



2AM

SHORT FILM | LOOKBOOK

By Soweto Bosia for NATIVE INVASION



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THE STORY



LOG LINE

BRANDON, AN IMPOVERISHED BUT GIFTED TEEN FALLS INTO A LIFE OF CRIME. THE CITY THAT PRODUCED HIM MAY DESTROY HIM AFTER ONE ROBBERY TOO MANY.

SYNOPSIS

Brandon, a gifted student wants to become a music producer, living in poverty and being mocked motivates him to a life of crime. He discovers a gun hidden in the stairwell so he and his friend Eric go out and rob someone. After the rush of that night, Brandon continues, he's successful many times over until one fateful night he unknowingly tries to rob an undercover cop. Now he must do anything he can to escape the law or become another black teen in the system or the grave.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I moved to Chicago five years ago, at the time my wife worked for a literary arts non-profit that facilitated book groups in at-risk high schools in Chicago. Once she let me read some of her students' poetry, and I was surprised by how many of them were just worried about surviving. It's hard enough for teens going through puberty in general - but these kids are suffering from post-traumatic stress while trying to get through high school. It's not all bad in these communities, there's a lot of love there too. There are many programs on the south side designed to help the youth. People that have lived here their whole life are doing their part to help the community, from outreach programs to radio stations supporting the 'Put the Guns Down' movement. As a filmmaker, I feel it's my responsibility to tell this story with care and without judgment for our culture.

Brandon doesn't have parental guidance so it makes it easy for him to fall prey to a life of crime. This film will take you through the life of a teen that's faced with life-threatening violence while being marginalized in his community. Brandon lives with his heroin addicted uncle. This forces Brandon to fend for himself and even though he's clearly a gifted child, he will become one of the teens that fall through the cracks of society.



THEME & TONE

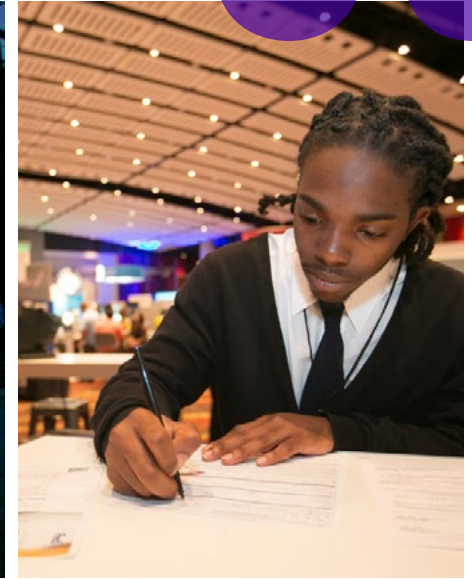
05

Youth will find a way out of poverty even if it doesn't jibe with society's views of right and wrong.

The tone of the film is dark with some levity. The area the protagonist grows up in is poor. He's kind of like Chiron in *Moonlight*. He's poor and gets mocked by other teens. He lives on the South Side of Chicago, Inglewood there's a lot of gang violence and check cashing stores that keep this impoverished area down. In a capitalistic society no money means you don't matter. This is truly the tale of two cities, while Brandon lives in a poor neighborhood we also explore the affluent neighborhoods in Chicago.

