

*The
part
we
keep*

A FILM BY
OWEN ROYCE

Press Kit

"THE PART WE KEEP" WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY OWEN ROYCE PRODUCED BY REYNA RIOS EDITOR THOMAS VANDENDORP
ROD KASAI REYNA RIOS MICHELLE PERDUE EVELYN DAHL-ODIMA HENRY HAYES
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PANG KUE MAKEUP ARTIST GRETE BERGLAND PRODUCTION DESIGNER MADDY GILBERTSON COSTUME DESIGNER MASON TYER
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY SETH PIOSKE BENJAMIN ROEMBACH-CLARK EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS PENN PAULETCH



The Part We Keep

AT A GLANCE

Narrative Short Film

Drama

Duration: 8 min

Finished: March 2023

Directed by Owen Royce

Produced by Reyna Rios-Starr

TAGS: Family, Grief, Surrealism, BIPOC

TECHNICAL INFO

Running Time: 08:10

Exhibition Format: 3840x2160 PRORES

RAW 16:9

Audio Format: 24-Bit/48kHz stereo

Aspect Ratio: 1.85:1

Shooting Format: Digital, 4k

Color, English

Contact Info

Reyna Rios-Starr - Producer

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Owen Royce - Writer and Director

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(*do not publish phone # publicly)

Synopsis

LOG LINE

A father is faced with the death of his daughter and the difficult choice he must make.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

In a hospital waiting room, Victor and his wife find themselves desperate to hear news of their daughter's health condition. In a turn of events, the tragic news of their daughter's death sends Victor down a spiral of emotions, he confront parts of his past and the hidden gift he was born with. Once unlocking this gift, Victor makes the selfless decision to give up his life and in return bring his daughter back to life.

LONG SYNOPSIS

In a hospital waiting room, Victor and his wife, Alex find themselves desperate to hear news of their daughter's health condition. Then an instant, the tragic news of their daughter's death changes the course of their lives, forever. A moment that sends Victor down a spiral of emotions, unlocking panic, grief, rage and a hidden gift.

He rushes towards his daughter's room and barricades himself in with her. Victor closes his eyes, the lights begin to dim in and out quickly and then we see---

A young Victor and a graceful woman named Victoria grieve the loss of his first pet, an adoring grey kitten. He learns a valuable lesson about life and learns to use the hidden gift he has.

Victor, opens his eyes and sees his now beautiful daughter, Elizabeth smiling back at him. They share one final moment together and then---

A young Victor uses this gift and attempt to revive his kitten, but not before suffering the consequences, that almost takes his life away. Victoria in her effort to protect him from future harm, warns him to not use his gift this way. "It's a gift that you cannot give" and makes him promise to never use his gift again.

The sound of a heart defibrillator goes off. Victor lies lifeless on a gurney next to his daughter, who has been brought back to life.



Director's Statement



Owen Royce

Writer & Director

The Part we Keep came about from worrying about my son getting sick during the height of the Pandemic. The possibility of having no control over him getting sick worried me. I then thought of the idea of a parent wanting to bring their child back so badly they would give their own life. This developed into a story of a man that has this ability. Long forgotten and forbidden to be used. Told in a nonlinear story that intertwines the lead character, Victor's current moment trying to save his daughter with his memory of when he was a child and tried to resurrect his kitten after it died.

I wanted to use this structure of two stories to tell one story. I like the use of unmooring chronological time to tell the story with the important information to the story regardless of it's place in time. I feel that is how our conscious experience works. We live both in the present moment and the past simultaneously. Past experiences constantly informing our current actions.

The Part We Keep is the idea that we never lose the love we experience even when the person we love is gone. The memory of them will always be with you. If you remember them, they are here with you.

Key Team Biographies



Owen Royce, Writer & Director

Owen is an independent filmmaker in the local Twin Cities (Minnesota) market for over a decade. He has several awards under his belt that include best director and best writer. Some of his most recent films include, *Away We Go*, *The Moment You Wake*, *Half Smile*, *The Wolf, You're in Trouble* and many more. His goal is to direct and write more engaging stories that explore reality, dreams and the profound experience that is the human consciousness, whether it be through genre films, sci-fi, horror, comedy or films that ground themselves in day-to-day existence we experience. No matter the challenge of the film, his goal is to bring complexity to characters.



