



# THAT FRIEND

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GENRE	RUNTIME	PRODUCTION	IMDB
Comedy / Bromance	90 min	Bolo / Straw Hut Media	tt33041195

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## Logline

When Paul crashes his best friend Henry's romantic weekend in Palm Springs with his new girlfriend Penny, what starts as an innocent visit spirals into mayhem after Paul's drug-laced cigarettes disappear into a stranger's hands.

## Synopsis

**That Friend** is an indie bromance comedy about Paul (Harvey Guillén) — you know, that friend whose invitation for “one drink” seems harmless but inevitably leads to chaotic consequences.

When Paul crashes his best friend Henry's (Josh Brener) romantic weekend in Palm Springs with his new girlfriend Penny (Billie Lourd), what starts as an innocent visit spirals into mayhem after Paul's drug-laced cigarettes disappear into a stranger's hands.

Written and directed by the filmmaking duo Alex Wall and Will Sterling in their feature debut, this film explores the hilarious and complex dynamics of friendship, loyalty, and the chaos we create for the people we love most.



# Directors' Statement

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At its core, *That Friend* is about the person in your life who always makes things messier, louder, and more complicated than you wanted, but who you just can't seem to let go of. We've both had those people. In fact, at some point, we've both been those people.

Comedy is often rooted in chaos, but what drew us to this story was the tension beneath the laughs: what do you do when a lifelong friendship that once felt indestructible starts to feel toxic? When it starts getting in the way of the life you want for yourself? How do you separate love from obligation, nostalgia from reality? Those questions gave us a way to explore friendship, love, codependency, and emotional growth, while still letting things spiral into the kind of absurd, drug fueled, wild night level of fun that this story lives in.

We wanted the film to feel like a night out with that friend, unpredictable, hilarious, exhausting, and ultimately revealing of a truth that is almost impossible to acknowledge. The goal wasn't just to capture the hijinks, but to sit in the morning after, the hangover where you wonder if maybe it's time to change.

Making this film together as longtime friends ourselves, we channeled our own histories into the DNA of these characters. *That Friend* is loud and chaotic on the surface, but at its core is a love letter to complicated friendships, the kind that shape us, frustrate us, and, in the end, teach us who we really are.



# Filmmakers

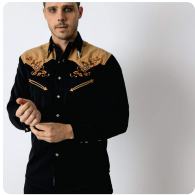
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## Alex Wall

WRITER / DIRECTOR

That Friend is the debut feature from Alex Wall (writer/director). His prior collaborations with Will Sterling have placed and been featured in The Academy Nicholl Fellowships in Screenwriting, Newport Beach Film Festival, Paris International Film Festival, Austin Film Festival, Blue Cat Screenwriting and more. Wall edits and produces unscripted television for HBO, MAX, NBC, A&E and Netflix.



## Will Sterling

WRITER / DIRECTOR

“That Friend” is the second feature from writer, director, actor, producer Will Sterling, whose work blends sharp comedy with strong emotional undercurrents and genre driven storytelling. His meta-comedy “A Cell Phone Movie” was nominated for Best Debut Feature at the Raindance Film Festival in 2025, and his debut novel “Fame by Misadventure” won Best Fiction in the 2024 National Indie Excellence Awards.



## Ryan Tillotson

PRODUCER

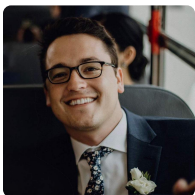
Ryan Tillotson is the founder and CEO of acclaimed podcast house Straw Hut Media that partners with Hulu, Netflix, Universal, Rotten Tomatoes, among several other companies.



## Michael Amico

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Michael Amico is a Prague-based photographer and cinematographer. With a background in documentary, he focuses on people, observing how individuals behave within different environments and often looking for moments of contrast within a scene. He approaches cinematography with a photographer’s mindset—using framing, blocking, and natural light to support performance and reveal character. That Friend is his debut narrative feature film.



## Josh Land

EDITOR

Josh Land is an editor & assistant editor whose work spans studio films, independent features, documentaries, and television. His recent credits include Only, Courage Rising, Transformers: Rise of the Beasts, and Sandiwara, the upcoming short film from Sean Baker.



## Dillon Baldassero

COMPOSER

Dillon Baldassero is a Los Angeles-based composer, producer, and artist from Toronto. His recent work includes the SXSW-premiering Deepfaking Sam Altman, The Fallers (Georgina Campbell), and music supervision on A24’s The Undertone. He scored the Amazon/Hulu series Davey & Jonesie’s Locker, earning a Canadian Screen Award nomination, and has contributed music to the upcoming feature Ballistic (Lena Headey). He is currently scoring Hartbeat’s Livestream from Hell, starring Kevin Hart and Druski.



