



MISTRESS OF TEARS | Short Film | Released November 2019; updated January 20, 2021
NICOLE ROMINE | Producer, Choreographer, Director
nicoleadette@gmail.com, 928-830-1367

World Premiere: October 1-5, 2020 | **18th International Festival Signes de Nuit**, Paris, France.

Nicole Romine, Prescott, Arizona, U.S.A., choreographer, storyteller and producer, wins **Best Director Award** by the **Eastern Europe Film Festival** for her short 'dance' film MISTRESS OF TEARS. *"It was considered a directing masterpiece that not every person can understand entirely. It brought elegance and a certain story flow that was perfectly put together."*

—Judges Panel, Eastern Europe Film Festival

"For a dance film to be so warmly received in the traditional world of dialogue-driven film is a testimony to the power of dance to tell a story. One of the reasons to truly celebrate is that a 'dance' — and ballet at that — film is being recognized in mainstream film festivals."

—Nicole Romine

SYNOPSIS

The Mistress of Tears embodies blind greed; seductive yet shabby. She drinks the tears of others because she cannot shed her own. Dramatically performed by 6-foot, award-winning dancer **Anisa Sinteral-Scott**, the Mistress longs to feel something other than the vast emptiness that lives within her. She is drawn to light, desperately needing respite from her dark world. The moonlight sates her momentarily, but the hunger returns, as it must.

The 'style' of the film is steampunk; a mixture of romantic Victorian style with a post-apocalyptic era in mind. Filming was by Phoenix cinematographer **JJ Bukowski**.

In our desperate need, we consume the world around us, till at last we consume ourselves ... drowning in our own emptiness.

MISTRESS OF TEARS | DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT, CAST & CREW



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The *Mistress of Tears* is a part of me, and I believe, a part of us all. I understand that need to seek outside of myself to change how I feel internally. I remember the frustration of never quite feeling fulfilled; never feeling like I was enough. Mistress is always in pursuit of more, but there will never be enough for her. And yet, she is part of what drives us to go beyond what we know—that power of longing to be more than we are can also motivate us. That darkness, that emptiness, can swallow us whole, or it can make space for creation and light.

Mistress of Tears is one of the characters from a script I wrote entitled **MOON**, a theatrical production I hope to get produced at some point. It is an enormous dream, full of impossible possibilities.

CAST AND CREW



Anisa Sinterral-Scott, Dancer | Mistress of Tears

Anisa Sinterral is from Parker, Colorado, but born in Mesa, Arizona. She began dancing when she was seven years old at a small dance studio called Soul Motion under Irina Brecher Hamilton. At 12 she began to focus on ballet at International Ballet School, training under Mark & Sandra Carlson. From 2007-2011 she started competing in Youth American Grand Prix (YAGP), World Ballet Competition (WBC) and Switzerland's, Prix de Lausanne. Anisa accepted her first professional contract in 2011 at the YAGP NYC finals as an apprentice with the Dresden Semperoper Ballet under Artistic Director Aaron S. Watkins. She returned to the states in 2013 and competed in the USA International Ballet Competition (IBC) where she accepted an offer to join Ballet West II. After one year in BWII she performed for five seasons with Ballet West's Corp de Ballet, notably in the role of the Blue Lady in Jerome Robbins' *Fancy Free*.

Anisa has performed in commercials, participated in outreach programs, modeled for brands like Grishko and State of Bodhi appearing in **Pointe Magazine** and **Vogue Italia**. Nicole Romine cast Anisa in the role of the Mistress the summer of 2019 for the short film *Mistress of Tears*. Working with Nicole was not only a fantastic learning experience (dancing for film), but it also pushed Anisa's development as a dancer to another level and reaffirmed her commitment to continue dancing professionally. Anisa relocated to Seattle in the fall (2019) and joined Olympic Ballet Theatre as a soloist and faculty.

MISTRESS OF TEARS | CAST & CREW



Dave Klotz, Composer | nspaas.com

Gemini nominated composer *Dave Klotz* has worked in many creative facets of the music business. A native Torontonionian, Dave's early career involved composition, performance, arrangement, production, engineering and touring with a variety of musical acts. He has toured extensively in North America and Europe as a professional keyboardist, and has appeared on a multitude of albums. Dave's true calling however, has always been scoring for film. Over the past 20 years Dave has been credited for composition in film and television for productions spanning from Toronto, to Los Angeles and Hong Kong. Following a three-year stint in Los Angeles, Dave returned to his beloved northern paradise in 2006 to continue his career pursuits within a proper Canadian climate. About 27,000 years ago Dave somehow received a BFA honors Degree in Music with specializations in composition, ethnomusicology, and avant-garde electronic media. After all this time he has retained enough knowledge of the formal rules to be able to break them with conviction.



