



# EPHEMERA

A FILM BY CHELSES VENKADATHU



/ ə'fem(ə)rə / -

Things that are used and  
enjoyed for only a short time.

## Log Line

Married couple, Maya and Jim, take on a new and controversial form of couples therapy to stay together for the sake of their five-year-old daughter.

## Synopsis

Maya and Jim have been married for ten years. They also have a five-year-old daughter, Ruby, who bonds the family despite the mundanity of their marriage. But a new lifestyle, that pushes the boundaries of conventional thinking, might be the unexpected resolution to keep this family bound.

MINITA GANDHI

MICHAEL SILAS

SAL VELEZ JR.



# EPHEMERA

A PAGE 7 PRODUCTIONS PRESENTATION  
A FILM BY CHELSES VENKADATHU "EPHEMERA" MINITA GANDHI MICHAEL SILAS SAL VELEZ JR.  
PRODUCED BY GRISHMA SHAH GUSTAVO MARTIN EXECUTIVE PRODUCER MARY PIUS KHYATI DESAI  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MIKE MALIWANAG PRODUCTION DESIGNER GEORGE SOTO MUSIC BY DANIEL ROBBINS SUNNY DESAI  
EDITED BY RONY ROY WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY CHELSES VENKADATHU

 @page7pro

 @page7productions

[ephemerafilm.com](http://ephemerafilm.com)





# Production

Ephemera took over 7 years to produce from inception to completion. It is the brainchild of writer and director Chelses Venkadathu, who has been chipping away on this project since 2012. In the meantime he also got married, had 2 kids, and maintained a regular job. Just so we're clear on why it took him 7 years. It was shot in the Chicagoland area over the course of 6 days with a production cost of \$50,000. Needless to say, we have taken our time to carefully craft this piece of cinema.

Title	Ephemera
Completion	April 2019
Duration	21 minutes
Country of Origin	USA (Chicago, IL)
Genre	Adult Drama
Camera	Arri Alexa Mini
Finish Format	2K DCP
Aspect Ratio	2.39:1 scope
Language	English

Writer & Director	Chelses Venkadathu
Producers	Grishma Shah, Gustavo Martin
Executive Producers	Mary Pius, Khyati Desai
Editor	Rony Roy, Chelses Venkadathu
Original Score	Daniel Robbins, Sunny Desai
Post Production & Sound Design	Periscope Post & Audio
Starring	Minita Gandhi, Michael Silas, Gabby Mancuso, and Sal Velez Jr.

## Writer/Director

**Chelses Venkadathu** is an Emmy® nominated (midwest chapter) editor making his debut as a writer/director in this short film 'Ephemera'. He also edited the Director's Cut of 'CASH' starring Chris Hemsworth and Sean Bean. Chelses started his career as a 3D animator for clients such as United Airlines and Labatt Beer Company. Afterward, he produced community based TV shows and eventually worked his way into film.

Chelses Venkadathu was born in a small town along the southwest coast state of Kerala in India. He moved and lived with his family in north and west India as well. He also lived in Bahrain for two years until finally settling down in Chicago at the age of seven. His father was an engineer and mother was a nurse. Chelses received his AA in Electronic Design and B.A. in Computer Animation & Media Arts. Although his true intentions were to pursue a career in video games, that slowly transitioned into a love for filmmaking.



## Producer

**Grishma Shah** is a Mass-Media Consultant that works with production companies, filmmakers, actors, curators & film festivals. In 2014 she ventured into event management, as Co-Founder & Co-Director of ReelAbilities Film Festival (RAFF) Chicago. Focusing on storytelling in the field of community psychology, she is currently completing her doctoral degree and training as an Entertainment Psychologist.

