

NO  
BUDGET

SCHEM

NO  
SCRIPT

PER

**NO BUDGET  
NO SCRIPT  
NO PERMISSION**

*Making*

**GODS OF THEIR OWN RELIGION**

NO  
PERMISSION

NO  
SCRIPT

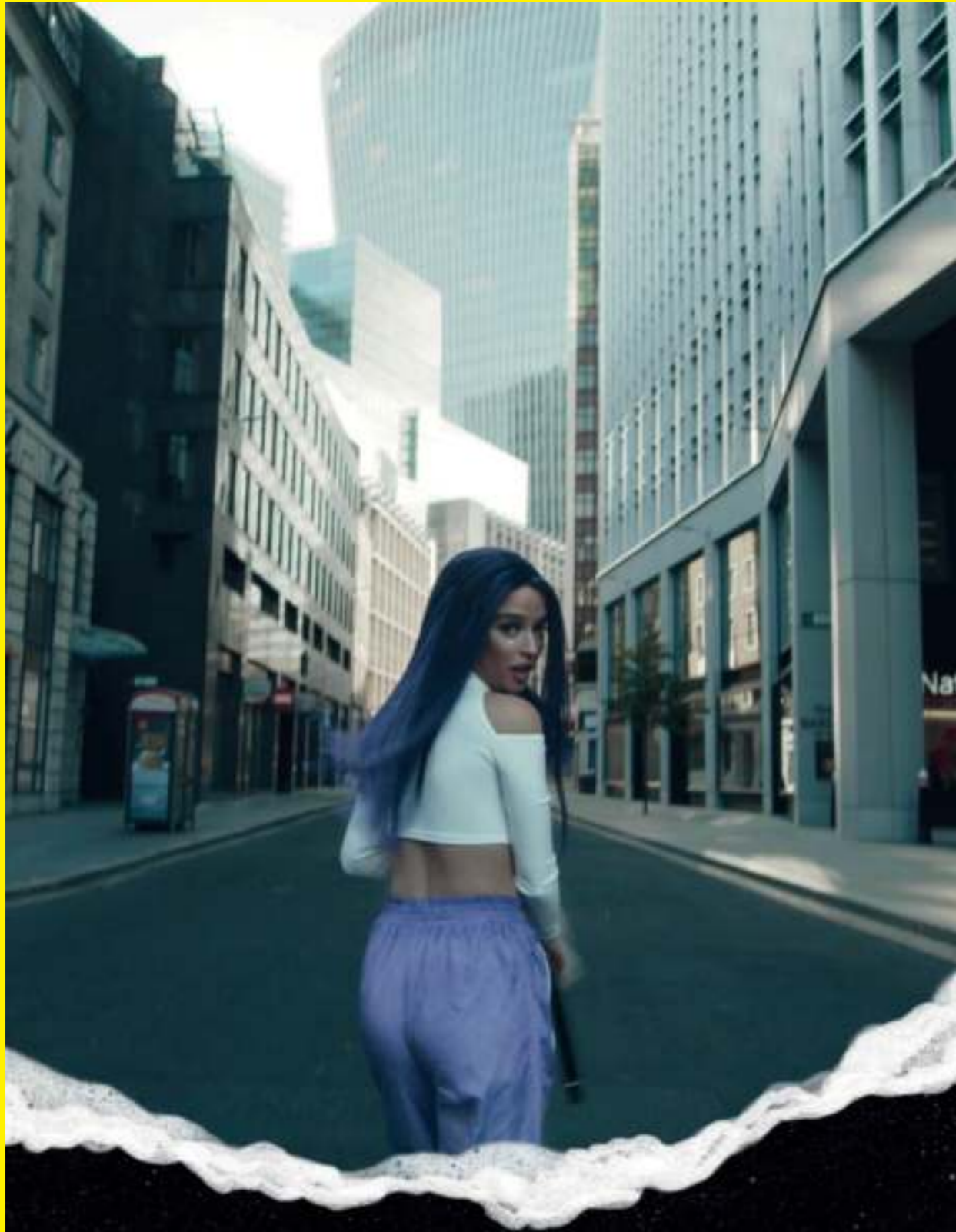
PER

**A  
NAEEM MAHMOOD  
FILM**

**GODS OF THEIR OWN RELIGION  
IS THE LATEST PIONEERING FILM  
PRODUCTION FROM AWARD  
WINNING, RENEGADE FILMMAKER  
NAEEM MAHMOOD.**

**SET IN A TECHNOCRATIC EMPIRE, HUMANITY  
LIES COLD AND SUBJUGATED BENEATH THE  
BOOT OF AN INHUMAN AUTHORITY BUT HIDDEN  
WITHIN ITS SUFFOCATING BODY ARE THOSE  
WHO FIGHT TO REIGNITE THE FIRE AT ITS HEART.**

**NO BUDGET NO SCRIPT NO PERMISSION IS A  
REVELATORY POST-MORTEM INTO THE ACTION  
AND CHAOS OF WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO MAKE A  
GRANDIOSE, DYSTOPIAN, SCI-FI FILM DURING  
2020. CREATED THROUGH IMPROVISATION, WITH  
ZERO BUDGET, BREAKING ALMOST EVERY RULE  
IN THE FILM BOOK, ITS PRODUCTION IS A STORY  
AS ENTERTAINING AND EXCITING AS THE FILM  
ITSELF. NOW, RECOUNTED IN THE WORDS OF  
THOSE WHO WERE THERE...**



**"IT WAS BORN OUT  
OF LOCKDOWN."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*

**"SOMETIMES YOU  
NEED A CRISIS IN  
YOUR LIFE TO CREATE  
YOUR BEST WORK."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



24

**PRIMO REMEDY** 020 3719 6924  
ACUPUNCTURE - HERBAL TEAS - NATURAL HERBS - MASSAGE

**NO BUDGET  
NO SCRIPT  
NO PERMISSION**

*Nida* 020 7 47 55 27

Massage

Handwritten graffiti on a purple roller shutter: 'SUBX NPS', '77', '40', 'MEM', 'MIP', 'CASA'

*Nida shoes*

Handwritten graffiti on a white roller shutter: 'SPY', 'MIP', 'CASA'

**TAYO FASHION & TEXTILES**  
11 Dale End Lane • 2nd Floor • London  
Tel: 020 7 475 1111 • Fax: 020 7 475 1112

Mary's Shoes

Handwritten graffiti on a white roller shutter: 'MIP', 'CASA'

CAFE OPEN

Handwritten graffiti on a red roller shutter: 'MIP', 'CASA'

**"HE WANTED IT TO  
BE 100% CREATIVE  
FREEDOM."**

*-Stephen Roach, Cinematographer/ Producer*



**"I WANTED TO CREATE MY MOST  
AMBITIOUS FILM TO DATE. ONE THAT  
WOULD CAPTURE THE TIMES."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/ Producer*

**"MY LOGICAL MIND WAS TELLING ME YOU CAN'T  
MAKE A FEATURE FILM WITHOUT A BUDGET, NOT  
ON SUCH A GRAND SCALE."**

*-Naem Mahmood  
Director/Producer*



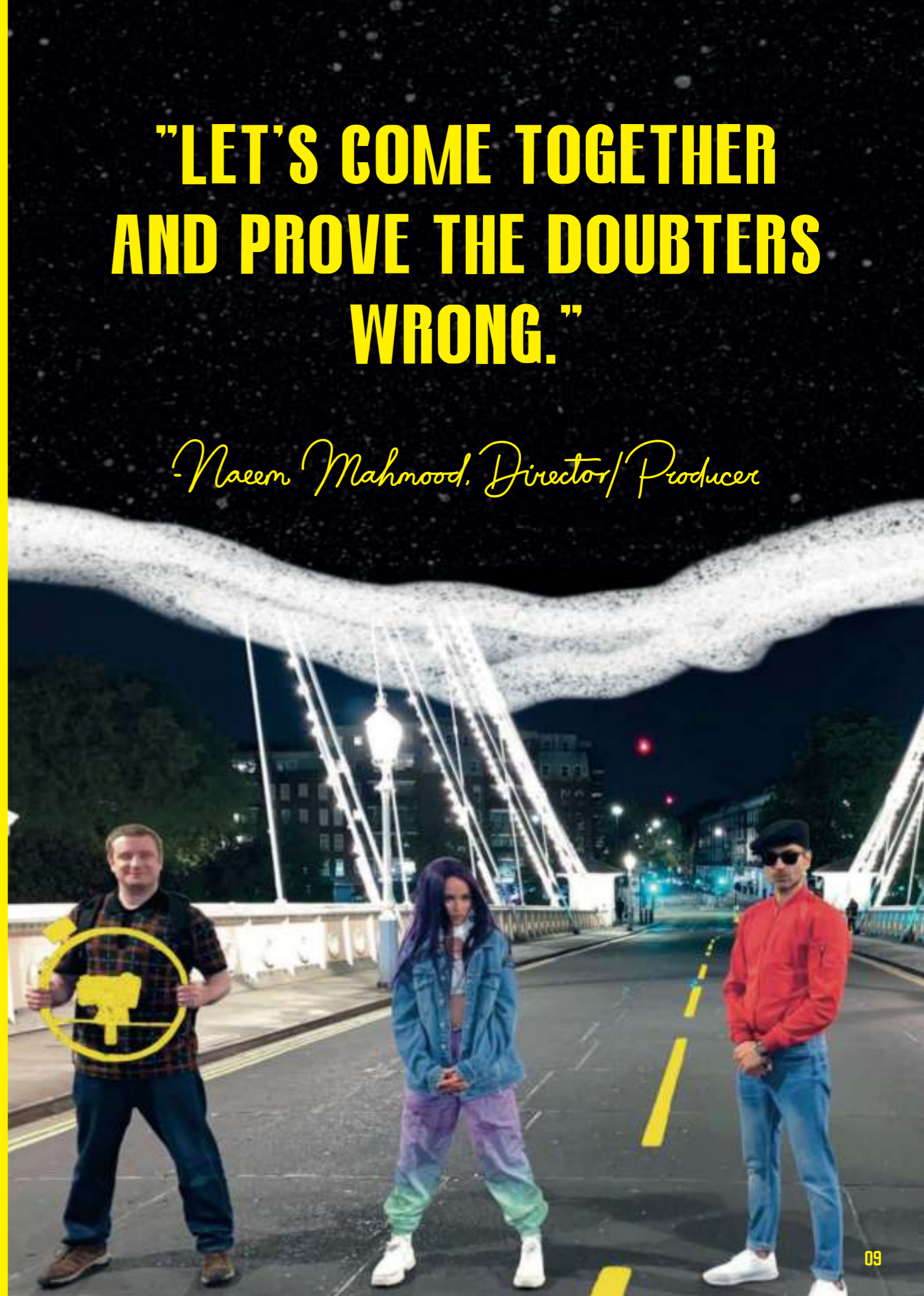
**"THIS WAS THE MOMENT THAT  
COULD MAKE OR BREAK US."**

