

AOK Productions + C100 Film Corp present

FOURPLAY: SAN FRANCISCO



[HTTP://WWW.FOURPLAYFILM.COM/](http://www.fourplayfilm.com/)

**A TRUE TALE OF SEXUAL INTIMACY
BY KYLE HENRY**

USA, 27 MINUTES, 2010

Stills/Trailer

<http://gallery.me.com/cinepraxis>

PRINT + PRESS CONTACT

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Synopsis

Log Line

In **FOURPLAY: SAN FRANCISCO**, a transvestite sex worker faces a challenging assignment in Marin County. As the pressure mounts, an awakening begins.

Synopsis

In **FOURPLAY: SAN FRANCISCO** a confident mid-thirties transvestite prostitute, Chris, transforms into Aliya and heads off on a job across the bay to Marin County during the Christmas season. Aliya grows concerned as she's driven deeper into the wilderness, but when she finally arrives and meets the client's wife, Anne, she discovers a kindred spirit. It also becomes clear to Aliya that this will be both a physical and emotional challenge. Tom, Anne's quadriplegic husband, lies bed-ridden in the next room, on a ventilator, only able communicate by blinking his eyes. As Aliya is left alone with Tom, she must summon all her emotional strength, creativity and courage to satisfy her client. Ultimately, she will also discover a passion she never dreamed possible.

FOURPLAY is a quartet of stories in which characters' lives are changed by unusual sexual encounters. They touch on themes of connection, desire, shame, fear, love, spiritual healing, and self-worth. Tonally, they span the gamut from sorrowful to comedic to downright filthy.

FOURPLAY: SAN FRANCISCO is the debut segment of the feature length omnibus, with three additional stories to premiere in festivals and online throughout 2010-2011.

Key Production Credits

Director

Kyle Henry

Executive Producers

Michael Stipe + Jim McKay

Producer

Jason Wehling

Writer

Carlos Treviño

Director of Photography

PJ Raval

Editor

Rita K Sanders

Trans Sex-Worker Consultant and Stylist

Chloe

Filmmaker Statement

My goal with each of the films that comprise FOURPLAY is to provide understanding for characters participating in sexual acts that might otherwise be considered deviant. Living, as we continue to do, in a puritanical society, I find it unacceptable that the most psychotic depictions of violence are more commonplace than emotionally engaging stories found from the vast range of human sexual expression.

Notably, each FOURPLAY short (SAN FRANCISCO, AUSTIN, TAMPA and NEW HAVEN) is also based on real-life stories, involving subjects who in some cases provided consulting advice to writers Carlos Treviño and Jessica Hedrick. Grounded by authenticity, these four experiments in adult, intimate storytelling intend to portray these unusual experiences as the life-changing and deeply personal events they actually were. For SAN FRANCISCO, Carlos was able to draw from the stories of one the country's top transvestite sex-workers, Chloe, who opened her heart and challenged us to tell a story that wouldn't perpetuate the all too common stereotypes associated with her profession.

I see our mission as reclaiming sex as a cathartic narrative act in American film, rescuing it from the margins of titillation, peripheral pornography, or infantile digressions. I hope that the scope and nonjudgmental presentation of sexual activity will implicitly challenge notions of "normal" behavior. No character is punished or killed for their actions. These are not morality tales. Instead, the writers, actors and creative team that created FOURPLAY hope to create cultural conversation pieces, in which sexual acts, blatantly and unabashedly displayed and shared, are portrayed as ineffable and mysterious forms of human connection and communication, as transformative synaptic arcs that break the flow of our daily consciousness and connect us to each other on a primal level. We are playing with the narrative, emotional and spiritual possibilities of sexuality, hopefully creating space for others to follow in our wake. Sex, this multifaceted force, deserves continued creative, critical, adult investigation.

- Kyle Henry

Filmmaker Bios

DIRECTOR – Kyle Henry

Kyle is the child of a union of polar opposites: a former Marine Corp drill instructor father and a Kent State University art school graduate mother. Kyle's feature narrative debut ROOM premiered at both Sundance's Frontier and Cannes' Directors Fortnight sections. It was nominated for two Independent Spirit Awards, including the John Cassavetes Award for best low-budget narrative, and was distributed widely via the international sales agency Celluloid Dreams. His feature docs include: UNIVERSITY INC., about the corporatization of higher education; and AMERICAN COWBOY, about a gay rodeo champ, which was a Student Academy Award winner. He's also the editor of the Sundance award-winning feature MANITO and eight feature docs including: PBS's TROOP 1500, LETTERS FROM THE OTHER SIDE, AUDIENCE OF ONE, and Showtime's TRINIDAD.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS - Michael Stipe + Jim McKay

Via their film development and production company C-Hundred Film Corp, Michael and Jim support and encourage courageous new film visions, including: Rodney Evan's BROTHER TO BROTHER, Chris Smith's AMERICAN MOVIE, Christopher Munch's THE SLEEPY TIME GAL, Josh Fox's MEMORIAL DAY, and Kyle's first feature ROOM. Michael has also produced such films as BEING JOHN MALKOVICH and VELVET GOLDMINE.

