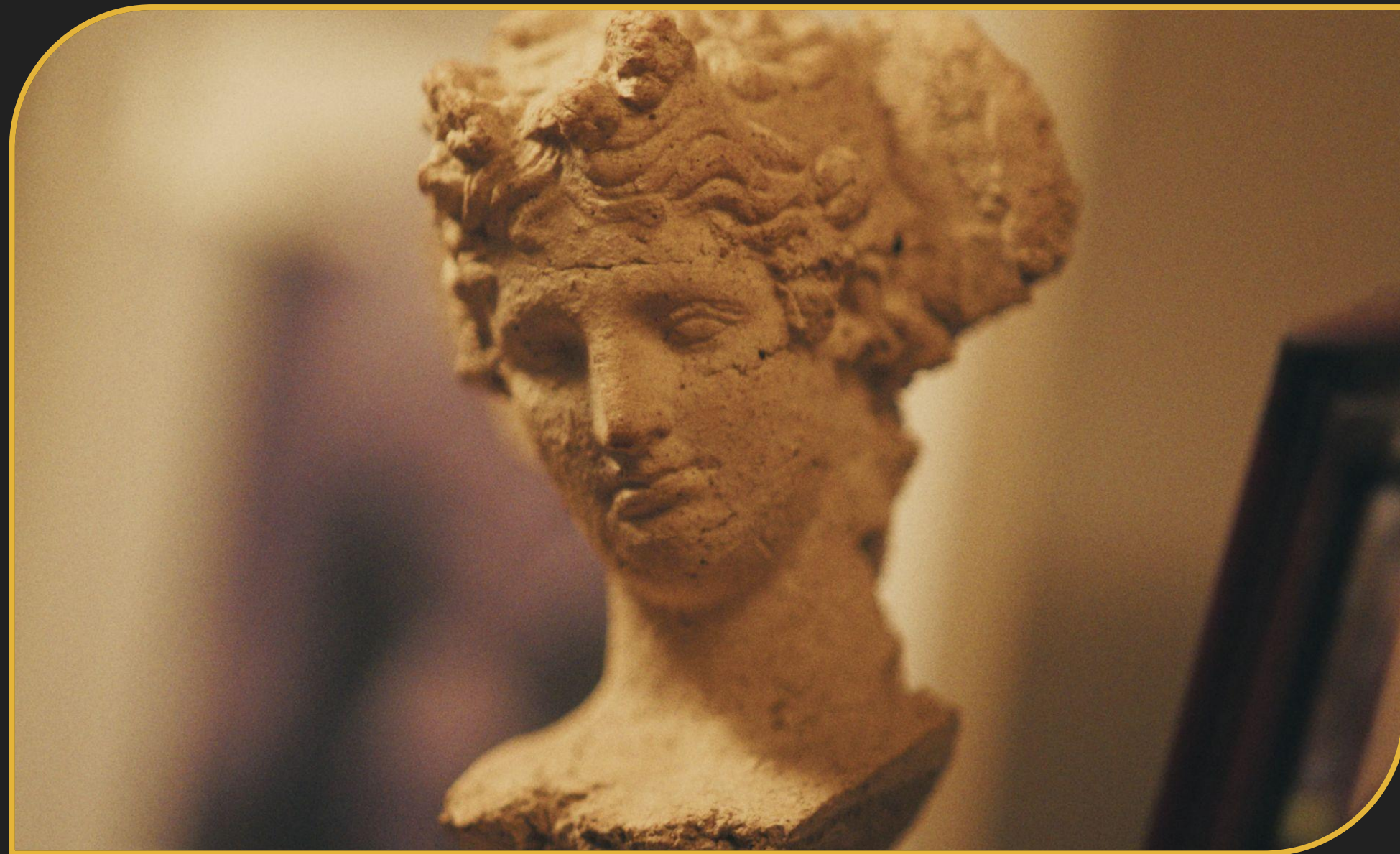




Vanilla Slice



Genre— Drama



Logline

A successful publishing editor at the peak of her career, hosts a dinner with her husband for an old friend with whom she shares unspoken history.

Synopsis

When Evelyn's success as editor-in-chief at a publishing company lands her the role of chief executive, she feels conflicted and uncertain with her trajectory in life. Hoping for a distraction she hosts a dinner for Matt, an old friend from the past. Evelyn juggles the tense pressure from Lucas, her supportive but overzealous husband; and while she reconnects with Matt, she starts to feel overwhelmed by the memories of life before her career.



Themes & Tone

This is a story of one reminiscing about past life choices, the different paths taken, and the bitter-sweet reality of having to face the future. This gives the film some *nostalgic* undertones, with a *passionate* relationship between the characters that feels *relatable* to most audiences.



