



Presents



Written and directed by: Kate Tsang
Produced by: Carolyn Mao

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MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE

Runtime: 81 minutes

SYNOPSIS

A teenage delinquent (Miya Cech) befriends a surly magician (Rhea Perlman) who helps her navigate her inner demons and dysfunctional family with sleight of hand magic. A coming-of-age comedy that touches on unlikely friendships, grief, and finding hope in the darkest moments.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

My parents divorced when I was young, and I was shuttled back and forth between their homes in Hong Kong and the US for years. Everything felt unstable and isolating. My parents buried their feelings and themselves in work. It felt especially strange when new significant others were introduced, and I was supposed to accept things as is. During this time, I found comfort in coming-of-age and fantasy films. I was drawn to stories about characters caught in the in-between, like ghosts and monsters and, well, teenagers. John Waters's HAIRSPRAY, Tim Burton's EDWARD SCISSORHANDS, and Steven Spielberg's E.T. were a few of my favorites. They made real on the screen what I felt inside and made me feel less alone. They helped me believe that even though the world is full of terrible things, it still has pockets of joy and wonder. But as much as I appreciated these films, there was something missing. I never saw protagonists that looked or sounded like me, an Asian American girl. MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE is my answer to this missing piece of the American film experience.

MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE celebrates the unlikely friendship between two outsiders: an unruly Chinese American teenager and a surly magician who's old enough to be her grandmother. They come together during an especially fraught time in each other's lives and change it forever in unexpected and fantastic ways.

The story is loosely based on my own childhood experiences with depression and loneliness. And my attempts to find hope within a dark and confusing period. Much of Margot and Sammy's relationship was inspired by my relationship with my grandfather. He helped raise me after my parents' divorce. At night, he would tell stories to help me sleep. Stories that I would later realize were his own horrifying experiences with the Japanese occupation of Hong Kong that he transformed into wondrous and cathartic fairy tales. He taught me the power of channeling pain into something beautiful. In MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE, Margot imparts the same lesson to young Sammy through the expressive art of sleight of hand magic.

MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE is a joyful celebration of resilience. I made it for those who are grieving a loss, for Asian American women who rarely get to see themselves as the leads in films, and lastly, I made it for me. This is the film I wish I had growing up, and I hope it'll bring some joy during difficult times.

CREW BIOGRAPHIES

KATE TSANG (Director and Writer) is an artist, filmmaker, and Emmy-nominated writer creating imaginative, offbeat stories with heart. Her award-winning live action and animated shorts ("SO YOU'VE GROWN ATTACHED" and "WELCOME TO DOOZY") have been watched by millions online and broadcasted nationally on PBS. In addition, Kate has written on the hit shows ADVENTURE TIME: DISTANT LANDS (HBO MAX) and STEVEN UNIVERSE FUTURE (Cartoon Network). MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE is Kate's debut feature film. It premiered at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival landing on the must-see lists of The Los Angeles Times, BuzzFeed News, Vox, and Teen Vogue.

CAROLYN MAO (Producer) is a creative producer based in Los Angeles. Her most recent project, MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE, premiered at Sundance 2021 and was the recipient of the \$1M AT&T Untold Stories grant. Her feature, GOOD ENOUGH, premiered at Bentonville in 2016 and won the Boston Film Festival Indie Best Actress Award. She recently produced an episode of TAKE OUT, a new series on HBOMax, premiering in 2022. She previously worked as a development executive where she developed television, film and book properties.

NANU SEGAL (Cinematographer) Since training as a cinematographer at the NFTS in the UK, Nanu has shot a wide range of feature films, from art house (EMILY, THE BIKE THIEF, AN EVENING WITH BEVERLY LUFF LINN, OLD BOYS, THE LEVELLING, ALL GOOD CHILDREN), to genre (DONKEY PUNCH, THE CHILDREN), as well as numerous short films which have collected many awards from film festivals across the world (Cannes Cinefondation / BAFTA / Rhode Island). She also served as the 2nd unit Director of Photography on the Oscar winning film, BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY. Her TV credits include, SPY AMONG FRIENDS and the BBC mini-series GUILT, which was awarded the RTS Camera Award. Alongside her narrative work in film and TV, Nanu shoots commercials for companies such as Somesuch, Rattling Stick, Biscuit, Friend, Smuggler and Moxie.

