



RESIDUE

Logline

A young filmmaker returns home after many years away, to write a script about his childhood, only to find his neighborhood unrecognizable and his childhood friends scattered to the wind.

Directed, Written & Produced by

Merawi Gerima

Starring

Obinna Nwachukwu, Dennis Lindsey, Taline Stewart, Julian Selman, Melody Tally, Ramon Thompson, & Derron Scott





PRESS CONTACT

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SYNOPSIS

When Jay arrives home, he finds his neighborhood gentrified beyond recognition. Demetrius, his childhood best friend, is missing, but none of the remaining black folks trust Jay enough to provide any answers. Jay's frustration compounds as he also finds himself alienated in the city at large, attacked from all sides. Jay visits his last friend Dion in prison, but leaves feeling powerless and infuriated. One final, chance confrontation results in Jay succumbing to the same forces as did his friends.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In junior high school, my parents packed us up and moved us away to another part of DC. Every time I return to my old neighborhood, another childhood friend has moved away, gone missing, been imprisoned or killed. A vibrant neighborhood annihilated by decades of funneled drugs, disinvestment, and over-policing. Now, aside from a few surviving families, you will find almost no evidence of our existence. It has been razed to the ground. The new, glittering community standing in its place gives one the impression that it has always been there, as if it weren't built on bones. Residue is my attempt to, in the words of Dominique Christina, "reflesh the bones".

-MERAWI GERIMA

Cast & Crew



OBINNA NWACHUKWU

"Jay"

Obi Nwachukwu is a Nigerian American actor making his feature film debut in *Residue*. He began his career in the DC theatre scene but has since transitioned into film by starring in several short films; two of which are currently on the festival circuit.



TALINE STEWART

"Blue"

Taline Stewart is a nature-loving, tree-hugging Queen from Howell, New Jersey. She studied Chemical Engineering at Howard University in order to restore harmony and balance to our relationship to Earth through our everyday systems and materials. *Residue*, her acting debut was the perfect conduit for another of her loves: performance.



DENNIS LINDSEY

"Delonte"

Dennis Lindsey is a writer from Washington DC.



JACARI DYE & JULIAN SELMAN

"Young Jay" & "Young Demetrius"

Jacari Dye (top) and Julian Selman (bottom) are the children of Merawi's childhood friends. They were both born and raised on the block that inspired Residue. They had never acted in front of a camera before Residue, but showed no fear, only talent. Outside of school, Jacari enjoys playing on the playground, walking to the corner store, and visiting family around the city. Unable to pronounce Merawi, he calls him "Mewhy" instead. He loved acting and is looking forward to the next film. Julian enjoys playing video games, watching Netflix and Hulu series with his mom and discussing them afterwards, as well as watching anime with his younger cousins. When he is not at home he is traveling and going on scuba diving excursions out of the country.



DERRON SCOTT

"Mike"

Derron Scott, or “Rizo” as his friends call him, is a young actor from Washington, DC who enjoys making clothes and painting. Spending a lot of his childhood in both DC and PG County, MD gave him a great perspective on life and enabled him to blend with all cultures and backgrounds.



MELODY TALLY

"Lavonne"

Melody Tally is a native Washingtonian, award-winning actress, artist and engineer. She studied screenwriting with Bill Idelson in Los Angeles and filmmaking with Emmy-Nominated Director, Roderick Giles. She's a trained actor, having studied with former Howard University Professor, Vera Katz. Her first rendering as a filmmaker, a short film called Quarantine, is slated for initial release on the Amazon platform.



RAMON THOMPSON

"Reggie"

Ramon Thompson is a native Washingtonian and Business Professional. *Residue* was his film-acting debut.





MERAWI GERIMA

Director, Writer, & Producer

Merawi Gerima is a filmmaker from Washington DC. This origin informs his work and his community-centered orientation. *Residue*, his first feature, was a total communal endeavor, made possible primarily by the effort of the people it attempts to portray.



MARK JEEVARATNAM

Cinematographer & Colorist

Mark Jeevaratnam photographed Residue upon completing his cinematography studies at AFI Conservatory. Has since shot narrative feature Winter in LA (2020) for writer/director Emre Korkmaz. When not on location, he's building community in DC, Baltimore, and New Jersey.



CALLIE MAE NICHOLE LYONS

1st Assistant Director

Callie Mae Nichole Lyons is a multidisciplinary artist based in Los Angeles, California with upbringings in Augusta, Georgia. She received her B.A. in Dance and Business Marketing from Loyola Marymount University, her M.F.A. in Dance and New Media from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, studied hyper-physical modern dance at the Salzburg Experimental Academy of Dance in Salzburg, Austria and studied for 3 semesters towards her M.F.A. in Film Production from the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts before departing to create on her own terms.



LISHAN AMDE

1st Assistant Director

Lishan Amde is a media artist and writer from Silver Spring, Maryland. She makes media that engages the political imagination, spreads awareness about social issues, and highlights the experiences of under-recognized Black women.



