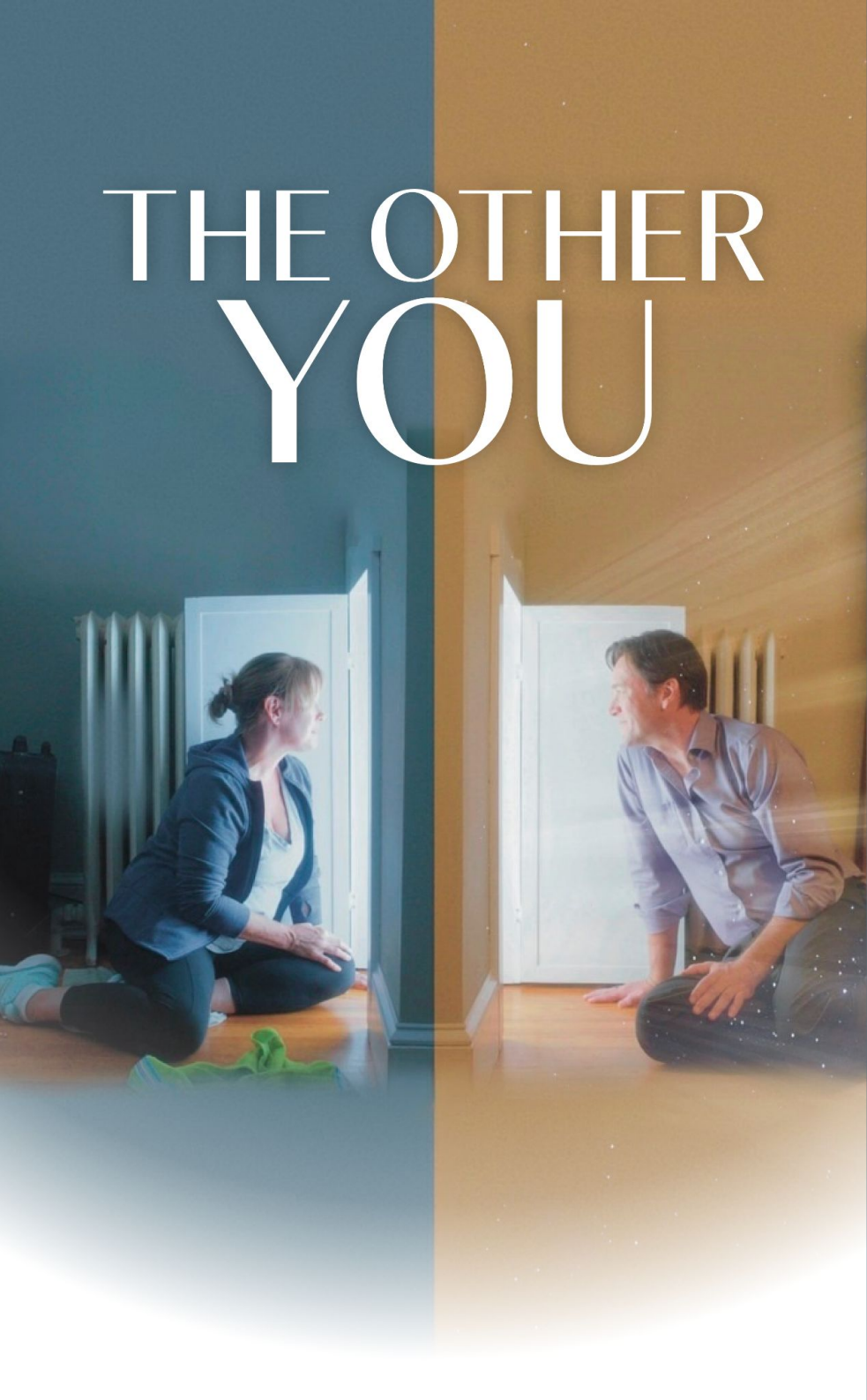


THE OTHER YOU

A woman in a blue jacket and black pants is kneeling on the left side of a doorway, looking towards a man. The man, wearing a light blue shirt and dark pants, is kneeling on the right side of the doorway, looking back at the woman. The scene is split vertically by the doorway, with a dark blue background on the left and a warm, golden-brown background on the right. The floor is light-colored wood.

**a feature film
directed by
Shoshana Rosenbaum**

Press Kit

Logline

A writer, wife and mom of three discovers a tiny door in her closet that leads to another version of her life.



Synopsis

Fed up taking care of everyone's needs but her own, writer, wife and mom Annie discovers a tiny door in her closet that leads to what appears to be a better version of her life: a sweet and perfect doppelganger of her husband, well-behaved and helpful kids, a writing mentor who lives next door. But as this "Closet" family begins to reveal their flaws, Annie's place in this new world is challenged by the Closet version of herself.