TIM KIEFER (Composer) is a composer, DJ, and event producer currently residing in Los Angeles. While scoring Cartoon Network's Emmy-winning series ADVENTURE TIME, he produced viral hits like "Bacon Pancakes", and worked with vocal talent such as Willow Smith, Rebecca Sugar, Donald Glover, Andy Samberg, and Biz Markie. His compositions from the series have been released on Mondo Music, arranged for live performance at San Diego Comic-Con, and remixed by Gilligan Moss. He has regularly collaborated with ADVENTURE TIME co-composer and fellow Cal Arts alumni Casey Basichis on indie films and the webtoon BRAVEST WARRIORS.

Kiefer has been deeply involved with left-field music scenes in Los Angeles and San Francisco over the last 2 decades, hosting electronic musicians like The Glitch Mob, Daedalus and DJ Rashad at his underground club nights Nasty Sonix, Jam! & The Night Kitchen, and DJing an eclectic mix of dance music as Staypuft DJ.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

MIYA CECH (Sammy Ko) The ingénue, rising starlet Miya Cech is making her mark in Hollywood with her recent roles in film and upcoming television. Originally from Northern California, Cech, who now resides in Los Angeles, broke into the entertainment industry as a model at just 4 years old. Miya made her television debut in 2015 as a guest star on the CBS drama “Hawaii Five-0,” an experience that prepared her for her burgeoning career. Shortly thereafter, Cech appeared on several television series including Nickelodeon’s “The Thundermans,” season six of the FX horror series “American Horror Story: Roanoke,” followed by the ABC comedy “American Housewife” in which she played Ali Wong’s daughter.

Cech had a big year in 2019. At 12 years old, Miya guest starred as ‘Young Emiko’ in CW’s popular series “Arrow,” starred as ‘ZhenZhen’ in Netflix’s “Rim of the World,” played the young version of Ali Wong’s ‘Sasha’ in Netflix’s hit romantic comedy “Always Be My Maybe” and starred as ‘Akiko’ in Nickelodeon’s reimagined ‘90s kids’ cult classic “Are You Afraid of the Dark.” Miya then starred in an independent feature film titled “Marvelous and the Black Hole.” Indie filmmaker Kate Tsang was awarded a grant from AT&T that gave her \$1M to shoot the film along with a coveted premiere spot at Tribeca Film Festival. Cech plays teenage delinquent ‘Sammy Ko,’ alongside Hollywood legend Rhea Pearlman, in the coming-of-age comedy that touches on unlikely friendships, grief and finding hope in the darkest moments. Due to the Covid-19 shutdown in spring of 2020, the original Tribeca premiere was pushed, allowing “Marvelous and the Black Hole” to premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in January 2021. The film was also screened at the Tribeca Film Festival in June of that year at Pier 76 in NYC.

In 2020, Miya starred in a Nickelodeon series titled “The Astronauts,” which was the network’s first co-production with Imagine Kids+Family, an extension of the production company Imagine Entertainment, led by Hollywood legends Ron Howard and Brian Grazer. Miya played ‘Samantha Sawyer-Wei,’ a young girl who is part of a group of kids who are accidentally launched into space.

In 2021, Miya was cast in Apple TV+’s live action Kids & Family series, “Surfside Girls,” based on a graphic novel of the same title. Miya plays the fashionista surfer girl ‘Jade’ in the adventure series about two best friends who are psyched to spend their summer riding the waves, catching rays and solving mysteries. The series is produced by Endeavor Content and IDW Entertainment and has received a 10-episode order, which will premiere in 2022.

Miya’s most significant role yet has been as fan favorite ‘Zu’ in FOX’s feature film “The Darkest Minds.” The film, starring Bradley Whitford, Mandy Moore and Amandla Stenberg and directed by Jennifer Yuh Nelson, is an adaptation of the #1 New York Times best-selling book series of the same title. The film follows a select group of children who attained superpowers following a worldwide pandemic that wiped out most of the world’s

youth. 'Zu,' the youngest in the group who gained the power of electricity, chooses to remain mute due to the trauma she experienced during the pandemic. Portraying 'Zu' gave Cech the opportunity to explore acting and performance art on a deeper level, to learn the importance of nonverbal expression, perform her own stunt work and experience Comic-Con fandom for the first time, all at the age of 9.

Miya was adopted from Tokyo, Japan, as a baby and raised with her three siblings, two of whom were adopted as well, and looks forward to shedding light on the domestic and international process of adoption as she continues to grow in her career and gain a voice among her increasing fan base. For Cech, it is important to normalize the topic of adoption, giving children in the adoption system a platform in which they are comfortable discussing their experiences.