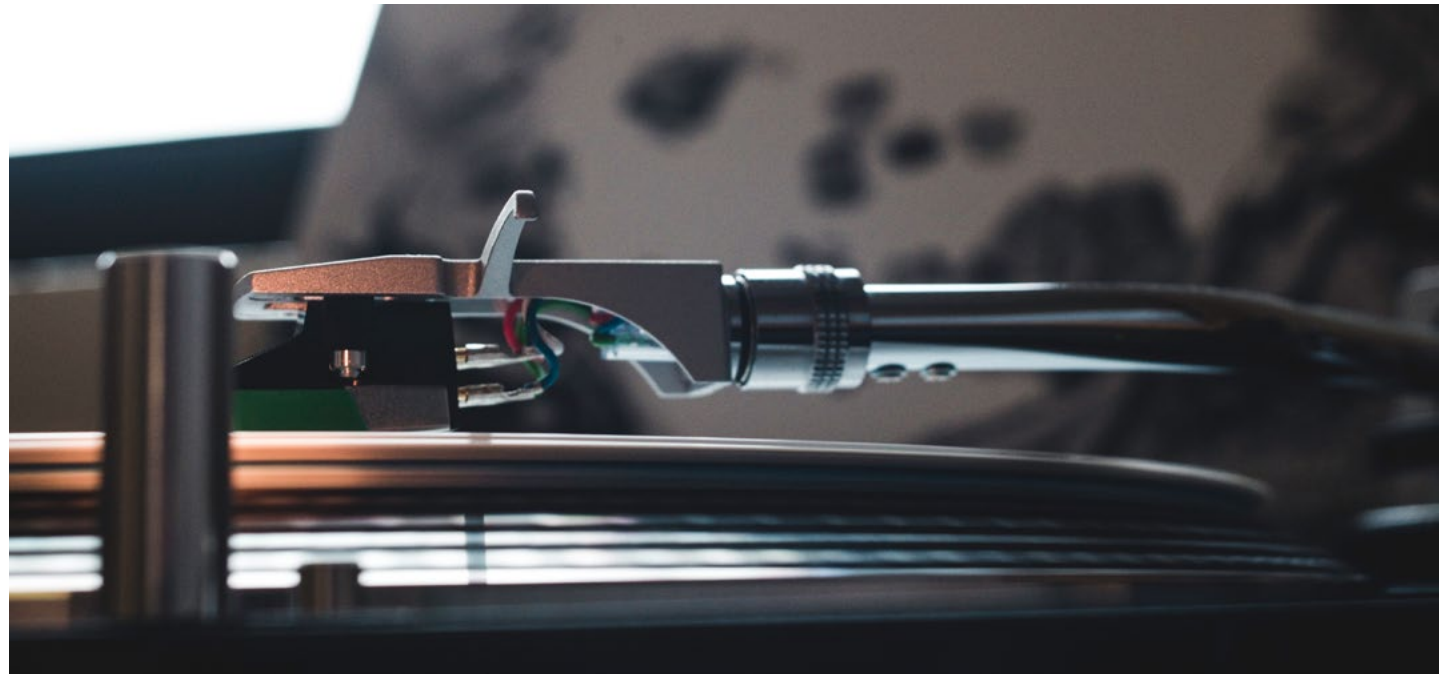
CHARACTER

06



Brandon a 17 year-old gifted student but wears his emotions on his sleeve, he lives with his uncle who's addicted to heroin. He is quick-tempered and feels the world is against him.

He's a hip-hop music history nerd and wants to become a music producer, that's education is his way out of poverty but fast money becomes seductive for him to pass up.



BRANDON
(Act 1)



gettyimages
SW Productions

BRANDON
(Act 2 & 3)



CHARACTERS

ERIC

Bradon's best friend.



NATE

Drug dealing gang member.



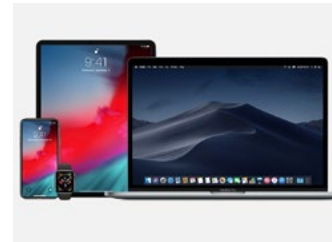
SIMONE

The poetic girl Brandon likes.



LANCE

The young exec.



EDDIE

Undercover detective.



CHICAGO

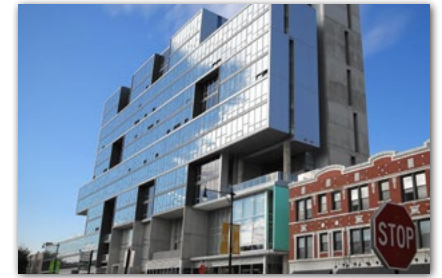
This film will be shot in South Chicago, Hyde Park and Lincoln Park. The reason is to show the stark difference in the rich and poor neighborhoods in Chicago. The areas play a huge roll in the film, it's important for people to know what kind of environment Brandon is in so they know what motivates him.