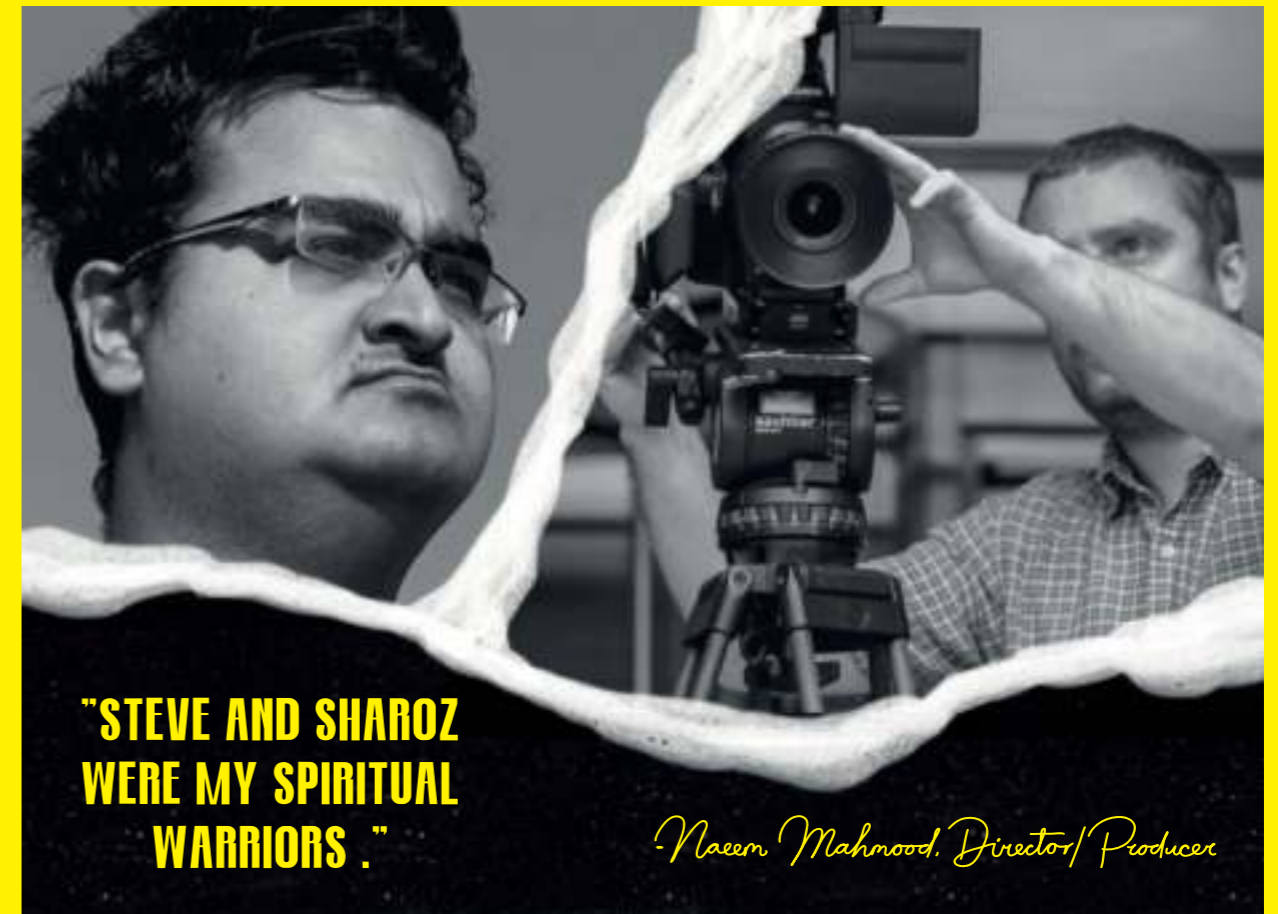
*-Stephen Roach, Cinematographer/Producer*



**"LET'S COME TOGETHER  
AND PROVE THE DOUBTERS  
WRONG."**

*-Naem Mahmood, Director/Producer*

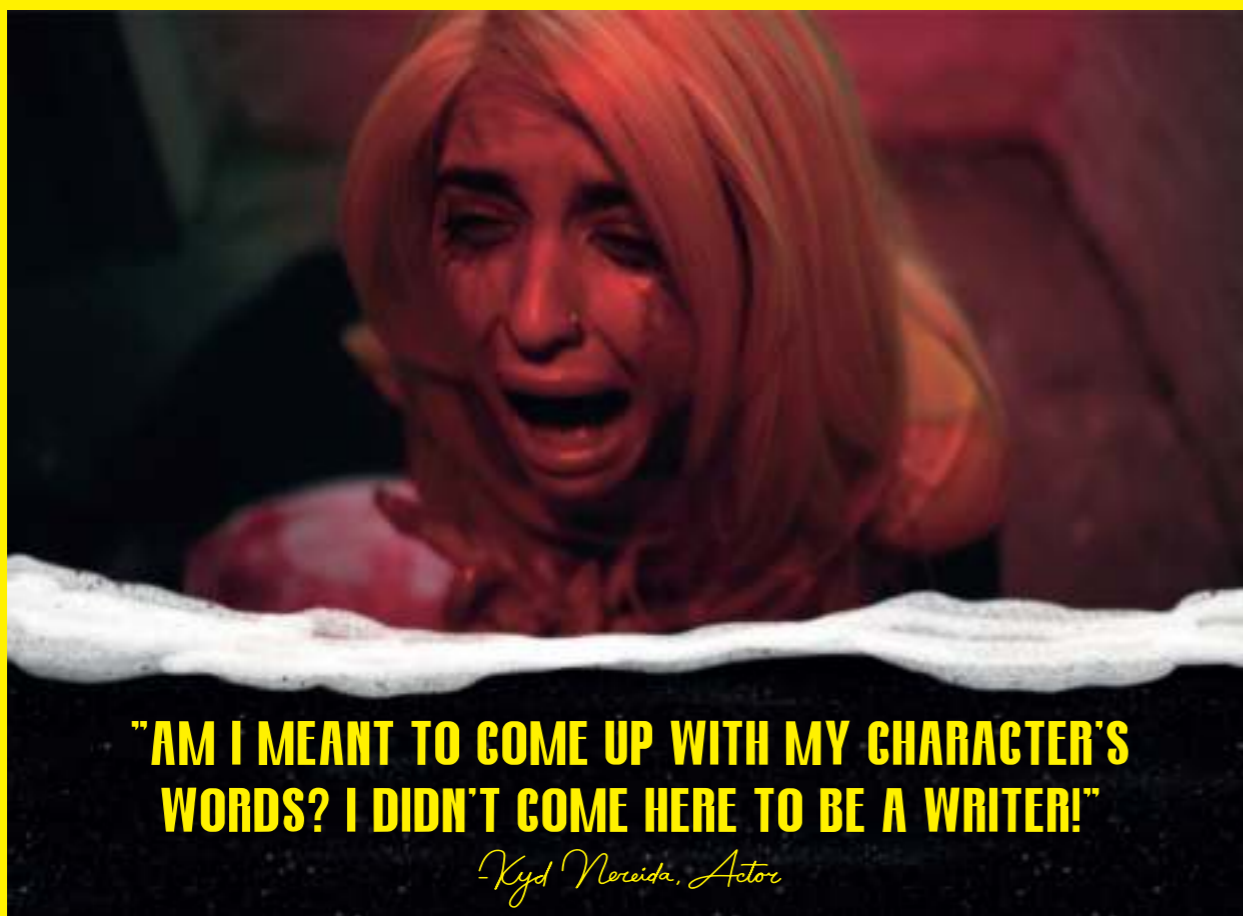






**"WHO THE  
FUCK IS THIS?!"**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"AM I MEANT TO COME UP WITH MY CHARACTER'S  
WORDS? I DIDN'T COME HERE TO BE A WRITER!"**

*-Kyra Nereida, Actor*



**"SHE COULD BE A LOOSE  
CANNON. I NEED SOMEONE  
FULLY COMMITTED AND  
DEDICATED TO THE ROLE."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*





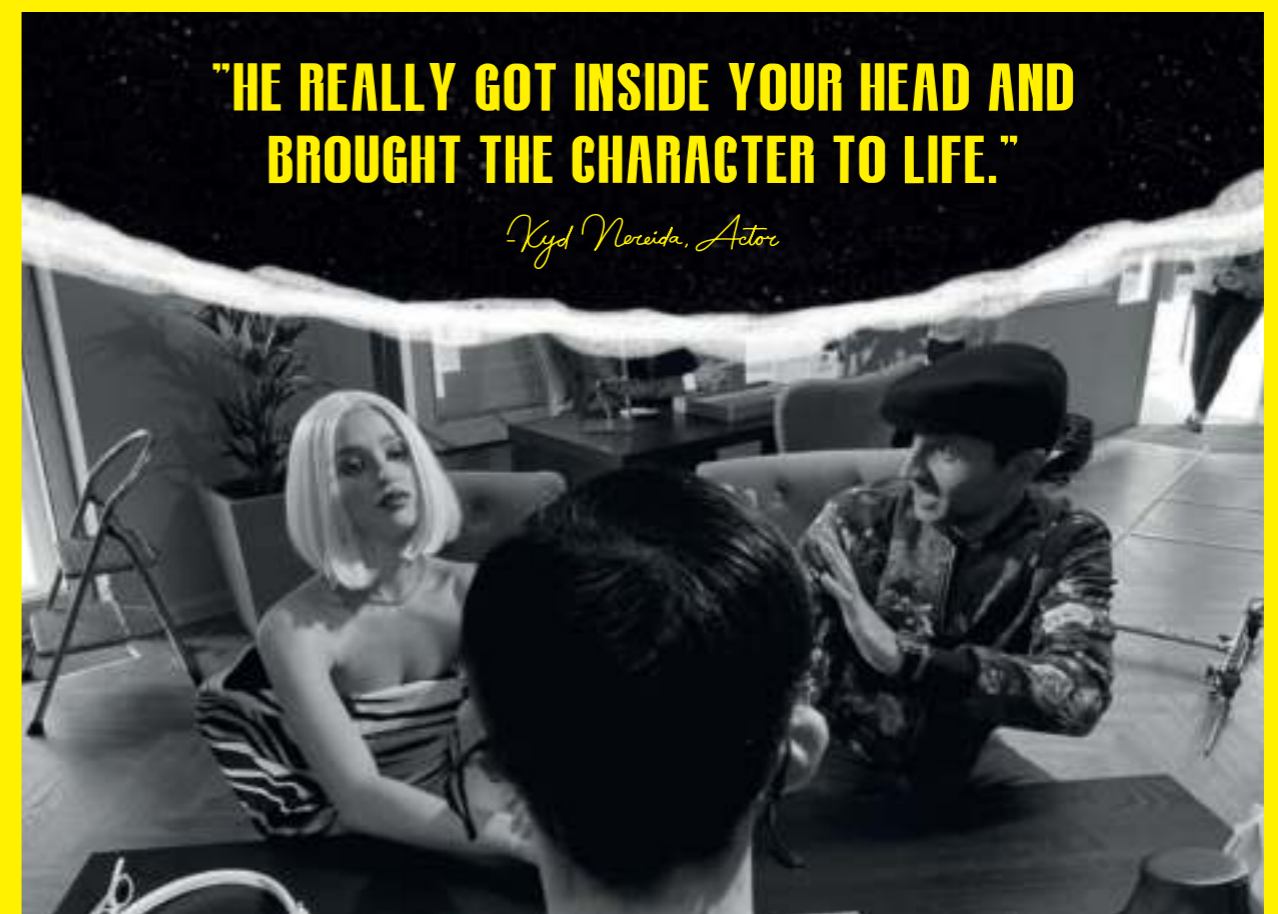
**"THIS PROJECT WAS NOT ABOUT MAINTAINING A STATUS. IT WAS ABOUT DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE."**