## Kristi Lugo

CASTING DIRECTOR

Kristi Lugo is a Los Angeles-based casting director whose recent credits include I Play Rocky, directed by Academy Award-winner Peter Farrelly, and DC’s Blue Beetle. She consults for Fangoria Studios and is currently casting The Big Five produced by Coco Francini and Allison Friedman.

# Cast

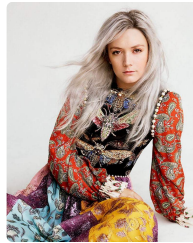
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## Harvey Guillén

PAUL

Emmy-nominated for his beloved role as Guillermo in “What We Do in the Shadows.”



## Billie Lourd

PENNY

Star of “American Horror Story,” “Scream Queens,” and “Booksmart.”



## Josh Brener

HENRY

Known for “Silicon Valley” and “The Internship.”



## Retta

CHRISTINE

Known for “Parks and Recreation” and “Good Girls.”



## Neil Brown Jr.

BILL

Known for “SEAL Team” and “Straight Outta Compton.”



## Miles Gutierrez-Riley

SPENCER

Known for “The Wilds” and “Gaslit.”



## Lauren Lapkus

JESSA

Known for “Orange Is the New Black,” “The Wrong Missy,” and “Good Girls.”



## Mary Holland

MICHELLE

Known for “Happiest Season,” “Booksmart,” and “The Afterparty.”



## Rose Abdo

MARYANN

Known for “Gilmore Girls,” “Reno 911!,” and “People of Earth.”



## Alok Vaid-Menon

BLAIR

Acclaimed author, poet, and performer known for their comedy specials and bestselling books.



## Paul Guzman

PHILLIP

Actor and comedian known for his versatile performances.



## Will Sterling

PASTOR KEVIN

Co-writer and co-director of “That Friend,” also appearing as Pastor Kevin.

# Full Credits

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**WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY** ALEX WALL & WILL STERLING  
**PRODUCED BY** RYAN TILLOTSON  
**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS** TROY HOFFMAN, LEVI CHAMBERS, STEPHEN MARKLEY  
**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS** HARVEY GUILLÉN, BILLIE LOURD, JOSH BRENER, RETTA  
**PRODUCERS** ALEX WALL & WILL STERLING  
**CO-PRODUCER** KRISTI LUGO  
**DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY** MICHAEL AMICO  
**EDITED BY** JOSH LAND  
**MUSIC BY** DILLON BALDASSERO  
**PRODUCTION DESIGNER** LUCIA LOPEZ  
**WARDROBE BY** DANIELLE BAZAN & MADELINE BOREHAM  
**CASTING DIRECTOR** KRISTI LUGO  
**1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR** ASHLEY ROSENBERG

## Cast

**PAUL** HARVEY GUILLÉN  
**PENNY** BILLIE LOURD  
**HENRY** JOSH BRENER  
**CHRISTINE** RETTA  
**BILL** NEIL BROWN JR.  
**SPENCER** MILES GUTIERREZ-RILEY  
**JESSA** LAUREN LAPKUS  
**MICHELLE** MARY HOLLAND  
**MARYANN** ROSE ABDOO  
**BLAIR** ALOK VAID-MENON  
**FREDRICK** JIM HOFFMASTER  
**PASTOR KEVIN** WILL STERLING  
**PHILLIP** PAUL GUZMAN  
**CHRIS** ALAN PETERSON  
**TIFFANY** AISHA HOLDEN  
**OTHER HENRY** VANCE LOVETT  
**BABY HENRY** ALEX WALL

# Additional Cast

PARTYGOER KATHARINE MANGOLD  
PARTYGOER EDWARD HONG  
PARTYGOER ANAND RAMPRASAD  
PARTYGOER SOFIANE AÏT-KACI  
PARTYGOER JASE ALAN  
PARTYGOER JOSEPHINE CHANG  
BONFIRE GUEST MADISON CROSS  
BONFIRE GUEST CHRISTINE ARMSTRONG  
BONFIRE GUEST DILLON BALDASSERO  
BONFIRE GUEST MAGGIE BOLES  
BONFIRE GUEST BRIANNA WONGSUPHAKPHAN  
LIQUOR STORE CLERK EDGAR  
PAUL'S RIDESHARE DRIVER ASHLEY ROSENBERG  
PENNY'S FOOT MAGGIE BOLES

