


# THE FUTURE ABOVE US





A woman is lying in bed in a cluttered room, holding a baby bottle. The room is filled with various items, including a large green stuffed animal, a white stuffed animal, and a blue hat hanging on the wall. The woman is wearing a dark top and a headband. The room has a colorful, patterned bedspread and a white curtain in the background.

The Future Above Us  
A film by Vanessa Magic

**LOGLINE:** After a cosmic disaster leaves Earth virtually empty, a hopeful yet sombre woman experiencing pareidolia must decide what lengths she will go to for connection.

Short Film | Canada | 16 minutes | English | Color | Dolby 5.1



# SYNOPSIS

After an asteroid hits our world, many humans perish, or board space vessels to inhabit a new planet. However, Georgia, a hopeful woman who fears flying and experiences pareidolia (the ability to see faces in inanimate objects), tries to cope with her loneliness and grief from being the last person on Earth. She deals with her solitude by indulging in various activities like making herself copious amounts of food, putting on comedy shows for her cleaning supplies and reading poetry to her bath towels. Eventually, Georgia meets another person - George, who shares her feelings of loneliness. As they form a connection, they learn another asteroid is moving towards them, and they must decide how they will surrender to their cosmic fate.



A woman and a man are sitting on a patterned blanket in a field of tall, green grass. The woman, on the left, is wearing a yellow headscarf and a colorful striped shirt. She has her hands clasped and is looking towards the man. The man, on the right, is wearing a blue button-down shirt, a blue tie, and glasses. He is looking upwards and to the right. The word "CAST" is overlaid in large white letters in the center of the image.

# CAST

## HANNAN YOUNIS as GEORGIA

Hannan Younis is an actress, sketch comic and writer. She was nominated for a Canadian Screen Award for Best Performance in a Digital Series for her voice work on *People Watching* as the character of Safra. Hannan has appeared in numerous television series such as, *Ruby* and *The Well* (BYUtv) *What We Do In The Shadows* (FX), *The Boys* (Amazon), *See* (Apple), *Odd Squad*, *Designated Survivor* (Netflix). Hannan can also be seen in the feature films *Firestarter* (Blumhouse), *One In A Million*, and *Pairs Well With Love*. As a writer she has contributed to many writers rooms such as *Tallboyz*, *Earth Rangers*, and *Doomlands*.







## ADRIAN WALTERS as GEORGE

Adrian Walters is a Toronto based actor. Having studied with prestigious teachers at RAW Studios, LB Acting Studios and Pro Actors Lab. He scored his first major role on *Private Eyes* (CBC), guest starring as Dexter Grant. Followed by his stage debut at Tarragon Theatre as Jesus, in *Judas Noir*, an adaptation of Stephen Adly Gurgis 'The Last Days of Judas Iscariot' In which he received a nomination for 'Best Ensemble', at the 2019 Dora Mavor Moore Awards. Shortly after he nabbed the recurring role of Commander Horace, on the Emmy winning show *The Handmaid's Tale* (Hulu), in season two, alongside Joseph Fiennes and Stephen Kunken, becoming their first ever Black Commander. Only to be followed by his recurring role as Xavier in Ben Stiller's *In The Dark* (CW). Adrian has also appeared on *Star Trek Discovery* (Paramount+), *Dare Me* (USA) and *The Porter* (BET).

A white towel swan is the central focus, hanging from a towel rack. It has a single, prominent blue eye. The background is a soft-focus bathroom with a blue patterned towel and a white towel rack. The overall color palette is muted, with a teal or cyan tint.

**CREW**



## WRITER // DIRECTOR

Vanessa Magic is a filmmaker, director and writer. She is a Warner Bros. Discovery Access x Canadian Academy Writers Program and Women In the Director's Chair alumni. Her work explores themes of grief, loneliness and the outsider, with a focus on Afrosurrealism and Afrofuturism. Vanessa has created two previous short films, *Oneironautic*, (Cannes Short Film Festival '21, Victoria Film Festival '21, and the Reelworld Film Festival '21), and *The Absurdity of The Black Female Experience* (Festival Circuit). She is in development for her first feature, a surrealist tech-noir about memories and dreams.