Visual Aesthetic



“Past Lives” meets
“Lost in Translation”

Cast



Evelyn played by Nayomi

Nayomi Hansen-White is a versatile performer on the screen and stage. Trained in dance, musical theatre, choreography and acting, her credits range from working on the sets of “Better Man” and “HeartBreak High.” She was recently featured in Fantastic Film Festival Australia 2024 and Melbourne Science Fiction Film Festival 2024 for her role in “TORC.” Outside of performing, women’s football, reading and dance parties consume more of her time.



Matt played by Jordan

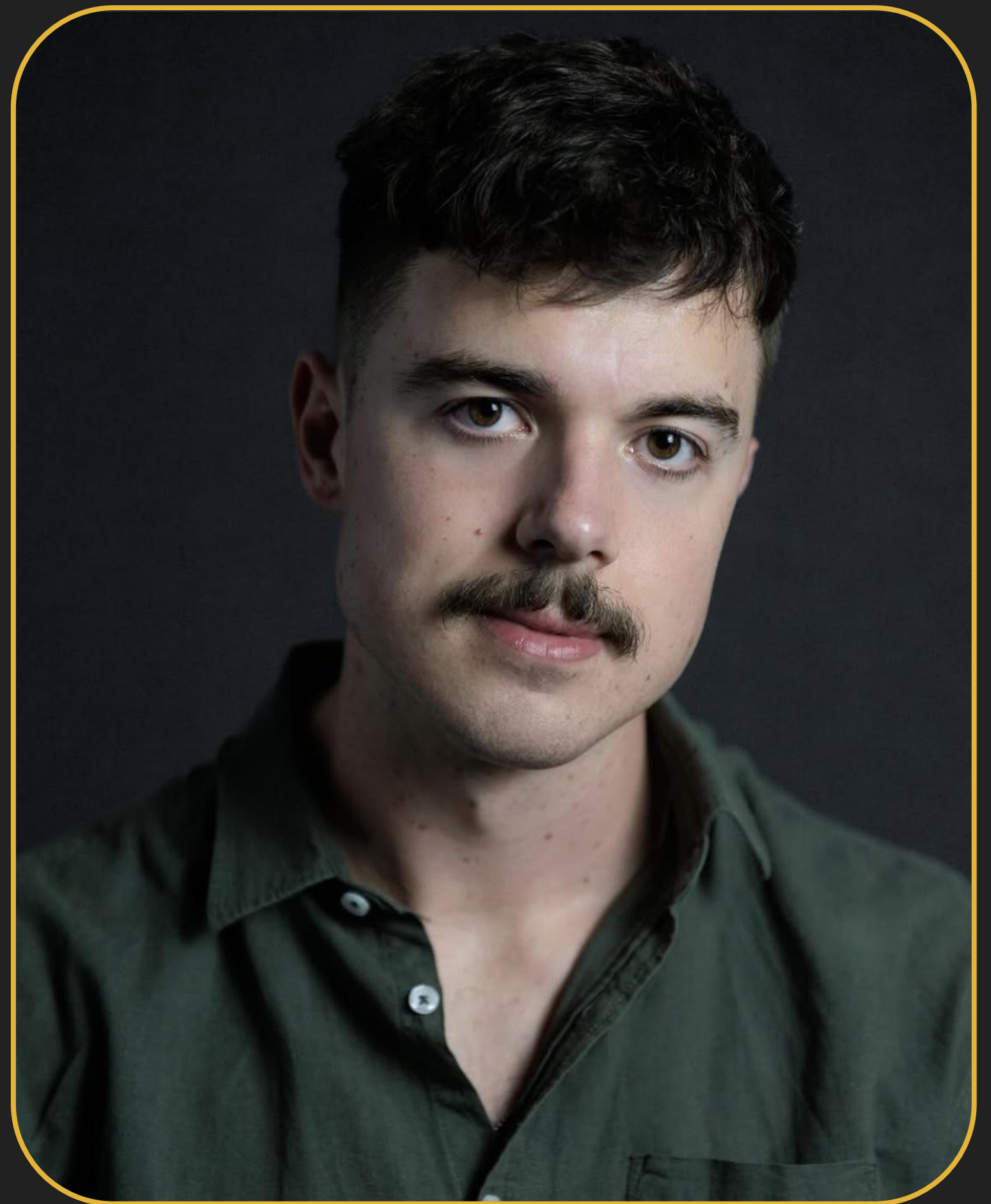
Jordan Neicho is a Melbourne-based actor who is training and improving his craft in the university of the JMC Academy. He has appeared in local theatre productions including “Così fan tutte” (Lewis Nowra) and “Doctor Faustus” (Christopher Marlowe) accompanied by two indie shorts: “Tabletop Slaughter” and “Last Stop.”

