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Millennial Mile-High Club (MMHC) Ep. 2B  
*Executive Summary*

**OVERVIEW:**

The Millennial Mile-High Club (*MMHC*) is an episodic series that is fantasy and drama in genre; following the daily lives and events of eccentric and “unique” patrons at a Brooklyn speakeasy, the Locale. The purpose of this entire project was to display my technical skillset, particularly in the areas of lighting and set dressing; however, my vision quickly evolved into more of a creative and storytelling process. As the director, I worked with the entire film crew and with the core production team throughout all stages of production, conveying and striving to bring my vision to fruition. The core production team consisted of the assistant director, production manager, producer, stage manager and editor. In this episode, episode 2B, beloved Locale regular, Malcolm is mysteriously murdered by the antagonist, Luke, a mystifying character. The estimated timeline for this project will be from July 2019 to April 2020, including pre-production, production and post-production. Equipment will be reused for the duration of the MMHC series, reducing overall cost.

**OBJECTIVES:**

**Responsibilities/Tasks:**

Oversees the creative and aesthetic direction of entire episode, ranging from pre-production to post-production. Writes scripts, scout locations and casts talent; directs crew and cast in bringing cinematic vision to fruition. Includes director’s notes on crew script for production management/team to follow. Debriefs AD that they may relay necessary information to crew and cast. Views playback with AD and DP for artistic and technical purposes.

**Goals:**

Chemistry within the production team. Effective communication between management team and crew, and between the crew and cast. Establish an efficient workflow among the crew. Maintain high quality visuals via thorough pre-production, efficient project managing and data management. Screen the entire series at a public venue and upload to Vimeo and YouTube. A medium, long-term goal are to enter film festivals.

**DELIVERABLES:**

- Episode 2B Actor/Crew Scripts
- Shot List
- Prop List

- Equipment List
- Production Budget
- Episode 2B Fine Cut

**CHALLENGES:**

I started this project as the director, focused merely on the artistic aspect of the production. However, my role changed rather quickly, as I began to operate in the role of production manager, beginning at the pre-production process; due to my production manager at the time not operating in an efficient manner. The lack of communication among some of the management members led to key tasks, either not getting finished or completed in a timely fashion; resulting in me having to accomplish those tasks. This took away from fulfilling my creative duties as director. Looking back, I chalk this up to inexperience of myself and entire crew; and not having sufficient production meetings. During the day one of the production, I had to step in as camera operator because of a misunderstanding of the day one call time and schedule on the part of my camera A operator. My stage manager later notified me, shortly before call time that she would be unable to devote her time fully to the project. I then began to experience issues with my production manager, as he was neglectful of the duties assigned to him and operated in an unprofessional manner. Ultimately, it was the lack of communication, planning and time management that resulted in day one of episode 2B being extremely difficult.

Day two was much better, as my team and I rallied after having a post-production meeting, end of day one. Through the pow-wow and reflection, I was able to pinpoint the areas where we made mistakes in. One major change implemented on day two, were running lines with the cast and taking time out to block the actors and actress. This made for a smoother and more relaxed shoot.

**CHALLENGES/TAKE-AWAYS:**

I have been working on this series since April 2019, and what began as an idea, with all intentions of being a short, quickly turned into a series; which was greatly unexpected. Hindsight is 20/20, and with the series drawing to a close, I reflect on the project in its entirety. Episode 2B was the most challenging of the three episodes; hence me selecting this specific episode for my culmination. I experienced core members being lax in their duties, behaving unprofessional and showing indifference to myself and other crew members when corrected. I also had to make quick adjustments when a camera operator failed to show on day one due to a miscommunication on their part, and a stage manager that pulled a “No call, no show.” All of these mishaps/situations resulted in two actors being unable to do their scenes on day one, ultimately making myself and the production crew appear unprofessional and unprepared. Episode 2B presented many challenges, both professional and personal. I lost a good friend and key component of the crew during the production of this episode. This project stretched me as an individual, made me more compassionate and understanding, and further shaped me as a leader. My take-aways from episode 2B are:

- Do not be afraid to walk in personal conviction and in the authority of a leader

- Believe in myself, be myself
- Continuously communicate with crew
- Delegate tasks to fellow crew members/ask for help when needed
- Trust my crew
- Properly prepare for production
- Build a core team around myself of individuals that are skilled, reliable and attentive
- Establish protocol/regulations and workflows for crew and cast to follow