09

SOUTH CHICAGO



HYDE PARK



LINCOLN PARK



VISUAL

10

Visually 2 AM will blend 80s hip-hop and noir. This will give the film a unique feel. All of the characters will have a combination of 80s hip-hop and a contemporary look.



The Good, the Bad and the Ugly 1966 (Dir: Sergio Leone)

The film will make use of the 2:35:1 aspect ratio to show the environment Brandon must traverse.



Wild Style 1982 (Dir: Charlie Ahearn)

Wild Style is the very first hip-hop feature film.



Taxi Driver 1976 (Dir: Martin Scorsese)

The grittiness of Taxi Driver.



PRODUCTION FORMAT

4K | 4:2:2

CAMERA

Sony A7s

EDITING SYSTEM

Avid

AUDIO

Avid Pro Tools

VISUAL



The Good, the Bad and the Ugly 1966 (Dir: Sergio Leone)



DOPE 2015 (Dir: Rick Famuyiwa)

VISUAL

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Following 1998 (Dir: Christopher Nolan)



Hot Fuzz 2007 (Dir: Edgar Wright)



Native Son 2019 (Dir: Rashid Johnson)

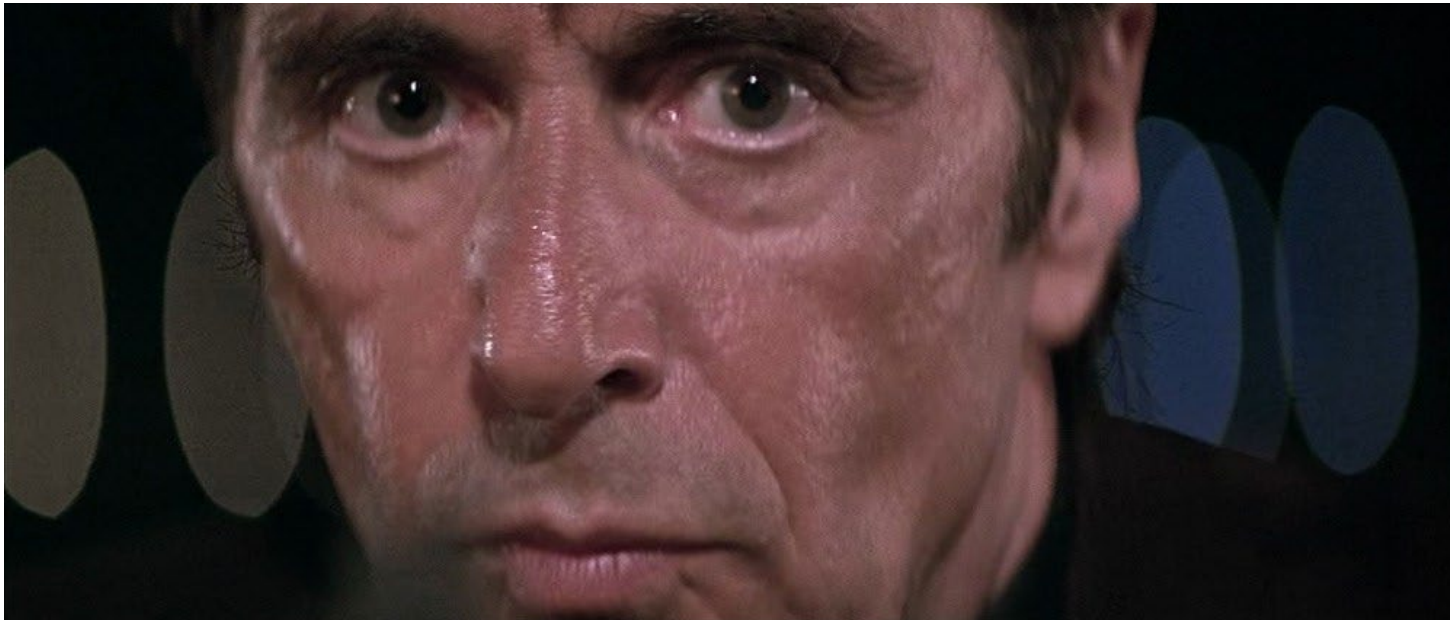
VISUAL

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COLOR PALETTE



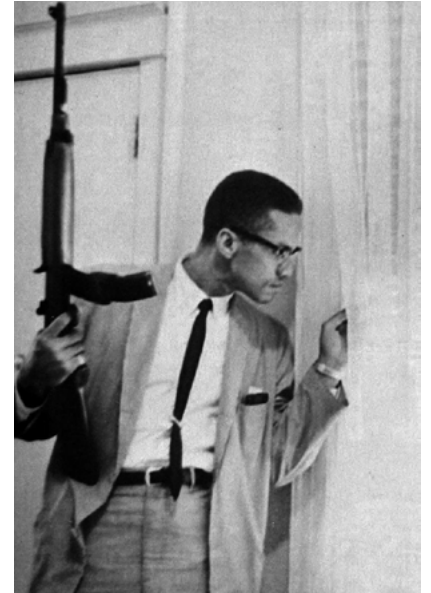
This color palette is based off of 80s clothing, surrounded by black which represents the night.



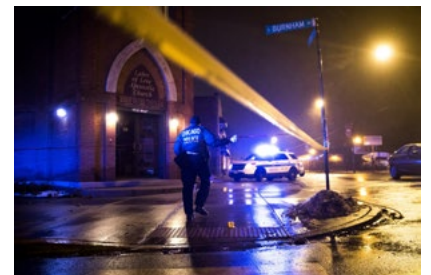
Heat 1995 (Dir: Michael Mann)

Tight close up shots.

Lenses: 24mm, 35mm, 85mm



This iconic photo of Malcolm X will be incorporated in this film creatively.



A majority of the film will be shot at night.

MUSIC