# Crew

1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ASHLEY ROSENBERG  
SCRIPT SUPERVISOR KRISTIN RAPINCHUK  
PRODUCTION COORDINATOR VANCE LOVETT  
2ND UNIT DP CAMERON OWEN  
CAMERA OPERATORS ARTURO OCHOA, CAMERON OWEN  
1ST CAMERA ASSISTANTS JAKE O'CONNOR, CECILIA HUBBARD, ANDRE FERNANDEZ  
DRONE OPERATOR MALIN HILES  
DIGITAL IMAGING TECH JOSH LAND  
KEY GRIP LANCE BROWN  
2ND UNIT KEY GRIP KEVIN RAMIREZ  
PRODUCTION SOUND MIXER DANIEL MCCOY  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER LUCIA LOPEZ  
WARDROBE DANIELLE BAZAN, MADELINE BOREHAM  
HAIR DEPARTMENT HEAD JILL CORP  
KEY HAIR STYLIST CONNIE AGAWIN  
KEY MAKEUP ARTIST ROMIE MACEDO  
MAKEUP ARTISTS KEAGHLAN ASHLEY, JAY QUINTANA  
PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS RAELE VARGAS, BRIANNA WONGSUPHAKPHAN  
ASST. TO HARVEY GUILLÉN AMADA SANCHEZ  
BEHIND THE SCENES EDWARD SANDOVAL, MATT CARVER  
SET PHOTOGRAPHER JORDAN REED  
HEAD OF TRANSPORTATION ERIC DANSAK

# Post Production

EDITED BY JOSH LAND  
ASSISTANT EDITOR JOSH LAND  
COMPOSER DILLON BALDASSERO  
MUSIC SUPERVISOR SCARLETT MCDONALD  
DIGITAL INTERMEDIATE FOTOKEM CREATIVE SERVICES  
FINISHING COLORIST ALASTOR ARNOLD  
FINISHING PRODUCER EMILY VAIL  
VISUAL EFFECTS BENJAMIN NICHOLS

# Sound – MelodyGun Studios

SOUND SUPERVISOR HAMED HOKAMZADEH, MPSE  
SUPV. SOUND EDITOR / RE-REC MIXER THOMAS OUZIEL, MPSE  
DIALOG EDITOR KEVIN KHOR, MPSE  
FOLEY ARTIST REECE MILLER  
FOLEY MIXER KRISTOPHER BRECKON  
SOUND EFFECTS EDITOR AMENDA LEE

# Musicians

TRUMPET KAE MURPHY  
FLUTE & CLARINET KAREN NG  
DRUMS & PERCUSSION MARK BALLYK  
DRUMS ZACH SUTTON  
BASS & GUITAR BRAD LABELLE

# Catering

ANNA MARIE UGAPO  
GWEN MARLOWE CATERING  
LEO'S TACOS

# Music

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## **“Shake Your Groove Thing”**

Peaches & Herb • Courtesy of Polydor Records / Universal Music Enterprises

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## **“It Keeps You Running”**

The Doobie Brothers • Courtesy of Rhino Entertainment / Warner Music Group

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## **“It Keeps You Running”**

Michael McDonald • Courtesy of Kobalt Music Publishing

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## **“When They Fight, They Fight”**

Grant Widmer & Edward Joyner • Rough Trade Publishing / Bank Robber Music

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## **“Time”**

Angelo De Augustine • Courtesy of Secretly Publishing / Asthmatic Kitty Records

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## **“I Can't Explain”**

Maggie Glass • Produced by Dillon Baldassero

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## **“This Is It”**

Maggie Glass • Produced by Dillon Baldassero

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## **“Modern Love”**

Maggie Glass

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## **“True Romance”**

Maggie Glass • Performed by Squarefish

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## **“I'm That Girl”**

Danielle Carr

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## **“MP3”**

Danielle Carr

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## **“She Noticed”**

Pregnant

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## **“Wyd”**

Grebes

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## **“Time With My Baby”**

Tino Drima

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## **“Infinito Tren”**

Amos Ever Hadani ft. Tula Ben Ari • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“Where's The Magic Gone”**

Kyle Cox • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“Le Bon Temps”**

Retrophonics • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“Lever De La Lune”**

Dan Zeutine feat. Loren Noyman • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“Limitless ZISO Remix”**

Ziso • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“Harmony Rush”**

Alex MakeMusic • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“Hi”**

Kawauso • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“Miss Lindy”**

Larry and The Lamp Lighters • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“End Of The Line”**

Roy Young • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“Your & I”**

Benjamin Esterlis • Courtesy of Artlist

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## **“Positive Persistent Pluck Sequence 2”**

