

Carve & Chisel Presents

In Association with  
Granfalloon Productions

A David Michael Maurer Short

# ***MENDO'S CAROUSEL***

EDI GATHEGI    TODD GRINNELL    OTMARA MARRERO

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS  
EDI GATHEGI  
TODD GRINNELL  
OTMARA MARRERO  
DAVID MICHAEL MAURER

PRODUCED BY  
LAURA BOERSMA  
RANDY SOSIN

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY  
DAVID MICHAEL MAURER

<http://www.mendoscarousel.film>

## Social

Instagram: <http://www.instagram.com/mendoscarousel/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/mendoscarousel/>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/mendoscarousel/>

Pinterest: <http://www.pinterest.com/mendoscarousel/>

TikTok: <http://www.tiktok.com/@mendoscarousel>

Twitter: <https://www.youtube.com/@mendoscarousel>

## Sales/Press Contact

[producers@mendoscarousel.film](mailto:producers@mendoscarousel.film)

# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

**...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.**

“Over the last several years, the whole world has been experiencing trauma, grief, cruelty, addiction and isolation in a myriad of different ways. Honesty and connection seem to be the healing antidote.” - David Michael Maurer, Writer/Director

Logline: A young woman crashes on the precipice between truth and denial.

Tagline: Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.

## Short Synopsis

(46 words)

After the death of her father, a troubled woman robs a dry-cleaning shop to make ends meet, but when the owner finds out, a secret from their past forces her to choose between doing what is right or following in the footsteps of her father.

## Technical Details

Running Time: 12:55 minutes

Color

Country of Origin: United States

Original Language: English

Subtitles/Captioning Available: English, French, Spanish, German

Camera Shooting Format: Arri Alexa LF UHD

Finishing: UHD 3840x2160. Letterboxed 2:1

Audio: Dolby 5.1 & Stereo

Sales:

Production: <http://www.carveandchisel.com>

## Film Festivals/Awards

- World Premiere: LA Shorts International Film Festival (2023)
- International Premiere: Lytham International Film Festival (2023)
- Green Jack International Film Festival (2023) –
  - Winner: Best Short, Best Director Short, Best Actor Short, Best Actress Short
- Catalina Film Festival (2023)
- Firstglance Philadelphia Film Festival (2023) –
  - Nominated Best Director, Best Actor, Best Editing
- Utah Film Market (2023)
- Twin Cities Film Festival (2023)
- East Lansing Film Festival (2023) –
  - Winner Best Short Program II
- Julien Dubuque International Film Festival (2023)

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## Medium Synopsis (121 words)

This last year was a struggle and Liza finds herself at a breaking point. She drinks herself into an alcoholic fog and burgles a dry-cleaning business to "borrow" some cash, but before she can escape the scene of the crime, she passes out.

The next morning, Arthur finds her hungover in the back of his shop... again. He demands she leaves but Liza quickly realizes she's misplaced her bag with the stolen money and begins a frantic search to cover up her secret. Little does she know that Arthur has some secrets of his own.

*Mendo's Carousel* is a film about honesty with ourselves and others, the secrets that keep us shamefully disconnected and the truths that bring us closer together.

## DIRECTOR'S PERSONAL STATEMENT

The truth is... I've been grieving. Right before the pandemic started, my Grandmother passed away, a year and a month later, my Grandfather passed away, and right before we filmed my Uncle passed away. These three loving people always supported my passion for storytelling, they saw the best in me, and losing them became a catalyst to tell this short story.

In 2016 I found myself experiencing a different kind of grief, one where I had to say goodbye to my toxic best friend alcohol. In the process of getting sober, I had to come to terms with my truth, take responsibility for my behaviors and try to find ways to make things right wherever I fell short. Through *Mendo's Carousel*, I wanted to share my experience with the power of getting honest and how it can lead to healing. When I keep secrets inside, I can feel disconnected, ashamed, or even resentful, but when I open up honestly, when I get vulnerable and let others in, there is a real opportunity for connection. Honesty is the antidote. There are so many ways in the world for us to tear ourselves and others down, to cause harm, and to numb the fear. I wanted to tell a universal story where people can make mistakes, make amends, and find new a new beginning.

I wrote the film keeping in mind three of the most honest actors I know: Edi Gathegi, Todd Grinnell, and Otmara Marrero. All three of these artists committed their hearts and talent to this simple story and I am so grateful for their loving care and generosity.

We filmed in Feb 2022 in Burbank with our Los Angeles-based production crew and had a fantastic experience in Post-Production through the generosity at Reaktor Post in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

**...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.**

**"Life is tougher when you're spinning alone."**

## DIRECTOR'S ARTISTIC STATEMENT

How do you make things right when you don't even know how to start? It's a sensitive question but in those quiet moments when we discover an honest answer there is an avalanche of hope.