RHEA PERLMAN (Margot) has starred on television, stage and film for more than 30 years. A four-time Emmy winner for her role on the NBC TV show CHEERS, she was nominated an unprecedented 10 times during the 11-year series and appeared in all 273 episodes.

She will next be seen in the films MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE Premiering at the Sundance Film Festival in 2021.

Perlman was most recently seen in the STX Entertainment comedy POMS alongside Diane Keaton, Jacki Weaver, and Pam Grier. In 2018 she was seen in SAVING FLORA and HALF MAGIC. Other recent films include LEMON, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2017 and in which she starred alongside Michael Cera, and I'LL SEE YOU IN MY DREAMS, which premiered at Sundance in 2015 to rave reviews and saw her costar with Blythe Danner, Sam Elliot, Mary Kay Place and June Squibb.

Recent television the FOX series THE MINDY PROJECT, as Danny Castellano's feisty mother, Annette Castellano and YouTube Red series ME AND MY GRANDMA.

Other television credits include, KIRSTIE, THE NEIGHBORS, HUNG, LAW & ORDER: SVU, KATE BRASHER, HOT IN CLEVELAND and PEARL, in which she both starred and served as executive producer.

Perlman has also starred in more than 15 television movies, including THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR, HOUDINI, SECRET CUTTING and HOW TO MARRY A BILLIONAIRE.

A fan favorite, Perlman played Mrs. Wormwood to her husband, Danny DeVito's Mr. Wormwood in the film MATILDA, which was directed by DeVito. The pair also worked together on the acclaimed TV series TAXI in which Perlman played DeVito's Louie DePalma's love interest, Zena.

Some of her other feature film credits include THE SESSIONS with John Hawkes and Helen Hunt, SUNSET PARK, CANADIAN BACON and CARPOOL.

Among her voiceover work, Perlman was last heard voicing JUDITH in Universal Pictures' animated film SING.

2018 saw Perlman returning to the stage in the off-Broadway play GOOD FOR OTTO in the role of Nora, directed by Scott Elliott at the Pershing Square Signature Center's Alice Griffin Jewel Box Theater. In 2013 Perlman starred in the Northlight Theatre production of STELLA & LOU directed by BJ Jones.

In 2010 Perlman appeared onstage with her daughter, Lucy, in Nora and Delia Ephron's Broadway hit LOVE, LOSS AND WHAT I WORE at the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles. The pair previously performed together in the Off-Broadway edition of the same play.

Previous stage performances include the Broadway production of THE TALE OF THE ALLERGIST'S WIFE, the Off-Broadway play THE EXONERATED, the Los Angeles production of LAST NIGHT AT BALLYHOO and the London West End revival of BOEING-BOEING. Her performance as the forbearing housekeeper, Bertha, earned rave reviews.

Apart from her work as an actress, Perlman is also an author. She wrote a series of children's books called OTTO: UNDERCOVER, about a precocious young secret agent, who is also a racecar driver and inventor. It was published by Harper Collins. Born in Brooklyn, Perlman graduated from Hunter College in New York with a Theatre degree and was later awarded an honorary doctorate in Fine Arts. She is a mother of three and a well-known children's advocate recognized for her involvement in a variety of charities, including LA's Best, Children's Action Network, and Children's Hospital Los Angeles Diabetes Center.

In 2010 she received the National Angel Award from the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's Angels in Adoption. Perlman also successfully campaigned for the passage of California Fostering Connections to Success Act (AB 12), which allows children who turn 18 the option to remain in the foster care system until the age of 21. She writes a blog about children in foster care for the Huffington Post.

LEONARDO NAM (Angus Ko) Award-nominated actor Leonardo Nam can currently be seen in the ABC romantic comedy series MAGGIE as the lovable and free spirited husband Dave.

In addition to his role in MAGGIE, he has been reprising his fan-favorite role as Felix Lutz in the critically acclaimed, award-winning HBO series WESTWORLD. Appearing opposite Emmy winning and Golden Globe nominated actress Thandie Newton (Maeve Millay), Nam is a scene-stealer a lab technician who remains by Maeve's side as they navigate the treacherous landscapes of Westworld, and beyond. Since the show's breakout debut in 2016, the series has garnered over 150 award nominations, 47 wins and counting. Season 3 is currently available to stream across HBO platforms.

Nam recently also recurred throughout season 4 of CBS' hit action-drama series MACGYVER, and seen in the fourth season of HBO's fantasy-dramedy anthology series

ROOM 104, created by the Duplass brothers. Additionally, Nam will lend his voice to the Legendary Entertainment-produced PACIFIC RIM animated series, based on the kaiju vs. mecha sci-fi action franchise. The series is in it's second season on Netflix.

