





# NUN HABITS

[Six Episode Web Series]

Running Time: 38

38 minutes (total run time) 5-10 minutes (per episode)

Directed By:

Monica Arsenault Produced

Written By: By:

**Melissa Victoria** 

**Danny Epstein** 

**Monica Arsenault** 

Production Company:

Edited by:

Cinematographer:

**Soul Series Productions** 

**David Siciliano** 

**David Siciliano** *Composer:* 

**Derek Jordan** 



## LOGLINE

[32 WORDS]

Sister Cecilia, a bisexual nun, befriends April, a high school student discovering her sexuality. Together, they go on a journey to discover where they fit into traditional Catholic teaching.

## SYNOPSIS

[53 WORDS]

Sister Cecilia, a bisexual nun, and April, a gay high school senior, begin an unlikely friendship after splitting a joint while skipping the school assembly. As April struggles with her growing feelings for her classmate Megan, Sister Cecilia is forced to reconcile her personal beliefs with the Catholic Church's strict teachings on homosexuality. Determined to help April at all costs, Sister Cecilia defies the wishes of her mentor, Sister Agnes, and continues to pursue a friendship with April.

# NUN HABITS TRAILER



Link: <a href="https://vimeo.com/304881549">https://vimeo.com/304881549</a>

### CREATOR'S STATEMENT

When my best friend was a senior in high school, she came out to me and immediately started crying. When I asked her what was wrong, she told me she was afraid that she was going to offend me because of my faith as a practicing Catholic. It devastated me that she viewed my faith as a reason I wouldn't accept her. I couldn't believe she would think someone who loves her like family would be offended that she loves another person. My understanding of Catholic teaching is that God loves the whole person as they were created and meant to be. I also believe that at the core of the LGBTQ+ community is this same love of the whole person. In both communities, it is unconditional, supportive, and infinite.

I decided to write a story showing my friend and everyone struggling with the Catholic Church's teaching on homosexuality that the two are not exclusive and, in fact, are working together to create a world of love and community. The goal of Nun Habits is to create a dialogue between these communities. Hopefully, from this dialogue, we can generate some progressive, positive change where the LGBTQ+ Community and the Catholic Church work together, celebrating their shared values.









#### Samantha Proctor as Sister Cecilia

Samantha Proctor is happy to have immersed herself in the role of Sister Cecilia. After training in Australia, she completed her training at the Atlantic Acting School in Manhattan. She had the privilege of bringing Yelena Andreyeevna to life in Uncle Vanya as her graduating salute performed in Atlantic's Stage 2. Post graduation, Samantha has brought two new works to life with Manhattan Repertory. IMDB

### Alice Marcondes as April

Alice Marcondes is excited to have taken on the role of April. Taking on this project and diving deeper into the church's views is of course a challenge, but a conversation that needs to be had. She's a proud graduate of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities and the Atlantic Acting School Full Time Conservatory. alicemarcondes.com

### Grace Adriana as Sister Agnes

Grace Adriana is thrilled to play Sister Agnes. Born in Italy, she was raised Catholic, although her spiritual upbringing in the household was sui generis. Bringing humanity and three-dimensionality to Sister Agnes' conservatism is what makes this project most compelling and a challenge worth undertaking! Grace is a recent graduate of the Atlantic Acting School Full Time Conservatory. <a href="MDB">IMDB</a>

# **DIRECTOR**, Monica Arsenault

Monica is the writer, director, and executive producer of Nun Habits. She is excited to share such a personal story with the world through the growing medium of web series.

Monica is a director and producer whose work focuses on helping women overcome limiting beliefs about womanhood. She uses irreverent comedy and vulnerable reality to tell stories that touch the heart and challenge social norms.

Aside from Nun Habits, Monica founded <u>Soul Series Productions</u> and worked as a producer on <u>Cheer Up, Charlie</u> written by Kara Grace Miller and directed by Carmen LoBue. Monica graduated from the Atlantic Acting School's 2.5 Year Full-Time Conservatory in December 2017 after attending the School of Visual Arts for 2 years.