When I first got sober, I had to be honest with myself and others for the mistakes I had made. It was a powerful and life-changing experience that was lived through many tiny, but potent, actions. I also felt the deep pain of grief recently when I lost my Grandmother, my Grandfather, and my Uncle in just a short period of time and had to get honest with myself about what I was feeling.

I wanted to make a focused, intimate film, that reflected the universal experiences of grief so many of us feel when we have to let go, the search for connection when we need help, and the peace we can feel when we're finally honest. Over the past several years, the entire world experienced tremendous shared grief in the form of the Pandemic. Many people looked for ways to numb that pain and it affected them, their family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors. Addiction doesn't care if we're rich or poor; a doctor or a dropout. It doesn't discriminate. It destroys and divides without reservation. It ruthlessly takes hold of our secrets and our pain in the darkness until we're too afraid to ask for help. Honesty is the antidote.

To that end, I wanted this story to be shot handheld, tapping into the feeling that we're watching a documentary. Something that would lend itself to the chaos of Liza's headspace while still enhancing the viewer's suspension of disbelief that we're in the middle of something real. I wanted to capture intimate performances in a way that could make the viewer's experience a gentle meditation. By design, we wanted this film to be an intentionally simple and clear experience, as if we're all leaning in together, listening for its heartbeat.

I am grateful to our incredible cast, our Los Angeles-based production crew, and our post-production team in Puerto Rico for all of their generosity and love that made this film possible. "Life is tougher when you're spinning alone."

**"Life is tougher when you're spinning alone."**

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION (from Producer Laura Boersma)

# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

**...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.**

I joined the Mendo's Carousel team as David and Randy were already in the thick of pre-production. They had assembled an amazing cast and crew and found the perfect location in Burbank. I'm a full-time producer so I stepped in to help with anything they were missing and to be another set of hands.

I first met David at LMU where we both went to college. I even worked on his student film. What I love about the LMU film community is that after more than 20 years, we're still creating passion projects and working on them together.

David wrote a short film that is dramatic and personal and found the perfect actors to bring it to life.

As a producer, I'm used to wearing multiple hats. On set I helped with operations, problem-solving, making sure everyone had coffee, lunch, doing the In-N-Out second meal run, asking the sidewalk musicians not to play so loud, and whatever else was needed. We have to take care of the cast and crew, especially on passion projects when people are discounting or donating time and resources.

I've done a number of film and broadcast deliveries so during post, I helped David with templates and gave creative feedback when he needed another set of eyes.

The directing, acting, cinematography, editing, music... everything really came together beautifully in Mendo's Carousel and I'm proud to be a part of it.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION (from Producer Randy Sosin)

I was honored and thrilled to be a part of "Mendo's Carousel" crew. David's amazing script was inspiring for all of us and the cast and crew made working on it a pleasure. It is an achievement that I will cherish and remember forever.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION (from Writer/Director David Michael Maurer)

We filmed Mendo's Carousel for two days in February of 2022 in Burbank around the time of a Covid-19 surge in Los Angeles County. It was a nail-biter as our small cast and crew passed their PCR tests one by one leading up to production. Producers Laura Boersma and Randy Sosin managed an incredibly smooth-running set. We made our days and filmed some bonus coverage under challenging circumstances.

The whole story takes place in a dry-cleaning shop and so the schedule was carefully built around the operating hours of our real-world location. Most dry-cleaning shops close in the early afternoon on Saturdays and they're completely closed on Sundays so we utilized that window to the best of our ability.

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We knew that there would not be enough time to film the entire production in daylight hours so we scheduled shots carefully to maximize our window-facing angles when sunlight was available and then lit the "back of the store" to feel darker and more intimate but daylight balanced to film "night for day".

Our production could not afford the extra permitting costs to place large lights or camera equipment on the exterior city sidewalks and so all of the windows used available light and all of our practical lights were kept inside of the building. Fortunately, the location had a private parking lot behind it and we were able to film the exteriors day and night using that parking lot.

We intentionally tried to disorient the audience with blocking and art direction since the back of the store had limited space and geography was tricky. For instance, the exterior entry parking lot that we see in the film opening is actually located towards the back of the store next to our fictional "safe". We cheat the interior entry shots with that parking lot often. I also nicknamed two spots on our set as the "magic corners" to extend the blocking at the back of the store. Sort of like Super Mario traveling through a warp zone, as the actors round one corner to go into the "back room", they re-enter frame in the next cut from a cheated corner, reversed in the same space. Editorial screen direction and careful set dressing hides the magic trick, but they are technically walking back and forth through the same space which gave the actors more runway to move and allowed a more intimate area for them to talk. It also concealed the location of Liza's bag and the safe prop until it was necessary for the story. Once the geographic rules were visually established in the edit of the opening sequence, the audience is given permission to accept the labyrinth of hanging clothes and vinyl banners but it's all an illusion.

