

Monarch City

POP. 374

ELEV. 1431

a family divided



“MONARCH CITY”

Running Time: 70 minutes
Director: Titus Richard
Writer: Titus Richard
Producer: Judith Lindsay
Cinematographer: Loreto Di Cesare
Composer: Ryan Marth
Editor: Titus Richard

Executive Producers: Matthew Loflin
Daniel Richard
Brandon Hashimoto
Jacqueline Richard
Kay & Jerry Jaz
Judy Lindsay
Mischa Jakupcak

Production Company: Unfollow LLC

“MONARCH CITY”

UNFOLLOW AND ANTIMUM FILM IN ASSOCIATION WITH CULTURE SHOCK AND QUIET MEDIA PRESENTS
PAUL EENHOORN MAHRIA ZOOK “MONARCH CITY” LIISA KAUFMAN LAVENDER HAMILTON
AND CAMERON CARTER ORIGINAL MUSIC BY RYAN MARTH EDITOR TITUS RICHARD PRODUCTION DESIGNER EVELYN WESTON ASSOCIATE PRODUCER ELLISON SHIEH
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BRANDON HASHIMOTO DANIEL RICHARD MATT LOFLIN JACQUELINE RICHARD KAY & JERRY JAZ
PRODUCED BY JUDY LINDSAY CINEMATOGRAPHY BY LORETO DI CESARE WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY TITUS RICHARD





ABOUT THE FILM

A family divided within the forgotten Monarch City. Set against a decayed Americana backdrop, the rust and despair that fill this dying small-town are surrounded by beautiful landscapes — a glimmer of hope — something beyond — a new start. Each family member follows their own path, while trying to avoid past trauma and the generational gaps that separate them, searching for an escape before the window of opportunity closes.

DIRECTOR STATEMENT

Monarch City has been a deeply personal project, inspired by stories of resilience and the subtle grace found in life's most fragile moments. It's a reflection of a world I know well—small-town America, where hope and pain coexist in an uneasy balance.

This film took on an even deeper meaning during post-production, when I tragically lost my dear friend and collaborator, Paul Eenhoorn. Paul was a beloved member of the Seattle film community and Monarch City was one of his last on screen performances. Paul wasn't just a vital part of this project—he was a source of constant encouragement and creativity. His passing was devastating, but it also pushed me to finish the film in a way that would honor his incredible talent and spirit.

Completing Monarch City amidst grief reminded me why I tell stories—to hold onto the people we love and to make sense of the things we lose. This film is a tribute to Paul and to the connections that shape us, even when they're gone.

Titus Rizzo





Paul Eenhoorn “Sam”

Sam is the hardened patriarch of the family. He’s chosen to isolate himself from even those closest to him, but his demons continue to follow.

Paul Eenhoorn is on the short list of actors who have appeared in back-to-back John Cassavetes award winners at the Independent Spirit Awards. Paul brings an understated complexity to the character of Sam that only an actor of his caliber is capable of. This was Paul Eenhoorn’s final feature-film before his untimely passing.



Mahria Zook “Hope”

Mahria plays Hope — the estranged mother of Billie and Zee. Hope is in a court-ordered rehab facility and is fighting to get back on her feet so that she can conquer her past and be more present with her daughters.

Mahria Zook inhabits the role of Hope with tenderness and the palpable heartache of a mother that’s desperately trying to get her life back.



Lavender Hamilton “Zee”

Lavender Hamilton was cast locally and makes her acting debut as the take-no-shit hellraiser, Zee — Hope’s youngest. Lavender brings her uninhibited naturalism to the role of Zee and has a fearlessness that was crucial to the character.



Liisa Kaufman “Billie”

Liisa Kaufman plays the street-smart Billie, who had to grow up and learn to be a “responsible adult” much faster than she would’ve liked. Billie uses tough love to navigate through the dysfunctional relationships in her family — she’s the reluctant glue that holds everything together. Liisa has a natural presence and adapted to her surroundings as quick as a chameleon.



Cameron Carter “Lil RIP”

RIP, aka Lil RIP, is a rapper/producer that is hoping his music will be his way out of this dying town. Billie might be the only one that truly believes in him, but that’s all he needs.

Cameron Carter is a musician and actor that brings the same amount of passion and heart to the role of RIP that he does his own music and art.



Raz Simone “Lord”

Lord is RIP’s ticket out, but he’s not easily impressed. Lord has been in the game as a rapper/producer for a long time and has seen the worst of it. If you don’t put your blood, sweat and tears into your work don’t expect him to pay much attention,

Raz Simone is an accomplished actor, poet, entrepreneur and musical artist from Seattle, WA and brings a lot of his own experience to the role of Lord.

WRITER/DIRECTOR Titus Richard

Titus is an award-winning writer/director of short narratives, documentaries and music videos. He took time away from directing to primarily focus on working as a film editor before making his feature-film directorial debut with “Monarch City”.

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PRODUCER Judith Lindsay

Judy is an NFT Artist, Radio Host, Photographer and Film Producer — one of many talents. Judy and Titus have collaborated on several projects prior to “Monarch City” and were extremely excited to finally make their long-discussed first feature-film together.

jlindsayfilm@gmail.com

CINEMATOGRAPHER Loreto Di Cesare

Loreto is a seasoned cinematographer who has filmed and traveled across the globe. He brings his Italian charm and painter’s eye to every project he works on. With an extensive background in documentary filmmaking, Loreto is a perfect fit for the naturalism and freeform feel of “Monarch City”.

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