



THIS
LOVE

A FEATURE FILM
by
EMMETT JACK LUNDBERG

I hope I never lose you

Hope it never ends

THIS LOVE

A TRANS MASC PHOTOGRAPHER AND A NON-BINARY SINGER CROSS PATHS AT PIVOTAL MOMENTS IN THEIR YOUNG LIFE TOGETHER IN NYC.

AN EPIC QUEER ROMANCE THAT TRANSCENDS LINEAR TIME.

WE MEET OUR COUPLE, **ETHAN**, 33, AND **CARMEN**, 39, AT A CROSSROADS IN PRESENT-DAY NYC.

WE FOLLOW THEM IN **ROUGHLY REVERSE CHRONOLOGY**, BACK TO THE PRECARIETY OF NEW LOVE, WHILE NAVIGATING BREAKUPS, TRANSITIONS, EXES AND FAMILY TROUBLES.

OVER THE COURSE OF OUR COUPLE'S **14-YEAR COURTSHIP**, WE ARE ANCHORED IN TIME TO THE RELEASE OF **FIVE TAYLOR SWIFT SONGS**, FROM 2006 TO 2020, CREATING FOUR DISTINCT TIME PERIODS.

EACH **TIMELINE** HAS A **COLOR OVERLAY**; SAGE, MULBERRY, MELON AND PINEAPPLE.

ETHAN x CARMEN



VISUAL STYLE / LOOK + FEEL



THESE **COLORS** EMPHASIZE THE POINT AT WHICH WE GET TO SEE THE RELATIONSHIP AND THEY GET **WARMER** AS WE MOVE **BACKWARD** IN TIME, CREATING A **NOSTALGIC**, SUMMERY FEELING.

THE FURTHER BACK IN TIME WE GO, **THE MORE DREAMY** IT GETS, AS NEW LOVE OFTEN FEELS **OTHER-WORLDFY**. MUSIC AND COLOR IS ESSENTIAL TO THE STORY; CARMEN SINGS THROUGHOUT.

2019 /
2020

2014

2012

2006

COMPS

**“RICHARD LINKLATER’S BEFORE TRILOGY +
ANDREW HAIGH’S WEEKEND +
WONG KAR WAI’S CHUNGKING EXPRESS”**



INDUSTRY FEEDBACK

THIS LOVE

"...A **BEAUTIFUL CHARACTER PIECE** THAT IS **VERY SUCCESSFUL** IN ITS STRUCTURE **ACROSS MULTIPLE PERIODS OF TIME.**

...**AUTHENTICALLY EXPLORES UNDERREPRESENTED IDENTITIES** WITHIN THE LGBTQ+ SPECTRUM, GRANTING THEM THE VISIBILITY NECESSARY FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE **TOO OFTEN SILENCED.**"

- **SLAMDANCE**

"...ECHOES OF **THE FOUNTAIN, PALM SPRINGS** AND THE **QUEER CLASSICS WEEKEND** AND **HAPPY TOGETHER...** THIS SCRIPT SHOWCASES THE WRITER'S **UNDENIABLE TALENT.**"

- **THE BLACKLIST**

...A **UNIQUE STORY** ... STRUCTURING; **PLAYING WITH TIME AND SPACE...**

...A **RARE EXPERIENCE. NOT MANY SCRIPTS ARE ABLE TO EXECUTE THIS SO INTELLIGENTLY.**"

- **THE GOLDEN SCRIPT**

"...A FAMILIAR PREMISE, WHILE ALSO **TWISTING THE TRADITIONAL NARRATIVE** IN BOTH STRUCTURE AND CONTENT.

...THE **PROTAGONISTS HERE ARE INHERENTLY VERY DIFFERENT.** THIS RESULTS IN A **NATURALLY UNIQUE** STORY, AS THE SPECIFICITY ENSURES ORIGINALITY.

...STORIES ABOUT TRANS FOLKS ARE STILL FEW AND FAR BETWEEN, ESPECIALLY ONES WITH THE **NUANCE TO PROVIDE A REALISTIC DEPICTION.**"

- **THE SCRIPT LAB**

PRESENT DAY

TIMELINE A

*THE PARTNERED YEARS;
THE MOST CURRENT CHRONOLOGICALLY AND
COLORED WITH A SAGE TINT*



THIS IS WHEN OUR TWO LEADS ARE MOST SOLID IN THEIR PARTNERSHIP AND THE CHALLENGES THEY ENCOUNTER ARE MORE EXTERNAL TO THEIR RELATIONSHIP; FAMILIAL DEATH, MARRIAGE, CAREER.