The budget only had room for a single camera setup and the limited time at our location presented a challenge. Our amazing Cinematographer Gevorg Juguryan and I decided to lean on the beautiful cinematic look of the ARRI LF camera sensors married with the versatility of a few zoom lenses. By foregoing prime lenses and staying handheld, we moved extremely fast and that allowed our cast more opportunity to stay in the emotion of each scene without a long lag time between setups. It also allowed for more coverage.

I used a piece of software called "Shot Designer by Hollywood Camera Work" to build detailed shot lists and overheads to make the schedule as efficient as possible. In the end, we filmed around 70 setups in almost 175 takes.

After we wrapped production, I took the hard drives and flew to San Juan, Puerto Rico where the team at Reaktor Post Production dove into dailies. Francisco Cueto has built an impressive facility at Reaktor where Dailies, Offline Editorial, Color, VFX, and the Mix can all be done seamlessly under one roof.

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Editor Raúl Marchand Sánchez and I worked together to shape the cut on Avid Media Composer. Raúl is a prolific Editor and Filmmaker; his unique perspective and wisdom were precious to the film. As someone who has sat in an editing chair for 20+ years, I found it very helpful to collaborate with an "Editor's Editor".

Once we were picture locked, the team at Reaktor did a pass of paint and vfx clean-up on the film to erase phone numbers and objects in the frame that we couldn't reasonably remove from the location on the day. Colorist Edgar Lebrón took great care to give the film a natural look that subtly shifts between cool to warm depending on the emotional states of the character. Reaktor's audio team was led by our Re-Recording Mixer Johannes Peters and the film was Sound Designed by Carlos Dávila and Denes Pagán who spent a great deal of time refining the sonic point of view. I'm especially thrilled with the work they did for Liza's break-in sequence during the opening of the film.

One of my favorite collaborations was with our music team back in Los Angeles. Composer Tristan Clopet created a delicate and emotionally supportive score that integrates the sounds of organs, dulcimers, strings, and more. Music Supervisor Melany Mitchell found key music pieces to fill the environmental space as well as the end credit song "Mars" by Elizabeth Moen.

Many people gave us the sage advice "Don't rush post" and so we took our time on nights and weekends, we took breaks, and we came back to the film with fresh eyes, all with the hope of trying to make the best film possible. All in all, post-production took about 6 months and I'm so grateful for the patient discipline and heart everyone shared with this little film.

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## WRITER/DIRECTOR'S BIO

### **David Michael Maurer // Carve & Chisel // Executive Producer**

David Michael Maurer has spent the last 25 years as an Editor in multiple genres, originally starting in Reality TV on the many first seasons and first episodes of shows like "American Idol", "The Apprentice", "Paradise Hotel", and "Ice Cold Gold". He was recognized with two Emmy Nominations for his editing work on "The Apprentice" and two Eddie Award Nominations for his work on "Whale Wars". He later edited Sterlin Harjo's first dramatic Feature Film "Four Sheets to the Wind" and second film "Barking Water" which both of which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. He sliced the fan-favorite horror film "Splinter", directed by Toby Wilkins, and won the award for Best Editing at the Screamfest Film Festival.

In scripted television, Maurer worked on Ben Ketai's crime drama "StartUp" where he met "*Mendo's Carousel*" cast members Edi Gathegi and Otmara Marrero, Cinematographer Gevorg Juguryan, Composer Tristan Clopet and Reaktor Post.

He also edited season 2 of "Absentia" starring Stana Katic and most recently, the first two seasons of the FOX's new "Fantasy Island" starring Roselyn Sanchez. In 2013, Maurer became a member of American Cinema Editors. He is a graduate of De Anza College in Cupertino, CA, and Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. He has also directed multiple music videos and enjoys hanging out with his adorable, adopted, pandemic dog named "Winnie Cooper".

Website: <http://www.davidmichaelmaurer.com>

Instagram: [@davidmichaelmaurer](https://www.instagram.com/davidmichaelmaurer)

Facebook: [@davidmichaelmaurer](https://www.facebook.com/davidmichaelmaurer)

TikTok: [@carveandchisel](https://www.tiktok.com/@carveandchisel)

## PRODUCERS BIOS

### **Laura Boersma // Producer // Granfalloon Productions**

Laura Boersma is the award-winning producer of the stylish thriller INDISCRETION starring Academy Award winner Mira Sorvino, Cary Elwes, and Katherine McNamara. The film was released worldwide and is currently available on Netflix and numerous streaming platforms.