Through Soul Series, she is currently in pre-production for a new short film, three new web series, and a feature.

monicaarsenault.com



### **DIRECTOR**, SONJA CIRILO

Sonja is an actor and director from St. Croix USVI. She obtained her BFA in theater performance from Randolph College in 2015. After graduation, she moved to New York City to continue her acting training with the Atlantic Theater Company's Full- Time Conservatory. Sonja is honored to be a part of the production team for Nun Habits as a director. <a href="https://www.sonjacirilo.com">www.sonjacirilo.com</a>



Melissa is a Los Angeles based actor and writer. She is a graduate of the Atlantic Acting School and is thrilled to join the Nun Habits team as a producer. She looks forward to contributing to a story that is, at its core, about love and understanding. <a href="Model">IMDB</a>

### PRODUCER, DANNY EPSTEIN

Danny Epstein graduated NYU Tisch School of the Arts in May of 2018 where he trained with the Atlantic Acting School and Stonestreet Studios. In September 2016, he became a founding member of <u>PrismHouse Theatre Company</u> and can be seen in their ongoing improv shows. In 2015, he produced and acted in the award winning series <u>Make It Happen</u>, which can be viewed on Vimeo. Currently, Danny is part of a sketch comedy team with StoneStreet Studios. dannyepsteinactor.com









# **NEWS & EVENTS**

"Nun Habits was written in an attempt to give queer Catholics a voice by representing them in a way not normally seen in mainstream media."

Creator Monica Arsenault featured in LIFT OFF NETWORK NEWS

**Nominations:** 

Best International TV Pilot - Pilot Light TV Festival,

Season 4 (2019)

Official Selections:

Pilot Light TV Festival, Season 4 (2019)

New York Lift-Off Film Festival (2019)

Ocktober Film Festival (2019)

NYC Webfest (2019) qFIIX Worcester 2019

YoFiFest, The Yonkers Film Festival (2019)

#### **Upcoming Screenings:**

Ocktober Film Festival October 3rd - 6th (2019)

NYC Webfest October 4th - 6th (2019)

qFLIX Worcester 2019 October 10th - 13th (2019)

YoFiFest, The Yonkers Film Festival November 1st - 11th (2019)

## **CREDITS**

Directed by:

Written by: Produced by:

Director of Photography Production Designers:

Editor
Costume Designer
& Make-up Artist
Music by
Production Sound Recordist
Executive Producer

CAST

Sister Cecilia April Sister Agnes Megan Sister Faustina Monica Arsenault
Sonja Cirilo
Monica Arsenault
Melissa Victoria
Danny Epstein
David Siciliano
Andrea Garcia
James Hesse
David Siciliano
Joanna Pisano
Hair
Shannon Rae Mulligan
Derek Jordan
Boris Palacios
Monica Arsenault

Samantha Proctor Alice Marcondes Grace Adriana Monica Arsenault Sonja Cirilo



First Assistant Director: Script Supervisor: Assistant Camera: Still Photographer:

EPK:
Make-up and Hair Artist:
Wardrobe Supervisor:
Digital Colorist:
Post Sound Mixer:
Music recorded by:
Head of Production:
Production Assistants

Title & End Credits
Designed by:

Tess Forestieri Kate McMorran Samantha Blinn Samantha Blinn

Monica Arsenault Shannon Rae Mulligan Maya Nicole Munnings

**David Siciliano** 

Ethan Gustavson
Derek Jordan Rock
Monica Arsenault
Michelle Bassan
Sandro Cirilo
Jillian Tayeh
Tom Conley
Stephanie Jaramillo
Zachary Brown
David Siciliano
David Siciliano

Special Thanks:

1st

Karen Arsenault
Martin Arsenault
Deacon Bill Palmisano
Sarah Jean Rodriguez
Dr. Patty Faigan
Molly Carr
Devon Padley

**Dan Anderson** 

**Corey Farrow** 

**Craig T. Williams** 



# **NUN HABITS**

A WEB SERIES BY MONICA ARSENAULT

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