

FutureClown Productions presents

MY BROTHER'S KILLER
World Premiere: SXSW

RUN TIME: 96 minutes
Year of Production: 2026
Year of Release: 2026
Country of Production: U.S.A.
Language: English
Genre: Documentary Film

KEY ART POSTER
PHOTOS

Variety

"*My Brother's Killer* succeeds on the core level of providing an absorbing real-life mystery whose long-in-coming resolution adds new layers of strangeness and sorrow."

Deadline

"Riveting... Williams' powers of perception lead the film to its extraordinary conclusion, smoking out a killer who was hiding in plain sight at every step of the way."

The Hollywood Reporter

"It goes beyond sensationalizing to explore something more sinister within the neon-lit world of '80s Los Angeles."

Queerty

"For thirty-three years, the cold case gathered dust in an era where anti-gay crimes—and those targeting sex workers in particular—were often met with indifference."

The Advocate

"The unsolved murder, dubbed the 'gay Black Dahlia,' was cracked wide open by filmmaker Rachel Mason.

The Queer Review

"One reveal after another comes quick and fast in the final act, and I honestly sat with my mouth agape in response to what unfolded... *My Brother's Killer* serves as a reckoning for all of us."

LA Times

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Log Line

A filmmaker's quest to make a documentary detailing a cold-case homicide that shook the world of gay porn in 1990 leads to stunning revelations and an unexpected answer.

Synopsis

In 1990, the severed head of Bill Newton, also known as Billy London, a gay adult film performer, was discovered in a dumpster in West Hollywood. After three decades, this documentary ignited an investigation which ultimately led to a resolution to the murder. The answers to this gruesome crime shed new light on one of the most violent chapters in gay history.

Director's Statement

When I made *Circus of Books*, I came to learn that the gay adult video store my parents ran for decades held a specific place in the community at a time when AIDS was pervasive. I did not fully grasp until entering the story of Bill Newton's murder, that something else was just as lethal for gay people, an epidemic of homophobic violence.

My Brother's Killer explores the trauma of hate that many gay men endured, while celebrating the resilience and vitality of a culture which refused to be suppressed.

I came into this project hoping to solve Billy's murder and against all odds, we did. No one person solved this crime. Rather, a community solved his murder. Billy represented more than just one young man. His story reflects a generation. And that is why this film offers a resounding message of hope for all minority groups living in the present moment in America.

- Rachel Mason

The Billy London Case

Billy London was the stage name of William Arnold Newton, a young man who worked in LA's gay adult film industry in the late 1980s as an actor and also as a hair and makeup artist.

Born in Ladysmith, a small town in rural northern Wisconsin, he ran away from home at the age of 15. After living in Dallas, Texas for a short time, he eventually moved to Los Angeles, where he lived until his death. He was last seen at Rage nightclub on October 28, 1990.

The next day, October 29, his head and feet were discovered in a dumpster in an alley behind Santa Monica Boulevard in Hollywood. Because the LAPD did not recover his hands, his remains went unidentified for the first crucial days of the investigation. He was identified on November 1, 1990, the day that his roommates filed a missing persons report.

The early investigation was also hampered by the fact that Billy was just one of 991 murders reported in Los Angeles in 1990. The case, initially helmed by Detective Dennis Kilkoyn and later by Detective Wendi Berndt, resulted in many leads, however no suspects were ever charged. Repeated attempts to reopen the case over the next twenty years also proved futile.

In 2020, Billy's story was featured on *The Dinner Party Show* podcast, hosted by authors Christopher Rice and Eric Shaw Quinn. Simultaneously, filmmaker Rachel Mason started investigating the case with the goal of making a documentary detailing Billy's life.

Social Media

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

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

BIOS

Rachel Mason: Director/Producer

Rachel Mason is a Los Angeles based filmmaker. She received an Emmy nomination for the Netflix original documentary *Circus of Books*, her biographical portrait of growing up as the child of the owners of a legendary adult bookstore that served as a cornerstone of the gay community during the height of the AIDS crisis.

In 2025, Mason directed the HBO Max series *An Update on Our Family*, which has since been cited in legal arguments advocating for changes to legislation concerning children on the internet. That same year, Hulu released the authorized documentary she directed about the death of her friend Halyna Hutchins on the set of *Rust* entitled, *Last Take: Rust and the Story of Halyna*.

Dion Labriola: Editor/Producer

Dion Labriola is an animator, editor, and filmmaker living in Los Angeles. Originally from Akron, Ohio he spent several years in Chicago where he worked as a DJ/VJ at the legendary nightclub, Berlin. He also produced music videos for some local Chicago artists, including Industrial pioneers, My Life With The Thrill Kill Kult.

After moving to Los Angeles he worked as an editor on several cable documentaries including *The Universe*, *Life After People*, and *Big History*. He has also produced music videos for some Los Angeles musicians.

He produced and directed *Dear Ike: Lost Letters to a Teen Idol*, an animated documentary about his childhood dreams of one day being a "movie maker." Distributed nationally by PBS SoCal in 2023, the film won Best Documentary Feature at the National Arts & Entertainment Journalism Awards. It has since become an annual staple of Pride-Month programming on PBS stations across the country.

Before working with Rachel on *My Brother's Killer*, he worked on *Circus of Books* as the editor of that film's sizzle reel.

Penelope Spheeris: Executive Producer

Penelope Spheeris is often referred to as a "Rock 'n Roll Anthropologist." In 1974 she formed

the first Los Angeles music video company, ROCK 'N' REEL. Her feature film debut, *The Decline of Western Civilization*, documented the late-70s LA punk scene. Though critically acclaimed, it could not get distribution at the time. It was recently inducted into the National Film Registry of the Library of Congress.

In 1983 she wrote and directed *Suburbia*, a disturbing, prophetic story of rebellious young punks. In the mid-80s she directed *The Boys Next Door* (Charlie Sheen), a film about how perfectly-normal-looking boys, whose anger has long been repressed, can be walking time bombs. She then directed *Dudes*, starring Jon Cryer and musician, Flea.

The Decline Part II: The Metal Years, released in 1988, features Ozzy Osbourne, Steven Tyler, Alice Cooper, Lemmy of Motorhead, Poison, etc., making it one of the most remarkable pieces of rock-film history. *The Decline Part III*, released in 1998, documents the eerily similar lives of the punk kids in *Suburbia*.

In 1992, Spheeris directed her 7th feature, *Wayne's World*. She then wrote and directed *The Little Rascals* (Universal), directed and produced *The Beverly Hillbillies* (Fox), and directed *Black Sheep* (Paramount). In 1999, Spheeris documented The Ozzfest in *We Sold Our Souls For Rock 'N Roll*.

Bruno Coviello: Composer

Bruno Coviello is a producer and composer living in Brooklyn, New York whose "razor sharp sensually charged production skills" (Fader Magazine) are featured on tracks with artists like Light Asylum (DFA records) and L'Rain's Taja Cheek.

Bruno has contributed his "electro goth stompers" (New Yorker) and cinematic compositions to the cult classic film Party Monster and fashion runways for Miu Miu. He's been featured in the New York Times and Rolling Stone magazine.

CREDITS

Director	Rachel Mason
Executive Producers	Penelope Spheeris Josh Braun Ben Braun
Producers	Rachel Mason Dion Labriola
Writers	Rachel Mason Dion Labriola James Cude
Editor	Dion Labriola
Director of Cinematography	Michael Pessah, Asc
Original Score	Bruno Coviello
Re-Recording Mixer/Sound Designer	Patrick Sexton, Cas
Archival Producer	Amanda Rose