

THE CARD

AM STORIES PRESENTS "THE CARD" BRIDGET OPFER ASIL MOUSSA KATHY ROBERTS LIAM COUVION AND JEREMY BURKE
MUSIC BY LYSA OPFER EDITED BY MARIA CUSUMANO PRODUCTION DESIGN BY JESSICA COOK ASIL MOUSSA NUHA ELALEM DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY SVJETLANA OPPEN
PRODUCED BY ASIL MOUSSA NUHA ELALEM WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ASIL MOUSSA

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FILM SPECIFICATIONS

COMPLETED: 2016

FORMAT: 1.85:1, Colour

RUN TIME: 7 min

GENRE: Drama

FILM TYPE: Fiction, Short

LANGUAGE: English

SYNOPSIS:

A businesswoman loses her credit card at a café just as she is about to secure an important transaction. In her frantic search to find the card, she acts impulsively.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

THE CARD is a film about the struggle to stay present in today's fast-paced society.

In the modern working world, THE CARD explores how our stresses may change the way we treat people, and in turn, change ourselves. THE CARD is a short drama about a businesswoman who loses her credit card at a café just as she is about to secure an important transaction. In her frantic search to find the card, she acts impulsively.

In a world that is collectively battling trust issues, THE CARD is a reminder to treat others with respect. This film feels like a brief slice of someone's day, touching on the perils of modern-day living and missed opportunities. Each character and nuance in the story was crafted to fit the dynamic of situations that I have witnessed in my own life. Karen stemmed as a result of my biggest fear: an unhappy woman with work problems in a high-stakes job, family issues, and the world has hardened her. After a glimpse into what it might be like to be "Karen," I wrote this script in response to my fears and overcoming them.

I am fascinated by stories that focus on women and people of minority who are rarely seen on-screen. This film features realistic, complex women both in front of and behind the camera, as well as portrays a woman who wears a headscarf in an insightful way that does not draw attention to the headscarf itself, but rather on the actual character.

In wanting to show that there are two sides of every story, the film explores two narratives, causing the audience to be fully immersed as Karen, before showing them what she didn't see. The aesthetics of the film emphasize the subtext. Cinematically, each part of the film visually speaks to the side of the story the audience is watching through camera positioning, intricate framing, and what is revealed in the background of each shot. The pacing and choreography make the events seem coincidental and effortless as these moments actually happen in real life.

I hope THE CARD inspires us to look inward and serves as a reminder to be kind to everyone.



ASIL MOUSSA

DIRECTOR, WRITER, PRODUCER, “Layla”

Asil Moussa has always loved telling stories. She graduated with a Combined Honours Bachelors of Arts in English Literature, Creative Writing, and Digital Journalism from the University of Windsor. She then received a Certificate of Film Studies from Ryerson University.

Asil has created and worked on multiple short films and documentaries. She has also acted in commercials that were played across Canada. Asil worked on *THE TIGER HUNTER*, a feature film directed by Lena Khan in Los Angeles. She also worked on the short film, *ON GIRLS*, directed by Kim Nelson. Both films will be released in 2016.

Asil received funding for *THE CARD* from the Windsor Arts, Culture, and Heritage Fund and the Windsor Endowment for the Arts. Asil wrote, produced, directed, and stars in *THE CARD*.

Asil currently resides in Windsor, Ontario.



NUHA ELALEM

PRODUCER/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Nuha is passionate about bringing stories to life. She received an Honours Bachelors of Fine Arts from the University of Windsor and has worked on making films, writing stories and photographing people for years.

Nuha has produced, shot and edited multiple short films and promotional commercials for organizations, such as the Windsor-Essex Sports Council's program for kids health, "Learning to Play" and a "Welcome to Canada" film which aimed to help incoming Syrian Refugees feel home. Her latest project, "THE CARD" is a short film that she produced with Asil Moussa in Windsor. Nuha has worked on the short film "ON GIRLS" as Second Assistant Camera and Stills Photographer and the feature film "THE TIGER HUNTER" as Pre-Production Intern. All three films release in 2016.

Nuha currently resides in Windsor, Ontario.



