

26-Year-Old 1st Time Filmmaker & D1 Athlete Christian Sutton Emerges as a Rising New Voice with Award-Winning Debut Film

With 12 official selections and 2 wins for best director and best writer, coming of age emotional drama, "My Alter Ego" is a must watch

ATLANTA, GA, UNITED STATES, August 10, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- At just 26 years old, first-time filmmaker [Christian Sutton](#) is quickly establishing himself as one of independent film's most promising emerging voices. The former Division I basketball player recently celebrated his latest accolade at the BronzeLens Film Festival, adding another win to his growing list of achievements, which now includes a dozen official festival selections. Transitioning from the basketball court to behind the camera, Sutton is proving that compelling storytelling knows no boundaries.

Sutton's debut short film, "[My Alter Ego](#)," has already earned [12 awards](#), nominations, and official selections across the independent film festival marketplace, including Best Short Film at the Christian Film Festival, Best Editor at the Direct Monthly Online Film Festival, and an Official Selection at the New York Lift-Off Film Festival as well as an Official Selection of the 17th Annual BronzeLens Film Festival. "My Alter Ego" will be screened at the BronzeLens Film Festival, an Oscar®-qualifying film festival held in Atlanta, Christian Sutton's hometown, on Saturday, August 22nd at 6:34 p.m. at Tara Theatre Atlanta in the "Jack" screening room. The public is invited to attend this special screening and celebrate the film's homecoming on one of the industry's most respected festival stages.

For a first-time filmmaker, the early momentum is notable. For a 26-year-old former Division I college basketball player and professional athlete who wrote, directed, produced, edited, and performed in his debut film, it signals the arrival of a distinctive new storyteller with the discipline, vision, and resilience to build a long-term career in film and media.



"My Alter Ego" marks Sutton's transition from elite athletics to independent filmmaking — a journey rooted in self-discovery, identity, ambition, and the courage to pursue a calling beyond what the world expects.

"Everyone has the ability to create art," Sutton says. "It is up to them whether they have the courage to fulfill their potential."

That belief sits at the heart of "My Alter Ego," a deeply personal and creatively ambitious debut that explores the inner tension between who we are, who we perform ourselves to be, and who we are becoming. Through the film, Sutton introduces himself not only as a filmmaker, but as a multi-hyphenate creative with a perspective shaped by sports, faith, discipline, reinvention, and the next generation's search for purpose.

The film's growing recognition has positioned Sutton as an emerging talent to watch for major studios, streaming platforms, film labs, grantmakers, accelerators, festivals, and organizations seeking fresh voices and original stories from young creators.

With audiences and festival programmers already responding to his debut work, Sutton is now looking ahead to the next phase of his filmmaking journey — including expanded festival

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Christian Sutton

opportunities, development partnerships, speaking engagements, mentorship programs, and future film and television projects that build on the themes introduced in "My Alter Ego."

"My Alter Ego" has received the following recognition to date:

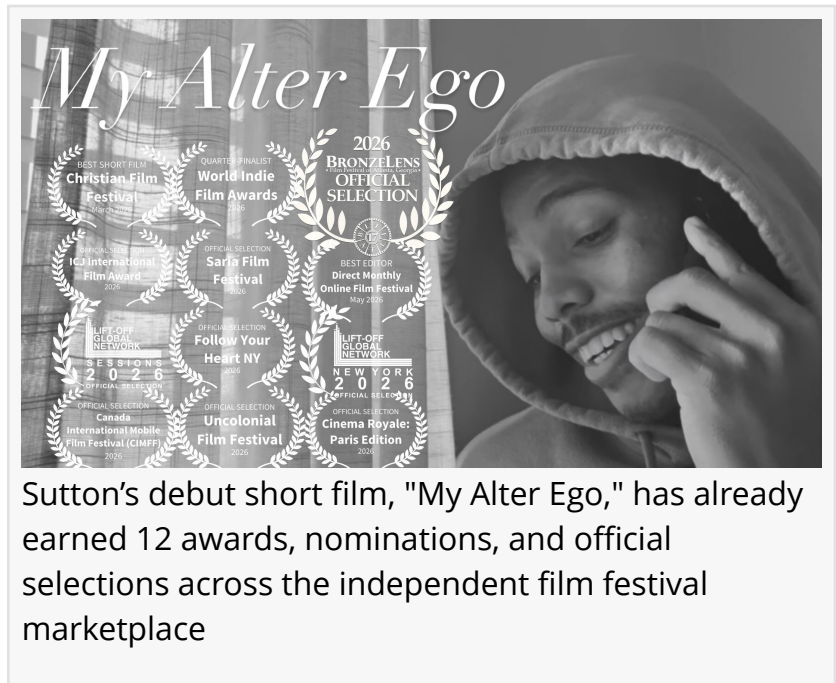
- Best Short Film — Christian Film Festival, March 2026
- Best Editor — Direct Monthly Online Film Festival, May 2026
- Quarter-Finalist — World Indie Film Awards, 2026

