

SAL NESLUSAN

CAMILLE CHEN

A smartphone with a cracked screen is the central focus. The screen displays a close-up of a woman's face, which is partially obscured by the cracks. The background behind the phone is dark and moody, with some blurred lights.

make
the
call

directed by
CHELSEA
GONZALEZ

written by
SAL
NESLUSAN

starring Sal Neslusan Camille Chen Gunnar Anderson Hazel Aubrey
music by Matilda Bådagård edited by Jack Lawrence Mayer production design by Fernanda Cabarcos
cinematography by Allie Shultz produced by Amanda Markowitz Chelsea Gonzalez Sal Neslusan
written by Sal Neslusan directed by Chelsea Gonzalez



Logline

Two former best friends reunite in a changed world, finally confronting the demons that ripped them apart.

Synopsis

Annie and Caro were best friends until a plague that turns American citizens into blood thirsty killers overtakes the country. Tonight, they reunite to finally find a way to rekindle their friendship. Can Annie and Caro bury the past behind them, or will Annie be forced to 'Make the Call' that will change her friend's life forever.

Directors Statement

When Sal came to me with the script for Make the Call, I knew I had to direct it. The way the pieces of the story slowly came together both excited and scared me. Getting to explore the fine line of how much to reveal to the audience and how quickly was a challenge that I was dying to take on. The deep-rooted message of Sal's story has always been clear to me. My goal, was to find a way to present this beautiful metaphor in a way that still kept the story exciting, nuanced, emotional, and suspenseful. Having mostly worked on comedic material, this project has sparked in me a newfound love for directing the heightened and stylized genre film.

Chelsea Gonzalez

Director



A Note from the Writer

When I was a little girl, my grandmother used to play with my ringlets and croon, *"There was a little girl, who had a little curl, right in the middle of her forehead. And when she was good, she was very very good. But when she was bad... she was horrid"*. The memory of those moments with my grandmother is a sweet one, but years later when I found myself in the darkest moments of an abusive relationship, that rhyme would echo through my brain- taunting me. With him, when things were good they *did* feel very very good, and I was desperate to preserve that feeling. Suddenly, I found myself quitting jobs and turning down opportunities he felt threatened by, deferring to his taste in all things, and ghosting friends who saw the truth behind our unhealthy relationship. Because when things were bad...

Make the Call is a cautionary tale about what happens when feeding a monster becomes the only way to survive. The inspiration for the script came from the feeling I had after finally confronting my ex about his abuse, and began carefully reintroducing all the parts of myself I killed off to feed his desire for control. I wanted to write a short film about the way that I cannibalized parts of my life to help my abuser thrive, and the wreckage left in that terrible wake.

Sal Neslusan
Writer

Make the Call



Contact

Director: Chelsea Gonzalez

Email- cagonzalez200@gmail.com

Website: www.ChelseaGonzalez.com



Make the Call



Technical Details:

Title: Make the Call

Run Time: 15:00

Aspect Ratio: 2.40

Camera: Alexa Mini

Sound: 5.1 Surround

Language: English

Shooting Location: Glassell Park, Los Angeles

Year: 2022



Cast:



Sal Neslusan (Caro/Writer/Producer) is an actress, writer, and producer originally from Webster Massachusetts. After graduating Summa Cum Laude from Syracuse University, she moved to LA and began working in TV and film. First by acting, (favorite credit include *Criminal Minds* and *Her name was No one*). Then acting and producing (*Professional Friend*), and finally acting, writing, and producing (*Roomiess*). In 2019 she discovered a passion for climate activism and co-founded *Sustainable is Sexy*, a digital content initiative that creates short, comedic, commercials and

PSAs for zero-waste products and low-impact living. She currently lives in LA with her wonderful husband and beloved brood of tiny rescue animals.

Camille Chen (Annie) recently wrapped *Renfield*, a Universal monster comedy where she had the pleasure of playing Awkwafina's big sister - it's slated for theatrical release in April 2023. *Station 19* is the latest recurring role for Camille, who has made a name for herself with over 40 guest star episodic credits in both comedy and drama, ranging from *Insecure*, *Drunk History*, and *2 Broke Girls*, to *American Horror Story*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Shameless*, and *Dirty John*. Her feature work includes a memorable turn opposite Jason Bateman and Rachel McAdams in the hit comedy *GAME NIGHT*.



Key Crew:



Chelsea Gonzalez (Director) strives to tell stories that explore the darkest parts of ourselves and our society while still cultivating light, laughter, and suspense. She was named 'Most Powerful Voice' by Blackbird film Festival for her first short film, '*Susanne and The Man*' – a title that defines the work she hopes to create.