Nicole A. Romine, Director/Choreographer | nicoleromine.com

The *Mistress of Tears* is Nicole Romine's second film. Her first film "*ing*" won the Grand Prix at the Asolo International Art Film Festival in 2007 among others.

A former professional dancer, Ms. Romine went into choreography and stage direction. She attempted film in order to capture a level of intimacy that was difficult to create on a large stage. She loves creating characters and worlds and is always learning. The *Mistress of Tears* is a character from a script she wrote called "*Moon*," a theatrical production she hopes to share with the world.



JJ Bukowski, Cinematographer | jjbukowski.com

Originally from California, JJ moved to Arizona and attended Scottsdale Community College for motion picture production. He then studied as an apprentice to Jeffery Kimball, ASC and Sean Fairburn, SOC on several feature film projects. JJ now lives in Surprise, Arizona, and shoots for many local production companies as well as out of state productions.

MISTRESS OF TEARS | SCREENINGS & CREDITS

Film Festival Official Selections for Mistress of Tears

Signes de Nuit International's Film Festival Paris

World Premiere (Oct 1-5, 2020)

Anatolia International Film Festival

Asheville Fringe Arts Festival

Montreal Independent International Film festival

Golden Bridge Istanbul International Film Festival

Austria International Film Festival

Amsterdam Worldwide International Film Festival

Five Continents International Film Festival Venezuela

Cift Festival of Toronto

New York tri-State International Film Festival

New York Movie Awards

Druk International Film Festival - Bhutan

Bucharest Shortcut Cinefest

London Rolling Film Festival

Los Angeles Independent Shorts Award

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Tokyo International Film Festival - Honorable Mention

Indie Shorts Awards Cannes - Honorable Mention

Venice Film Awards - Finalist

White Unicorn International Film Festival India - Award Winner

Eastern Europe Film Festival - **Best Director**

Prague International Indie Film Festival - **Best Director (Female)**

L'Age d'Or International Arthouse Film Festival - **Best Director**

New York Movie Awards 2021 - **Best Original Score**

CREDITS

Title: Mistress of Tears

Type of Film: RED B/W

Footage: 7 minutes 27 seconds

Script/Choreography: Nicole A. Romine

Director: Nicole A. Romine

Composer: Dave Klotz

Cinematographer: JJ Bukowski

Cameramen: Brandon Ripp, Eric Danescu

Editor: Hal Cohen

Finalized: November 2019

Filmed in Prescott, Arizona, U.S.A.



**HIGH RES
PHOTOS &
POSTERS
AVAILABLE**

HERE

(Google Drive)

*Photos by
Ed Flores (Tucson)*

*Photo on the set by
Christopher
Marchetti (Prescott)*



TRAILER

MISTRESS OF TEARS
starring
Anisa Sinteral-Scott

YouTube
<https://youtu.be/E4AIYfrM73s>



Directed by
Nicole A. Romine
www.theatredelalune.net

Mistress of Tears



with **Anisa Sinteral-Scott**

Original score by **Dave Klotz**



MISTRESS OF TEARS | REVIEWS



The film *Mistress of Tears* has been thoroughly appreciated by the judges panel with regards to every single aspect of filmmaking. It was considered a directing masterpiece that not every person can understand entirely. The visuals in the film (Cinematography) were effect for the story and suited it like a glove. It brought elegance and a certain story flow that was perfectly put together. The editing was the unsung hero of the film as it did not have any flaws and complimented the rhythm of the film amazingly.

This film has brought so many memories to the judges panel that our main judge, and multiple award-winning cinematographer Razvan Ilie, found himself entirely in this film. It reminded him of a never-ending feeling he was having when he lost a beloved person. It has really moved us and of course, it was very touching. The atmosphere drew the audience and immersed them completely in the film, creating a world that no one would want to escape.

To put things in a nut shell, the film *Mistress of Tears* is a great film about life and human emotions that paid close attention to every single aspect of filmmaking. Thus, the directorial style was perfect to create this story.

Eastern Europe Film Festival
primal.16@yahoo.com