*-Kyd Nereida, Actor*



**"IT DIDN'T CONFORM TO CONVENTIONAL FILMMAKING STANDARDS."**

*-Matthew Sidney Woollett, Assistant Director*

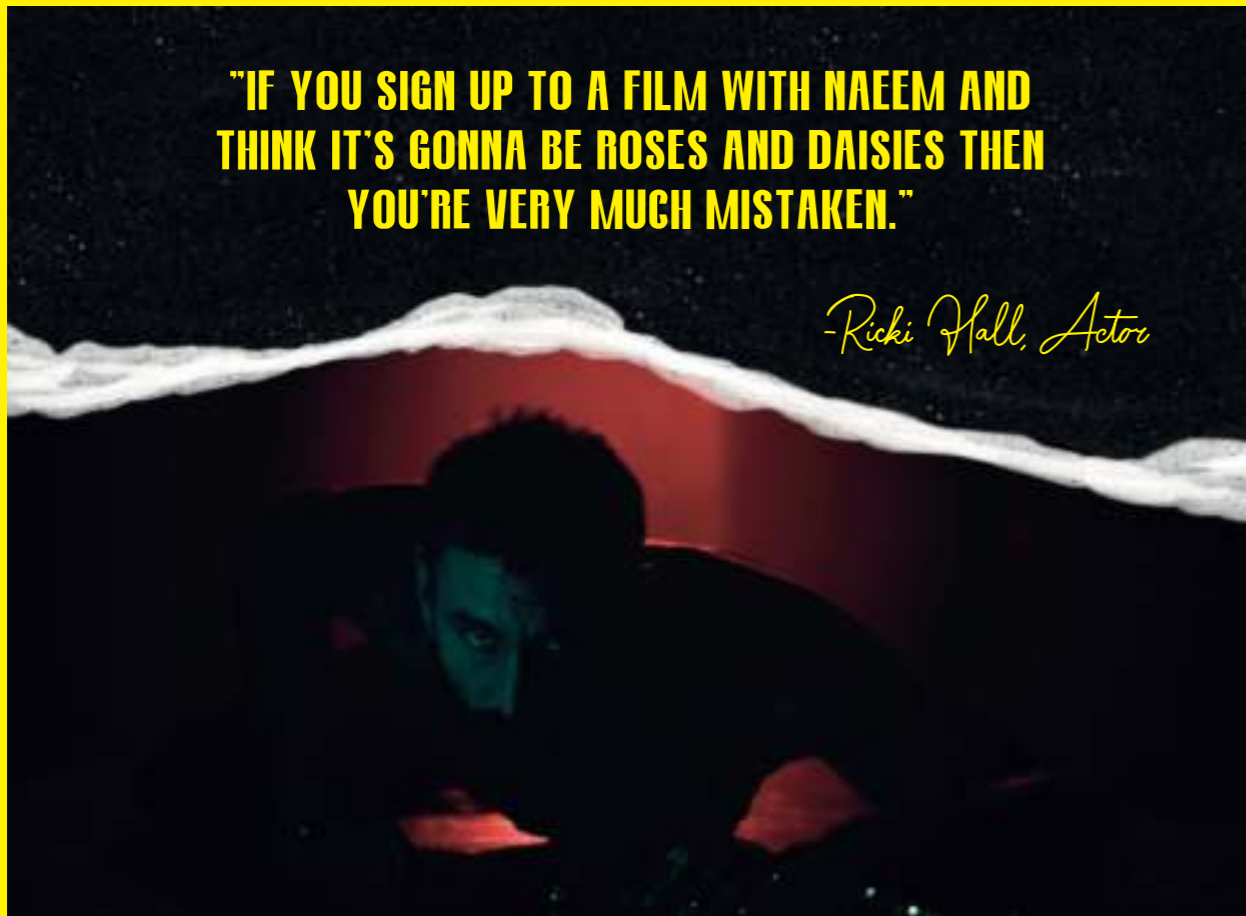


**"HE REALLY GOT INSIDE YOUR HEAD AND BROUGHT THE CHARACTER TO LIFE."**

*-Kyd Nereida, Actor*

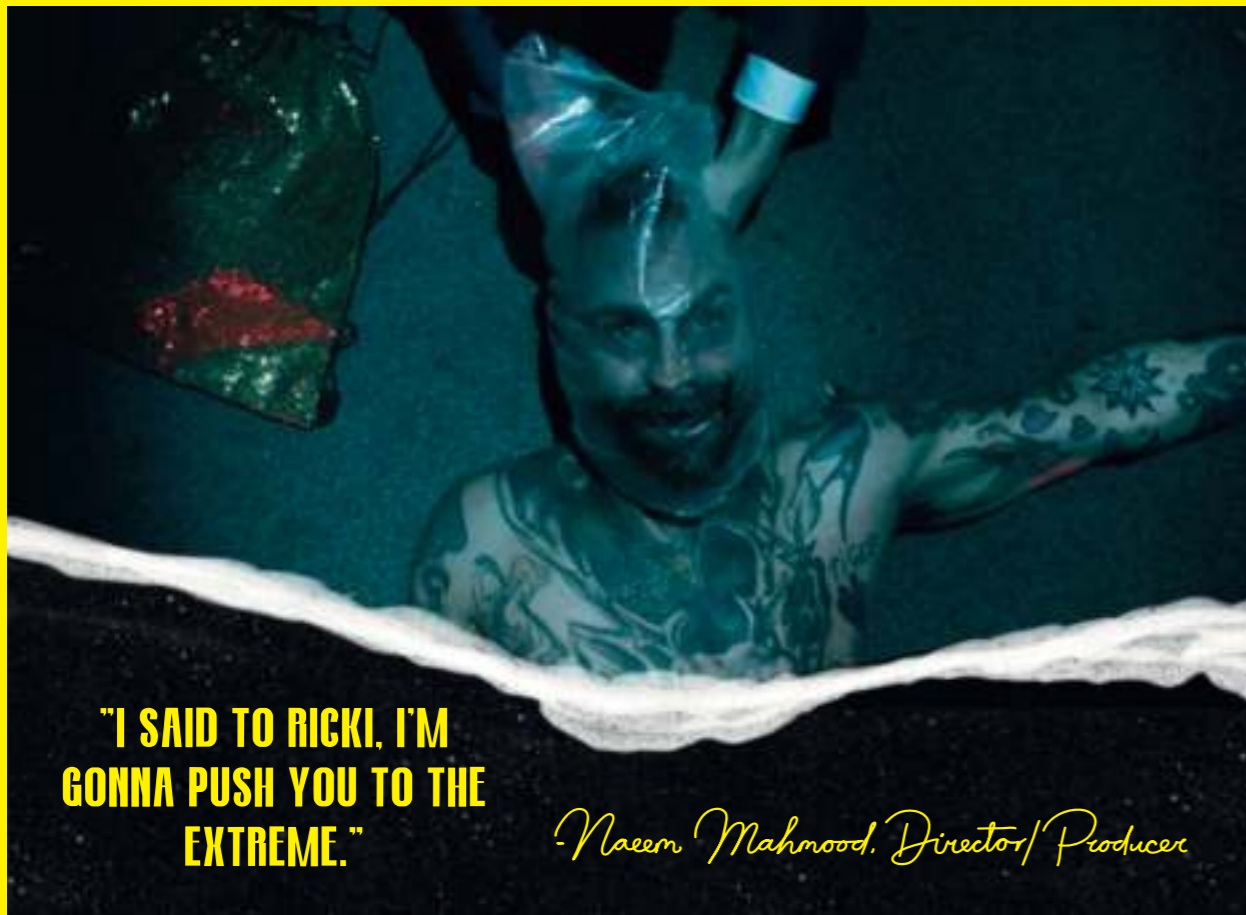
**"IF YOU SIGN UP TO A FILM WITH NAEEM AND  
THINK IT'S GONNA BE ROSES AND DAISIES THEN  
YOU'RE VERY MUCH MISTAKEN."**

*-Ricki Hall, Actor*



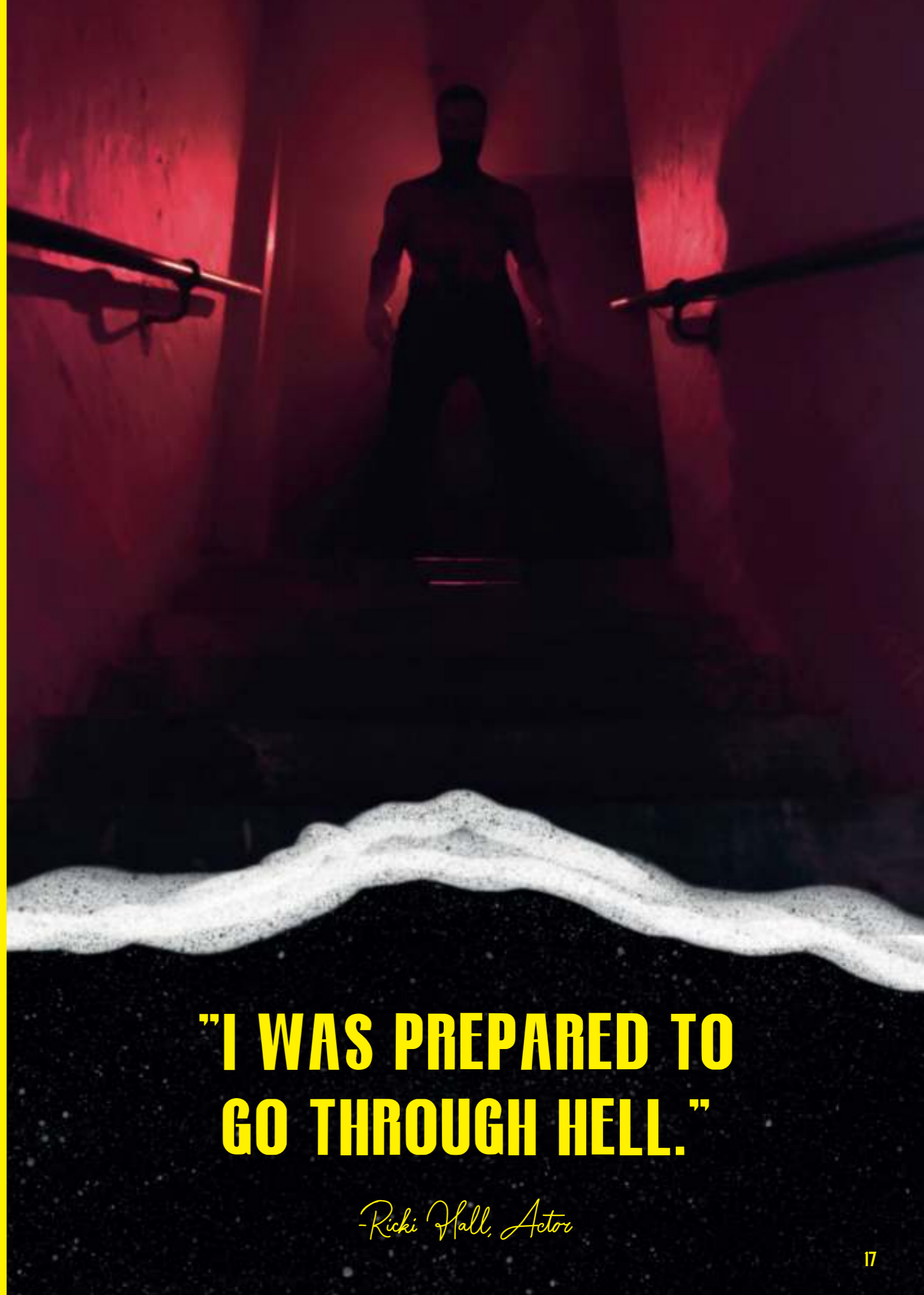
**"I SAID TO RICKI, I'M  
GONNA PUSH YOU TO THE  
EXTREME."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"I WAS PREPARED TO  
GO THROUGH HELL."**

*-Ricki Hall, Actor*





**"I LIKED THE WAY NAEEM APPROACHED ME BECAUSE OF MY TALENT, NOT MY DISABILITY."**

*-Michael Hagan, Actor*



**"ASIAN MALE ACTORS ARE UNDER-REPRESENTED. THEY FACE STEREOTYPES AND GET STUCK IN SUPPORTING ROLES. RELEGATED TO SEXLESS AND POWERLESS MEN."**