On the film front Nam stars in a leading role in the upcoming indie drama PHOBIAS. He plays Johnny who is fighting his robophobia to avenge his father's wrongful death. In addition to PHOBIAS Nam also holds a supporting role in the global family Netflix hit film, YES DAY, opposite Jennifer Garner.

Other recent notable credits for Nam include the DC Universe series SWAMP THING, Amazon's SNEAKY PETE, and the Arthouse film HUMMINGBIRD. He has also recurred on titles such as the Amazon series BETAS, and has appeared on THE FLASH, DISJOINTED, HAWAII 5-0, ROYAL PAINS, BONES, FRANKLIN & BASH and STALKER.

Born in Argentina to Korean immigrant parents and raised in Sydney, Australia, Nam attended Sydney Technical High School and studied architecture at the University of New South Wales, before deciding to move to New York City to pursue his dream of becoming an actor. Whilst in New York, he studied drama with theatre legend Uta Hagen at the critically acclaimed HB Studio and worked with the New York Public Theater/Shakespeare in the Park company, as well as Sigourney Weaver and Jim Simpson's The Bat Theater Company. His breakout role came in the Paramount Pictures comedy THE PERFECT SCORE, starring Scarlett Johansson, Chris Evans, and Erika Christensen. Since then, he has gone on to star in a string of movies, namely THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS 1 and 2, THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT, VANTAGE POINT, HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU, and ONE FOR THE MONEY.

When not on set, Nam loves to spend quality time with his husband and their twin boys at their home in Los Angeles, CA.

PAULINA LULE (Marianne Revell) (Pow-lee-nah Loo-lay) is an American actor and filmmaker. They were born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Their acting training began at the Joanne Baron/DW Brown Studio in Santa Monica where they completed a 2-year Meisner Technique Conservatory program. They then auditioned for and were accepted into the inaugural class of the Los Angeles branch of the award-winning Identity School of Acting. Since then, they have appeared in several television shows including recurring roles on Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D and ABC's General Hospital. Paulina also studied film directing and screenwriting at the Academy for Creative Media at University of Hawaii-Manoa and received a Master of Fine arts from Chapman University in Orange County, CA. Their films have played at several festivals and won awards including at the BronzeLens Festival in Atlanta and the Pan African Film Festival in Los Angeles.

KANNON OMACHI (Patricia Ko) is a Los Angeles based Actress. She began taking acting classes while in grade school and is a graduate of Gary Spatz's The Playground where she

continues her training in the young adult masterclass. She can most recently be seen rounding out the ensemble cast of Limelight & eOne's dark comedy, Wildflower. She makes her feature film debut as Patricia Ko in MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE, which premiered at Sundance in 2021.

**MARVELOUS AND THE BLACK HOLE
CREDITS**

CAST

Sammy
Angus
Marianne
Patricia
Sue
Puck
Leo
Dave
Annabelle
Bernice
Margot
Claire
Vega
Little Levi
Scoundrels

Miya Cech
Leonardo Nam
Paulina Lule
Kannon Omachi
Jae Suh Park
Jonathan Slavin
Keith Powell
Raymond McNally
Lucy Devito
Beth Hall
Rhea Perlman
Lauren Knutti
Aris Alvarado
Ruben Orozco
Ice McDonald
Elizabeth Messick
Eddie Medrano

CREW

Written and directed by
Produced by
Co-Producers

Director of Photography
Production Designer
Edited by

Costume Designer
Music Composed by
Casting by
Line Producer
Production Supervisor
First Assistant Director
Production Manager
Production Coordinator
Second Assistant Director
Second Second Assistant Director
Script Consultant
Set Decorator
Prop Master
Assistant Prop Master
Lead Man
Set Dresser

Kate Tsang
Carolyn Mao
Allison Avery Jordan
Christa Boarini
Nanu Segal, BSC
Yong Ok Lee
Cyndi Trissel
Ryan Denmark
Amanda Bujak
Tim Kiefer
Amey Rene
Christa Boarini
Adam Wyatt Tate
Justin Hogan
Adam Richards
Olivia Crist
Sean Berger
Tia Workman
Levi Abrino
Elena Cozlovski
Joshua Sampson
Rheannon Ainsworth
Aaron Kee
Sally Park

Art Coordinator
Art Production Assistant

Kingdom Cog Game Designer
Animated Moon Background Designer
Animated Moon Background Painter
Background Fabricators