ALEX BLED SOE

Line Producer

Alex Bledsoe is a writer, producer and director whose work is inspired by dismantling exploitative systems. She is currently directing two documentaries: OAKLEAD documents Oakland's lead poisoning crisis, and Heart Race follows one man's attempt to find a heart transplant while grappling with the effects of racial inequity in Milwaukee. Alex has been recognized as a Maynard 200 media entrepreneur and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts fellow, and was previously a guest columnist for The Washington Post, an Aspen Institute emerging writer nominee, and a Hedgebrook scholar. Alex is the co-founder of Breaktide Productions, a women-of-color-owned production company, which was named to the YBCA 100 list in 2019. Alex earned her B.S. from Georgetown University with a degree in international politics, where she studied Portuguese, Spanish and Arabic.

Credits

DIRECTOR & WRITER

Merawi Gerima

CINEMATOGRAPHER & COLORIST

Mark Jeevaratnam

1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

Callie Lyons, Lishan Amde

LINE PRODUCERS

Mulu Gerima, Alex J. Bledsoe

PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

Gyselle Garcia

ORIGINAL SCORE

Black Alley

1ST ASSISTANT CAMERA

Everd Rijzewijk, Aidan Gray, Amanda Ferrarese,
Josh Nathan, Rachel Jones

2ND ASSISTANT CAMERA

Brandy Bruce, Nathan Taylor, Nick Gorey, Temi
Olutunbi, Allison Waite

GAFFER

Rachel Jones, Mauricio Venturo

KEY GRIP

Tyler Archie, Andrew Jorgensen

GRIP AND ELECTRIC

Devin McLaughlin, Nathan Tyrell, Patrick Yussuf,
Zachary Kingham-Seagle, Ahmed Noe, Berlin
Waechter, Basile Nkere, Darol Kae, Jordan Tassy

HEAD CATERING

Zelalem Gerima, Naomi Langhorne

DATA MANAGER

Gezaw Tesfaye

Credits

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Raquel Lake

PRE-PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Rachel Summers

PRE-PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Jheanelle Brown, Janice Duncan

PRE-PRODUCTION MANAGER

Philana Payton

ASSISTANT LINE PRODUCER

Alexx Temena

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Rebekah Phomsopha, Hennok Woldu, Tebebe Million, Craig Beacham, Torell Shavone, Betselot Legesse, Alexis McKenney, Dominic Green, Leslie Lissaint, Rome Miller

PROPS WRANGLER

Eyerusalem Yaregal

PUBLICIST

Rob Fleming, Taylor Shannon

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Jane Hollon

EDITOR

Merawi Gerima

JAY
DELONTE
BLUE
MIKE
YOUNG JAY
YOUNG DEMETRIUS
YOUNG DELONTE
LAVONNE
REGGIE
YOUNG DION
YOUNG MIKE
JACOB
DION
TONYA
MRS. COOKE
DELONTE'S FATHER
DELONTE'S MOTHER

Obinna Nwachukwu
Dennis Lindsey
Taline Stewart
Derron "Rizo" Scott
Jacari Dye
Julian Selman
Tyree Wormley
Melody Tally
Ramon Thompson
Kamau Williams
Makinde Williams
Christian Wormley
Jamal Graham
Shirikiana Gerima
Mama Hasinatu Camara
Robel Kassa
Nina Geremew

Credits

DEMETRIUS' ABUELA
DEMETRIUS' BABY SISTER
GRANDPA
HECKLER ON STREET 1
HECKLER ON STREET 2
HECKLER ON STREET 3
MAN ON BICYCLE
ARRESTING OFFICER
JOE FROM DC
CANVASSING GENTRIFIER
UPSTAIRS GENTRIFIER
BRUNCH GENTRIFIER 1
BRUNCH GENTRIFIER 2
BRUNCH GENTRIFIER 3
OFFICER ROD
CHASING OFFICER 1
CHASING OFFICER 2

Marcelina Maynard
Amari Thompson
Mr. JC
Terrance "TJay" McMichael
Darren Loyalty
Malik DuCote
Yonathan Mengistu
Darol Kae
Nile Calhoun
Zachary Kingham–Seagle
Jonathan Tucker
Stephanie Giancola
Lydia Davis
Jamie Burroughs
Donavan Thomas
Nathan Tyrell
Patrick Yussuf

Credits

CHASING OFFICER 3
OLDHEAD ON STOOP 1
OLDHEAD ON STOOP 2
OLDHEAD ON STOOP 3
OUTRAGED ONLOOKER
PARTY HOST GENTRIFIER
PARTYING GENTRIFIER
FEARFUL GENTRIFIER 1
FEARFUL GENTRIFIER 2
INNOCENT EYED BOY
SPARKLER GIRL
GIRL HELPING SPARKLER GIRL
BOY WITH ROMAN CANGLE
WEED DELIVERY GENTRIFIER
TEEN ON STTOP
GENRIFIER WALKING DOG 1
VOICE OF JAKE FROM THE STREET

Abasi Irekefe Bomani
Kevin Miller
Randy White
Spanky
Ricky Dye
Christopher Winter
Jordan Tassy
Everd Rijzewijk
Dan Miller
Momo
Caden Glover
Jordan Gilcrest
Jamaal Gilcrest Jr.
Aidan Gray
Tre Moncrief
Callie Lyons
Ian Maggard

Credits

**VOICE OF GENTRIFIER WALKING
DOG 1**

Gyselle Garcia

**VOICE OF GENTRIFIER WALKING
DOG 2**

Robert Brown

SWOLE NEIGHBOR

OG Mike

Credits