friend from high school, and they become reacquainted with each other - but this old friend is a big time local drug dealer. After Vic saves his friend from being stabbed, he takes over his drug route, allowing him to make the money he needs to pay for his daughter's hospital, but also now creating more problems by his newly nefarious activities.

The logo for the TV show 'Vic', featuring the word 'Vic' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font inside a white rounded rectangle with a blue shadow.A close-up portrait of actor Riz Ahmed, looking slightly to the left with a serious expression. He has a dark beard and mustache.

Riz Ahmed

A scene from the show 'Vic' featuring actor Oscar Isaac. He is standing in a room with other people, looking upwards. He is wearing a grey and black striped sweater. There are balloons in the background.

Oscar Isaac

Vic is a 30-something racially ambiguous inner-city male from Elizabeth, NJ. He's on the never-ending grind every day. Failed rapper. Failed bitcoin investor. Failed hustler. But he never quits, even when his attempts at success ruin the relationships around him. He tries and tries and tries. He listens to motivational podcasts. Giving financial advice when he himself is terrible with his money. Vic has never had success because all he knows is how to climb out of failure. He looks at "normal" jobs as cages. He doesn't respect anyone who isn't putting it all on the line for the "bigger picture". Behind all of that, he loves his daughter and will do anything for her except go back to work for UPS.

Claudia

CEP

Ball

UITTON

U



Michelle Rodriguez

Claudia is Vic's ex-wife and baby mama. There is a part of her that still loves Vic, but his delusions of grandeur have rid her of any patience. She has to watch from the sidelines as Vic continuously keeps trying, no matter how pathetic. She still sees the same charm in him that made her fall in love with him in high school, though. Vic's cocksure attitude never developed beyond high school. Eventually, Claudia had to come to the painful decision that Vic was too toxic to raise a family with and divorced him. Within their interactions, you will see two people who have the banter of best friends, turn ugly within a moment's notice.



Focundo

Jharrel Jerome

Focundo is an old friend of Vic's from high school. Vic and Focundo used to get in all kinds of trouble together but live two very different lives now. Vic is an uber drive with plans to own real estate and generate passive income. Focundo kind of just fell into the family business—hustling, dealing drugs. A job that he doesn't really enjoy doing, and would much rather be drawing comic books, but he does make a significant living from it. Focundo will complain, kick, and scream about having to have shady drug dealer meetings or having to go intimidate someone because they owe him money. Deep down inside though, he would rather go watch the new Star Wars or Marvel movie and geek out.

Omar



Mo Amer

Omar is Vic's best friend and Claudia's brother. He's steady in Vic's life. He's a landlord of a small multi-family that he inherited from his family. He has the passive income that Vic so deeply desires, even though Omar isn't living that much better than Vic. Vic thinks he is. Omar loves Vic though but always feels in the crossfire between Vic and Claudia. Especially after their daughter was born. He's caught between Vic's best friend and enjoying his knucklehead schemes and the damage those schemes do to his sister and niece.

