

Allen Sunshine



Logline

A music mogul grieving his famous wife's suicide finds redemption in the youthful spirit of a friendship cultivated with two young boys.



Synopsis

“**Allen Sunshine**” tells the story of a former music mogul who retreats to an isolated lake-side home to grieve his famous wife’s suicide.

He copes by composing ambient-electronic music and by nurturing an unexpected friendship with two young boys whom he meets on the lake fishing.

Throughout the course of his stages of grief, Allen encounters characters that remind him of what he’s lost and forgotten, and what he hopes to gain and reconcile.



Harley Chamandy

Writer and Director

Allen Sunshine is Harley's first feature film which he shot when he was 22. At 17, Harley was selected as one of 55 filmmakers from around the world to work under the guidance of legendary filmmaker, Werner Herzog at the EICTV in Cuba. He graduated from NYU in 2021 in the Global Liberal Studies Program with a minor in Creative Writing, Italian, and Film Producing. During the program, he lived in Florence, Italy. His short films have showed at many film festivals around the world. His latest short film *Where It's Beautiful When It Rains* premiered at the Fantasia Film Festival. He has directed and produced music videos for Universal Music Group.





Directors Statement

The film first began with an image of a man living alone on a lake with his dog and making electronic music. I was thinking about big vintage synthesizers by a lake. Then, I began to think about celebrity and fame, which has increasingly come to be regarded as an end in itself. The themes of isolation, natural beauty, celebrity, alienation, and grief eventually came together in the figure of Allen, who enjoys the trappings of wealth and fame but also contends with the fact that his wife was driven to suicide. Allen finds solace in his friendship with the two ten year old boys who open his eyes to the simple things that make life worth living.



Chantal Chamandy

Producer, Mother and Son Films

Chantal began her career in the entertainment industry as an actress and singer when she became a member of a multi-million selling duet. She was a Juno nominated artist, and achieved critical acclaim for her PBS TV show which she wrote, starred in , and produced entitled "*Chantal Live at the Pyramids*" Chantal went on to produce her first feature film entitled "*Hit By Lightning*" starring Jon Cryer (Two and a Half Men) and Will Sasso (Three Stooges). Chantal has been a creative collaborator, and the Producer for all of her son Harley Chamandy's films, such as Harley's award winning short films "*The Final Act of Joey Junbler*", and "*Where It's Beautiful When It Rains*". Most recently, she is the Producer of Harley's first feature film "*Allen Sunshine*", and the two plan to collaborate together in the future on both their respective projects.





Laurent Allaire

Producer, Chasseurs Films

Laurent Allaire has worked in the film industry for over twenty years, both as producer and founder of CHASSEURS FILMS and as distributor and co-founder of distribution company LA DISTRIBUTRICE DE FILMS. His expertise in distribution contributes significantly to how he approaches projects in the development, production and throughout the marketing of a film. Laurent has produced over twenty short films including Palme D'or competing *Chef de Meute* and 6 feature films in the last few years and has just started a film services production company to take on international film projects.





Alex Coco

Executive Producer

Alex Coco has produced films such as Sean Baker's A24 Cannes Official Selection *Red Rocket*, Sean Price Williams *The Sweet East* which premiered at the Directors Fortnight and most recently *Pet Shop Days* which premiered at the 80th Venice International Film Festival.





Kenny Suleimanagich

Cinematographer (Super16mm)

Kenny Suleimanagich is a cinematographer based in New York City and Los Angeles. His work spans narrative, documentary, and commercial across 16mm, 35mm and digital formats.

Projects he has shot have appeared at Sundance, Slamdance, SXSW, Rooftop, Fantasia, Cinequest, Maryland, New Orleans, Camden, and Outfest Film Festivals. Commercial work includes clients like Versace, Byredo, Salomon, Google, McDonalds, Uber, Casper, Jose Cuervo. His editorial work has appeared in Vogue, The New Yorker, GQ, NY Times, New York Magazine and NBC News.





Ethan Rose

Music Composer

Sound artist and composer Ethan Rose has released recordings, scored films, constructed performances, created sound installations and worked with a variety of collaborators. In works that manifest across a range of media, Rose's consideration of sound reaches out from the formal mechanics of studio composition to investigate revealed gestures of sonic transformation. His practice is often in direct dialogue with a specificity of materials, architectures, and technologies which are invited into the formative nature of his finished pieces. Rose's works have exhibited, screened, and been performed internationally in a diverse selection of locales including Portland Institute for Contemporary Art's Time-Based Art Festival, Cannes Film Festival, Experimental Sound Studio, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Milan Design Week, and the SXSW Music Festival as well as many other venues, galleries, and spaces throughout the world.





Vincent Leclerc

Lead Actor

Vincent Leclerc is a Canadian actor from Trois-Rivières, Quebec. He is noted for his performance in the 2018 film *La chute de l'empire Américain*, for which he received a Prix Iris nomination for Best Supporting actor in 2019; his starring role as Séraphin Poudrier in the television series *Les Pays D'en Haut* for which he won the Gémeaux Award for Best Actor in a Short Run Drama Series in 2016; and for acting alongside Leonardo DiCaprio in the "The Revenant," directed by Academy Award winner Alejandro Iñárritu.



Catherine Souffront

Supporting Actress

Catherine is a bilingual, versatile and passionate actress who thrives on challenges. On July 31, 2018, the woman who had previously worked as a crown prosecutor at the DPCP in Montreal took the risky bet of leaving everything in order to pursue what she felt was her path; that of artistic expression.

Since then, Catherine has played multiple roles on the small screen. In addition to seeing her recurrently as Mylène in *L'oeil du cyclone*, the nurse Jocelyne in the *Red Bracelets* as well as the mermaid Coralie in *L'Ile Kilucru*. On the big screen, Catherine is part of the cast of the hit *December 23*, where she plays Jessica.



Joseph Whitebird

Supporting Actor

After trucking for 35 yrs, Joseph began to chase his passion as an actor. *Allen Sunshine* is Joseph's first speaking role in a film. Joseph will continue to follow his dreams and passions as an actor for film and television. And continue with his hobby as a karaoke singer.



Liam Quiring - Nkindi

Originally from Toronto, Ontario, Liam is a Young Artist Academy™ Award winning actor with experience in TV & Film and theatre. Liam has screen experience working with top stars in the musical comedy *Schmigadoon!* on AppleTV+, and *Holly Hobbie* on Hulu. Liam has won awards for his past work in TV, Film, and Commercial work with Young Artist Academy, Nova Star Awards, and Joey Awards.



Miles Phoenix Foley

Miles has acted in multiple TV series and films including *Seagrass* which premiered at TIFF in 2023. *Allen Sunshine* is his first major part in a film.



Press + Awards:

WINNER TRT FIRST CUT + Award at
Karlov Vary International Film Festival
2023

<https://cineuropa.org/en/newsdetail/445978/>

<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/movies/movie-news/karlovy-vary-film-festival-eastern-promises-2023-winners-list-1235529072/>

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