WRITER – Carlos Treviño

CARLOS TREVIÑO (WRITER - SAN FRANCISCO, AUSTIN, TAMPA)
Carlos is a screenwriter, theater director, playwright, and actor based in Austin and Chicago. Directing credits include the U.S. premiere of Wallace Shawn's A THOUGHT IN THREE PARTS and the New York production of his play, NOT CLOWN, at the Soho Repertory Theater (published last year in Yale's THEATER journal). He and playwright partner Steve Moore won the 2003 Mark David Cohen New Play Award for their play THE KINDERMANN DEPICTION, produced by Austin's Physical Plant Theater. An artistic associate of the Rude Mechanicals and Rubber Repertory theater companies, Carlos is also a regular player in the Austin indie film scene, with roles in Kyle Henry's ROOM (2005, Sundance and Cannes), Steve Collins' GRETCHEN (2006, LAFF), and Paul Gordon's THE HAPPY POET (2010, Rooftop). SAN FRANCISCO marks his production debut as a screenwriter.

PRODUCER – Jason Wehling

Jason's producing credits include: AUGUST EVENING, awarded top prizes at the LA and Woodstock Film Festivals, and winner of an Independent Spirit John Cassavetes Award; the PBS doc, A PLACE TO DANCE; Paul Gordon's 2010 SXSW standout, THE HAPPY POET; television specials for THE WEATHER CHANNEL and the forthcoming political football documentary, AMERICA'S PARKING LOT. Jason's short film, THE GROWNUPS, premiered at SXSW 2010 and was selected from more than 3000 entries to play as part of the 48 Hour Film Project's showcase at Cannes 2010. From 2002-2005, he served as a programmer on PBS' INDEPENDENT LENS series.

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY – PJ Raval

PJ is an award-winning cinematographer and director. His work has been showcased at both Sundance and Cannes and earned him awards such as the ASC Charles B. Lang Jr. Heritage Award as well as the Haskell Wexler Award for Best Cinematography. PJ has been featured in AMERICA CINEMATOGRAPHER and shot the 2009 Academy Award nominated and 2008 Sundance Film Festival Documentary Grand Jury Award Winner TROUBLE THE WATER.

His feature cinematography credits also include the 2006 Independent Spirit Award nominated ROOM (Sundance, Cannes), the Los Angeles Film Festival Narrative Feature Award winner GRETCHEN, and THE 2 BOBS directed by Tim McCanlies (SECONDHAND LIONS, IRON GIANT) produced by Anne Walker (DAZED AND CONFUSED, A SCANNER DARKLY).

PJ recently wrapped 'HABIBI RASAK KHARBAN' (DARLING, SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH YOUR HEAD), a dramatic feature about forbidden love in Gaza, directed by Susan Youssef and starring Kais Nashif (PARADISE NOW). He is currently shooting COOLER directed by Silas Howard (BY HOOK OR BY CROOK) and Ernesto Foronda (writer, BETTER LUCK TOMORROW).

Cast Bios

PAUL SOILEAU – Chris/Aliya

Paul is an actor, songwriter, collector of crap art, and a Drag Terrorist. He is best known for his alter egos Rebecca Havemeyer (<http://rebeccahavemeyer.com>) an ageless bastard heiress of the boozie bygone Hollywood years, and CHRISTEENE (<http://www.christeene.org>) a sexually infused sewer of live rap and vile shamelessness.

Aside from his gender-bending, Paul is also a successful stage and screen actor. Carrying a B.A. of Drama from Loyola University, New Orleans, he made his film debut working alongside George Clooney, Jennifer Lopez and Luiz Guzman in the critically acclaimed film OUT OF SIGHT directed by Steven Soderbergh, playing the role of the feisty prison whore, Lulu.

He is currently collaborating with award winning writer/ director/ cinematographer and filmmaker friend to all Trannies, PJ Raval (TRINIDAD, TROUBLE THE WATER) under the name 'Three Dollar Cinema'. Together, they have amassed a popular collection of music videos representing the visual outlandish flavor of Soileau's CHRISTEENE persona.

Paul performs regularly with the Rubber Repertory theater (winners of a Rockefeller MAP fund grant) and is a member of The Rude Mechanicals, a non-profit theater company with over 170 local and national awards and nominations for their work.

CYNDI WILLIAMS - Anne

Cyndi was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award for Best Lead Actress for her performance in ROOM. Recently, she has appeared in THE OVERBROOK BROTHERS, GRETCHEN, and TEMPLE GRANDIN.

GARY CHASON - Tom

After a long career as a casting director (THE LAST PICTURE SHOW, PAPER MOON, PRETTY BABY, et al) Gary has acted in numerous films, including DEAR PILLOW, and he is proud to have been the only actor in Texas offered the part of Tom brave enough to play the role.

