



# Nuptials



A SEAN BRAUNE FILM

PARA-SIGHT PICTURES PRESENTS A FILM BY SEAN BRAUNE ARIANA MARQUIS KEVIN MCPHERSON ECKHOFF

"NUPTIALS" DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY SHADY HANNA PRODUCTION DESIGNER BRIAN DUDKIEWICZ MUSIC BY JAMES CHAPPLE CASTING BY IAN BENDER

FILM EDITOR BRYAN PIGGOTT MAKE-UP ARTIST JOCELYN SANTOS PRODUCER SEAN BRAUNE RUDOLF BRAUNE & GISELA BRAUNE

PRODUCED BY LEE FOSTER AND THOMAS SCOTT

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY SEAN BRAUNE

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# About

## LOGLINE:

**A young couple on their honeymoon dares to explore whether marriage is a matter of heaven or hell.**

Director **Sean Braune**

Creator/Writer **Sean Braune**

Starring **Ariana Marquis,**  
**Kevin McPherson Eckhoff**

Production Companies

**Para-sight Pictures, Foster Films**  
**Canada, Gopher It Productions**

# Short synopsis

Hannah and Stephen were looking forward to what was supposed to be the happiest day of their lives—their wedding. They didn't know though that their destination wedding and honeymoon would unlock their deepest secrets and force them to confront the darkness that lurks in love. After arriving at a luxury resort, Stephen and Hannah begin to settle into the blissful patterns of their wedding and honeymoon vacation, but Hannah is worried about Stephen's distance and focus on his painting. As he works on his paintings with a singular purpose, he begins to abandon her at the beginning of their new lives together. Hannah and Stephen are forced to confront what it means to be married in a journey into their unconscious worlds of dream, nightmare, and fantasy.



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT BY SEAN BRAUNE

The path to *Nuptials* began with a very simple question: is marriage a heaven or a hell? How can we represent this onscreen? I knew that a nonlinear and somewhat atypical approach would be necessary. We were trying to make a “Romance” movie, but a very strange kind of Romance—perhaps even an “anti-Romance.” We needed to control the bridal suite space because roughly 80% of the film takes place in this one room. Our approach here reflected more traditional (or even classical Hollywood cinema) filmmaking techniques: the bridal suite was built in a studio with an ocean projected on a screen.

While we were engaged in post-production (a process that took almost two years), Hollywood and contemporary culture was focused on the political ripples of the #MeToo movement—a movement that rightfully challenged the patriarchal and misogynistic impulses of the primarily white and male elite of the film world. Many of the conversations that the two lead characters have in *Nuptials* are concerned with rejecting repressive and outdated definitions of sex and gender. Both characters struggle against cultural forms of gender and try to find a way forward.

I hope that audiences will appreciate the film’s courage in asking hard questions about how men and women treat each other in relationships and will continue to talk about these issues when they leave the theatre and go back to their own relationships, fantasies, partnerships, or marriages.



**SEAN BRAUNE**  
DIRECTOR, WRITER,  
AND PRODUCER

Sean Braune is a filmmaker, poet, and philosopher based in Toronto. His first book of philosophy, *Language Parasites*, appeared in 2017 and his first full-length poetry collection, *Dendrite Balconies*, is forthcoming from the University of Calgary Press. As a filmmaker, his short film, *An Encounter* (2005), won the “Excellence in Cinematography” award at the Toronto Youth Shorts Film Festival '09. *Nuptials* is his first feature-length film.



**ARIANA MARQUIS**  
LEAD ACTOR "HANNAH"

Ariana Marquis is a actor/producer from Fredericton, New Brunswick residing in Toronto. She's a recent graduate of Ryerson's School of Performance and has trained with Michael Chekhov Europe, Stratford Festival, Academy of Dramatic Combat, and Theatre New Brunswick. Her selected film credits include recipient of the Telefilm Canada's Microbudget Production Grant *Entropic* (Frictive Pictures), lead in the upcoming feature *Nuptials* (Para-sight Pictures), and has received multiple awards for her work in *The Beautifully Drowned* (Frictive Pictures). Ariana co-produced the sold-out Canadian premiere of The Artillery Collective's *Hello Againand* (notice me) KID VICIOUS film *Breaking Up for the Modern Girl*.



**KEVIN MCPHERSON  
ECKHOFF**  
LEAD ACTOR "STEPHEN"

Kevin McPherson Eckhoff is a Canadian actor, comedian, teacher, and writer. He has created and hosted a variety of shows, from literary hootenannies to parody game shows, such as *Super Celebrity Heart Smash Love Connection Showdown*, which was developed for Shaw TV. In addition to his work in film and stand-up, he has performed at international writers festivals reading from his four books, the most recent being *Their Biography: An Organism of Relationships*, published by Book\*hug. He teaches literature and creative writing full-time at Okanagan College in British Columbia. *Nuptials* marks his debut in a lead role in a feature-length film.

# Credits

Written, Produced, and Directed by **Sean Braune**

Executive Producers:

**Gisela Braune, Rudolf Braune, and Sean Braune**

Produced by **Lee Foster** and **Thomas Scott**

Cast

**Ariana Marquis**

**Kevin McPherson Eckhoff**

**Annie Stone**

**Lavinia Latham**

**Darius Arany**

**Amelia Ormiston**

**Peggy Calvert**

**Michael Buchanan**

**Ryan Ringer**

with the voice talents of **Stephanie Herrera**

and introducing **Denis Davicino**

Director of Photography **Shady Hanna**

Production Designer **Brian Dudkiewicz**

Composer **James Chapple**

Editor **Bryan Piggott**





# Info Sheet

Year: **2023**

Country: **Canada**

Aspect Ratio: **2.40:1**

Picture Format: **Colour**

Language: **English**

Screening Format: **Secure Online Screener**

Duration: **88 minutes**

Genre: **Horror and Dark Comedy**

Shooting Format: **RED**

Exhibition Format: **DVD, .MOV (Quicktime), BLU-RAY, DCP**

Production Partner: **One Take Wonder Bros.**



# **Press Contact**

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**Screeners, interviews, and press images  
available upon request**

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