*-Naem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



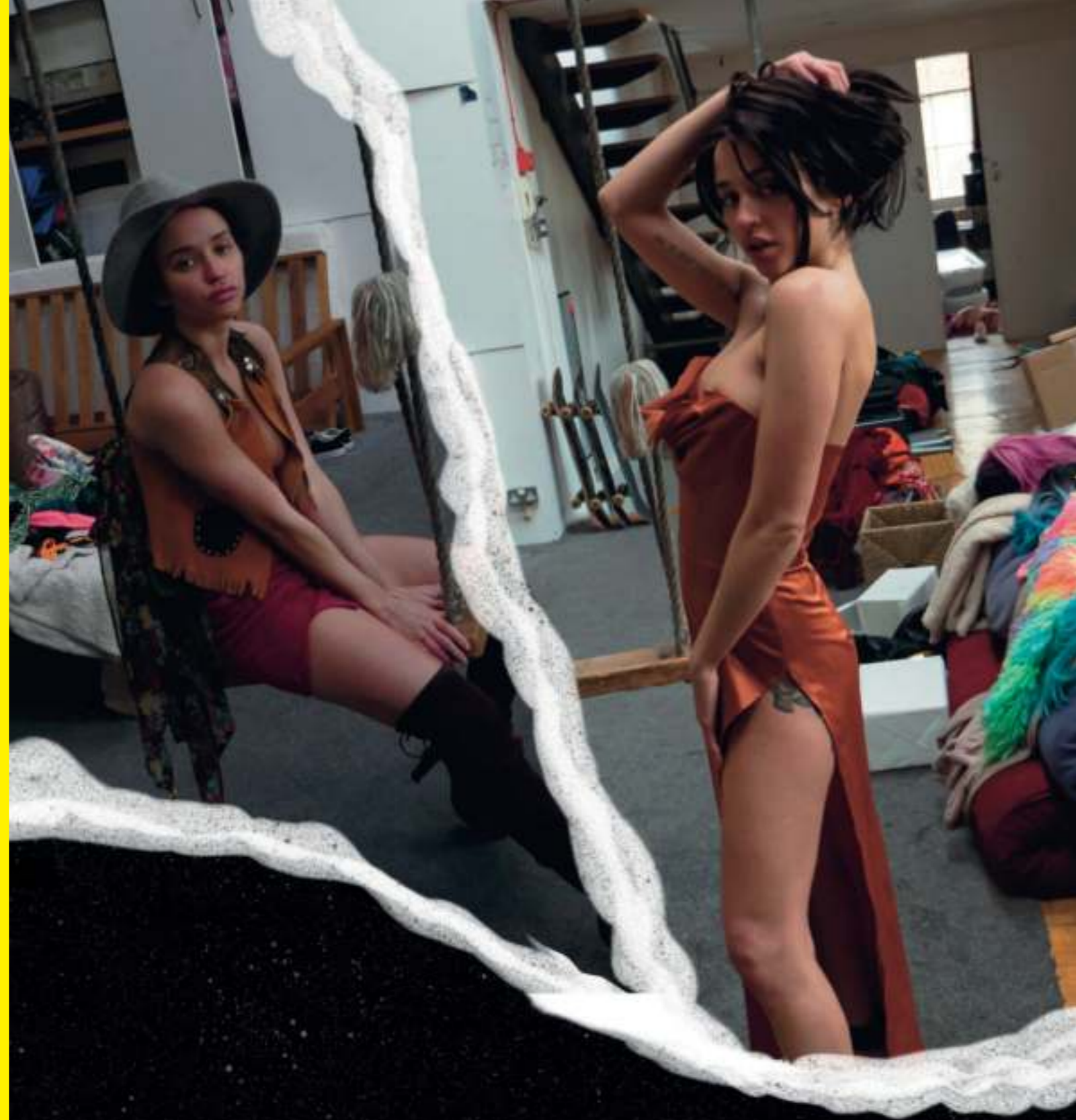
**"WE COULDN'T AFFORD COSTUMES SO WITH RICKI WE KEPT HIM TOPLESS."**

*Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"THE PROPS I BORROWED FROM FRIENDS AND FAMILY WERE INCORPORATED INTO THE FILM IN WAYS I COULDN'T IMAGINE."**

*Kat Easto, Production Designer*



**"KYD HAD SUCH A VARIETY OF OUTFITS, WE SPENT A DAY GOING THROUGH HER ENTIRE WARDROBE."**

*Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*

**"WHEN YOU'RE WORKING WITH PEOPLE THAT ARE INDUSTRY TRAINED, THEY HAVE PROTOCOLS THAT THEY EXPECT. DO YOU HAVE CONTRACTS? DO YOU HAVE HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES? DO YOU HAVE INSURANCE? THERE WERE TIMES WE HAD TO LIE."**

*-Sharoz Sheikh, Producer*



**"I KNEW THAT WITHOUT A BUDGET I COULDN'T ACQUIRE LOCATIONS THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"WHEN CAN WE GET ACCESS TO HEATHROW WHERE SECURITY ISN'T TIGHT?"**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*

**"I KNEW THERE  
WOULD BE AT LEAST  
TWO OR THREE  
ILLEGAL THINGS  
GOING ON TO MAKE  
THE FILM WORK."**

*-Ricki Hall, Actor*



**"IT GOT HOT WITH THE POLICE WHEN WALKING  
THROUGH CENTRAL LONDON WITH AN AK47."**

*-Ricki Hall, Actor*



**"THE SECURITY GUARD CAME OUT...NAEEM  
TURNED TO HIM AND SAID 'WE'RE FILMING FOR  
BLACK LIVES MATTER.' SATISFIED, THE SECURITY  
GUARD RETURNED TO HIS POST."**

*-Stephen Roach, Cinematographer/ Producer*



**"THE POLICE  
WERE ALWAYS ONE  
STEP BEHIND."**

*-Naeem Mahmood,  
Director/Producer*



**"HOW DO YOU PLAN TO STOP THE TRAFFIC? IT BECAME APPARENT I WAS THE THING THAT WOULD BE STOPPING THE TRAFFIC."**

*-Matthew Sidney Woollett, Assistant Director*



**"I STOOD ON A PIPE, TWENTY-FIVE FEET UP IN THE AIR, GETTING A HIGH ANGLE SHOT WITHOUT ANY SAFETY HARNESS."**

*-Stephen Roach, Cinematographer/ Producer*



**"IT WAS THE MOST TERRIFYING AND EXCITING EXPERIENCE I'VE EVER HAD FILMING ANYTHING."**

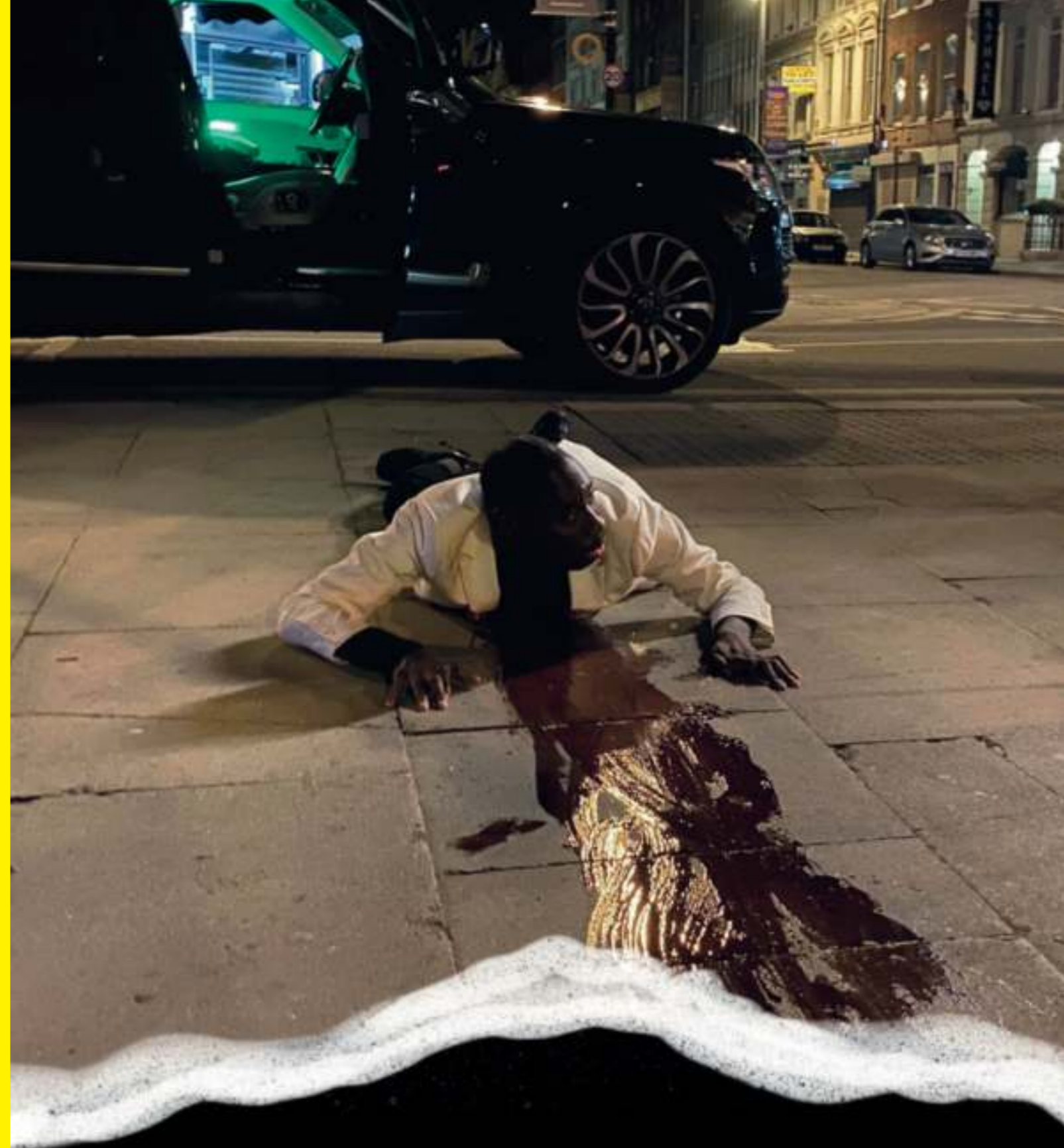
*-Matthew Sidney Woollett, Assistant Director*





**"NAEEM THREW ME IN  
THE DEEP END."**

*Ricki Hall, Actor*

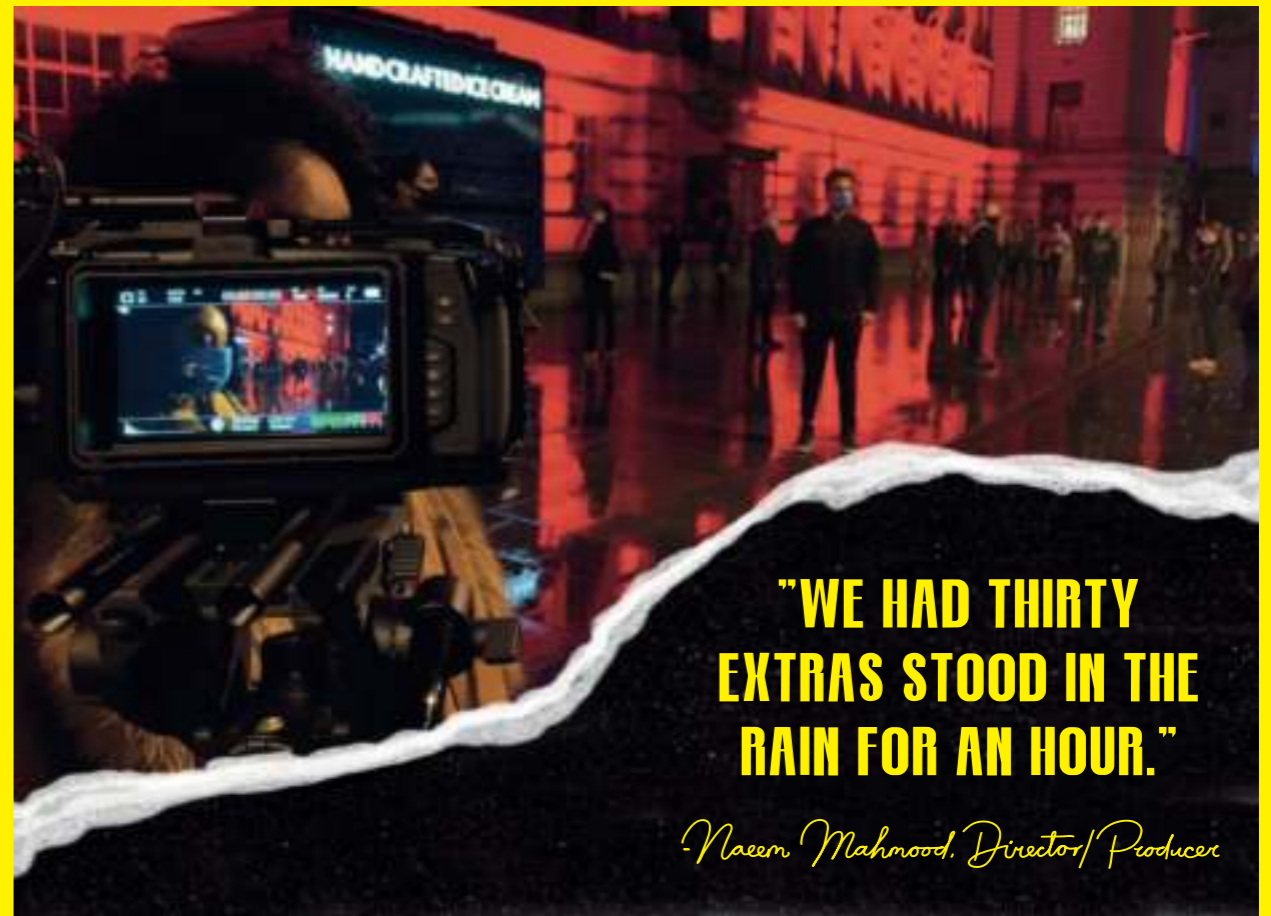


**"HE HAD TO CRAWL ON THE  
DIRTY PAVEMENT, IN THE COLD,  
SOAKED IN BLOOD."**

*Naem Mahmood, Director/Producer*

**"I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MANY EXTRAS  
ON A NO BUDGET FILM. HOW THE  
FUCK DOES NAEEM DO IT?"**

