

Haus

Runtime: 14 min 37 sec

Genre/Niche: LGBTQ, Comedy, Drama, Coming of Age, Black Youth

Completed: June 2018

Country of Production: ON, Canada

Print Source Contact: Joseph Amenta, joseph.amenta.288@gmail.com

Music/Score: All the music used is original for the film. Composer - Ben Hamr

Logline: A displaced black queer boy finds refuge in his city's underground Kiki Ballroom scene.

Synopsis: Makai is a young homeless queer boy sleeping on his friends couch. As he and Trevon prepare for a night of competition at a local Kiki Ball, Makai is forced to reconnect with his disapproving older brother. Yearning for distraction from his tumultuous familial situation, Makai chooses to resist when his new found family is threatened.

Director's Statement: After spending months researching Toronto's Kiki Ballroom scene and getting involved in the community, I was able to gain the trust of this often marginalized group. Through collaboration we were able to create a film that not only accurately displays the modern Kiki Ballroom scene, but also diversifies the people and stories we see in queer cinema, and cinema as a whole. I am grateful of this community for trusting me with this representation and story.

Production Notes: Haus was fully funded by Canada Council for the Arts with grant money received in March of 2018. The film's cast is primarily non-actors who are involved in the Toronto Kiki Ballroom scene. Haus has began its festival run in June 2018.

Director Bio: Joseph Amenta has produced, written and directed short films that have screened at international festivals. His short, *Haus*, was fully funded by Canada Council for the Arts and screened at the Vancouver International Film Festival 2018 and Clermont-Ferrand 2019. An award winning graduate of film studies at Ryerson University, Amenta received the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) Avrich Industry Pass in 2018 as one of 10 promising Canadian filmmakers. He is currently developing his first feature.

Credit List:

Writer/Director/Producer: Joseph Amenta

Assistant Producer/Cinematographer: Nikolay Michaylov

Lead Actors: Mark-Ché Devonish, James Bailey

Supporting Actors: Adrian Wallace, Christef Desir, Colette Liburd

Additional Cast: Jacob Tsafaitnos

Editor: Joseph Amenta

Assistant Camera: Mohammad Daud

Gaffer: Katerina Zoumboulakis

Sound Mixer: Eric Taylor

Production Manager: Sara Williams

Wardrobe: Paul Salsman

Composer: Ben Hamr

Production Assistant: Jashua Rille

Craft Services: Cassandra Amenta

Post Production by The Rolling Picture Company

Colourist: Drake Conrad

Sound Designer/Mixer: David Hermiston

Online Editor: Greg Feir

Post-Production Manager: Brandon Tobia