



DIRECTOR

RHYS

WRITER

BIO

As a Native American of the Choctaw Nation, writer-director Wynter Rhys is a warrior in the battle of both diverse experiences and faces in film.

Wynter was eight years old when a camera was put into her hands and she was told, “the camera can see things the naked eye never could.”

Even as a little girl, Wynter quickly realized she was never truly satisfied with photographs because the pictures weren't moving. When Wynter looked at the portraits she had taken, all she wanted to do was press “play.”

A few years later, she did exactly that.

At 12 years old, Wynter wrote and directed her debut short film at Reel Grrls camp that would go on to premiere at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation due to its stunning and uncanny imagery. The point of no return was when Wynter realized her work had the power to silence an audience. Distracted people would suddenly stand to attention; the crowd would lean forward in their seats, and a unanimous hush would ripple through the room.

Wynter went on to write and direct her short film “Little Red” at fourteen years old as if to answer the question, “what if the big bad wolf was really just a person?” Wynter believes that genuine thrillers are rooted in the terrifying things humans do and have done to each other.

This film went on to screen and win awards at 45 festivals internationally, including National YoungArts, Newport Beach Film Festival Youth Film Showcase, Nashville Film Festival, Chicago International Film Festival’s CineYouth, National Film Festival for Talented Youth (NFFTY), Sidewalk Film Festival, All American High School Film Festival, BFI Future Film Festival, and countless other festivals across the world.





BIO

Quickly garnering attention for her distinct and unforgettable work, Wynter created several more short films, showcasing her strong directorial abilities and winning awards at Chicago International Film Festival, NFFTY, National YoungArts Foundation, Nashville Film Festival, FilmQuest, George Lindsey UNA Film Festival, and countless more.

Because of Wynter's superior artistic achievements, she was awarded the coveted Frances Larkin McCommon full-tuition scholarship to Savannah College of Art and Design. Wynter was also selected for a full scholarship, as one of twenty international filmmakers, to showcase her work while attending TheNextFilmFestival Master Class Symposium in Denmark. She was then invited to screen at Best of Fest during the 53rd Chicago International Film Festival and has received honorable invitations to speak at organizations from Microsoft, SIFF, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, NFFTY, KEXP and more.

Evoking tear-jerking performances from non-actors, impeccable set design, and stunning production quality despite lack of budget, Wynter continued to prove herself with a distinct visual style that persevered across many different crews and concepts. Resources only mean her already profound formula will have room to blossom like never before - making the transition from short films to a feature film a natural one.

Shortly after receiving these scholarships, Wynter wrote her feature film "Subject Eleven," which was selected for the second round of consideration for the 2019 Sundance's Development Track. Wynter is currently in pre-production of her debut feature film, midway through writing her second feature film and honored to be living in Savannah Georgia where she is continuing the pursuit of her BFA at SCAD.

DIRECTOR'S
FEEL



[EXPERIENCE IT HERE](#)

BEHIND THE SCENES



SELECTED FILMS

2015: LITTLE RED

Created when Wynter was 15, Little Red is a dark, controversial and abstract take on the classic Charles Perrault fairy tale. Wynter wrote, produced, directed, edited, created shot list, sound design, production design and was one of the cinematographers for this piece.

2015: THE FAWN RESPONSE

The Fawn Response is a short film about two serial killers who meet over coffee when they realize they've targeted the same victim by mistake. Wynter wrote, co-produced, directed, edited, created the shot list, sound design, production design and color grade for this piece.

2016/2017/2018: JOUSKA

Wynter wrote, co-produced, directed, edited, created shot list, sound design, production design and color grade for this piece within 48 hours, after having received the required genre, line of dialogue, character, and prop.

2018: EUPHORIA

Wynter wrote, co-produced, directed, edited, created shot list, sound design, production design and color grade for this music video. Euphoria is about an artist who is kidnapped by his fan base and dragged to face off with his 6-year-old daughter to confront the dark side of fame.



SCREENINGS

Accolade Global Film Competition, La Jolla, CA/All American High School Film Festival, NY/Austin Music Video Film Festival, Austin TX/BFI Future Film Festival, South Bank London/BendFilm Festival, Bend OR/Borrogo Springs Film Festival, Borrogo Springs CA/CineYouth, Chicago International Film Festival, Chicago IL/Cardiff International Film Festival, Cardiff Wales/Citizen Jane Film Festival, Columbia MO/Dances With Films, Hollywood CA/Emergencia Youth Film Competition 20th Cine Las Americas International Film Festival, TX/Feel The Reel International Film Festival, Glasgow, United Kingdom/Female Eye Film Festival, Ontario Canada/FilmQuest, Provo UT/First Frame 7th International Students' Film Festival & Competition, New Delhi, India/George Lindsey UNA Film Festival, Florence AL/Hollyshorts Film Festival, Hollywood, CA/Josiah Media Festival, San Antonio, TX/Katra Film Series, New York, NY/Long Beach Indie International Film, Media, and Music Festival, Long Beach, CA/Melbourne Indie Film Festival, Victoria Australia/Nashville Film Festival, Nashville TN/National Film Festival for Talented Youth (NFFTY) Seattle WA/National YoungArts Foundation, Miami FL/Newport Beach Film Festival Youth Film Showcase, CA/North Bend Film Festival, North Bend/WA/Parachute Light Zero Act II film festival, Paris France/Rockland Youth Film Festival, NY/SAGA: Adelaide International Women's Film Festival/Santa Monica International Teen Film Festival, CA/Seattle Transmedia & Independent Film Festival, WA/Sidewalk Film Festival, Birmingham, AL/Tacoma Film Festival, Tacoma WA/Texas International Film Festival/The Bushwick Film Festival, Brooklyn NY/The Eerie Horror Film Festival, Edinboro PA/Toronto Student Film Festival/Trinity Film Festival, Hartford, CT/YIPS FEST, Seattle WA/Zoom Student Film Festival Toronto

- A Audience Choice
- A Award of Excellence
- A Best Editing
- W Best Experimental
- W Best Youth Horror
- A Best Mystery and Suspense
- A Best Short Experimental
- A Best Short Student Film
- A Best Sound Design
- A Best Youth Film
- R Best in City
- R Director of the Year
- D Francis Larkin McCommon
- D Scholarship Winner, full-tuition
- D Savannah College of Art and Design
- S National YoungArts Foundation
- S Cinematic Arts Winner
- S The Young Filmmakers Grand Jury Prize
- S Vanguard Award Finalist

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

Reel Grrls Volunteer/Mentor/Advisory Board, Seattle WA

Reel Grrls empowers young women & gender non-conforming youth from diverse communities to realize their power, talent and influence through media production.

June 2015-Present

SIFF Crash Student Filmmaker Mentor, Seattle WA

SIFF Crash Student is based on the Crash Cinema filmmaking challenge fine-tuned for teens (ages 13+) and college students, creating a compelling, cohesive film in just eight hours.

2016-Present

Judge/Screening Committee Volunteer

Warsaw Independent Film Festival, Warsaw Poland/The Seattle Museum of Art works of Wyeth, "film sprint", Seattle WA /BendFilm Festival, Bend OR/
2016-2019

Creative Director, Black Panther photo essay shoot, Seattle WA
2018

KeyNote Speaker/Mentor Puget Sound All Girls Film Challenge, Seattle WA
2019

Panelist Office of Film + Music Roundtable Discussion
Future of Film in Seattle
2019

Guest Speaker, Seattle International Festival Forum and Thin Pig Media
How Any Artist Can Hustle on Social Media
2019

Guest Speaker, Seattle International Festival Forum
The Art of the Short
2019