Specializing in Meisner technique and stage combat, Jordan brings emotional depth and physicality to every role. When not acting, he enjoys camping and writing screenplays.

Lucas played by Raff

Rafferty “Raff” Dall finds it hard to enjoy just one thing, but acting and psychology seem to have taken a firm hold. The two years of training at the National Theatre of St Kilda, and more than a year of stand-up comedy as well as working with brands like Shapes, AAMI and Gigacomm have helped make him into a diverse talent.

When not performing, he runs a mental health project called “Balanced Blokes” – a project addressing the ever-growing mental health crisis among Australian males.



Directors Statement

Oscar Nicholson

With roots spanning three continents – from the busy streets of Baltimore, USA to the vibrant cultures of Latin America – Oscar Nicholson brings a unique global perspective to visual storytelling.

After attending the Baltimore School for the Arts, he moved to Melbourne, Australia, to study filmmaking where he graduated with a diploma and a bachelor's degree. Released from more than eight months of Covid lock-down, Oscar took a much-needed break and decided to travel. It was these experiences that inspired “Vanilla Slice,” a story about feeling disconnected from your home and longing for the simple, loving memories of our past.



Our team

Joshua Nguyen

Director of Photography

Joshua Nguyen is a Melbourne-based cinematographer and camera assistant with a growing portfolio in short film and commercial media. In 2024, he contributed as the cinematographer for *Cème Brûlée*, a 14-minute short film exploring themes of grief and familial bonds. The film premiered at the Melbourne Women in Film Festival (MWFF) as part of the Next Gen Shorts program, highlighting emerging talents from Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. When he is not working in film, Joshua plays pick-up basketball and listens to his favorite hip-hop artists.



Tiárn Robinson

Producer

Tiárn Robinson works full-time as a creative coordinator at Cotton On Group. Producing exciting campaigns for brands with the production team and independently producing Ecom shoots for Supré, Factorie, Ceres Life, and Typo. She is excited to continue a career in the creative industry, with her next goal being to grow her skills outside of fashion and lean into the film and television industry. In her free time she loves to go to the gym, read, or go on road trips with their partner.



Laura Watson

First-Assistant Director

Laura Watson is a current Swinburne University student who is studying a bachelor of Film and Television. With a passion for storytelling, Laura has already worked on a few film projects, including producing a recent 16mm film titled “The Graveyard Shift”, which tackled themes of grief and loss. She is excited to enter the world of filmmaking, a love ignited by her high school media class and the world of fiction books.



Location

Set at a residential address in Brunswick, most of the film converges around a dinner table. Other areas include a kitchen, a bedroom, and a lounge room—these spaces were chosen for a homely atmosphere that feels lived in. This allows for tense and intimate moments.

The film also settles around a grand bookcase and many vintage typewriters, which lift the environment and highlight our main character.





Camera Plan



Sony FX6 Cinema Camera — Canon FD Vintages Lens Kit

- Low-light capabilities
- Often used for documentaries
- Lightweight and versatile

- “Vintage” feel
- Soft shadows and great for close-ups
- Easily used with follow focus systems

Production Schedule

Pre-Production

- Finalising script
- Location scouting/props list
- Securing finances- catering, talent wages, etc.



- Assembling crew
- Creating storyboards/visual style
- Researching equipment rental



- Assembling cast
- Creating shot lists
- Finalising shooting schedule

Production

- Set dressing for each day
- Lighting setup
- Following schedule



- Transfer and backup files
- Reviewing dailies/footage
- Meeting with department heads to assess for next day

Post-Production

- Editing
- Pick-up shots
- Colour grade



- Sound mixing
- Music licensing
- Test screening



Festival entry

Specs

Runtime 12 minutes — **Format** Digital 4k — **Aspect Ratio** 1.95:1

- Production Budget: 4,500 AUD
- Shooting Completion Date: June 22, 2025
- Country of Origin: Australia

Festival Plan

The logo for Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFFF) features the letters 'MIFFF' in a stylized, bold, red font with a slight 3D effect, set against a dark blue background.The logo for St Kilda Film Festival features the words 'ST KILDA FILM FESTIVAL' in a large, black, sans-serif font, arranged in three lines: 'ST KILDA', 'FILM', and 'FESTIVAL'.

- Melbourne International Film Festival
- Melbourne Short Film Festival
- Studio 66 Film Nights

- Nocturnal Film Festival
- Altona Beach Film Festival
- St Kilda Film Festival

Contact



Instagram



Website



Email