### DIRECTOR'S NOTE

One simple thing can change the impact and trajectory of someone's life. Whether it's the loss of a friendship, a loved one, or the world you know it. But loss can give us the resiliency to keep going. The main character Georgia is the last woman on Earth. She could have chosen to live in the stars, but the freedom of being who she is unapologetically, far outweighs the uncertainty of a new world that may not accept her, flaws and all. We are constantly in flux, even when we are still, life is changing. Life is all how you look at it, and if you look hard enough the steps in front of you can be illuminated in the distance, or they can pull you into an unknown black abyss.





## PRODUCER

Shonna is an award-winning director and producer who is on a mission to leave this world a better place through the art of film and television and through her commitment in supporting the careers of emerging BIPOC talent. Shonna completed a producer mentorship with Bob Teitel (The Hate You Give), and is an alumni of Black Women Film Canada's inaugural BIG UP Producer Residency program (2022). Her Producer credits include the award-winning short films He Murdered Sleep (Jeremy Boxen), Noor & Layla (Fawzia Mirza) and I Lost My Mind (Michael Tobin), as well as, Mothers: Out Of A Pandemic and The Absurdity of the Black Female Experience. Currently, Shonna is the Associate Producer of an untitled Disco Documentary feature film in production with Paramount Studios, Elevation Pictures, and 86 Media House, Executive Produced by Oscar-nominee Stanley Nelson Jr.

## CINEMATOGRAPHER

Ashley Iris Gill is quickly becoming a rising star in the industry as a talented cinematographer and filmmaker. Ashley's cinematography is often described as emotive, intimate, vulnerable and she has the ability to make people comfortable in front of her lens. Her recent film and TV credits include the CSA-nominated CBC short documentary Patty vs. Patty (22, d. Chris Strikes) the Sundance short film, Thriving (2022 d. Nicole Bazuin), Swan (TIFF 21' short, Karimah Zakia Issa). Ashley is known for being as passionate about her craft as she is the community she works with - routinely finding ways to invest in aspiring talent in the BIPOC and 2SLGBTQ+ communities.





## EDITOR

Nicole Sision has over a decade of experience working in post production, crafting her reel into a mixture of film, commercial and music visuals from a range of international clients. She brings an intense gaze, inquisitive drive, and masterful hand to the storytelling process. Her documentary film resume has earned her gala presentations in festivals such as TIFF, VIFF, and Zanzibar. Her short film series with the UN “A Piece of Me” picked up a Webby Award in 2020 and toured as an exhibit in Toronto, London and NYC. Last year her film with the NBA entitled “Shorty” premiered at TIFF 2021. She recently joined the post team for Amazon Prime helping build trailers for their original series and films.

Jeremy Glenn is an artist, singer, composer, designer, and philosopher. Jeremy’s work moves between the ephemeral and the eternal – those intangible, felt experiences that transcend any physical utility. Jeremy’s teleological tack over his 20+ years working in the arts has moved him through study to educating, production to performance, composition to design, culminating in several self-titled and featured releases, remixes, and features on iconic record labels including Defected, Future Classic, and Virgin. As a sound designer and composer, Jeremy’s work has featured in artistic performance (*Higher Hair*), theater (*Prison Dancer*), documentary (*For Our Daughters*), podcast (*Desire Paths*, *Work/Place*, *Mind to Make*), and film (*Ghosting*, *The Future Above Us*).

## COMPOSER







## PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Cat Calica is a creative director, production designer, wardrobe stylist, and costume designer. She works in TV and Film and with different musical artists, on music videos and press tours. Cat loves to create visuals that invoke whimsical and playful feelings that connect her inner world and her Filipino roots. She is inspired by otherworldly, dysfunctional, fun things like nature, the deep sea, oscillating creatures, and textures. Most recently Cat has worked on Lido TV (TIFF '22, Lido Pimento), True Dating Stories (Fuse TV), This Place (TIFF '22, VT Nayani), and Hello (Again) (CBC).

## COSTUME DESIGNER

Kaylah Wilson is a skilled and passionate visionary for character-building and storytelling. As a wardrobe and fashion stylist, she has worked alongside many production teams for a range of international clients, from commercial and film to music and editorial. She has contributed to wardrobe for corporate clients such as Vitally, McDonald's, INKBOX, Appleton Estate, and Mastercard and has collaborated with artists under Sub Pop and Republic Records. Her role as department key for one of her first short film involvements, *Tenth Generation*, won her an award for Costume design in 2022 from the IMA Film Festival at Toronto Metropolitan University.





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