BRIDGET OPFFER “Karen”

Born and raised in New Jersey, Bridget fell in love with stage production at an early age while directing, producing, and starring in neighbourhood productions and holiday concerts. She fell in love with acting while attending play rehearsals with her father, a stage actor. She then studied acting at TriState Actors Theatre in New Jersey with Tara Bowles who studied under and taught for Stella Adler. After moving to Venice, CA she worked as a PA in feature films by day and studied Improv at Westside Comedy Theatre in Santa Monica by night. Bridget currently resides in Leamington, Ontario with her family and acts in theatre, film, and commercial productions as much as she can. THE CARD was Bridget's first starring role in a short film. She couldn't have had a more positive experience working alongside such a kind, talented, and motivated crew.



CAST & CREW

On screen, **THE CARD** showcases strong females and diversity, which is also reflected behind the camera. Our entire creative team and most of our cast and crew were female.

CREW

Writer/Director/Producer ASIL MOUSSA
Producer/Assistant Director NUHA ELALEM
Director of Photography SVJETLANA OPPEN
Editor/Colorist/Visual Effects MARIA CUSUMANO
Production & Graphic Design JESSICA COOK
Production & Costume Design ASIL MOUSSA, NUHA ELALEM
Music Composer LYSA OPFER
Casting Director NICOLE GELLMAN
1st Assistant Camera CHERRY THERESANATHAN
2nd Assistant Camera ELLIOT HALE & ADAM DUNN
Jib Technician/On-Set Sound Supervisor JD OPPEN, MPSE
Stills Photographer/Videographer JESSE HEBERT
DIT MARIA CUSUMANO
Sound Recordist CALUM HOTCHKISS
Boom Operator NATHAN LAUGHLAND
Gaffer/Additional Boom Operator DOUGLAS CUNNINGHAM
Grip IAN CAMPBELL, CHERRY THERESANATHAN
Script Supervisor/Grip VICTOR LUONG
Art Continuity/Additional Still Photographer SOPHIE HINCH
Make-up Artist/Hair Stylist STEFANI BONANNO
Key Set PA SHARYN GHACHAM
PA/Additional Boom Operator DEMETRE KALMANTIS
Sound Editor/Re-recording Mixer JD OPPEN, MPSE
Catering SUMAYA DAHLAN, TAREK AHMED,
JAMAL SALEH/ ROTISSERIE MOM'S

CAST

Businesswoman (Karen) BRIDGET OPFER
Young Lady (Layla) ASIL MOUSSA
Cashier Clerk (Alfie) JEREMY BURKE
Mom (Beth) KATHY ROBERTS
Little Boy (Tommy) LIAM COUVION

BACKGROUND PERFORMERS

SHARYN GHACHAM
TIM MAITLAND
LIAM INGRAM
CHRISTOPHER FRY
SHIRLEY MELOCHE
ERIC GIBSON
DEBRA LAING
HADIL MOUSA
ASHLEY SAMSONE
ALIAA GOUDDA
COLLIN VASSELL
DESTINY VASSELL
SOPHIE HINCH
STEFANI BONANNO
KAILYN KELLER

SPECIAL THANKS

ABEER AHMED
MOHAMED MOUSSA
HADIL MOUSSA
NADIN MOUSSA
KIM NELSON
YUMNA KHAN

MIRZA BAIG
A&A ASSOCIATES
JONATHAN SINASAC
AMANDA GELLMAN
ZITA ZINN
KYLE ARCHIBALD

SIRAJ ELALEM
SARAH ELALEM
WALLY CHAFCHAK
ALL LINE INSURANCE
MARIANNE JENNEY
WILLIAM ROSE

SOPHIE HINCH
ISABELLA CHENG
CHARL FOURIE
BECKY LISK
CARISSA FONTANA
BRIAN KHAN

OMS ENTERTAINMENT
MARIUS PETEAN
DENISA PETEAN
BREWIN' BROS BEVERAGE CO.
MOM'S CHICKEN
JAMAL SALEH

FILM SUPPORTED BY

WINDSOR ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
WINDSOR'S ARTS, CULTURE, AND HERITAGE FUND