The digetic music in the film will be a mix of various hip-hop from Chicago drill, weirdo rap, to gangsta rap. These forms of music inform the viewer on the ride I plan to take them on. The

non-digetic music will be sparse and powerful, I want the music to heighten the intensity of the robberies. Also the natural sounds of the city are also important.



BRANDON'S MIXTAPE

SONG

Paid in Full
Miuzi Weighs a Ton
A Children's Story
The Message
Fuck the Police
That's the Joint

ARTIST

Eric B. and Rakim
 Public Enemy
 Slick Rick
 Grandmaster Flash
 NWA
 Funky Four Plus One



ERIC'S MIXTAPE

SONG

I Got It Made
Rollin with Kid N Play
Freaks Come Out at Night
Planet Rock
La Di Da Di
Me So Horny

ARTIST

Special Ed
 Kid N' Play
 Whoodini
 Africa Bambaata
 Doug E. Fresh and Slick Rick
 2 Live Crew



NATE'S MIXTAPE

SONG

6 N The Morning
Top Billin'
I'm Bad
Boyz-n-the-Hood
 PSK, What Does It Mean?
 Follow the Leader

ARTIST

Ice T.
 Audio Two
 LL Cool J
 Easy E.
 Schoolly D
 Eric B. & Rakim



SIMONE'S MIXTAPE

SONG

Paper Thin
Roxanne Roxanne
Self Destruction
Ladies First
Express Yourself
It Takes Two

ARTIST

MC Lyte
 UTFO
 Various Artists
 Queen Latifah feat. Monie Love
 NWA
 Rob Base & DJ EZ Rock



LANCE'S MIXTAPE

SONG

Fight for Your Right
Vapors
Wild Thang
Bust a Move
Paul Revere
The Breaks

ARTIST

Beastie Boys
 Biz Markie
 Tone Loc
 Young MC
 Beastie Boys
 Kurtis Blow



EDDIE'S MIXTAPE

SONG

My Philosophy
You Gots to Chill
Smooth Operator
Hey Young World
Sucker MCs
Colors

ARTIST

Boogie Down Productions
 EPMD
 Big Daddy Kane
 Slick Rick
 Run DMC
 Ice T.

