

## SEXLESS, VAGINISMUS SHORT FILM HAS KICKSTARTED

Production looks to raise \$2000.00

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Sexless, a short film about a woman with vaginismus has launched a Kickstarter campaign. The production looks to raise \$2000.00 for production and post-production costs.

https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/201 6067797/sexless-a-shortfilm?token=4be52d94

Sexless is a 10 minute fictional love story between Melanie and Chris. Melanie



suffers from vaginismus. The film will let us see how it affects her relationship with her boyfriend, herself and the journey she embarks on to find healing. This condition sets the stage perfectly to talk about the connection between mind, body and the emotional world. The short also explores the theme of intimacy with self, as a paramount to engage in any other relationship.

Vaginismus is a condition that affects 2 in every 500 women. It is rarely spoken about and only recently it has been mentioned in different outlets. During intercourse the muscles surrounding the vagina spasm, making penetration painful and impossible.

The writer, producer and lead actress, Melissa Rivera, is excited to present this project with the desire that it brings hope and strength to other women and that it starts a conversation on this very intimate subject. Kenan Heppe, actor, composer and chemist is slate to play Chris. Kenan's BuzzFeed video "What Guys Really Do When They Are Alone" has recently gone viral. Samantha Shada, director, has extensive industry experience. She has worked for WME, UTA, Universal Pictures, Overbrook Entertainment, and Sony Pictures Studios. Sam programs a monthly screening series at the American Cinematheque titled Seeking our Story, which features influential films directed by women.

The crew is mainly composed of women from very different educational, cultural and ethnic backgrounds, that have all coincided in the Los Angeles entertainment industry by forces of nature. Combining all their industry experience this short will have all the makings of cinematic storytelling.

Melissa Rivera previously produced the webseries "RagDolls" which was nominated for the LAWebFest. She also had the opportunity to be interviewed by CNN Latino's Elizabeth Espinosa where she shared about hispanics in new media among other news sources.

The image was designed by Spanish illustrator Mar Cerdà @marillustratios www.marillustrations.com

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