

CHASING CHASING AMY

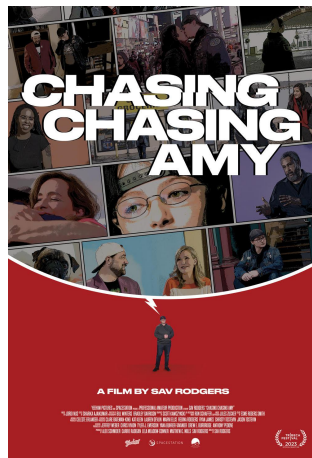
A FILM BY SAV RODGERS

WORLD PREMIERE Tribeca Film Festival 2023

YEAR 2023

COUNTRY U.S.A.

RUN TIME 95 minutes



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LOGLINE

On a quest to understand how a divisive LGBTQ+ '90s rom-com saved his life, a filmmaker is confronted with truths that will ultimately shape who he becomes.

SYNOPSIS

CHASING CHASING AMY explores the transformational impact of a '90s rom-com on a 12 year old kid from Kansas, coming of age and contending with queer identity. For young Sav Rodgers, the Kevin Smith cult classic, CHASING AMY, became a life raft. As Rodgers examines the film and its making as a cornerstone of LGBTQ+ cinema, he finds himself at a complicated crossroads.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT FROM SAV RODGERS

“What I’m ultimately chasing with this documentary is the reality that humanity lives in all of us. Having spent years defending my love for CHASING AMY to fellow members of the queer community, I began to explore how multiple things can be true at once. This movie that saved my life also holds a complicated and controversial history in queer film canon. I’m not seeking to change anyone’s mind with this film, but to recognize the importance of engaging in dialogue around different perspectives and understanding where and why they come about—be it personal, cultural, or historical.

From queer kid in Kansas, to beginning the process of transitioning, and unpacking the emotional baggage that has come along the way, my life contains many additional plot lines.

Though I was initially resistant to appearing in the film, it became clear that throughout the telling of this story, I was changing both by becoming more myself and absorbing other personal perspectives to consider alongside my own. I have felt extremely vulnerable to admit my naivety, how much to reveal, how much to personally reckon with, and the risks of making difficult decisions. That said, I believe the only way to tell this story was to underscore the personal significance. To say it has been easy would be disingenuous and I have no interest in that.

By including my personal story (at least a part of it) in the film, I hope that CHASING CHASING AMY can offer hope to anyone experiencing life’s struggles that can feel permanent and impossible. In my experience, nothing is. My journey of transition, in tandem with reconciling my relationship with CHASING AMY is illustrative of the power of story and its life-saving responsibility and capabilities—coincidental or otherwise.”

KEY INTERVIEWEES

Joey Lauren Adams - Star of *CHASING AMY*

Andrew Ahn - Director of *FIRE ISLAND*

Bob Hawk - Associate Producer,
CHASING AMY

Trish Bendix - Lesbian Writer & Critic

Jason Lee - Actor, *CHASING AMY*

Scott Mosier - Producer, *CHASING AMY*

Kevin Smith - Director, *CHASING AMY*

Guinevere Turner - Actor, *CHASING AMY*

Princess Weekes - Writer, *The Mary Sue*

Kevin Willmott - Oscar-winning Screenwriter

Allison Yarrow - Author, *'90s Bitch*

FILMMAKING TEAM

SAV RODGERS, DIRECTED & PRODUCED BY

Originally from Kansas, Sav Rodgers is a filmmaker and screenwriter whose feature directorial debut *CHASING CHASING AMY* is about the complicated legacy of *Chasing Amy* (1997) and its profound impression on his life. The TED Talk he gave in 2018 kickstarted this filmmaking journey, and spurred the writing of scripts that center on highly specific, surprising stories about queer people. His screenplays have been recognized by GLAAD, Outfest, ScreenCraft, among others. An alumnus of the Producers Guild of America's inaugural PGA Create program, Sav is also the Founder and Executive Director of the Transgender Film Center, a nonprofit aiming to help trans creators bring finished films to audiences around the world. Sav is a proud University of Kansas graduate and still sports KU baseball caps wherever he goes.

ALEX SCHMIDER, PRODUCED BY

Alex Schmider is an Emmy®, Peabody, and Critics Choice Award nominated film producer and the Director of Transgender Representation at GLAAD, the nation's leading LGBTQ media advocacy organization. In his work, he advises media and entertainment industry leaders, and consults with production companies, editorial teams, brands, and corporations on LGBTQ and, specifically, transgender inclusion, characters, and storylines. His producing credits include audience-award winning and critically acclaimed films *CHANGING THE GAME* (Tribeca 2019, Hulu), *DISCLOSURE* (Sundance 2020, Netflix), *FRAMING AGNES* (Sundance 2022, Kino Lorber), and *STAY ON BOARD: THE LEO BAKER STORY* (Outfest 2022, Netflix) with *CHASING CHASING AMY* to premiere at Tribeca summer 2023. A member of the Producers Guild of America and the Television Academy, he also sits on the board for The 19th News. As a former Forbes 30 Under 30 list maker for media, Alex is gleefully no longer under 30.