Laura also co-wrote and produced the edgy and provocative romance film FLING (internationally titled LIE TO ME) starring Brandon Routh, Ellen Hollman, and Courtney Ford. It was dubbed "One of the top 10 films of 2008" by Fox-TV movie critic Shawn



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Edwards and was released worldwide, garnering over 90 million views on YouTube alone.

Laura also produced the romantic comedy NESTING starring Todd Grinnell, Ali Hillis, and Erin Gray which enjoyed a US theatrical release in 2012.

Most recently, Laura executive produced UPTV's holiday premiere A RING FOR CHRISTMAS which stars Liliana Tandon, Dean Geyer, Lorraine Bracco, and Michael Gross.

A first generation Middle Eastern-Dutch American, Laura grew up in Southern California with an aerospace engineer father and a mother who fled Israel during the Six-Day War. Laura earned a BFA in Communication Arts from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles where she met her filmmaking partner and husband John Stewart Muller.

Laura and John run the Santa Monica based production company Granfalloon Productions which creates feature films, episodic content, commercials, short films, and branded content for a variety of clients including Nickelodeon, Disney, Mattel, PUBG, Acura, Alfa Romeo, Buick, and more. Laura is also a member of the Producers Guild of America, Women in Film, and Film Independent.

## **Randy Sosin // Producer**

Randy Sosin has 25+ years of diversified experience in the entertainment and music industries helping some of the world's most recognized artists, concert promoters, personalities, and brands quickly transform ideas into sustainable profit. He has held senior executive roles at MTV Networks, Interscope Records, Insomniac Events, and A&M Records, leading teams through ideation to execution across all areas of branding, content creation, production, and media promotion. Through strategies, actionable plans—and a bit of grit—he can essentially turn yarn into gold. He has produced and managed projects for a wide range of businesses: from emerging companies, SMBs, and agencies, to Fortune 100 brands and multinationals. With a knack for connecting the right people at the right time, Randy built a strong network of influential decision-makers and company heads, which he leverages for co-branded partnerships. His expertise: content strategy, brand development, strategic planning, and AI optimization.

Randy is currently working with global brands on planning, developing, and implementing the overall content and creative strategy aligned with business goals. Over the years, he has completed numerous complex, international, large-scale, and time-critical industry projects. A recent career highlight is overseeing the ideation, creation, and delivery of the first-ever Music Video made at the World Cup. He worked with Budweiser and FIFA alongside the government of Qatar to produce "The World is Yours" song by Tears for Fears & Lil Baby. An AI optimization expert, Randy also advises a number of artists on their AI and Web3 strategy. His latest projects include

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developing an AI Bot for Devo, collaborating with Pininfarina and a myriad of artists to develop bespoke musical instruments, and working with John Malkovich to create an NFT collection called "Owning John Malkovich."

An additional professional milestone was while as Senior Vice President at Insomniac Events, he led the creation, capture, and delivery of all the visual content that helped the dance music concert company secure a Joint Venture with Live Nation (NYSE: LYV) and become the largest EDM Promoter in the world. Throughout his six-year tenure at Insomniac, he conceived numerous trailers, from copy development to final production for branded partners, which included: 7UP, Corona, Smirnoff, Yahoo!, Red Bull, Dos Equis, Pioneer, Denon, and more.

In a previous corporate role as SVP, Music Video Production at Interscope Records, Randy ran their music video department for nearly a decade, overseeing a yearly \$30M+ budget for artists like Eminem, 50 Cent, Enrique Iglesias, Sting, Janet Jackson, Pink Floyd, Ice Cube, Dr. Dre, and Mariah Carey, generating \$100M+ in sales revenue.

Randy applies both participative and servant leadership styles when it comes to managing all types of cross-functional teams. He believes in equipping them to thrive and then letting them fly. One of his biggest passions: building platforms that allow artists to realize their vision through timeless content that elevates, while also monetizing their creation.

A connoisseur of music storytelling, Randy has received various industry honors, including two MTV 'Music Video of the Year' awards: (2002) Eminem "Without Me" and (2001) Christina Aguilera, Pink, Mya, Lil Kim & Missy Elliot "Lady Marmalade", as well as Art Directors Club, and Clio Awards. When he's not running projects, Randy might be spinning records at a friend's wedding. If so, expect him to bring his Vinyl collection, turntables and bongos to play a 70s/80s/90s eclectic mix of Funk, Soul, and Hip-Hop.