Artists' Statements

DIRECTOR As an artist who's also a mom, I've long been long interested in how people balance the transcendent state necessary to make art with the grounded state necessary to be a parent. Who wouldn't want to find a little door in their closet that leads to a different, seemingly better, version of their life? *The Other You* doesn't shy away from the challenges of family relationships, of looking around in midlife and wondering if this is the life you meant to be living. But it is ultimately an optimistic story about finding yourself, and reconnecting to your appreciation for the people you love. I hope the audience enjoys going through the portal with us. It's a surreal but positive story, and we need that right now.

WRITER I've never been fabulous at transitions. The rapid fire shifts between writing, parenting, partnering, laundry, dishes and back to writing can push me to the brink. Sometimes to the brink of giving up on creativity in favor of eating soup and sometimes to the brink of rage. Muscling through these transitions can twist me and perhaps all of us out of shape. This all got me thinking and meditating. Why do I know so many Gen Xers whose division of labor is not what they'd hoped? Why do our racy fantasies turn to who washes the dishes? When it matters most, can partners make a fervent choice to commit and recommit, even amidst these challenges? Meditations on these topics led me to write a film exploring them, a film in which people meditate. About these topics. We are excited to meditate on them with you.



Shoshana and Julie, with actor Jules Kanarek, on the set of *The Other You*.

Artists' Statements

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Every mom knows the impossibility of achieving 'work-life balance.' As a mom I often feel like the world is in constant motion and my attention is being pulled in many directions. In addition to this, the expectation to care, perform, achieve, provide, referee, validate, and educate, pushes against the need to make money, run a business, create art, set an example, and care for ourselves somewhere in there.

This film explores this friction. For me as a cinematographer, I was excited to search for a way to convey a visual aesthetic that matches the inner chaos and fury of this feeling, as well as finding a contrasting look that matches the dreamscape of calm, support, and comfort we crave. By exploring lighting, color, lenses, and filters, I created a visual portal to allow the audience to feel the way our protagonist feels.

Working on this project was a dream because for a brief moment, I felt I had achieved the 'work-life balance'. I can't even begin to count the times I wished I could be on a set, creating amazing art with my favorite filmmakers, but wanting to be present with my daughter to create special memories and experiences. Bringing my daughter on set during production, and including her in the creative process allowed me to do both. I don't have a physical portal like our main character, but I do have an amazing team who embraced my daughter on our set and made her part of the film family!

I hope you will find a moment of balance and inspiration and maybe 'the Other You' when you join us through the portal.



Anne, with her daughter, on the set of *The Other You*

Selected Bios



Shoshana Rosenbaum
DIRECTOR

Shoshana's films use magical realism, science fiction and horror to explore alternate realities and gender dynamics. Her work has been recognized by The Bitch List, Stowe Story Labs and film festivals including Austin, Nashville, Hollyshorts and DC Shorts. *The Other You* is her debut feature film.



Julie Gold
WRITER

A writer, SAG/AFTRA actor and clinical social worker with a long-standing interest in emotional labor, Julie enjoys using improv and acting techniques in her writing and clinical work. She loves to collaborate with visionary women (and other humans!) on timely subjects.



Robin Noonan-Price
PRODUCER

Robin Noonan-Price is a producer and director at Robin's Nest Media, five-time Emmy Award Nominee, a five-time Telly Award winner and has earned three TIVA-DC Peer Awards. After a long career in educational media, she recently produced two indie features, including *The Other You*.



Kimberly Skyrme
CASTING/PRODUCER

Producer, director, CSA casting director, and passionate storyteller, Kimberly has cast projects like *THE GIRLFRIEND EXPERIENCE* (STARZ) and *HOUSE OF CARDS* (Netflix) as well as produced and cast numerous independent films and most recently the pilot *NOW WHAT?* Her independent feature *THE RING OF HOPE* recently completed principal photography in Baltimore, with a plan to screen in Cannes this May. Kimberly seeks out projects with strong female content and many "ladies above the line."

Selected Bios



Anne Saul
DIRECTOR OF
PHOTOGRAPHY

Anne is an award-winning cinematographer, gaffer, and educator with SaulgoodMedia, in Annapolis, Maryland. Off set, Anne spends her time playing music, coaching future race drivers with BMW HPDE, and having adventures with her 11yr old 1st AC, Lily.



Nyles Lannon
COMPOSER

Nyles' music has been in hundreds of commercials, TV shows, and movies including Saturday Night Live, Shameless, Portlandia, and Cold Case. A longtime member of the band Film School, he also has four solo albums. In 2023 he released the album "Vanishing" with his son for their band Nyte Skye, on the label Sonic Ritual.



Trystin Kier Francis
PRODUCTION DESIGNER

As a multi-dimensional design professional, Trystin's practice areas include architectural, interior, and production design. His "House of Kier" brand also includes a lifestyle practice, retail and dining brands, visual media and a production company. Trystin is a proud three-time HBCU graduate.



Beth Hylton
ANNIE

Beth is a member of the resident company at Everyman Theatre in Baltimore, where she has performed in over 30 productions, including *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Sound Inside* and *Noises Off*. On camera, Beth has appeared on television (LAW AND ORDER, HOUSE OF CARDS, ONE LIFE TO LIVE), in independent films and in national and regional commercials.