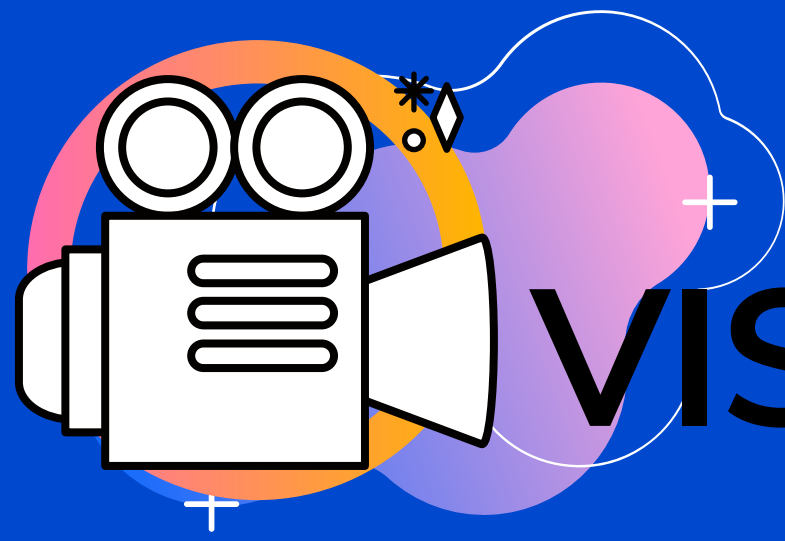
Director/Writer Statement

1&9 Story is very personal to me, not only because of the location of the movie, but because it is a portrait of so many “hustlers”, “entrepreneurs”, and “hard workers” I know in one of the poorest areas of NJ. From my observation, this same cup of delusion these “hustlers” have with their coffee every morning is no different than the artist’s jolt of delusional espresso before they begin any piece. Ambition can be the worst kind of downward spiral because it’s forged with the idea that it’s for our greater good. The social impact I’m looking for is to turn a mirror not only on myself but the blue-collar immigrants and children of immigrants on the 1&9 highway in NJ. What is this obsession with work ethic? Why do we think we will accomplish whatever goal set in front of us with the right amount of effort? Or are we mice in a capitalist machine receiving just the right amount of pellets to make us keep running until we die? As an inner-city male with a Portuguese/African heritage (common by the 1&9 in Elizabeth), sometimes I can’t tell if I’m an actual “hard worker” or am I simply being given the proper dosages of brain pellets of self-confidence by the society around. The social media tells us anyone can be an entrepreneur if you work hard enough. The American dream within a meme. Keep working. Keep driving. You’ll eventually be who you want to be. But maybe the truth is we aren’t hustlers, entrepreneurs, or “on our grind” - we’re poor. And that affects us beyond the infinite effort we are willing to give, and the world is willing to exploit that.



THEME & TONE

I want to see a movie with the same sensibilities as a Wes Anderson, Lena Dunham, or Woody Allen movie. Where they take the environment of the characters and intertwine them so they become one. Lena Dunham is Brooklyn. Wes Anderson's characters are ingrained in whatever world he creates. None of these worlds are ever the low income world of the 1&9 in Elizabeth, NJ. We want to bring the artistry of these movies to a real blue collar immigrant neighborhood.



VISUAL STYLE



FILM MAKER BIOS



Erick Freitas

Director/Writer

A Portuguese-Angolan writer from NY/NJ. When he isn't scouting locations for shows such as Marvel's Iron Fist, The Defenders, and Younger. He's writing comic books for titles such as Judge Dredd, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Godzilla and original titles such as Gamma and Amazing Forest. He has written and produced two short films. Erick boasts 14 years experience in various roles in production.



Bruno Barros

Producer

A Luso American Producer and Film Maker with a background in IT. Bruno's work experience counts with 5+ year in the film industry within a wide budget range. He's worked in Locations on big-budget film & TV like "A Quiet Place", "POSE", "Many Saints of Newark". An entrepreneur at heart, Bruno runs Red Eagle Cinema and produces his own films and projects.



Mike Gomes

Director of Photography

A Portuguese-American DP born & raised in NJ. His love for film making came at a very young age and has led to him shooting all over the world. Mike is a SXSW Alumni with projects such as "The Dwarvenaut" (SXSW 2016) and "Lapsis" (SXSW 2020). His work includes names like Sesame Street, Jeep, GQ, NBA, Citibank, and more. He brings a strong sense of energy & passion to his work with the goal of creating and capturing compelling images that inform, entertain and inspire.

FILM DETAILS

GENRE

Drama

RUNTIME/PAGES

80

WEBSITE

redeaglecinema.com/19

Distribution Roadmap

The distribution plan in steps and stages.

Step 1: Traditional Distribution

THE INITIAL PLAN WOULD BE TO PARTNER WITH A PROPER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE ON THE PROJECT UNDER FAVORABLE TERMS. SHOULD THAT OPTION FAIL WE WOULD MOVE TO A SELF-DISTRIBUTION MODEL.

Step 2: Self-Distribution (Theatrical)

FOCUSING AT FIRST IN THE TRI-STATE AREA, WHERE THE MAIN MARKET WOULD BE FOR OUR FILM, WE WOULD CONTACT ALL INDEPENDENT THEATERS OF ANY KIND AS WELL AS SOME CHAINS, TO GET THE FILM SCREENED; GEOGRAPHICALLY EXPANDING THE TERRITORY ACCORDING TO THE FILM'S PERFORMANCE.

Step 3: Self-Distribution (SVOD/TVOD)

AFTER THE THEATER RUN WE WOULD FOLLOW UP WITH AN ONLINE RENTING & SELLING METHOD USING AMAZON, APPLE ITUNES, YOUTUBE AND OTHER SIMILAR PLATFORMS THAT ALLOW FOR A PAID MODEL OF VIEWERSHIP.

Step 4: Self-Distribution (AVOD)

THE LAST AND FINAL METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTION WOULD BE A FREE ONLINE SCREENING METHOD THAT ALLOWS FOR A REVENUE SHARE OF AD DOLLARS AND SITE MEMBERSHIP FEES.

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