# Director of Photography

**Mike Maliwanag** is a Filipino American cinematographer based in Los Angeles. He has cut his teeth working in the lighting department on motion picture films and now works full time shooting branded content and narrative films. His work has been featured at the Sundance Film Festival, Los Angeles Film Festival, Outfest, and other festivals across the world. He strives to shoot films for marginalized voices of underrepresented communities. When not shooting he likes to travel and eat food from different parts of the world. He is currently obsessed with okonomiyaki from Hiroshima, Japan.



## Producer



**Gustavo Martin** is a Chicago based director, producer and all-around media maker. His short films have screened at film festivals around the world. This past spring, his short film, Hypothetical, was selected as an official premiere on the extremely popular short film platform Film Shortage. His short film, Dirty Laundry, was awarded Best Short Film at the Laugh or Die Comedy Film Festival in Chicago and was screened at Chicago's own Movies in the Park as part of a local filmmakers showcase.

When not working on personal films, Gustavo contributes his talents to the ever-growing Chicago film industry as a Location Scout on feature films, television, and commercials. His most recent credits include Chicago MED, Proven Innocent, The CHI, and the upcoming Batwoman TV series on The CW Network.

1st AD  
**Ben Bloom**

2nd AD  
**Katharin Mraz**

Production Coordinator  
**Alex Diamond**

Co-Producers  
**Tom Simon**  
**Jeff Vaduk**  
**Tatiana Matos**  
**Margarito Santiago**

**Minita Gandhi** is an actress/playwright/writer who was born in Mumbai, India. Raised in the Bay Area, she is proud to call Chicago her artistic home for over 8 years. MUTHALAND is her first full length play. It was workshopped at Silk Road Rising for their Solo Festival, selected for the Ignition Festival of new plays at Victory Gardens Theater, and invited to the Raven Theater for a special performance sponsored by the Indo-American Heritage Museum. Some of her regional theatre credits include Lookingglass Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Arena Stage and Milwaukee Repertory Theatre.



Minita can be seen in the recurring role of Dr. Prospere on NBC's Chicago Fire, and has appeared on Fox's hit show Empire, NBC's Crisis, ABC's Betrayal, Fox's The Chicago Code, and was The Onion News Network's anchor, Nina Shankar. She is a Master Instructor for Pinnacle Performance

Company. She is a storyteller and lover of life.



**Michael "Mikey" Silas** is an actor/singer/songwriter. A longtime Chicago resident and graduate of Columbia

College's Theatre/Music department, he has graciously worked continuously on stage as an actor and/or musician/singer. Previous film credits include the live-action B-SIDE STUDIO (Marvin), SCROOGE AND MARLEY (dancer) and a party monster performance in the glam rock Bobby Conn Band's KING FOR DAY directed by Usama Alshaibi.

Now making his home base in Cleveland, OH, Mikey performs as lead singer/songwriter for the Rock/Soul band APOSTLE JONES.

**Sal Velez Jr.** is one of Hollywood's most versatile actors, who can currently be seen in the Netflix Original Series, "BLACK SUMMER", released in over 90 countries worldwide and currently sits among top five shows to watch. In the role of William alongside Jaime King.

Sal is currently wrapping up on Warner Brothers feature film Torrance in the role of Miguel alongside Ben Affleck and director Gavin O'Connor.

Sal continues to carry the weight of many demanding roles in major productions such as Kurt Sutter's "Mayans MC" on FX in role of Big Benny, ABC's drama "Ten Days in the Valley" in the role of Leonardo alongside Kyra Sedgewick, Amazon Studios' "Hand of God" in the role of Mike Alacala opposite Ron Perlman, NBC's "Chicago Justice" as Adrian Carrera, Oliver Stone's film Savages as El Negro alongside Benicio Del Toro and on Starz Network "Boss" directed by Gus Van Sant and Executive Producer Kelsey Grammer.

Velez is also known for his role in Oliver Stone's film "Savages" as El Negro and as comedic lead character Eric, in the series "Gente-fied", which premiered at Sundance in 2017.



## Cast

[www.ephemerafilm.com](http://www.ephemerafilm.com)



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