Selected Bios



Kris Arnold
JACK

Kris has over two decades of experience onscreen, including shows like *BILLIONS*, *BLUE BLOODS*, *HOUSE OF CARDS*, *QUANTICO*, *WHEN THEY SEE US*, *THE WEST WING*, *HOMICIDE*, and *AS THE WORLD TURNS*. His film work (*VICE*, *AN AMERICAN AFFAIR*, *THE BEAVER*) has given him the opportunity to perform with Academy Award-winners Jodie Foster, Mel Gibson, and Martin Sheen. Kris' commercial work includes a Capital One spot alongside Taylor Swift.



Staci Dickerson
MIMI

In addition to being a longstanding model and co-host at QVC, Staci has appeared in numerous films, TV shows, and commercials. Her onscreen work includes *TERRIFIER 2* and *HOUSE OF CARDS*. Off-screen, she is committed to giving back, and is a vocal advocate for underserved communities through organizations such as Persevere On Purpose, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America.



Vivienne Sievers
SCARLET

Vivienne's work includes the audio play *The Changeling*, the music video, "I'm Not Your Friend" for the Ruby Friedman Orchestra, as well as anchoring comedian Nicole Burch's TV comedy special "Never Been Kissed" as "young Nicole". She is also a re-occurring cast member on the popular YouTube series REACT.



Jules Kanarek
SOPHIA

Jules Kanarek (they/them) is a trans nonbinary actor, singer, competition dancer, gymnast and budding contortionist. Jules' most recent credits include the lead in the new TV pilot *MADWHIP*, as well as professional musical theatre credits in *Merrily We Roll Along* at Keegan Theatre and *Fun Home* at Studio Theatre.

Q & A

What themes does your film explore?

We are eager to shed light -- in a slightly surreal and often funny way -- on what it's like to be a woman balancing family and creative work. Many of us involved in the film are intimately familiar with women's emotional labor, the mental load we carry running households and families, and the concerted effort it takes to make room in our lives for our artistic expression.

What's unique about your cast and crew?

The core team members on this project -- writer, director, lead actor, producers, cinematographer, art director -- are all women in midlife, and many of us are also wives and mothers. While our cast and crew skewed more female than your average film set, it was gender-diverse and included many people under 30 (including the three young actors and a bevy of college interns) which helped keep things lively and fun.

How were you able to fund the project?

We gratefully received the Honfleur Women in Arts grant from the ARCH Development Corporation. This grant is for women artists in the Washington, D.C. area whose projects focus on the impact that being a woman has had on pursuing creative endeavors.

How did you do the doubles shots?

For the shots where you see the same actor playing two different roles, we locked down the camera and filmed the scene twice (once for each character the actor was playing), with a stand-in playing the opposite role. These stand-ins were the same height as the actor, for eyeline. In post-production, our editor cut these shots together in split screen, and our special effects artist blended together the two shots so they looked like one. What really sells the doubles scenes are the great performances (accentuated by excellent wardrobe, hair and makeup choices by our production design team) that convince the audience they're watching two different people interact.

What did you do technically to differentiate the different “worlds” in the film?

We shot Annie's “regular world” at a cooler color temperature (4300 Kelvin), so it looks more blue. When Annie enters the “closet world” on the other side of the portal, we shot at 3300 Kelvin, so it looks warmer. The regular world is messy and chaotic, so we used more handheld camera; the closet world is more serene and orderly, so we put the camera on rails for smoother movements. In the closet world, we also used glimmer glass lens filters to give it a more dreamy look. The “fantasy sequences” (when Annie is in the regular world but daydreaming), we shot with a vintage lens to give it more of a textured look and differentiate it from either the regular or closet world.

How long did the project take?

Shoshana and Julie teamed up on the project in the summer of 2021. By summer 2022 they were further developing the script, creating a lookbook and getting mentored by indie producers at Stowe Story Labs. We shot the film over 18 days in July & August 2023, and were in post-production until July 2024.

What is your goal for your film?

We look forward to engaging with our audience through a robust festival run, community screenings and “book club” watch parties. Eventually we'd like the film to live in a place online where people can find it easily and watch it at home.



Stills



Reviews



“We all have those ‘what if’ moments where we want to change something about our spouses or children – this is a great Wonderland musing of what that parallel universe might look like”

-Marni Penning, actor/audiobook narrator

“triggers good gender stereotype conversations”

-Emily Hattwick, test screener

“Super fun way to explore some really deep questions around parenthood, gender, life expectations with laugh out loud moments and characters you’re rooting for!”

-Sasha Carrera, filmmaker

Notes

78 minutes/Color/English

Genre: Comedy/Drama/Fantasy

Selected project, Stowe Story Labs 2022

World Premiere: DC Independent Film Festival, February 2025



Technical Information

Camera: Sony F6

Aspect ratio: 1.77:1

Audio format: 5.1



Contacts



FILMMAKING TEAM & PRESS INQUIRIES

theotheryoufilm@gmail.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/theotheryoufilm/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/theotheryoufilm/>

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

www.theotheryoufilm.com