SIX YEARS AGO

TIMELINE B

*THE YEAR THEY **CHOOSE TO BE TOGETHER**;
COLORED WITH A MULBERRY TINT.*



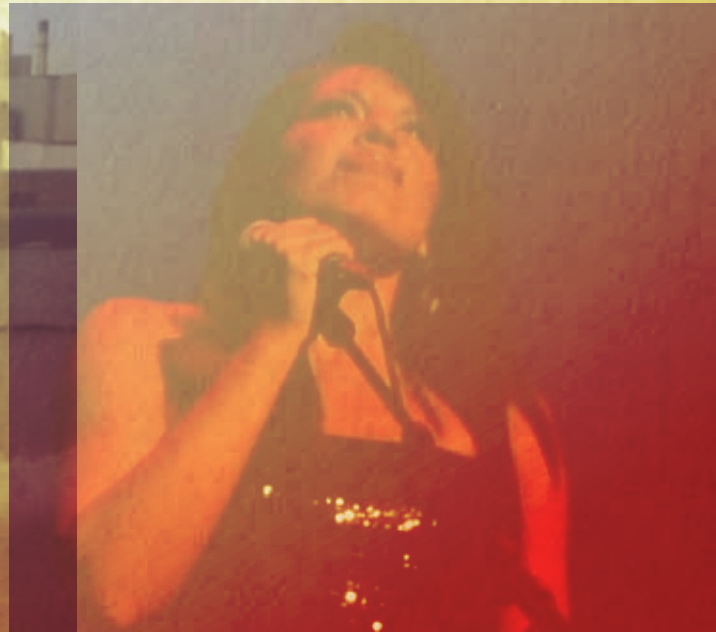
**THE YEAR THEY COME BACK TOGETHER, BOTH HAVING
GROWN AND COME INTO THEMSELVES, READY TO TAKE ON
A REAL ATTEMPT AT THE RELATIONSHIP.**



EIGHT YEARS AGO

TIMELINE C

THE YEAR THEY **RECONNECT** IS COLORED WITH A MELON TINT, CREATING A WARM AND SOFT SPACE FOR THEM TO **FIND EACH OTHER AGAIN.**



THEY'RE **BOTH DATING OTHER PEOPLE**, BUT WHEN THEY RUN INTO EACH OTHER BY CHANCE, IT'S CLEAR THAT **THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THEM** STILL EXISTS AND IS AS STRONG AS EVER.



FOURTEEN YEARS AGO

TIMELINE D

THE YEAR THEY MEET IS COLORED WITH A PINEAPPLE TINT, BLASTING THE WORLD OF THE FILM IN A CONSTANT FEELING OF THE SUMMER SUN ON YOUR FACE.



TRYING TO NAVIGATE THEIR INITIAL COURTSHIP, WHILE STILL BEING UNSURE OF THEMSELVES, LEADS TO A LOT OF HEARTBREAK.



FILMMAKER BIO

EMMETT IS A QUEER AND TRANS FILMMAKER, WRITER AND ACTOR, WHO VIEWS THE MANY TITLES HE EMBODIES AS PIECES OF A WHOLE THAT WORK BEST TOGETHER.

HIS GROUNDBREAKING SERIES BROTHERS WAS ONE OF INDIIEWIRE'S BEST OF INDIE TV, CALLED "AMONG THE BOLDEST AND FRANKEST REPRESENTATIONS OF TRANS MALE LOVE ON-SCREEN TO DATE" BY THE ADVOCATE.



EMMETT HAS BEEN A FINALIST IN THE NASHVILLE FF SCREENWRITING COMPETITION AND QUARTERFINALIST IN COPPOLA'S ZOETROPE COMPETITION.

HE CO-EDITED FINDING MASCULINITY, AN ANTHOLOGY ABOUT TRANSITIONING LATER IN LIFE, AND WON HIS FIRST WRITING AWARD IN THE 3RD GRADE.

HELLBENT ON STUDYING AND MAKING FILMS IN NYC, HE ONLY APPLIED TO NYU'S TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS - EARLY DECISION - SPURRING A LIFE-LONG LOVE AFFAIR WITH NEW YORK CITY, NO MATTER WHERE HE IS.

HE IS A PROUD OUT100 HONOREE AND WINNER OF THE TRIPLE THREAT AUTEUR AWARD FROM THE TORONTO WEBFEST.

MUSIC

THIS LOVE WAS BORN OUT OF MUSIC. INSPIRED BY THE STORYTELLING IN SOME OF TAYLOR SWIFT'S ANGSTIEST SONGS, I IMAGINED WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE TO SEE THIS COUPLE AT SPECIFIC POINTS IN TIME, IN THEIR RELATIONSHIP AND IN LIFE.

TIM MCGRAW ALL TOO WELL THIS LOVE

*Think of my head on your chest...
and my old blue jeans*



EACH YEAR THAT WE SEE THEM IS INSPIRED BY THE RELEASE OF ONE OF SWIFT'S SONGS. STARTING (CHRONOLOGICALLY) IN 2006 WITH **TIM MCGRAW**, - **MAGGIE ROGERS'** COVER CAPTURES THE TONE.

THEN ON TO **ALL TOO WELL** IN 2012, FOLLOWED BY THE TITLE SONG **THIS LOVE** IN 2014, **CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS** IN 2019 AND **CORNELIA STREET** IN 2020.

EACH SONG CONTRIBUTED TO THE WAY I ENVISIONED WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH ETHAN AND CARMEN AT THAT TIME, AND EACH POPS UP IN THE STORY EITHER **DIRECTLY** OR IN THE **BACKGROUND**.

CHAMPAGNE PROBLEMS

CORNELIA ST.



VANESSA WILLIAMS'S **SAVE THE BEST FOR LAST** ALSO FEATURES PROMIENTLY



LOCATIONS

maybe this thing was a masterpiece
... til you tore it all up