*-Kyd Nereida, Actor*



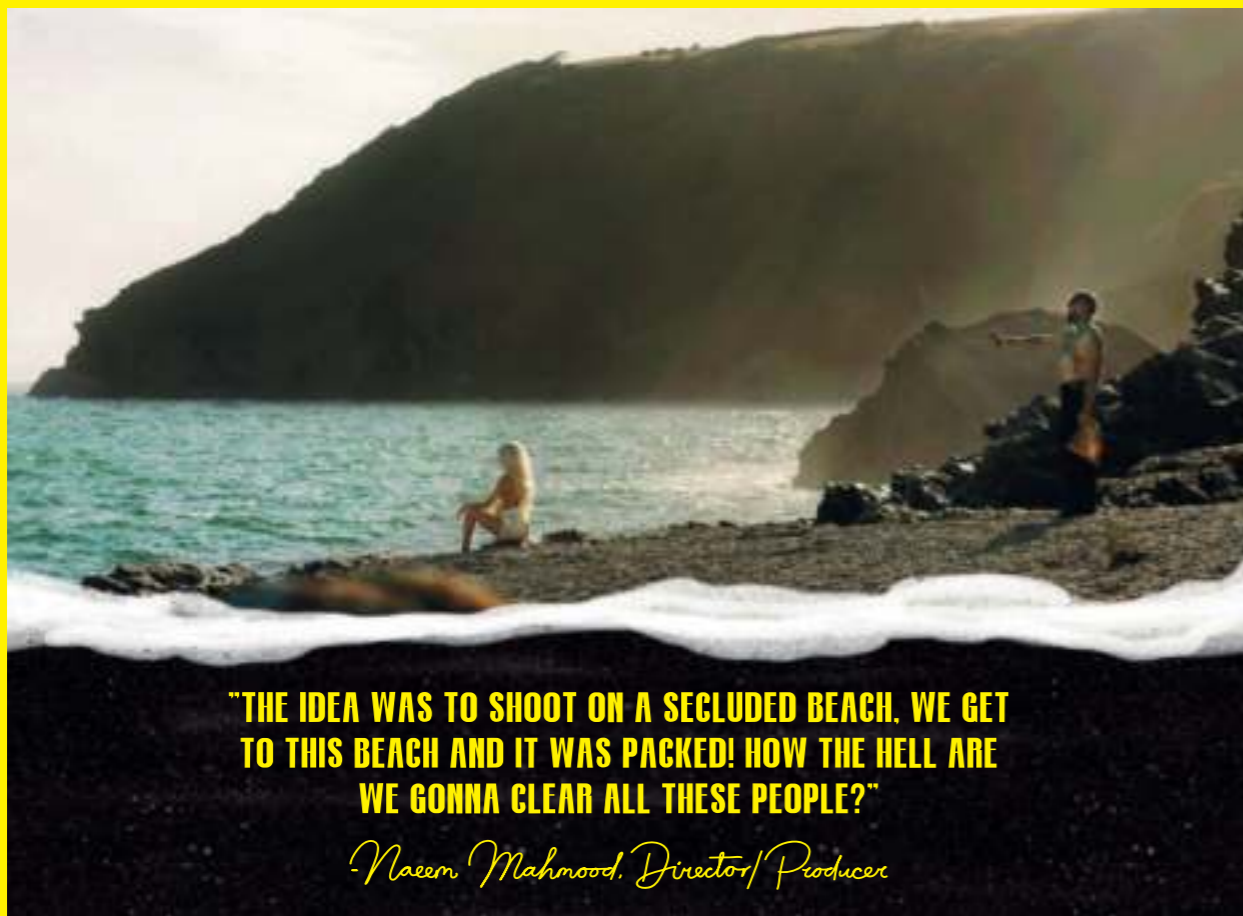
**"WE HAD THIRTY  
EXTRAS STOOD IN THE  
RAIN FOR AN HOUR."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"HE NEVER ACTED BEFORE  
BUT HE WAS PERFORMING ON  
THAT HILL LIKE MOSES."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"THE IDEA WAS TO SHOOT ON A SECLUDED BEACH. WE GET TO THIS BEACH AND IT WAS PACKED! HOW THE HELL ARE WE GONNA CLEAR ALL THESE PEOPLE?"**

*-Naem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"IT WAS CONTROLLED CHAOS."**

*-Naem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"HE WAS QUITE STRICT AT TIMES."**

*-Ricki Hall, Actor*



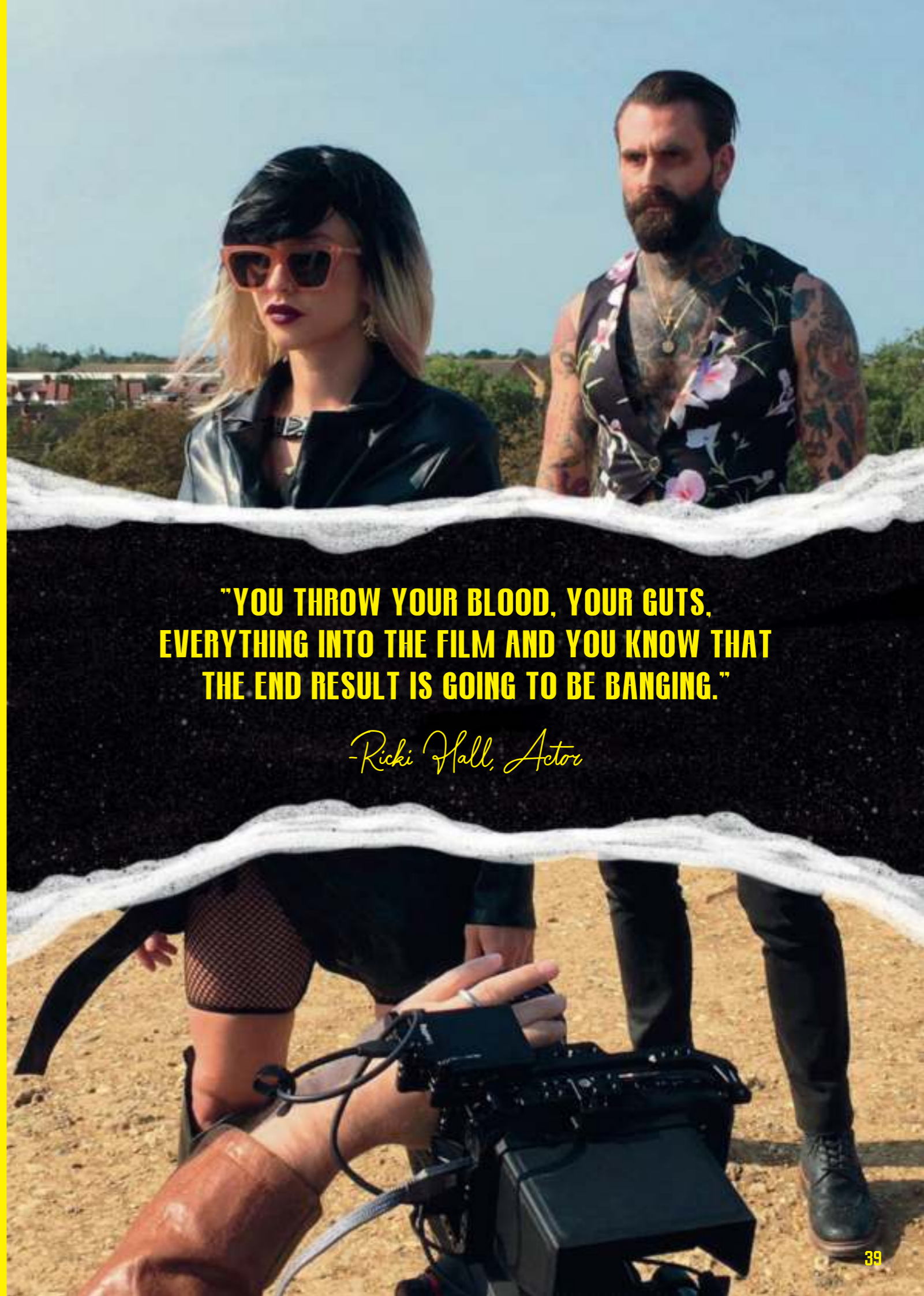
**"WE CREATED THIS  
FEATURE FILM IN  
NINETEEN DAYS, NEARLY  
TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR  
DAYS. IT CAN DRIVE  
YOU CRAZY."**

*-Stephen Roach, Cinematographer/ Producer*



**"YOU PUSH THAT  
INSANITY ASIDE."**

*-Stephen Roach, Cinematographer/ Producer*



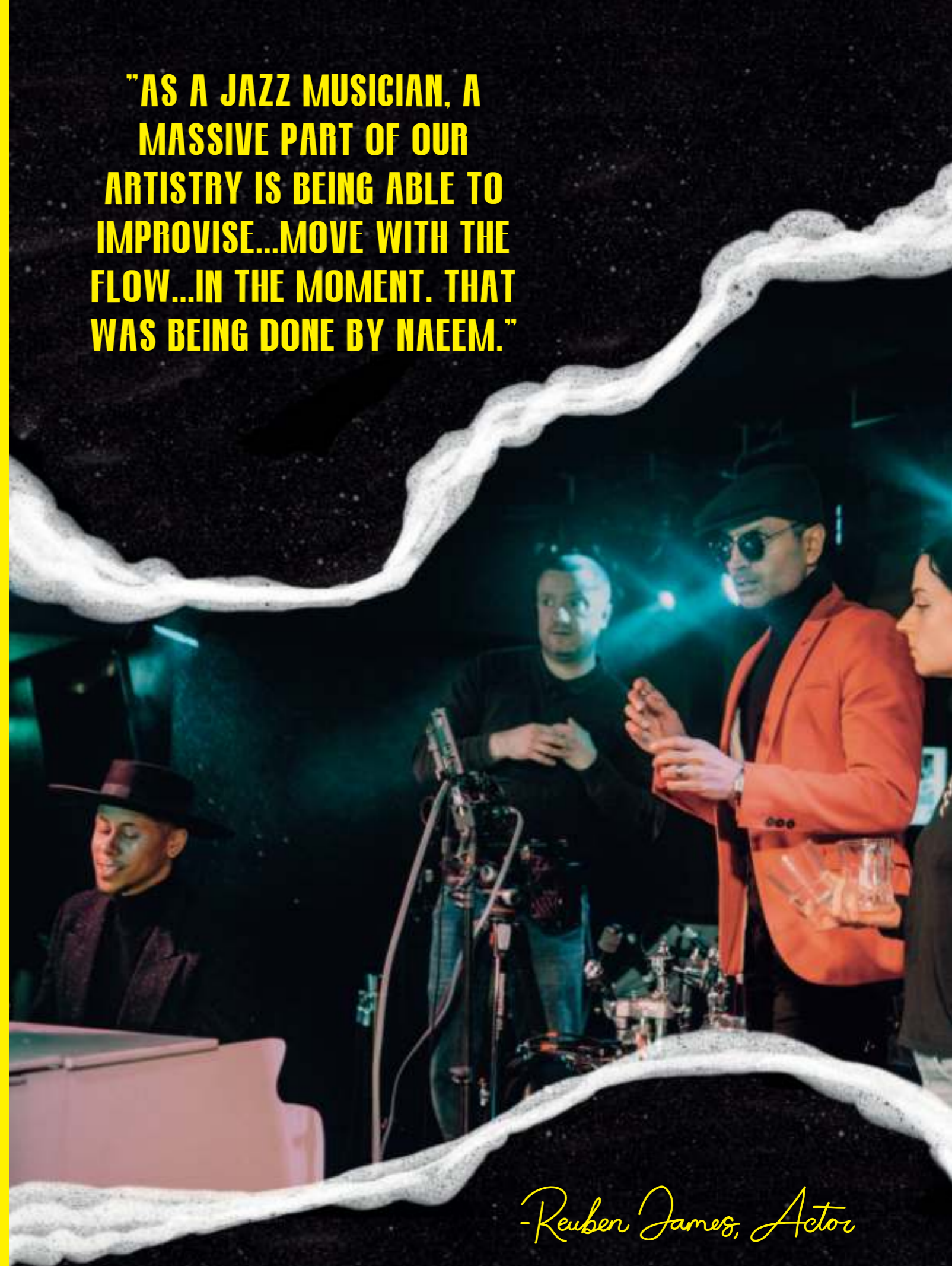
**"YOU THROW YOUR BLOOD, YOUR GUTS,  
EVERYTHING INTO THE FILM AND YOU KNOW THAT  
THE END RESULT IS GOING TO BE BANGING."**

