

**Tashiana Washington**

**Ty Hickson**

# Gimme The Lot

a film by  
**Adam Leon**



# Synopsis

Malcolm and Sofia, two determined teens from the Bronx, are the ultimate graffiti writers. When a rival gang buffs their latest masterpiece, they must hatch a plan to get revenge by tagging an iconic NYC landmark, but they need to raise \$500 to pull off their spectacular scheme. Over the course of two whirlwind, sun-soaked summer days, Malcolm and Sofia travel on an epic urban adventure involving black market spray cans, illicit bodegas, stolen sneakers, a high stakes heist, and a beautiful, stoned girl whose necklace is literally their key to becoming the biggest writers in the City.





The movie takes place over two hot summer days and follows Malcolm and Sofia on an adventure through New York involving a range of diverse characters from many walks of life. This is a story about a time and place, and capturing New York was key to the project. We took to the streets, used real locations in the Bronx and all over the city, often shot guerrilla style, and just hustled and schemed like our characters to get it made in the best way possible.

Tonally, I was focused on taking these kids who often have rough lives, but telling a story set in that world that is more about the joys of youth rather than the perils of it. While Malcolm and Sofia dabble in juvenile delinquency and often have it hard, that doesn't mean they're bad or miserable people. I hope ultimately that portrayal helps humanize our characters and make them universally identifiable. I was inspired by a great, charming movie from the fifties called Little Fugitive that was shot on the streets of NYC using non-professional kids, and I also looked at the Sidney Poitier/Bill Cosby comedies from the seventies like Uptown Saturday Night, and even the Bob Hope/Bing Crosby road movies. While those last two examples are broader in tone, and GIMME THE LOOT is set in a very authentic, and at times gritty world, I wanted the spirit of those movies to be present in our film.

The production concept was to have a full, detailed script and intensive preparation, including months of rehearsal, but then going out and shooting very fast, very on the fly. That combination hopefully led us to have a strong, structured story with real full characters but also a sense of a looseness and freshness. We woke up every morning knowing that things were not going to go as planned and because of our preparation, and our focused, supportive crew, we were able to embrace whatever the City threw at us and incorporate it into the movie.

Above all else we needed to find amazing talent to pull this off. I put a sign up on my door that read "Find kids. Shoot movie" because I knew that once we had the cast everything else would fall into place. If the actors were special enough then people would recognize it and want to be a part of the project. Luckily we were able to discover a cast that I believe is truly remarkable and I am most thankful for and proud of these wonderful young actors we were able to spotlight in the movie.

# DIRECTOR'S Statement



# The Cast

## **TASHIANA WASHINGTON (Sofia)**

Tashiana (Tashi) Washington started her career with the Ford Modeling Agency. She has also appeared in several commercials including Above the Influence, the National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign. A singer and dancer, Tashi recently signed with SRC Universal Republic, which is set to release her debut album in the summer of 2012.

## **TY HICKSON (Malcolm)**

Ty Hickson was born and raised in Harlem. In addition to acting, Ty performs and records original music under his own name and with his band, The 35mms. He made his acting debut in Adam Leon's short film KILLER. GIMME THE LOOT is his first feature role.

## **MEEKO (Champion)**

Meeko was born in Harlem and raised in the Bronx. The son of Latin soul legend Joe Bataan, he has led a vivid life that has seen many highs, such as brief major label rap career, as well as many valleys, including several prison stints. A proud father and husband, Meeko has successfully turned his life towards the positive. He delivers his debut performance as Champion in GIMME THE LOOT.

## **ZOE LESCAZE (Ginnie)**

Zoë Lescaze grew up in downtown New York City. She is currently finishing her senior year at Bowdoin College, where she studies art history, fine art, and anthropology. GIMME THE LOOT is her acting debut.

## **SAM SOGHOR (Lenny)**

Sam Soghor has appeared in numerous local stage productions and served as creator and co-host of the influential local Public Access program Old Dog and Zippy, which to this day has a steady cult following. Along with acting, Sam is a registered New York tour guide and location manager who specializes in the hidden treasures of the City. In addition to his performance as Lenny, Sam served as Co-Producer on GIMME THE LOOT.

# The Filmmakers

## **ADAM LEON (Writer/Director)**

Adam Leon was born and raised in New York City. His most recent short, KILLER, premiered at The Museum of Modern Art and Lincoln Center as part of their New Directors/New Films festival. It went on to play at numerous festivals around the world and won the award for outstanding short at the Nantucket Film Festival. GIMME THE LOOT is Adam's debut feature.

## **NATALIE DIFFORD (Producer)**

Natalie Difford is the Senior Program Officer for Chicken & Egg Pictures. Prior film experience includes: Sony Pictures Entertainment, Warner Bros, This is That, London Film Festival, Tribeca Film Festival and IFP as well as independent films The New Twenty, Wedding Bros and 11/4/08 as a producer. Natalie is a programming assistant for Tribeca Film Festival and screens for a variety of institutions. She graduated from The University of Sussex with a B.A. in English and Media Studies. Gimme the Loot is her narrative debut as a producer.

## **DOMINIC BUCHANAN (Producer)**

Dominic Buchanan has forged an in depth career in the UK film industry. He has worked at The Weinstein Company (2008) in acquisitions and production at the London office, Universal Pictures International (2009) in the co-productions and acquisitions department and recently Qwerty Films (2010-2012), under revered UK film producer Michael Kuhn as head of development, amassing a quality slate to be produced into feature films. Gimme The Loot is his first feature film as a producer.

## **JAMUND WASHINGTON (Producer)**

Jamund Washington received his M.F.A. in film from New York's Columbia University. He was the 2008 recipient of the HBO Films Young Producers Development Award and has since produced and directed many films, including Project NIM (1st Assistant Director) and Sweet Little Lies (Co-Producer). He is currently in development for his feature film directorial debut. Gimme The Loot is his narrative feature debut as a producer.



Written And Directed by  
Produced By

Adam Leon  
Natalie Difford  
Dominic Buchanan  
Jamund Washington

Co-Producer  
Associate Producers

Sam Soghor  
Lindsay Burdge  
Sean Nitollano

Editor  
Director of Photography  
Production Design

Morgan Faust  
Jonathan Miller  
Sammy Lisenco  
Katie Hickman

Original Music

Nicholas Britell

a SEVEN FOR TEN Production

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# crew

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