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## CAST BIOS – In Alphabetical Order

### **Edi Gathegi as ARTHUR // Executive Producer**

Veteran actor of the stage and screen, Edi Gathegi, has had a storied career across television, film, and the stage. Most recently, Gathegi can be seen in a main role in Season 3 of Apple TV's smash hit, *For All Mankind*, opposite Joel Kinnaman. On the film side, he recently played Bill Pickett in *The Harder They Fall*, opposite Idris Elba, Regina King, and Delroy Lindo for Netflix. A versatile actor, Edi has starred in incredible independent films, like *Princess of the Row*, opposite Tayler Buck (for which he won the Method Fest Independent Film Festival Breakout Acting Award for his method performance as Beau Willis), as well as in major film franchises like the rebooted *X-Men Franchise* and *Twilight*. On the stage, Gathegi won an Obie Award for his performance as Lucius Jenkins in Signature Theater Company revival of *Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train*.

Other recent TV credits include series regular roles in USA's *Briarpatch*, NBC's *The Blacklist: Redemption*, and *StartUp* for Crackle. Edi was unforgettable in a recurring role in *House, MD* opposite Hugh Laurie and as Matias Solomon in NBC's *The Blacklist*.

Other recent film credits include: Netflix's *The Last Thing He Wanted* opposite Anne Hathaway and Willem Dafoe and the Independent film, *Caged* opposite Melora Hardin.

### **Todd Grinnell as SAM // Executive Producer**

Originally from Massachusetts, Todd graduated from Pitzer College in Claremont, California in 1998. Since beginning his career in 2000, Todd has appeared in numerous TV shows including, *Desperate Housewives*, *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, *Grace & Frankie* and *The Young Pope* among others, and he most recently starred in the independent features *Paradise Cove* and *The Time Capsule*. Todd is most well known for his role as "Schneider" in the Norman Lear series *One Day At A Time* on Netflix, and currently stars in the Amazon series, *With Love*.

### **Otmara Marrero as LIZA // Executive Producer**

Born and raised in Miami, FL, Otmara Marrero began her professional career as a dancer for the Miami Marlins before making her theatrical debut in 2015's *Instant Gratification*. She previously starred in the Crackle thriller series *StartUp* as tough-talking hacker Izzy Morales, and in the NBC comedy *Connecting* as a lovesick romance writer. Otmara also held leading roles in the independent features *Vandal* and *Clementine*, the latter of which premiered at the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival. This past spring, she appeared as a series regular alongside Edgar Ramirez and Anthony LaPaglia in the Netflix mini-series *Florida Man*.

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## CREW BIOS

### DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY BIO

#### **Gevorg Juguryan**

Gevorg Gev Juguryan was born and raised in Armenia, where his professional career and education started in film. After graduating in 2002 with a Bachelor's Degree in Film Studies, he immigrated to Los Angeles to continue his education and professional career as a cinematographer. In 2007 he graduated American Film Institute with a Master's of Fine Arts degree in Cinematography. Has 20 years of experience as a cinematographer working on Feature Films, TV Series, Commercials and Music videos.

Juguryan has collaborated amongst both large and small crews internationally on various productions. Television Credits include: "Nova Vita", "StartUp", and "The Oath". Feature Film Credits include: "No Tears in Hell", "Overrun", and the upcoming "The River Wild" for Universal Studios. Music Videos include: "Most Wonder Time" for J.Lo ft Stevie Mackey; "Mia" for Dana Paula; "Blue Emerald" for Young Thug ft. Birdman; and "Tabu" for Pablo Alboran & Ava Max. Member of International Cinematographers Guild (IATSE Local 600).

<https://www.gevjuguryan.com/>

## EDITORS BIOS

#### **David Michael Maurer, ACE**

David Michael Maurer has spent the last 25 years as an Editor in multiple genres, originally starting in Reality TV on the many first seasons and first episodes of shows like "American Idol", "The Apprentice", "Paradise Hotel", and "Ice Cold Gold". He was recognized with two Emmy Nominations for his editing work on "The Apprentice" and two Eddie Award Nominations for his work on "Whale Wars". He later edited Sterlin Harjo's first dramatic Feature Film "Four Sheets to the Wind" and second film "Barking Water" both of which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. He sliced the fan-favorite horror film "Splinter", directed by Toby Wilkins and won the award for Best Editing at the Screamfest Film Festival.

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He also edited on season 2 of "Absentia" starring Stana Katic and most recently, the first two seasons of the FOX's new "Fantasy Island" starring Roselyn Sanchez. In 2013, Maurer became a member of American Cinema Editors. He is graduate of De Anza College in Cupertino, CA and Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. He has also directed multiple music videos and enjoys hanging out with his adorable, adopted pandemic dog named "Winnie Cooper".

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Instagram/Facebook: @davidmichaelmaurer

## **Raúl Marchand Sánchez // Editor**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico and graduate from the School of Fine Arts at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, his fiction film debut was 12 Horas (2001), which he wrote, directed, and edited. It received the Audience Choice award at the Chicago Latino Film Festival and a special mention as Best Narrative and Best New Director at the 2002 Tribeca Film Festival. It was also Puerto Rico's official entry to the 2001 Oscar's as best foreign film.