*-Ricki Hall, Actor*



**"NAEEM HAD THE  
VISION. I BELIEVED IN  
HIM IMMEDIATELY."**

*-Reuben James, Actor*



**"AS A JAZZ MUSICIAN, A  
MASSIVE PART OF OUR  
ARTISTRY IS BEING ABLE TO  
IMPROVISE...MOVE WITH THE  
FLOW...IN THE MOMENT. THAT  
WAS BEING DONE BY NAEEM."**

*-Reuben James, Actor*



**"HE'S SO VISUALLY AWARE."**

*Alison Macmillan, Co-Producer*



**"HE'S VERY INCLUSIVE, VERY CALM AND KEEPS HIS CREW AND HIS CAST CALM."**

*Alison Macmillan, Co-Producer*

**"THE IDEA OF EQUALITY CAME THROUGH ON SET, IT DIDN'T MATTER WHO YOU WERE, YOU WERE ALL JUST WORKING FOR THE SAKE OF THE FILM."**

*-Matthew Sidney Woollett, Assistant Director*



"I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT THIS GUY'S GONNA DO WHEN GIVEN A HUNDRED MILLION BUDGET. I THINK THE UNIVERSE WILL IMplode AND WE'LL ALL HAVE TO RESTART AGAIN."

- Stephen Roach,  
Cinematographer/Producer



**NO BUDGET**

**NO SCRIPT**

**NO PERMISSION**

NO SCRIPT

FILMMAKER

NAEEM MAHMOOD

REBEL

RULE BREAKER

NO BUDGET

MAKING **GODS** OF THEIR OWN **RELIGION**

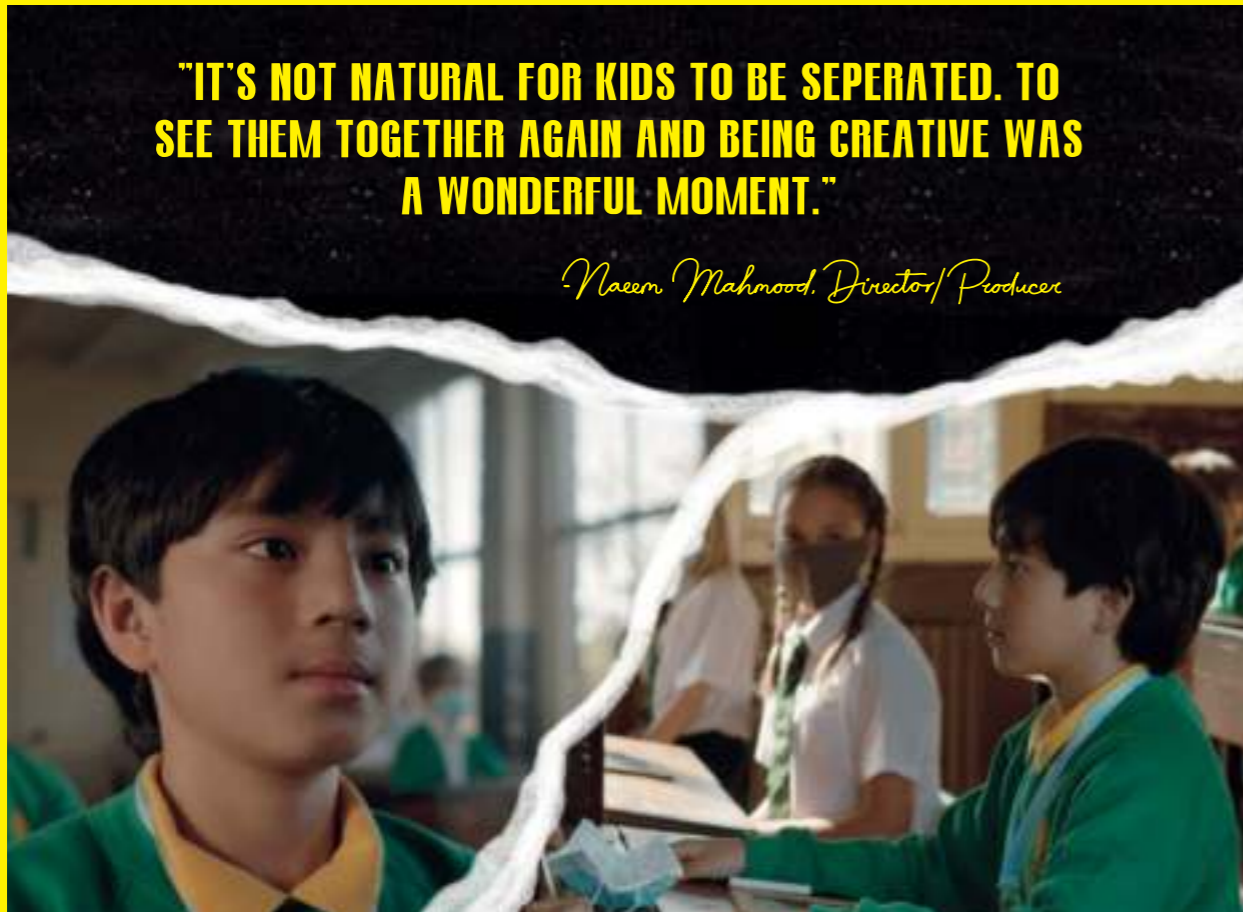






**"THE NEW GENERATION ARE  
CONDITIONED TO REMAIN WITHIN  
THEIR COMFORT ZONE."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*

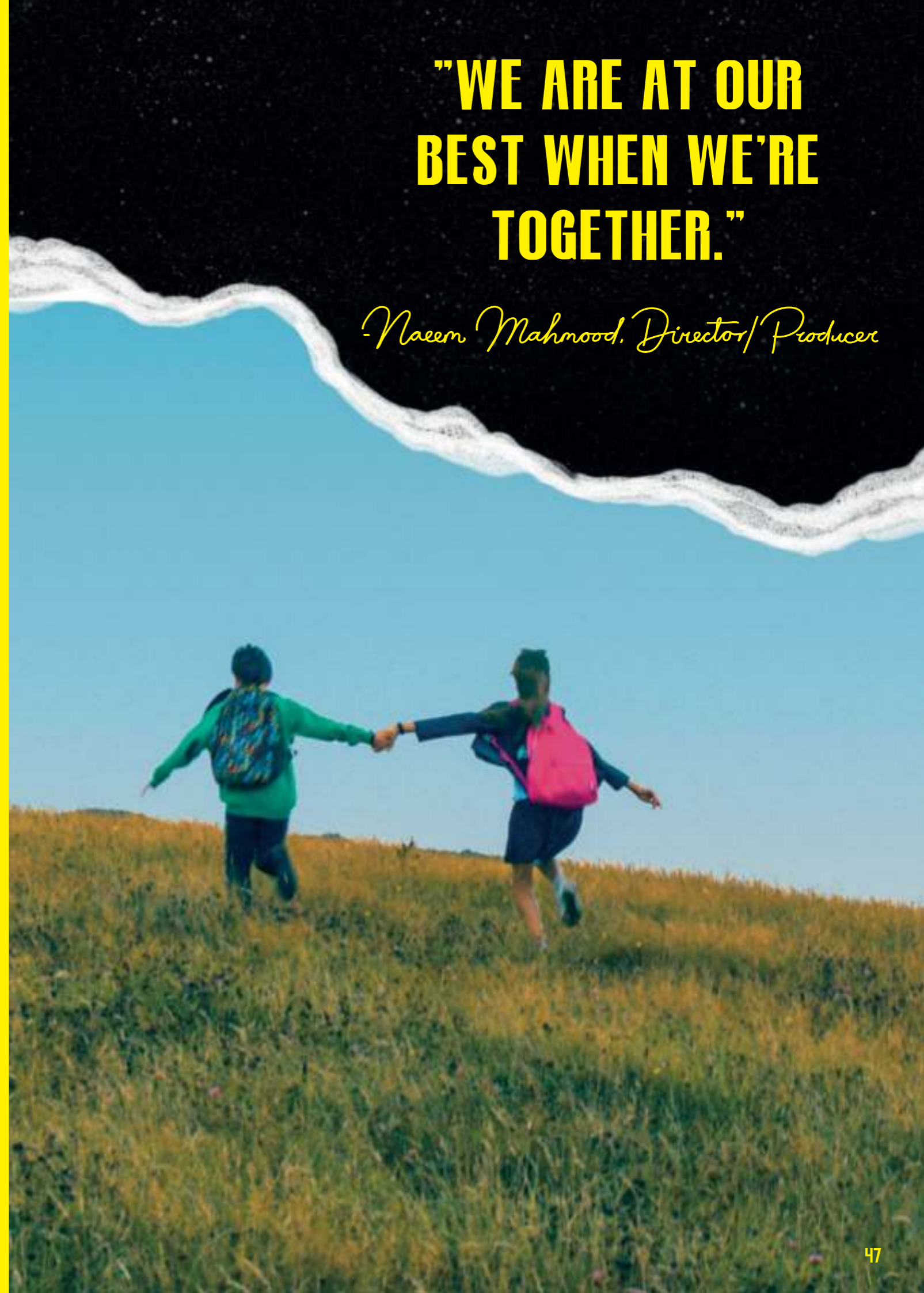


**"IT'S NOT NATURAL FOR KIDS TO BE SEPERATED. TO  
SEE THEM TOGETHER AGAIN AND BEING CREATIVE WAS  
A WONDERFUL MOMENT."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*

