

ALL CITY'S A STAGE

A Grant Hao-Wei Lin Original Series

Project Pitch Deck. 10.06.21



ALL CITY'S A STAGE – SYNOPSIS

All City's a Stage is a story series starting with three performing artists from Queens— J, a contemporary dancer and choreographer, Yoyo, a violinist and dancer, and Freeda, an up and coming drag queen and fitness instructor. They have one thing in common — a dream to become big and recognized by their passion and talents in the metropolis. Each of them faces unique challenges as they navigate through the creative community, cross paths and encounter obstacles in their life and career. These are stories about the ups and downs of chasing dreams, the entangled community, artistic ambition and compromises, and about self love when the world is not on their side and about authenticity when the world calls for otherwise. As they work relentlessly towards their goals, they fight against obstacles involving visas, body image, uncertain financial situations, and relationship drama in hope to find an exit among all the chaos.



WHY?

The series is a mix of documentary, theatrical art as well as drama. We often see film series that portray lives of creatives in a linear format, yet a performer's essence and story are multidimensional, existing in both the physical craft itself and the metaphysical space they occupy. All City's a Stage weaves in the formal, the mental, and the physical into the fabric of reality. It explores the sweet, the sour, the disturbing, the electrifying moments that we, as artists and performers, can all relate to and embody at any given point of our journey.

This series will include the director's perspective intermittently as a way to provide an opportunity for the audience to think about their own.

EPISODE I - PROTAGONISTS I - J - 10-15 min long

Dancer/ Choreographer / Instructor

The episode starts out with a montage of J's performance with dramatic music and a bold graphic intro screen, followed by the director accompanying her to her teaching lessons in PA, where the story of her daily life unfolds physically and emotionally. In between different parts of her life is a poetic narrative of J written by herself, talking about her hopes and ambitions as an performing artist, a teacher, and a human being. The short film will end with a vision she has for the world, an opportunity for the audience to reflect on their own.



EPISODE II - PROTAGONISTS II - YOYO - 10-15 min long

Violinist / Dancer / Instructor

The episodes starts out with Yoyo, a violinist and dancer, in a crowded gay bar in manhattan, seemingly endless partying, drinking and socializing, all of which slowly becoming a blur. With a blink of an eye, the world turns back into reality and yoyo is getting ready for his day at the park as a street performer. By going through a day with Yoyo performing at the park, the director gets a deeper understanding of who Yoyo is, a facet of him that is often overlooked in the gay scene in NYC. The episode ends with an autobiographical narrative of Yoyo's private thoughts and reflections, a voice that has finally came out of all the facades he has put on.



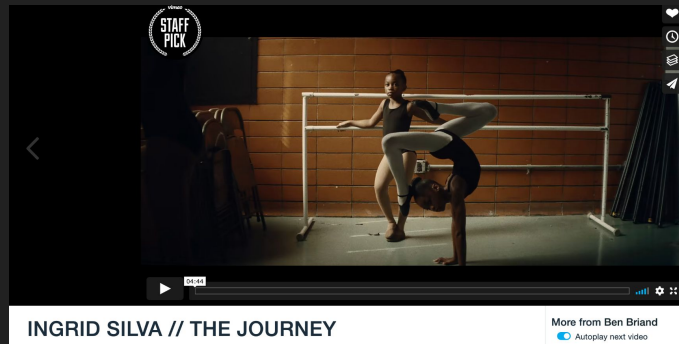
EPISODE III - PROTAGONISTS III - FREEDA KULO - 10-15 min long

Drag Queen / Fitness Instructor

The episode starts with the story of Louis (boy form) abusive relationship with her ex-husband, spoken in Louis' own voice. The scene transports immediately after to Freeda (drag form) performing in front of a full house of people and a narration of how she started out and what drag means to her. This episodes take the audience through the journey of a complex formation of how Freeda became the person she is today and how important of a role she plays in the new york gay club scene.



REFERENCE & INSPIRATIONS



TONE

Subtle contrast between warm & approachable subjects and colder toned environment, creating room for thoughts, questions, doubts, and emotions



You know, be this light and this energy,



BUDGET

Performers Budget: 4000 USD

Travel Expenses: 400 USD

Equipment: 2000 USD

Pre Production/ Planning: 1000 USD

Production: 3000 USD

Post Production: 3000 USD

Total Estimate: 14000 USD

PRODUCTION TIMELINE

OCT - Finish most of the filming/ Music Choices / Learning Davinci

- J (09/27-10/15) / Finish Beat Sheet for J
- Yoyo (10/18-10/31) / Finish Beat Sheet for Yoyo
- Freeda (11/1-11/15) / Finish Beat Sheet for Freeda / Pre-Viz

NOV - Editing

- J (10/18-10/31)
- Yoyo (11/1-11/25)
- Freeda (11/29-12/10)

DEC - Finalizing and distribution

- 12/1-12/15 Teasers and then final edit/color grade/sound mix release

DISTRIBUTION

1 Season 3 Episodes - Each season will be different city

Main Channel

Vimeo, Youtube, Facebook – 16:9

10-15 min per episode

Marketing/ Trailers

Instagram – 1:1, 9:16, 4:5 (30 seconds, 60 seconds, 1 minute 30 seconds)

Facebook – 1:1 (1 minute)

TikTok – 9:16 (60 seconds)

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR



Grant is a Videographer/Photographer based in Brooklyn, NYC. Having worked with Gotham Dance Theater, Dryer Marinaro Dance Studio, Crunch Fitness and several drag queens in NYC, Grant has a specialized skills in capturing movement, storytelling and editing that connect otherwise disjointed movements of different time and place.

WORK SAMPLES



“Nostalgia” Dance for Gotham Dance Theater 2021:
<https://www.instagram.com/tv/CRwoXcMDR8r/?hl=en>



Short Music Video “Big Love” 2020:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gn3NFI3Ylg8&ab_channel=GrantHao-WeiLin



The Dance Between Us 2020:
<https://www.instagram.com/tv/CHVYNpmDBxb/>

THANK YOU

See Appendices for supporting material

THANK YOU



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APPENDIX I: INITIAL QUESTIONS FOR THE PROTAGONISTS

- **Situational**

- How would you introduce yourself on stage for a professional screening
- In contrast, how would you introduce yourself to someone who is going to be a close friend of yours?

- **General**

- What are three personality traits that best describe your work ethics
- What are three personality traits that best describe you as a friend
- A Spotify playlist that represents you

APPENDIX II: CONTENT-BASED QUESTIONS

- Who/what inspires your art?
- Walk me through your creative process.
- As I follow the performers through their day
 - What happened?
 - What are you thinking? Feeling?
 - Tell me about _____

APPENDIX III: CLOSING QUESTIONS FOR THE PROTAGONISTS

- What is a perfect world for you?
- What are some advices you would give to your younger self?
- What have you learn about yourself through this process?
 - If not, what do you know about yourself?
- How would you introduce yourself the same/differently to a theater of audience
- Where do you see yourself in 5 years
 - Where do you want to be in 5 years