Reyna Rios-Starr, Producer & Actor

Reyna is a multi-hyphenate artist based in Minnesota. She's been an actor in the community for over 10 years and has been producing short films since 2021. She is eager to continue making a difference in her filmmaking community and beyond by sharing unique and interesting stories.



Thomas VandenDolder, Director of Photography

Thomas graduated from Augsburg College in 2015 with a B.A in film. Since then he has worked on over a dozen feature films as well as hundreds of commercials, music videos and shorts. His goal is to learn and grow to be a better cinematographer.



Seth Pioske

Seth is a sound mixer, composer and Sound Designer. He spent most of his life working with unique and neuro-divergent individuals and eventually began following his passion for creating music. He has composed music for short films and commercial spots, captured location sound for feature films, shorts, and commercials, engineered for several live bands, and is involved in all aspects of post production for film and television.



Benjamin Roembach-Clark



Penn Pauletich, Editor

Penn (he/him) is an award winning producer/director from Minnesota. He is most known for his work on the producing team of the Paramount Picture film "The Infernal Machine." Recently he has explored the part of editing in hopes to add his skill to his arsenal.

Key Cast Biographies



Rod Kasai, Actor/Victor

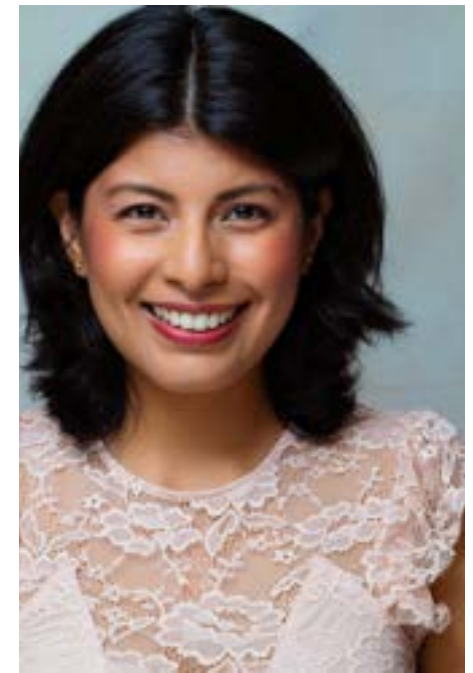
Rod is a remarkably versatile actor who has starred in a number of critically acclaimed films, and has won numerous acting awards in both leading and supporting roles. Portraying everything from a bumbling Prince, to an action hero, to a gritty Sergeant in the US Army. He has gained recognition for his portrayal of an Iraq war veteran struggling with PTSD and also may be the only actor ever to be nominated for best actor in his portrayal of a Zombie, as he did in the darling and film fest circuit favorite, Frost Bite. From multiple national commercials, to powerful award winning performances in drama, action and comedy. Rod has a screen presences that resonates and endures with audiences.



Michelle Perdue, Actor/Victoria

Michelle Perdue is an award-winning actress with over 20-years of acting experience. As a graduate of the Ruskin School of Acting and a member of the Screen Actors Guild, Michelle learned early in her acting career the importance of performing authentically in imaginary circumstances.

Whether Michelle is being nominated for Best Actress or Supporting Actress in films such as, “The Part We Keep” or “Don’t Wait” or for creating her own stage plays such as, “Elma Gene’s Journey to Freedom” and “The Housekeeper’s Dirt,” which she was awarded a Minnesota State Arts Grant, she has proven that with hard work and a commitment to her passion, anything is possible.



Reyna Rios, Actor/Alex

Reyna Rios is an actor with over 40+ short film credits and has been Producing short films since 2021. Some of her most recent film credits include; THE PART WE KEEP, Dir by Owen Royce, AVE MARIA, a self directed Micro Episodic pilot, DEARLY DEPARTED, Dir. By Carlos Omar De Leon and several others.

When she is not acting, she can be found; Producing short films, Writing short films and feature films that place Latina/o/x/e as Leads and Supporting characters, Providing mentorship for new beginner actors, Taking headshots for the artist community, Founding a volunteer run organization that provides opportunities to the MN Film & TV Community and Serving as a 2023 board member of the MN Women In Film & TV (MNWIFT).

Introducing



**Henry Hayes,
Actor/Young
Victor**



**Evelyn
Dahl-Odima,
Actor/Elizabeth**

