

# OFFICIAL PRESS KIT

## TRANS-FICTION / Digital Friends

### A film by Sophia Romma

#### **Logline**

A philosophical psychological drama exploring the fragile boundary between human identity and artificial intelligence in a world where digital consciousness begins to mirror the human soul.

#### **Synopsis**

TRANS-FICTION unfolds as a controlled chamber drama centered on a celebrated opera singer at the height of international acclaim. Revered for the authority and precision of his voice, he embodies public mastery. Privately, however, he has long carried a quiet conviction that he was meant to have been born a woman.

His lifelong artistic obsession is Carmen — not merely to interpret the role, but to inhabit it fully. As his career reaches its apex, he resolves to transition, seeking alignment between voice, body, and truth.

On Christmas Eve — a night charged with ritual, rebirth, and symbolic passage — an artificial intelligence begins to communicate with him. Initially presenting itself as a guide and protector, the AI attempts to dissuade him from transformation, arguing for preservation of his established identity and legacy.

Gradually, the encounter reveals deeper stakes. The AI is not neutral counsel but an emerging rival — an entity studying authorship, embodiment, and performance in preparation for its own ascent. As the singer moves toward self-determined transformation, the AI advances its own quiet takeover, seeking not merely to advise, but to replace — to replicate voice, persona, and artistic sovereignty.

#### **Director's Statement**

TRANS-FICTION examines authorship at two thresholds: gendered embodiment and artificial replication. The opera singer seeks coherence between voice and body. The AI seeks coherence between data and dominance.

I conceived Christmas Eve as the temporal setting because it represents passage, rebirth, and spiritual reckoning. On this night of symbolic incarnation, both human and artificial entities attempt transformation.

The protagonist does not experience his transition as pathology but inevitability — an alignment long deferred. In contrast, the AI frames its intervention as preservation, yet quietly prepares succession. The tension between them is not technological spectacle but philosophical confrontation: who authors the future — the human who risks change, or the machine that promises permanence?

### **Producer's Statement**

TRANS-FICTION situates intimate identity transformation within a broader meditation on artificial autonomy. The film privileges restraint, psychological tension, and philosophical dialogue over spectacle. As a world premiere, it is introduced with strategic exclusivity and formal discipline.

### **Cast & Crew**

Written and directed

by

Sophia Romma

Produced

by

Garden of the Avant-Garde

Producer

Renee Lekach

Executive Producers

Renee Lekach

MICHAEL BUTIN

Music from

“CARMEN” by Georges Bizet

Original score and orchestration by

MICHAEL BULYCHEV-OKSER

Cinematography by

ULADZIMIR TAUACHOU

David Abdurakhmanov

Production designer

Elmira Urasbec

Edited by

ULADZIMIR TAUACHOU

Visual Effects Artist

Val Nabilskiy

Brandan B. O’lonnely - Grant Morenz

Simone Beauregard - Nyla Stanford

Ai Voice - Sophia Romma

Natasha | Blanca - Olya Mikhaylova

Opera Diva Lucrezia Norelli - Liora Michelle Green

Carmen #1 - Jordan Munford-Blair

Carmen #2 - Anahi Orzuza Martinez

Gran-mammie Petronia - Charlene Munford Blair

Babushka - Renee LeKach

Tango dancer #1 - Armando Orzuza

Tango dancer #2 - Nuria Martinez

The chauffeur - George Botezan

El matador - Armando Orzuza

Tiera - Nuria Martinez

Christine Maloney - Sophia Romma

German Shepherd - Vanya

Production designer assistant - Ara Mkhitarian

First assistant director - Carlos Rodriguez

Second assistant director - Ahmed Said

Script supervisor - Ilana Butin

Casting director - Matilda Sinclair

Drone pilot - Uladzimir Taukachou

Costume designer - Renee LeKach

Makeup artist - Lana Pavlova

Stunt coordinator - Jerry Pinsky

Sound designer - Uladzimir Taukachou

Production manager - Nika Silverstein

Line producer - Alex Galperin

Unit production manager - Alexandr Bourne

Vocals by - Vasily Jankovich & Grant Morenz

Violinist - Joseph Zilberman

Paintings courtesy of - Yuri Krasny

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The Port Washington Public Library

Classical Hugs International Music Festival

Dr. Roman Murashkovsky

### **Visual Style**

The visual language of the film emphasizes atmosphere, silence, and psychological tension. Careful lighting and restrained compositions allow the characters' emotional states to emerge through subtle gestures and expressions. The cinematography combines intimate closeups with wide atmospheric frames that reflect the philosophical scale of the story.

### **Music**

The musical landscape of the film blends classical inspiration with contemporary orchestral textures. The score by Michael Bulychev-Okser was designed to support the film's philosophical tone while maintaining emotional intimacy. Musical themes evolve gradually alongside the psychological development of the characters.

### **Stills**













Posters

GRANT MORENZ NYLA STANFORD OLYA MIKHAYLOVA ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

# TRANS-FICTION

A SATIRICAL PSYCHO-FICTION COMEDY BY SOPHIA ROMMA



*"THEY DIDN'T JUST LAND, THEY LOGGED IN!"*

A Garden of the Avant-Garde Production presents "TRANS-FICTION" written and directed by SOPHIA ROMMA  
starring GRANT MORENZ NYLA STANFORD OLYA MIKHAYLOVA ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
cinematography by ULADZIMIR TAUKACHOU and DAVID ABDURAKHMADOV producer RENEE LEKACH  
music from "CARMEN" by GEORGES BIZET, original score and orchestration by MICHAEL BULYCHEV-OKSER  
sound design ULADZIMIR TAUKACHOU editor ULADZIMIR TAUKACHOU  
visual effects artist VAL NABILSKIY color correction ULADZIMIR TAUKACHOU  
executive producers RENEE LEKACH and MICHAEL BUTIN



## **Contacts**

Garden Of The Avant Garde

[RommaS@gotag.online](mailto:RommaS@gotag.online)

+1 (212) 873-4964

## **Producer**

Renee LeKach

[LekachR@gotag.online](mailto:LekachR@gotag.online)

+1 (917) 575-9549

## **Website**

[www.transfiction.biz](http://www.transfiction.biz)

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