Artlist Music Logos • Courtesy of Artlist

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# Thank You

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MICHAEL MCDONALD • KACEY SHORT • TARA ROY • MAGGIE BOLES • MOTHER EARTH BREWING • PIZZA PORT BREWING • CARVER DISERENS • SONJA O'HARA • JEFF DEVERETT • JAY KOGEN • CAROLINE MENDOZA • ANA CLARA • ALI AHMED • DANIELLE CARR • MADISON CROSS • ALAN PETERSON • NIKKI GROTON • PAUL COLEMAN • RACHEL PAULSON • KAYLEEN CASEY • MICHAELANGELO MACIAS • CARRIE FRAZIER • JESSICA THOMPSON • CONNOR SIMPSON • KATRINA BITNER • BENJAMIN NICHOLS • CHRISTINE ARMSTRONG • STEPHEN MARKLEY • ANAND RAMPRASAD • IAN ROBERTSON • DAVID PERGOLINI • NICHOLAS YBARRA • JASE ALLEN • KATIE MCCUEN • DAVE BURG • DEAN LIAO • KEAYVA MITCHELL • CHRISTIAN BLADT • XAVIER MONTESINOS • ALEXANDRA MONTESINOS • KRISTI AVILA • RAJEEV DASSANI • CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AT LONG BEACH • THE WRITERS OF FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE • ADAM MOORE • MARTIN WRIGHT • RYAN BEARDSLEY • MARK HANNA • EMMETT RUSSELL • JAMES LOSTLEN • GEORGE ZAKKOUR • JENNIFER JAKOB SCELZI • DAVID HOLECZEK • DANIEL HOLECZEK • BEN COX • ALEXANDER JEFFREY • GREG HOLLANDER • BO YOUNGBLOOD

## Tech Specs

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**COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION** — United States

**RUNNING TIME** — 90 Minutes

**ORIGINAL LANGUAGE** — English

**SHOOTING FORMAT** — Digital, Color — Two Arri Alexa Minis

## Filmed on Location

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Palm Springs, California

San Bernardino County, California

Desert Hot Springs, California

Los Angeles, California

## Equipment Provided by

Lightstone Rentals • Bright Orange Productions • Straw Hut Media • Lars Lindstrom • Bokeh Rentals • The Fun Ton Grip and Lighting • Lance Brown



Captured with



# Press

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## **BILLIE LOURD JOINS 'THAT FRIEND' COMEDY MOVIE**

deadline.com • October 2024

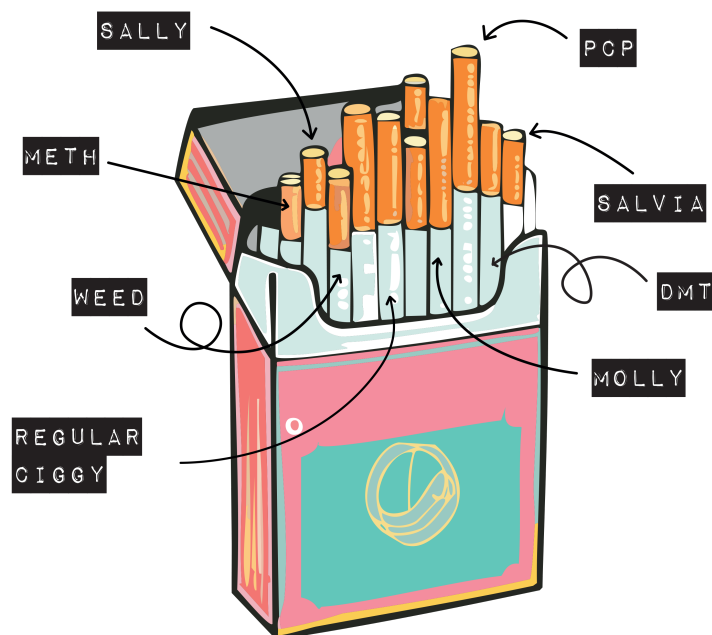
## **JOSH BRENER JOINS HARVEY GUILLÉN IN 'THAT FRIEND' COMEDY**

deadline.com • August 2024

## **HARVEY GUILLÉN TO TOPLINE 'THAT FRIEND' COMEDY**

deadline.com • July 2024

## *The Magical* **Mystery** **tour**



Everyone has...

# THAT FRIEND

## **Contact**

A Bolo Production in association with Straw Hut Media

Ryan Tillotson, Producer

[ryan@strawhutmedia.com](mailto:ryan@strawhutmedia.com)