CARRIE RADIGAN, PRODUCED BY

Carrie Radigan is head of production at Professional Amateur Productions. With roots in post production, Carrie has supervised and post produced for various films, and her background comes from her previous post work for VICE, Sim, Senior Post, and Light Iron, a Panavision Company. She is currently in post production on the documentary *CHASING CHASING AMY* by Sav Rodgers, which will premiere in 2023. She's a board member of Blue Collar Post Collective and is a co-founder of Martini Shot, an art salon based in New York for creatives of various mediums and backgrounds to gather and showcase their work.

LELA MEADOW-CONNER, PRODUCED BY

Lela Meadow-Conner is a recognized Creative Producer and Founder of mamafilm, an organization where storytellers, changemakers and nurturers come together to champion humanity through a maternal gaze. With 20 years of experience in independent cinema exhibition, Lela most recently served as the Executive Director of Film Festival Alliance. She is producing several projects including Sav Rodgers' directorial debut *CHASING CHASING AMY* and Nitzan Mager's *RUN AMOK*, a scorching satire on the state of gun violence in American schools. Lela serves on the board of Los Angeles' iconic Vidiots Foundation as well as the inaugural board for the Art House Convergence. She currently lives in Wichita with her family, including two daughters.

MATTHEW C. MILLS, PRODUCED BY

Matthew C. Mills is an Emmy® and Webby Award-winning Director, Writer and Executive Producer. He founded Spacestation in 2007 after many years at MTV and VH1 as a production and development executive. Matthew's diverse range of credits have found him working in features, commercials, music, television and web series. Highlights include *MTV UNPLUGGED*, *WELL GROOMED*, *THIS IS A SHOW FOR PARENTS OF GAY KIDS*, *THE WORLD SERIES OF VIDEO GAMES* and *OBE FITNESS*. Clients and partners include HBO, Food Network, Bravo, Javelin, CBS, Nickelodeon, Young & Rubicam, Vogue, Razorfish, VML, Wired Magazine, and more. Matthew is an alumnus of the University of Missouri and Stephens College. His work has been featured all over the world but Brooklyn, New York is home.

SHARIKA AJAIKUMAR, EDITED BY

Sharika Ajaikumar is a Senior Editor at Space Station, where her credits include *FOR FLINT*. She was born in India, grew up in the UAE, spent a couple of years in the UK and China. Sharika received her M.A. in Television, Radio & Film from S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Syracuse University.

JORDI NUS, ORIGINAL MUSIC BY

Recently nominated on the Jerry Goldsmith Awards as "Best Original Music for TV," Jordi Nus is a composer and violinist based between Los Angeles and Barcelona. He graduated with a Master of Scoring for Film and Multimedia in the New York University as a recipient of the prestigious Alan Menken Scholarship. His most recent credits include Disney+ Documentary "Wolfgang", ABC Documentary Series "City of Angels, City of Death" and TV Movie "Vida Privada." He has also written additional music for HBO thriller show "The Girl Before" and "Tokyo Vice," Amazon Studio show "Night Sky" and National Geographic documentary "Torn." His music has been published by MPATH, OmniMusic, FineTune Music and he works as a freelance composer for Found Objects Music and Future Perfect Music. Nus is also a very active concert composer and his symphonic and chamber works have been performed all over the world.

BILL WINTERS, DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Bill Winters is a multi-award winning cinematographer with over 20 years in the film and television industry. Bill graduated from NYU Tisch School of the Arts program with a concentration in cinematography. His recent projects include *HAMILTON*, *CONFESSIONS OF A KILLER: THE TED BUNDY TAPES*, *JEFFREY EPSTEIN: FILTHY RICH*, *COMEDIANS IN CARS GETTING COFFEE*, *THE MAGIC OF HEINEKEN* and *THIRTEEN REASONS WHY: BEYOND THE REASONS*.

BRADLEY GARRISON, DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Bradley Garrison is a below-the-line Jack-of-all-trades based in Los Angeles, CA. He has worked with Professional Amateur Productions as a cinematographer, camera operator, grip, electrician, photographer, digital imaging technician, and editor since 2017. He is currently the Co-Director of Photography, Editor, and Associate Producer of *CHASING CHASING AMY*. Bradley also served in the United States Marine Corps and once had a job as a Mariachi.

FULL CREDITS

Directed by

Sav Rodgers

Produced by

Sav Rodgers
Alex Schmider
Carrie Radigan
Lela Meadow-Conner
Matthew C. Mills

Executive Producers

Jeffrey Weber
Tyler J. Emerson
Yana Buhner-Tavanier
Drew E. Burbridge
Anthony Pedone
Chris Vivion

Co-Producer

Bradley Garrison

Archival Producer

Celeste Erlander

Associate Producers

Clare Bateman-King
Kat Klein
Lauren Devlin
Marni Ellis
Regina Rodgers
Ryan James

Edited by Christy Tostevin
Jason Tostevin

Director of Photography Sharika Ajaikumar

Composer Bill Winters
Bradley Garrison

Jordi Nus

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KEY PRESS NOTES

- Only refer to Sav using his name and he/him pronouns
- Sav is a transgender man
- When referring to Sav in the past, use “queer kid” or “teenager” – no other adjectives or descriptives should be used to describe his gender or sexual orientation
- For more about covering the LGBTQ community, the [GLAAD Media Reference Guide](#)