**"WE ARE AT OUR  
BEST WHEN WE'RE  
TOGETHER."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



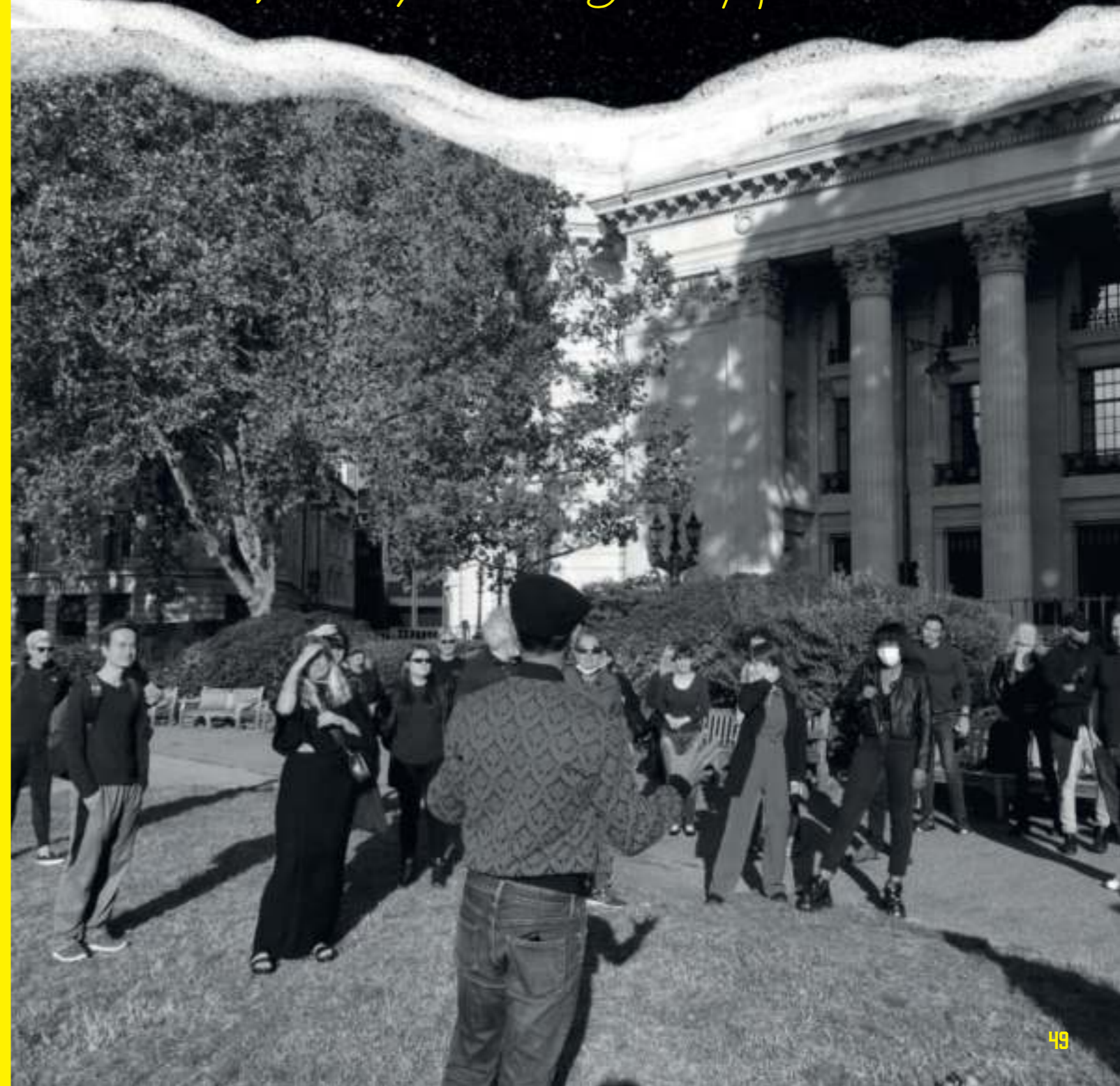
**"IT WAS CREATIVELY LIBERATING, LETTING EVERY PERSON ON SET GIVE THEIR INPUT TO MAKE THE FILM WORK."**



*-Matthew Sidney Woollett, Assistant Director*

**"I HAD A SPECIAL CONNECTION WITH THE ACTORS, CREW AND EXTRAS. THEY WENT ON THIS JOURNEY WITH ME AND BACKED ME TO THE END. I OWE THEM EVERYTHING."**

*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"WHEN YOU MEET PEOPLE FACE TO FACE...THAT HUMAN INTERACTION...THAT'S WHEN YOU'RE ABLE TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS AND PEOPLE ARE MORE WILLING TO SUPPORT YOU."**

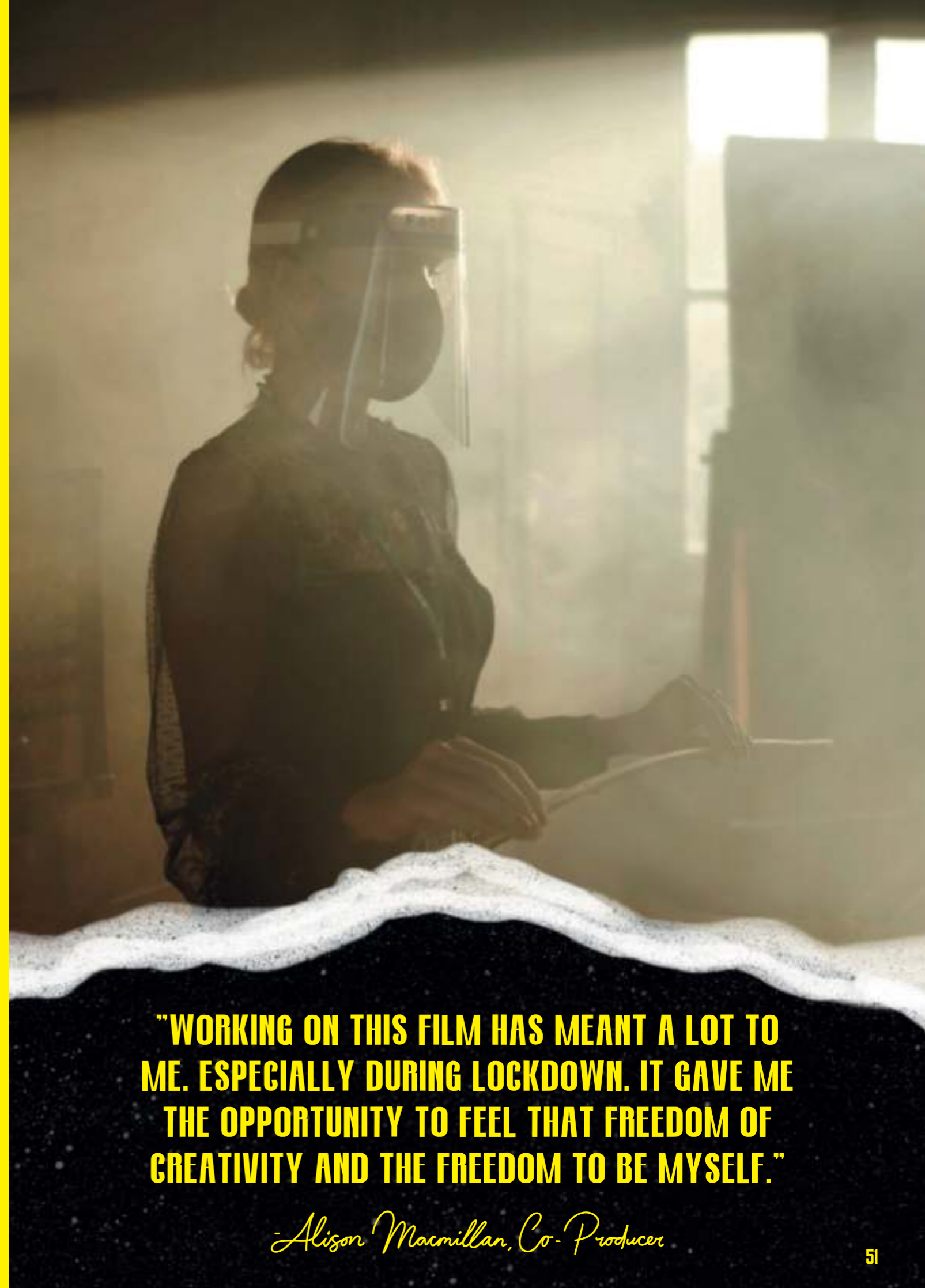
*-Naeem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"IT WAS SO MEANINGFUL  
BECAUSE I FELT VALUED  
AND LISTENED TO."** *-Matthew Sidney Woollett, Assistant Director*

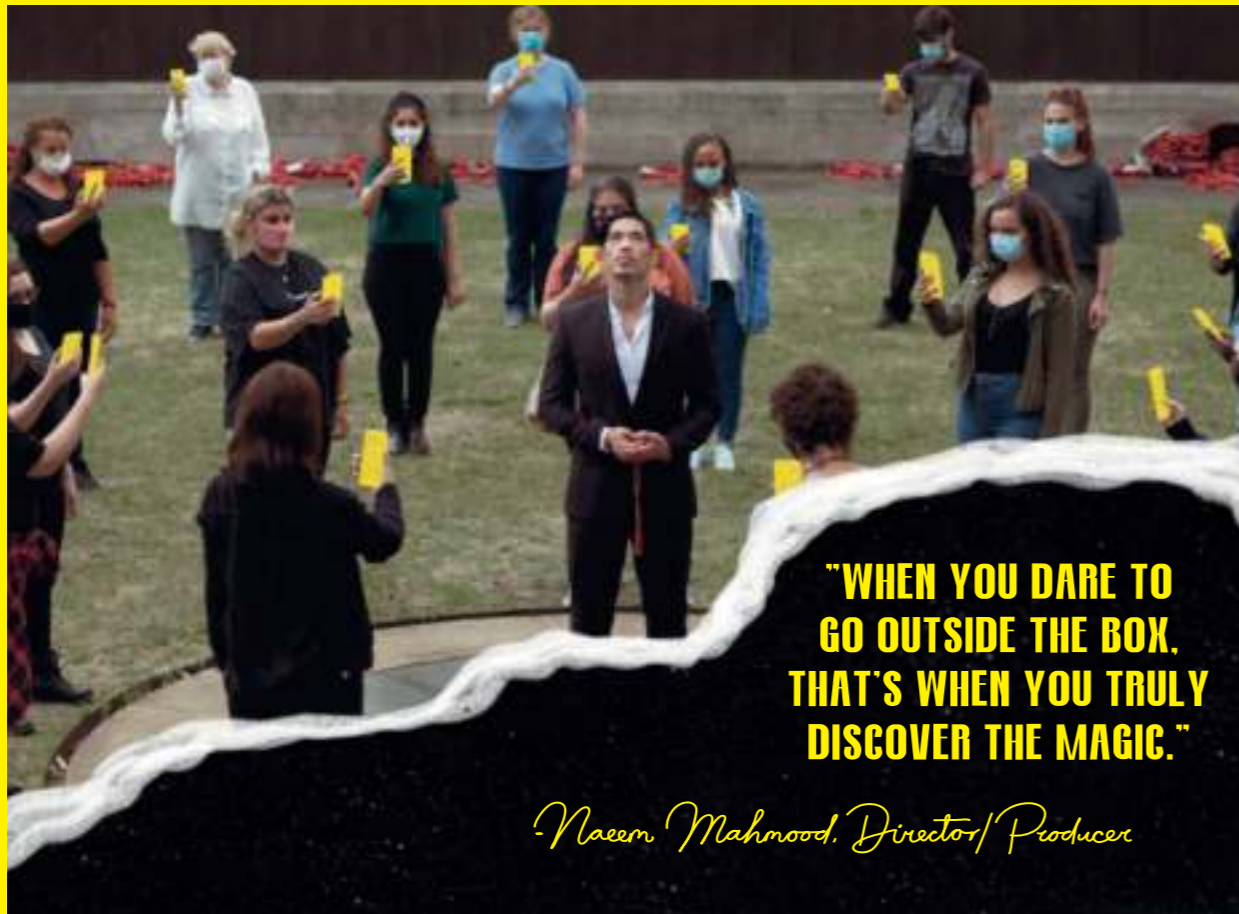


**"ON THIS PRODUCTION THERE  
WAS CREATIVE FREEDOM. THIS  
BROUGHT OUT THE BEST IN MY  
PERFORMANCE."** *-Michael Hagan, Actor*