- Official Selection — Lift-Off Global Network Sessions, 2026
- Official Selection — ICJ International Film Award, 2026
- Official Selection — Saria Film Festival, 2026
- Official Selection — Cinema Royale: Paris Edition, 2026



Division I basketball player & award-winning filmmaker, Christian Sutton

- Official Selection — Follow Your Heart NY, 2026
- Official Selection — Canada International Mobile Film Festival, 2026
- Official Selection — New York Lift-Off Film Festival, 2026
- Official Selection — BronzeLens Film Festival, 2026
- Official Selection — Un•Colonial Film Festival, 2026



Sutton's debut short film, "My Alter Ego," has already earned 12 awards, nominations, and official selections across the independent film festival marketplace

Sutton's story arrives at a time when the entertainment industry is actively searching for bold new voices, authentic lived experience, and next-generation creators capable of building stories across film, television, digital platforms, and live audience engagement.

His early success with "My Alter Ego" offers more than a festival résumé. It offers proof of concept.

As a self-driven filmmaker who brought his first project from idea to completion and into the festival marketplace, Sutton represents the kind of emerging creative talent that can be developed, mentored, funded, and amplified into a broader body of work.

"'My Alter Ego' is only the beginning," Sutton says. "This film gave me the opportunity to tell a story that came from a real place. Now I want to keep growing as a filmmaker, keep learning, and keep creating work that connects with people."

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About Christian Sutton:

Christian Sutton is a 26-year-old filmmaker, actor, writer, producer, editor, and former professional basketball player based in Atlanta, Georgia. A former Division I college basketball player at American University and Coppin State University, Sutton later played professional basketball in Portugal before expanding his creative career into film. His debut short film, "My Alter Ego," has earned 12 awards and official selections, including Best Short Film at the Christian Film Festival and Official Selection at the New York Lift-Off Film Festival. Sutton is focused on developing original film, television, and digital projects that explore identity, purpose, faith, discipline, and personal transformation.

About "My Alter Ego":

"My Alter Ego" is Christian Sutton's debut short film. Written, directed, produced, edited, and performed by Sutton, the film explores identity, self-expression, and the internal journey of becoming who one is called to be. The project has gained early recognition across the independent festival circuit and serves as Sutton's introduction as an emerging filmmaker and multi-hyphenate creative talent.

About iWoman Media:

iWoman Media is a women-led multimedia company specializing in strategic communications, public relations, audience development, and creator amplification. Founded by Emmy Award-winning journalist, producer, and media strategist Cathleen Trigg-Jones, the company helps filmmakers, content creators, brands, nonprofits, and corporate partners expand their visibility and connect with audiences worldwide. Its portfolio includes iWomanTV, a global streaming network, and iWoman Studios, a creative production and content services division. While rooted in elevating women's voices, iWoman Media proudly serves diverse creators and audiences across entertainment, media, business, sports, technology, health, and social impact. Learn more at iWoman.TV

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