His second film is of Spanish nationality: a remake of 1962's Atraco a las 3 y Media (2003), produced by Pedro Maso. It was followed by the drama Bala Perdida (2003), for which he received the Best Editing award at the Icaro Film Festival in Guatemala. Afterwards, he directed and edited the television film El Cuerpo del Delito (2005) and in 2006 co-edited the Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony starring El Cantante, directed by Leon Ichaso.

In 2007, Raúl directed and edited Manuela y Manuel, the first Puerto Rican film with a gay lead, and Chiquito pero Juguetón, with the late comedian Luis Raul.

His next feature film, Broche de Oro (2012), an enormous box office success, includes the participation of the award winning actor/director Jacobo Morales as its lead actor.

In 2017 Raúl wrote, edited and directed OVNI, the first science fiction/comedy film from the Dominican Republic, and the prequel Broche de Oro: Comienzos.

He served as editor on the feature films Ana (2020) with Andy Garcia,

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Primal (2019) with Nicholas Cage, American Traitor (2021) with Al Pacino and Force of Nature (2020) with Mel Gibson. He also worked as editor on the Fantasy Island (2021) television update with Roselyn Sanchez and Bravas (2020) an original YouTube episodic drama.

His latest feature film Daniel El Travieso, which he co-wrote, edited and directed, will premier in 2022.

He recently joined DGA as director of episodic prime time drama for Fantasy Island's second season.

## MUSIC SUPERVISOR BIO

### **Melany Mitchell**

Melany Mitchell is a music supervisor for film and television. She got her start as music coordinator on series such as Comedy Central's "Workaholics" and NBC's "This Is Us". Recent projects include Sony's "The Broken Hearts Gallery", Fox's "Fantasy Island", and Freeform's "Everything's Gonna Be Okay". She also supervised Mayim Bialik's writer/director debut "As They Made Us" and the upcoming "The Kill Room", starring Uma Thurman and Samuel L. Jackson.

## COMPOSER BIO

### **Tristan Clopet**

Born in Toronto and bred in North Carolina, New York City and Miami, Tristan Clopet's musical range is as wide as the distance between the cities ("Consequence of Sound.")

Educated at The University of Miami, NYU's Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music, and Berklee College of Music, he's spent his first fifteen years in the music business performing internationally, scoring acclaimed films and television shows and building a massive online presence with his music featured in videos amassing over 31m views on YouTube. Selected credits include **StartUp** on Netflix, AMC's **Pantheon**, CBS's **The Code**, Sundance Film Festival winner **Crown Heights**, and the forthcoming feature film, **The River Wild**, for Universal Studios.

Tristan is a proud member of the Society of Composers and Lyricists and he lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Tracy, and their son.

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## **DOWNLOADABLE ASSETS:**

### **IMAGES:**

#### **Screen Grabs**

Edi Gathegi as Arthur in the short film "Mendo's Carousel". Written and Directed by David Michael Maurer. Photo Credit: Gevorg Juguryan

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GIA-Dh2GRoyW1GIJB5vfuZvhwW-Zeljk/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GIA-Dh2GRoyW1GIJB5vfuZvhwW-Zeljk/view?usp=share_link)

Edi Gathegi as Arthur in the short film "Mendo's Carousel" discovers an intruder. Written and Directed by David Michael Maurer. Photo Credit: Gevorg Juguryan

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GVBIXQUC5vhu92jZFJ8pnunTXrTF9QOY/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GVBIXQUC5vhu92jZFJ8pnunTXrTF9QOY/view?usp=share_link)

Otmara Marrero as Liza in the short film "Mendo's Carousel". Written and Directed by David Michael Maurer. Photo Credit: Gevorg Juguryan

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GRGONeXrbs-oBva8wCvHadmewUZH0xpg/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GRGONeXrbs-oBva8wCvHadmewUZH0xpg/view?usp=share_link)

Otmara Marrero as Liza finding her bag in the short film "Mendo's Carousel". Written and Directed by David Michael Maurer. Photo Credit: Gevorg Juguryan

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GNVCfE5I0DDFOwMrDac\\_1Rph3IUy8rK/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GNVCfE5I0DDFOwMrDac_1Rph3IUy8rK/view?usp=share_link)

Otmara Marrero as Liza and Edi Gathegi as Arthur embrace in the short film "Mendo's Carousel". Written and Directed by David Michael Maurer. Photo Credit: Gevorg Juguryan

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GNyimrBhQ-mU89OWp8OhTZgTb7o3Rk5L/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GNyimrBhQ-mU89OWp8OhTZgTb7o3Rk5L/view?usp=share_link)

Todd Grinnell as Sam in the short film "Mendo's Carousel". Written and Directed by David Michael Maurer. Photo Credit: Gevorg Juguryan

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GZaw\\_rXoFBRF9qVNH5\\_LtX8JPpkiHYnT/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GZaw_rXoFBRF9qVNH5_LtX8JPpkiHYnT/view?usp=share_link)

#### **Headshots**

David Michael Maurer  
Writer, Director, Editor, Executive Producer

Photo Credit: Jeff Farsai

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GsmblTevGiEb4Vjpcaf0mF09C3qsGuYW/view?usp=sharing>

# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.