FOURPLAY – THE FEATURE

FOURPLAY is an 85-minute omnibus-of-shorts feature narrative where characters' lives pivot around unusual sexual encounters. The shorts range from touching to comedic to downright filthy, but each deals with serious themes of connection, desire, shame, fear, love, spiritual healing and self-worth. Although tonally different, all four are stylistically unified with a consistent Romantic (that's big "R", as in late-19th century romanticism) approach, where performance, camera work and sound design are used to place us inside the hearts and minds of the characters, developing sympathy for situations and acts that might ordinarily be interpreted as deviant. Finally, all four shorts are based on real life stories, some involving subjects who provided advice to our writers as consultants. Be they comedic, surreal, or harrowing, our shorts are authentic and are meant to help resuscitate adult, intimate storytelling where sex is seen as a powerful and life-changing force in the lives of characters.

Shot economically on HD, FOURPLAY's stylistic approach is mostly the same for all four shorts: hand-held, observational camera work privileging intimate and revealing performances over camera bravado; spare but psychologically internalized sound design to heighten the raw emotional states the characters find themselves in; and a documentary approach to production design, using found locations, costuming, and light sources to ground the stories in their specific locales.

FOURPLAY was developed by Kyle Henry and co-written by playwright Carlos Treviño and comedienne Jessica Hedrick over the course of 2008, with SAN FRANCISCO shot in Jan 2009, AUSTIN in August 2009, TAMPA in May 2010, and NEW HAVEN slated for production in Oct 2010.

Our low budget and economical production model puts FOURPLAY in the unique position of delivering challenging adult content to a risk-averse American narrative film marketplace that delivers very little that is truly controversial.

- In SAN FRANCISCO: A confident, mid-thirties transvestite prostitute, Aliya, travels for a job to Marin County. Arriving at a seaside estate, Aliya meets Anne, the client's wife, who engages Aliya in nervous conversation. Once Aliya puts her at ease, Anne leads to the door behind which her husband awaits and gives Aliya specific instructions on how to care for him. Left alone with this challenging client, Aliya must summon all her emotional strength and creativity to accomplish her mission.

- In AUSTIN: Lily, early thirties, is fertile and off the pill. She and her boyfriend Kai plan a casual night of sex after a long dry spell, but Lily's unwed sister and sick baby nephew make hooking up at Lily's place impossible. As they prowls the sultry summer night streets, they debate whether marriage and babies are really in their future ... and arrive at a startling compromise.

- In TAMPA: Late-twenties Louis loops into a local mall to grab lunch in the food court and a quickie in the public restroom. Paranoid about his own small package and clearly nervous about the situation, he scouts for possible partners, letting his imagination take over when reality proves thoroughly unsatisfying.

- In NEW HAVEN: Marcy, a closeted, mid-fifties lesbian schoolteacher, pines for Gail, the wife of her Methodist pastor, Roger. When Gail and Roger head out of town for the weekend, Marcy offers to watch their nightmare of a dog, Kaiser. Marcy works hard to win the pooch over, and ultimately, accomplishes much more than that.

Full Production Credits

CAST

Chris/Aliya - Paul Soileau
Tom - Gary Chason
Anne - Cyndi Williams
Driver – John Newkirk

CREW

Jim McKay – Executive Producer
Michael Stipe – Executive Producer
Kyle Henry – Director
Carlos Treviño - Writer
Jason Wehling – Producer
PJ Raval – Director of Photography
Caroline Karlen – Production Designer
Jenn Garrison – Location Sound
Rita K. Sanders – Editor
Matt Blomberg – Assistant Editor
Briana McKeague – Editing Intern
Vicky Boone - Casting Director
Chloe – Aliya Costuming/Hair-Makeup
Masashi Niwano – Production Assistant
Jessie Dorfman – Production Assistant
David Weber – Production Assistant
Nick Walker – Digital Effects
Joe Malina – Color Correction
Eric Friend – Sound Mix
Justin Hennard - Additional Sound Design
Roanna Gillespie - Music Clearance
Noël Kristi Wells - Credit Design

MUSIC

"Symphony No. 5, Movement IV: *Adagietto*"
Composed by Gustav Mahler
Performed by the Columbia University Orchestra

Jeffrey Milarsky, Music Director
Courtesy of the Columbia University Orchestra

"I Don't Want to Fall for You"
Written by Carolyn Wonderland and Eldridge Goins
Published by Wonder Chicken c/o Bob-A-Lew Songs
Administered by Espy Music Group
Performed by Carolyn Wonderland
Courtesy of Bismieux Records
Licensed by Baldillo Music

"Crazy"
Composed and Performed by Transient
Vocal sample performed by Seela Misra
Courtesy of Dusted Wax Records

"It Might as Well be Spring"
Written by Richard Rogers & Oscar Hammerstein
Performed by Blossom Dearie
Courtesy of Verve Records/Universal Music Group

"Memory and Desire"
Composed and Performed by Andrew Hughes

FOURPLAY TRAILER MUSIC

"Mi Otra Mitad de Naranja"
Written by Glover Johns Gill
Published by Beethoven's Bust, ASCAP
Performed by The Tosca Tango Orchestra
Courtesy of Nois Records

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