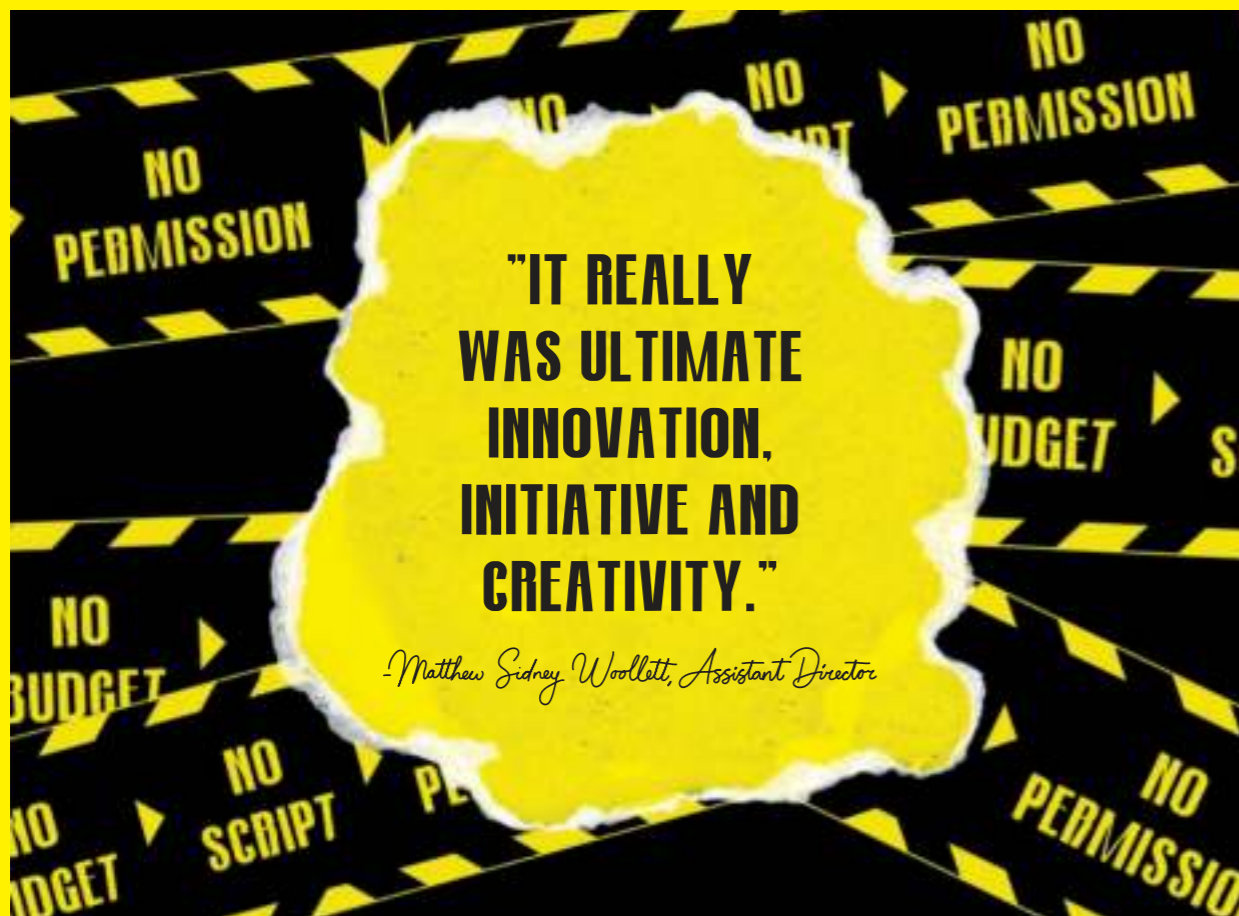
**"WORKING ON THIS FILM HAS MEANT A LOT TO  
ME. ESPECIALLY DURING LOCKDOWN. IT GAVE ME  
THE OPPORTUNITY TO FEEL THAT FREEDOM OF  
CREATIVITY AND THE FREEDOM TO BE MYSELF."**

*-Alison Macmillan, Co-Producer*



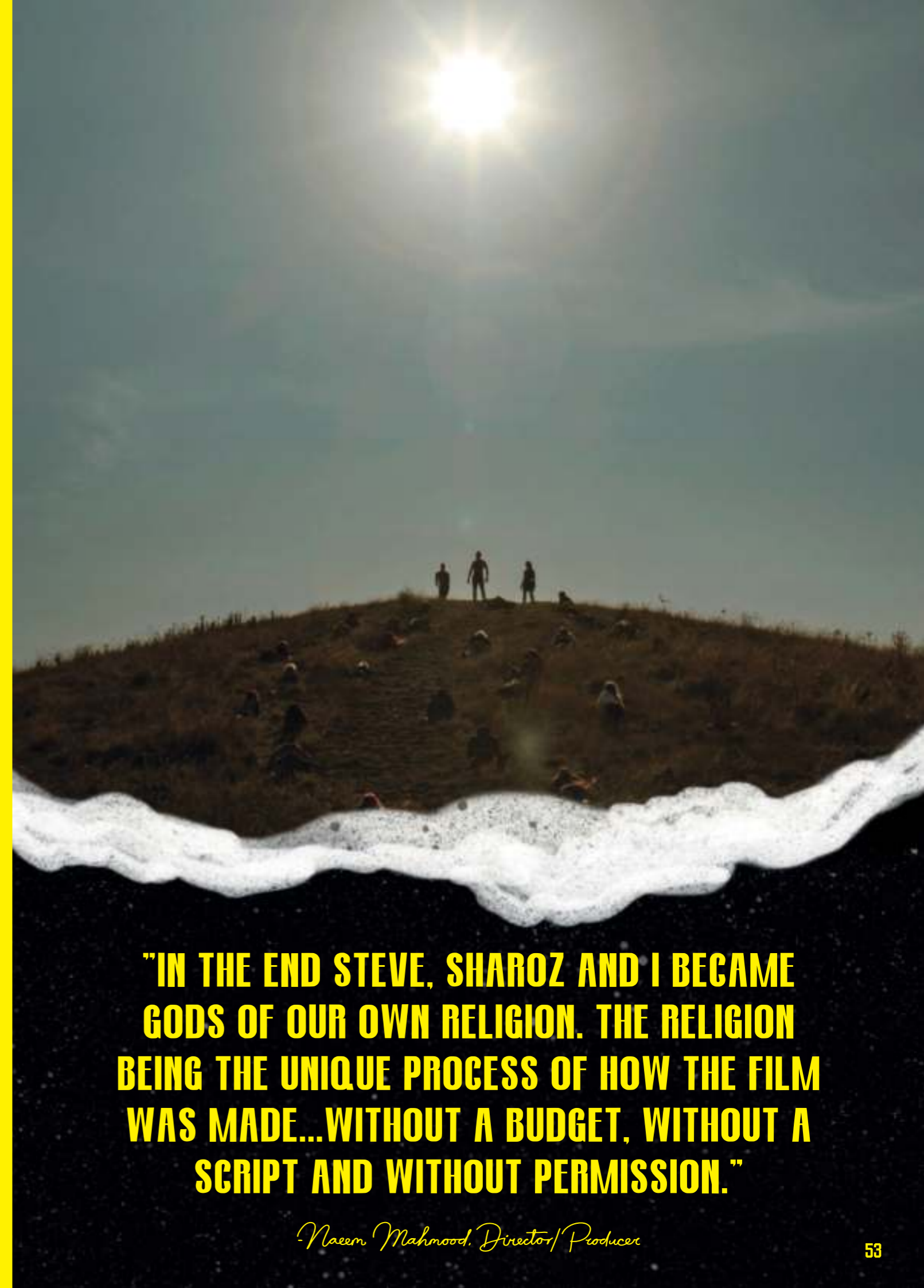
**"WHEN YOU DARE TO GO OUTSIDE THE BOX, THAT'S WHEN YOU TRULY DISCOVER THE MAGIC."**

*-Naem Mahmood, Director/Producer*



**"IT REALLY WAS ULTIMATE INNOVATION, INITIATIVE AND CREATIVITY."**

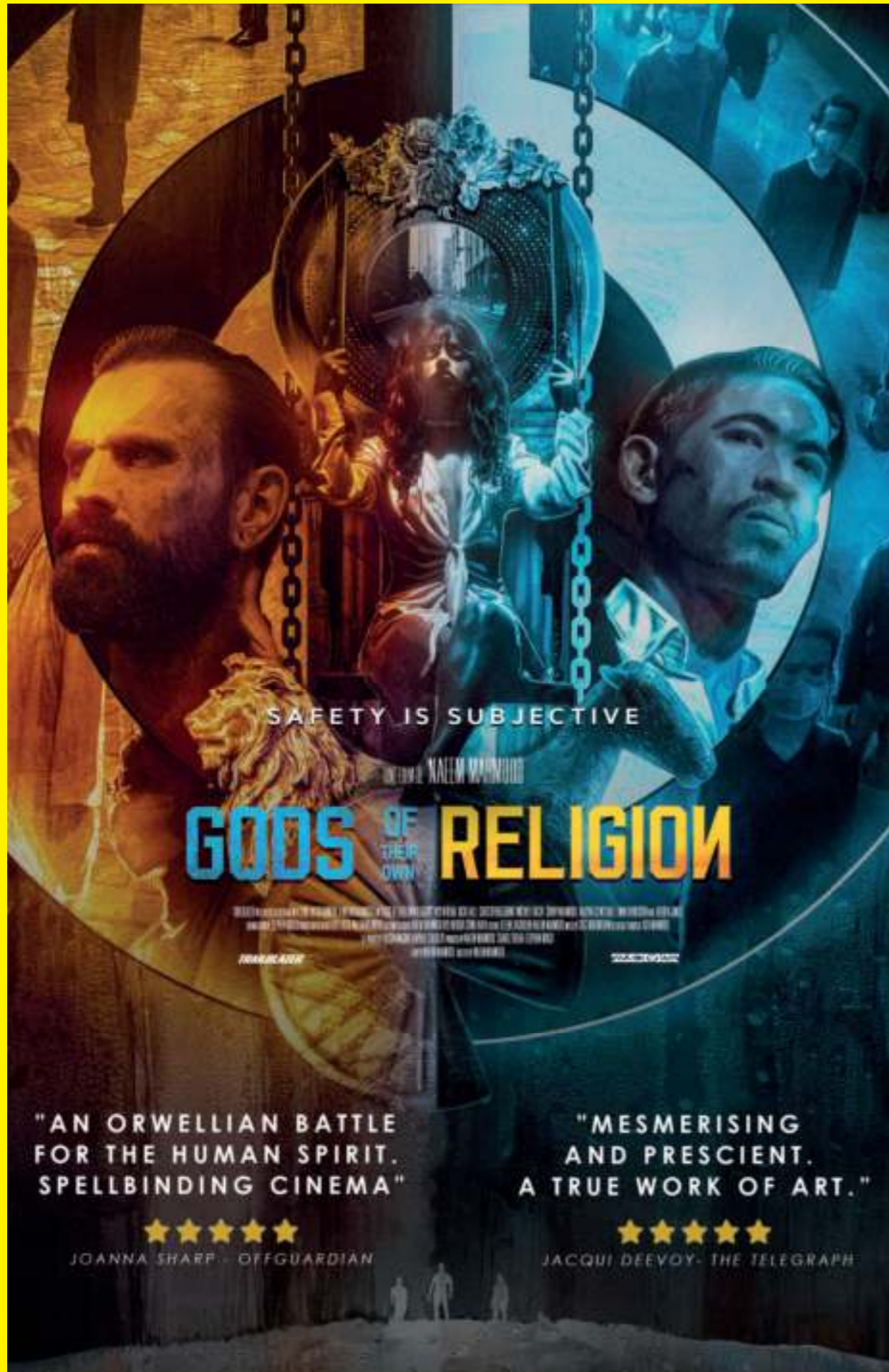
*-Matthew Sidney Woollett, Assistant Director*



**"IN THE END STEVE, SHARAZ AND I BECAME GODS OF OUR OWN RELIGION. THE RELIGION BEING THE UNIQUE PROCESS OF HOW THE FILM WAS MADE...WITHOUT A BUDGET, WITHOUT A SCRIPT AND WITHOUT PERMISSION."**

*-Naem Mahmood, Director/Producer*





SAFETY IS SUBJECTIVE

IN THE  
MIND OF NILEEN MOYINMOYI

# GODS OF THEIR OWN RELIGION

TRAILBLAZER FILMS PRESENTS A FILM BY NILEEN MOYINMOYI GODS OF THEIR OWN RELIGION CASTING BY JAMES HARRIS COSTUME DESIGNER ANDREW HARRIS PRODUCTION DESIGNER ANDREW HARRIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ANDREW HARRIS AND NILEEN MOYINMOYI PRODUCED BY ANDREW HARRIS AND NILEEN MOYINMOYI WRITTEN BY ANDREW HARRIS AND NILEEN MOYINMOYI DIRECTED BY NILEEN MOYINMOYI

"AN ORWELLIAN BATTLE FOR THE HUMAN SPIRIT. SPELLBINDING CINEMA"



JOANNA SHARP - OFFGUARDIAN

"MESMERISING AND PRESCIENT. A TRUE WORK OF ART."



JACQUI DEEVOY - THE TELEGRAPH

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