**Edi Gathegi**

Plays the role of "Arthur", Executive Producer

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wXoQNnuKqAyaE8DqzCGepz6xMjyRKqtK/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wXoQNnuKqAyaE8DqzCGepz6xMjyRKqtK/view?usp=share_link)

**Todd Grinnell**

Plays the role of "Sam", Executive Producer

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BAanl3PdDWK75vwQAyc4sYVubZfVkyWD/view?usp=sharing>

**Otmara Marrero**

Plays the role of "Liza", Executive Producer

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/165CnereRbC9UZrICV1ZsdH4TFMb0m10B/view?usp=sharing>

**Laura Boersma**

Producer, Grandfalloon Productions

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZkSy9aycYSLhfLkPvY8YVp6UAI7mJ4yQ/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZkSy9aycYSLhfLkPvY8YVp6UAI7mJ4yQ/view?usp=share_link)

**Randy Sosin**

Producer

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HafE9O7zoP9KHxZd5y3Ztuta4B55IU7k/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HafE9O7zoP9KHxZd5y3Ztuta4B55IU7k/view?usp=share_link)

**Cinematographer**

Gevorg Juguryan

Raul Marchand Sánchez

Editor

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ng2Srxh40vCHNiGi2PH29zFBZ96H3Htb/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ng2Srxh40vCHNiGi2PH29zFBZ96H3Htb/view?usp=share_link)

**Composer**

Tristan Clopet

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RfllHbAmonpZEsfQ2bd5N-zXKSr5SuU5/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RfllHbAmonpZEsfQ2bd5N-zXKSr5SuU5/view?usp=share_link)

**Music Supervisor**

Melany Mitchell

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1H1Hmw1wE0KLNfodVtHKs3dVPy\\_ijnROB/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1H1Hmw1wE0KLNfodVtHKs3dVPy_ijnROB/view?usp=share_link)

**Reaktor Post Production - San Juan, Puerto Rico**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/18P002VGWbDEOmRo5UYI6x4WO9EIDI0dK/view?usp=sharing>



# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.

## **Behind the Scenes**

Cast and Director (Editorial Use Only)

From Left to Right: Todd Grinnell, David Michael Maurer, Otmara Marrero, Edi Gathegi

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GqJ\\_652RLZxcY8mZfMtqtZpeltoORnpJ/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GqJ_652RLZxcY8mZfMtqtZpeltoORnpJ/view?usp=share_link)

## **Posters**

Official Teaser Poster (Editorial Use Only)

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FY\\_pG9XYhaeUJDRis59D059Oef5pjXW/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FY_pG9XYhaeUJDRis59D059Oef5pjXW/view?usp=share_link)

Official Payoff Poster (Editorial Use Only)

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FWjr52-Bq1V-wdfLzlO8zSu0nFFmDRQo/view?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FWjr52-Bq1V-wdfLzlO8zSu0nFFmDRQo/view?usp=share_link)

## **Video**

Official Trailer

Youtube Link:

<https://youtu.be/LqxuQvA9Jfl>

Editorial: Please contact the producers for a downloadable video link.

## **CREDITS**

Opening Logos:  
Carve and Chisel Logo  
Granfalloon Productions Logo

MENDO'S CAROUSEL  
  
(MAIN TITLE END CREDITS)

CARD 1  
Written and Directed by  
David Michael Maurer

CARD 2  
Produced by  
Laura Boersma  
Randy Sosin

CARD 3  
Executive Producer

# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

**...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.**

Edi Gathegi

CARD 4

Executive Producer  
Todd Grinnell

CARD 5

Executive Producer  
Otmara Marrero

CARD 6

Executive Producer  
David Michael Maurer

CARD 7

Edi Gathegi

CARD 8

Todd Grinnell

CARD 9

Otmara Marrero

CARD 10

Director of Photography  
Gevorg Juguryan

CARD 11

Edited by  
David Michael Maurer, ACE  
Raúl Marchand Sánchez

CARD 11.5

Music Supervisor  
Melany Mitchell

CARD 12

Music by  
Tristan Clopet

CARD 13

Carve & Chisel Presents

CARD 14

In Association with

# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

**...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.**

Granfalloon Productions

CARD 15

A David Michael Maurer Short

MAINTITLE

Mendo's Carousel

(Begin End Credit Scroll)