BTS Photographer
Assistant Costume Designer
Empress and the Moon Costumes courtesy
of

Rabbit Headpiece created by
Key Hair and Makeup
Assistant Hair and Makeup
Additional Hair and Makeup

Script Supervisor
1st Assistant Camera
2nd Assistant Camera
Digital Imaging Technician
Production Sound Mixer
Additional Sound Mixer

Boom Operator
Additional Boom Operator

Gaffer
Best Boy
Electric

Key Grip
Best Boy Grip
Grip

Location Consulting Services provided by
Location Manager
Magic Consultant
Magic Consultant/Puck Hand Double
Special Effects by

Sam Erickson
Brittany Nickolas
Fabrice Emogene
Georges Deriane
Jack Matta
Nicholas Hattorff
Angie Wang
Julian De Perio
Kat Tsai
Hanrui Wang
Menghan Qi
Zelia Peng
Dana Pleasant
Kaitlyn Aylward
Tilly Tsang
Eva Tam
My Opera Institute
Henry Lockwood
Saruul Bekhbaatar
Karen Dick
Roczane Enriquez
Christy Yun
Anna Asher
Lauren Peele
Min-Min Tsai
Evan Shearer
Bobby Vonghom
Tomasso Pompei
Roland Quiambao
Deyo Forteza
Joseph Duemig
Zachary Matchem
Armando Ballesteros
Ian Thomas
Daniel Cassell
Daniel Eckert
Kasra Shokravi
Javaun Crane-Bonnell
Turner Spurlin
Francisco Ortiz
Darren Samuels
Miles Per Gallon, Inc.
Kaelyn Phillips
Kayla Drescher
Harrison Lampert
Court Wizard FX

Special Effect Coordinator
Lead Special Effects Tech
Special Effects Tech
Special Effects Buyer
Stunt Coordinator

Set Medic
Assistant to Carolyn Mao
Key Set Production Assistant
Production Assistants

Shuttle Drivers

Assistant Editor

Online/Conform
Feature Post Finishing by
Supervising Digital Colorist
Post Finishing Producer
Account Executive
Audio Postproduction Provided by
Dialogue Editor
ADR Supervisor/Mixer
Sound Effects Editors

Foley Editor
Post Sound Coordinator
VP Post Production Services
Re-Recording Mixer
Visual Effects by
Visual Effects Supervisor
Visual Effects Producer
Chief Operating Officer
Chief Technology Officer
Head of Production

Comp Coordinator
Supervising Artist
Digital Artist

John Eggett
Chado Thompson
Katie Gelhart
Alycia Herman Berle
Kelli Scarangelo
Courtney Schwartz
Gabriela Gil-Gutierrez
Melissa Vang
Lexx Truss
Kory Boyer
Chris Henry
Victoria Kunkel
Robin Copple
Joey Skaggs
Bear Dupras
Tim Richards
Noa Rosenberg
EJ Smith
Bill Colino
Josh Martinez
Zekun Mao
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Gerry Kodo
Tahira Ali

Stephen Bollinger
Yuner Chang
Sean Colby
Claudia Dillard
Lev Hakobyan
Alexander Machi
William Reges IV
Lucas Smarker
Viviana Torrellas Vega
Chloe Valdecantos
Shanglei Xia
Matthew Robillard

VFX Editor

Camera Equipment supplied by
Lighting Equipment supplied by
Grip Equipment Supplied by

Camera Dollies supplied by

Christopher Martinez
Maxwell Drenckpohl
PANAVISION
CFG Rentals
CFG RENTALS
CINELEASE
HERC RENTALS
CHAPMAN/LEONARD STUDIO
EQUIPMENT

SONG CREDITS

“Oh Boredom (Schmaltz City, USA)”

Written by Andrew Bianculli and Daniel James Reisch Performed by Star Parks
Published by Brake Advisor Songs and Daniel James Reisch Courtesy of Modern Outsider
By Arrangement with Bank Robber Music

“Back In The Game”

Written by Fabian Benedict Faupel
Performed by Fabian Faupel
Courtesy of Crucial Music Corporation

“California Moon”

Written by Fernando Perdomo
Performed by Fernando Perdomo
Copyright Forward Motion Records 2014

“Mulholland Highway “

Written by Fernando Perdomo
Performed by Fernando Perdomo
Copyright Forward Motion Records 2020

Musicians
TAMARA BRUKETTA
CAROLYN TROWBRIDGE