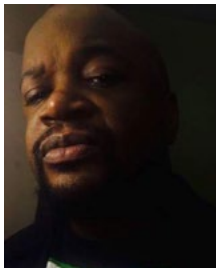
TEAM



PRODUCER/ WRITER/DIRECTOR SOWETO BOSIA

Director, Soweto Bosia is a visionary that has written and directed three

short films and countless sketch comedies. Since moving to Chicago he's been working on multiple video projects for Sears, Kmart, PBS, and non-profits. His background in graphic design aids in his filmmaking craft.



PRODUCER TODD "STEREO" WILLIAMS

Todd "Stereo" Williams has 20 years of experience as a hip-hop

journalist, writing for The Daily Beast, The Boombox, Billboard and rollingout.com. He brings his vast knowledge of hip-hop history to the team.



PRODUCER LAURA AVEY

Laura Avey is a Chicago native with over 15 years in the entertainment

industry. She moved to LA when she was 18 and spent 8 years as an actress - best known for I Didn't Know I Was Pregnant, Raising Hope (recurring) and Love or War. After spending more than the first half of her life in front of the camera, she decided to hang up the Actress hat, move back to Chicago and switch roles to Producer. Simultaneously, she has taken on a part-time job as a Project Manager at a renowned Creative Agency. Laura has been freelancing as a Film Producer for 2 years and has had the opportunity to work with outstanding teams of people and familiar talents such as Glyn Milburn (NFL Bears) and A.C. Green (Lakers).



CASTING DIRECTOR KAT BLADE

Kat Blade is thrilled to be working with 2 A.M. She has been featured in many

Chicago independent films. Credits include: No Soliciting (30before30productions), Wishing (Shooter Productions), Alleyway (Fire Escape Films), and Headlines (D.A.S.H.Entertainment). In 2013, Kat received the Best Actress award

for The Created (D.A.S.H.Entertainment) at the Life Fest Film Festival in Hollywood, CA. She is a member of the Newton and Einstein Ensemble at Theatre Momentum. Kat served as casting director for the indie film Division and local commercials.



DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY NATALIE REINHOLTZ

Natalie Reinholtz is

a Chicago based cinematographer. She graduated from Columbia College Chicago with BA in Cinema Arts and Science in 2017. Since then, Natalie has been actively working in the film industry in Chicago, shooting everything from music videos to narrative pieces. She finds inspiration in art of all forms and often turns to photography or music when in need of a creative boost.

Natalie looks up to other women in film such as Reed Morano, Rachel Morrison, and Ellen Kuras. When she's not on set, you can find Natalie trying to teach her two cats how to be dogs.

BUDGET & DISTRIBUTION

16



BUDGET \$15,000

This is a SAG-AFTRA short film, the budget is based on cost of the renting equipment, labor and catering.

Budget Breakdown

Production Expense	\$8,000
Casting	\$2,000
Legal	\$3,000
Post-Production	\$2,000

FILM FESTIVALS

This film will be entered into multiple film festival for exposure. Here are some we plan to enter.

Sundance

Canne

Clermont-Ferrand International
Short Film Festival

Palm Springs International Short Fest

TELEVISION/STREAMING

After our festival run we will distribute through streaming services and television.

Open Television (Streaming Chicago

ShortoftheWeek.com

Short Film International

ShowMeShorts.co.nz

CONTACT

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Download the script and digital version of this book at:
www.nativeinvasion.com/2am

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