1st Assistant Director  
Randy Sosin

Cast

|        |                |
|--------|----------------|
| Arthur | Edi Gathegi    |
| Sam    | Todd Grinnell  |
| Liza   | Otmara Marrero |

1st Assistant Camera  
Samuel Johnson

2nd Assistant Camera  
Cristobal Solorzan  
Gaffer  
Ben Bowen

Key Grip  
Vince Urguieta

Sound Mixer  
Lance Bailey

Boom Operator  
Bradley Cook

Hair and Makeup  
Julie DiMartino

Covid Officer  
Michael Cornacchia

Covid Assistant  
Daniel Krauchenberg

Production Insurance  
Maurice Taylor

# **MENDO'S** **CAROUSEL**

**...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.**

Insurance Brokers

Production Legal  
Roger Goff

1st Assistant Editor  
Robert Zalkind

ADR Recording  
Private Island Audio

DAILIES, DIGITAL INTERMEDIATE & VISUAL EFFECTS BY REAKTOR POST  
(SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO)

Post-Accounting  
Matilde Albanese

IT Services  
Ismael Alicea

## DIGITAL INTERMEDIATE

Colorist  
Edgar Lebrón

Conform Editor  
Leah N. Aldarondo Pérez

## VISUAL EFFECTS

Post Production & VFX Supervisor  
Francisco Cueto

VFX Coordinator  
Alfredo Colón

Sound Design  
Carlos Dávila  
Denes Pagán

Dialog & ADR Editor  
Jesus Muñoz

Re-Recording Mixer

# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

**...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.**

Johannes Peters

"Sweet Love"

Written by Craig Hardy and Carolyn Jordan  
Courtesy of Audio Network

"Crazy"

Written by Tim Garland  
Courtesy of Audio Network

"Only You"

Written by Bruce Maginnis  
Courtesy of Audio Network

"Mars"

Written and Performed by Elizabeth Moen  
By arrangement with Ghost Town, Inc.

Very Special Thanks...

Martha Maurer  
Andrew Maurer  
John Stewart Muller  
Ted Kroeber

Special thanks to SAG-AFTRA

Special Thanks

Josiah Akinyele  
Austin Beart  
Dylan Campbell  
Keith Andreen  
Kevin Armstrong  
Aric Avelino  
Mike "Big Bear" Benson  
Scott Boyd  
Laura Belsey  
Mónica Calderon  
Jon Caligiuri  
John Chisholm  
Julius Cheung  
Anne Clements  
Frankie Cueto

# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

**...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.**

Mitch Danton  
Patrick Deluca  
David DeSantos  
Leah Ellis  
Nena Erb  
Leo Fialho  
Ray Figueroa  
Dachia Garavaryan  
Craig Gartner  
Tom Malian  
John Glosser  
Mark Goldman  
Chris Hanada  
Gary Harding  
Melissa Hirschenson  
Matthew Currie Holmes  
Amanda Homer  
Patrick Johnson  
Sean Johnson  
Adam Kane  
Ben Ketai  
Daniel Korb  
Blair Kroeber  
Kurt Kuenne  
Will Lee  
Kris Lev  
Adam Lev  
Kari Lev  
Plastic Palmtree  
Masha Kupets Navarre

Meredith Littas  
Pedro Muñiz López  
Alejandra López  
Lance MacDonald  
Patrick Maurer  
Jessica Maurer  
Jane Maurer  
Mary Maurer  
Jeff McGowan  
Kathleen McInnis  
Andrew Neel  
Jamie Neese  
Kelly Neese  
John Ottman  
Tyler Poelle  
George Pilkinton  
Jenny Deiker Restivo  
Sam Restivo  
Zoe Ritchken  
Michael Ruscio

# **MENDO'S CAROUSEL**

**...Life is tougher when you're spinning alone.**

Ed Salier  
Patty Salier  
Ahkeith Salley  
Ivana Savic - GSK Talent  
Dave Scales  
Jason Spire  
Maurice Taylor  
Julio (Doc) César Torres  
Victor Teran  
Ari Welkom  
Jude Weng  
Toby Wilkins  
Rob Zalkind  
Toluca Lake Dry Cleaners  
James Marshall  
Gina Kozai  
Mike Palmer - TRIO Entertainment  
City of Burbank  
Film Burbank  
Joel Aponte Ortiz  
Andres Ramirez Molina  
María Julia Dávila  
Cameron Zetty  
Gerardo López

In Loving Memory of  
Jane Jenkins, Malcolm Jenkins, and Larry Jenkins

(LOGOS)  
SAG, AVID, REAKTOR, ARRI

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