A strong voice with something to say. She is currently in the midst of a shopping agreement on her feature script '*Women in Jeopardy*.' The film is a fun and poignant look at America's obsession with the dead girl. '*Legit Married*,' A pilot she directed, won best web pilot at Dances with Films and is currently in development with Define American. Chelsea maintains a passion for creating character driven genre films as well as feel-good comedies. No matter the genre, she deeply believes in the importance of stories and the incredible impact they can have on the world.

Amanda Markowitz (Producer) is an independent producer committed to bringing stories to life from inception to completion. A Los Angeles native, Amanda graduated Magna Cum Laude from USC's Marshall School of Business. She is the Owner and Co-Founder of Three Tales Productions and has produced numerous award-winning films. Her most recent projects include *The Voices*, starring Lin Shaye and Brendan Sexton III, *Love Meet Hope*, starring the late Emmy-award winning actor, Ed Asner, and *What the Elf*, starring George Wendt. In her personal life, Amanda is the dog mom to two rescue dogs and an actual mom to her two daughters, Hazel and Lily, her proudest accomplishments thus far.



Allie Shultz (Cinematographer)

is a cinematographer and Texas native based in Los Angeles. She grew up working on the family cattle ranch, but put her boots up to attend Savannah College of Art and Design, where she earned a BFA in Film and Television. After working in the camera



department on the *Walking Dead*, she attended the American Film Institute Conservatory and received a MFA in their globally recognized cinematography program.

Allie works in all formats, with a focus on narrative and commercials. Her films have gone on to screen at major festivals, including SXSW, Tribeca, and EnergaCAMERIMAGE. She is a 2022 International Cinematographers Guild Emerging Cinematographer Award recipient, which is the only award show in the industry that specifically celebrates the work of up-and-coming cinematographers.



Jack Lawrence Mayer (Editor/Colorist) is a writer, editor, and director from Atlanta, Georgia, based in Los Angeles by way of Chicago. He is known for the HBO mini-series, *Single Long*, and for his work on the digital comedy series, *Moonlighter to Mars* (Big Breakfast / Collegehumor), and *Distance: The Series* (Odessa Mama), which premiered at SXSW and was named by Indiewire as one of the Top Five Digital Series of 2018. Most recently, Jack wrote, directed, and edited his first feature film, *Big House*, which won Best Feature at the 2020 Rhode

Island International Film Festival and the 2020 NoHo Cinefest, and was released by Gravitax Ventures in August of 2021.

Matilda Badagard (Composer) is a Swedish singer, multi musician, touring artist and film composer based in Stockholm. She loves to think outside the box when composing film scores and works with organic, often raw, sounds and real instruments.



Fernanda Cabarcos (Production Designer)

"Fernanda is an LA based Production Designer for film and television. Originally from Mexico City, she found her love for film making at a young age and has been developing her skill set ever since. Her film Production Design credits include: What the Elf?! (2022), Raul Playing Game (2022), Make the Call (2021), Hang Up (2020). Her Credit for Art Director includes the feature film Tacoma (2021). She was art lead for "El Pueblo" Challenge for the Season 33 Finale of the Amazing Race (2021). Additionally, Fernanda is a self-taught prop maker, scenic painter and continues to grow her SFX skills,

as well as her digital illustration and graphic design skills. Awarded the 2021 Excellence in Film Crafts award by Women in Media for her work in the art department for the short film "Moon" part of the CAMERADERIE initiative. She always looks for a way to challenge herself and pushes the boundaries of what is expected, to deliver a great visual story.

Make the Call

Additional credits

Cast

Caro	Sal Neslusan
Annie	Camille Chen
Bryan	Gunnar Anderson
Kaia	Hazel Wizenberg

Crew

First Assistant Director	Billy Sullivan
Production Designer	Fernanda Cabarcos
Set Dresser	Ai Kojima
Costume Designer	Katherine Hegarty
1 st Assistant Camera	Amber Buchanan
2 nd Assistant Camera	Linnea Joelsson
Script Supervisor	Hayley Palmaer
Sound Designer	Maladan Jurkovic
Sound Mixer	Edgar Cortes
Gaffers	Aiden De Jong
	Peter Nile
	Megan Lau
Key Grip	Manchin Hsiung
Swing	Wesley Henry
Makeup Artist	Itze De Jesus
BTS Photographer	Kris Miranda
Production Assistant	Katie Baker
	Cameron Kelly

