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Circle of Fourths

FILM BY

Travis American

STARRING

Lindsay Mushett Niral Shah



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Circle of Fourths

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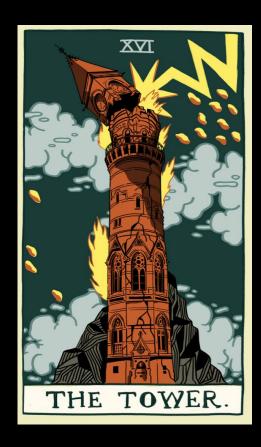
Logline

When the seasons mysteriously reverse their order, an artist seeks to channel the energy to resurrect her dead husband.



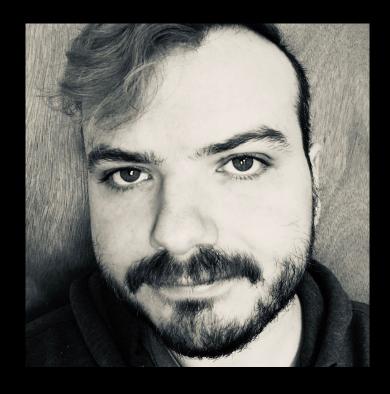
Synopsis

Aritst Harper Blake is grieving the loss her husband Guy when, for unknown reasons, the seasons begin running backwards—Spring, Winter, Fall, Summer. After intense occult investigations, she manages to harness these strange energies to resurrect him from the dead. However, the traumatic journey to the beyond and back has left Guy transformed. Told largely through Harper's scrapbook of these remarkable events, *Circle of Fourths* investigates the capacity of love and art to bridge the divide between the living & the dead, the past & the present.



Travis AmericanDirector, Writer, Co-Producer

Travis American is a filmmaker, writer, and photographer living in Bushwick, Brooklyn. He holds a PhD from Columbia University and teaches film & media history at Marymount Manhattan College. His photos have appeared in outlets like *Hyperallergic*, the *Brooklyn Eagle*, and *Bushwick Daily*. From its founding in 2012 to its demise in 2018, he was the editor-in-chief of *Blunderbuss Magazine*, a print & web journal of art, literature, politics, and criticism. It ruled. *Circle of Fourths* is his first film.







Director's Statement

Circle of Fourths was inspired by my anachronistic obsession with the materials of record-keeping. Printed photos, signed documents, old maps, a child's baby teeth, a lock of a lover's hair—this detritus floats between generations and across years. In our digital age, the idea of preserving such objects in something as outdated as a scrapbook feels eerie, almost occult. This film leans into that notion, exploring the strange, time-traveling properties of the physical residue of life and scrutinizing the empathic potential of art in a world gone haywire.

Stars



Lindsay Mushett "Harper," Co-Producer

Lindsay Mushett is an eye-catching, petite dynamo. She is equally adept at inspiring a roar of laughter and an emotional catharsis (sometimes even both at the same time). Lindsay attended Barnard College and was captain of Columbia University's Women's Soccer Team. She's pumped to make more movies like *Circle of Fourths* with her big brother Travis American so they can show them to their parents at Thanksgiving. Television credits include *Blue Bloods*, *The Blacklist*, *Hightown*, *FBI: Most Wanted*, *Fear the Walking Dead*, and *Big Dogs*. Films include *Looks that Kill*, *Immortal*, and *The Godmother*.

Niral Shah "Guy"

Niral Shah is a lawyer, a muscian, and a socialist, not necessarily in that order. In between his time at the New York University School of Law and the start of his legal career, Niral worked as a karaoke host in Chinatown. (His rendition of Natalie Imbruglia's "Torn" remains top-shelf.) He also spent six years as the managing editor at *Blunderbuss Magazine*, which helped him connect with NYC's community of artists & writers. *Circle of Fourths* is his film debut.

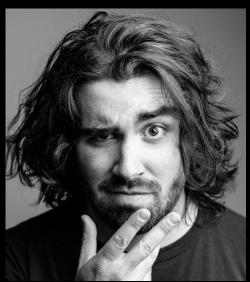


Key Crew





Laura is music teacher at P.S. 38 in Brooklyn, where she also serves as the chapter leader for the United Federation of Teachers. She holds degrees from New York University and Teachers College at Columbia University. *Circle of Fourths* is her first foray into film production.



Barton McGuire

Music & Sound

Barton McGuire is a musician, composer, producer, and instrument builder based in Boston, MA. He releases music as The Great Pacific Garbage Vortex and Heliotropic, and as a member of Earth To Zena, MUGATU, and The Wig Out. He earned his MFA in Electronic Music and Composition at Mills College in 2010.





Film Facts

- "Circle of Fourths" is a family affair.

 Director Travis American is the brother of star Lindsay Mushett and the husband of co-producer Laura Chzaszcz.
- The film's budget was \$300. No, we didn't forget any zeroes.
- Travis American first became interested in using still images in a film after discussing Chris Marker's 1962 classic *La Jetée* with his students at Marymount Manhattan College.

Festivals









Full Credits

Writer/Director Travis American

Producers Travis American, Laura Chzaszcz, Lindsay Mushett

CinematographerTravis AmericanMusic & SoundBarton McGuireEditorTravis American

Original Art Hayley Thornton-Kennedy, Kevin T.S. Tang

<u>CAST</u>

Harper Lindsay Mushett

Guy Niral Shah

The Poet Jonah Bossewitch

The Ethnographer Samantha Fox

The Masochist Mark Phillipson

NYE Partygoers Laura Chzaszcz, Diani Citra, Jillian Holloway, Jamie Ingalls,

Matt Jarzemsky, Kaveri Joseph, Sean Nolan

Photo Shoot Extras Meghan Besse, Sean Nolan, Amanda Wible

SPECS

Genre Experimental, Fantasy, Horror

Runtime 18 minutes

Aspect Ratio 4:3

Language English