

05FC (Untitled) – Directed by Giulia Albreu

For sides and submission instructions: Ayden Kostzer, Producer ak22de@fsu.edu

Shooting dates: Thursday through Sunday, October 7th – October 11th, 2026.

Casting dates: Submissions due by August 1st, 2026.

Synopsis

This film is a surreal fantasy drama that follows Odessa, a dispirited 22-year-old writer paralyzed by the anxieties and fears of adulthood. While watching a VHS tape of her six-year-old self unapologetically playing, the video shifts into a confusing plea for help, pulling Odessa through her bedroom door and into a magical land where everything is possible. Guided by the Fortuneteller, Odessa finds a sense of wonder inside her and keeps going deeper into her journey. She stumbles upon a travelling circus that may not be what they seem. There, the Circus Master holds her childhood self hostage in a birdcage, demanding Odessa confess her fatal flaw to earn the key to freedom.

Logline

This is a film about reconnecting with your childhood self, and through that, finding a new way to deal with our mundane world.

ODESSA (19-26 years-old) - Lead, female, any ethnicity.

Odessa is a young writer that feels the weight of adulthood on her back, leading her to lose her sense of wonder towards life. Trauma, breakups, death, big decisions– it's all too much for her. She is cynical and tries to diminish her pain with sarcasm. However, through her journey she must rediscover that wonder and unbothered child sense in order to save herself.

She is deeply nostalgic, self-critical, and guarded. She is driven by a subconscious desperate need to rescue the imaginative spirit she lost growing up.

Actress must perform a dramatic monologue and engage in physical action/staged combat against the circus troupe.

PRINCESS/YOUNG ODESSA (5-8 years-old) - Supporting, female, must match the ethnicity of the actress cast as Odessa.

She first appears in a VHS recording as a vibrant, imaginative young girl wearing a homemade paper crown. Her parents don't have time to play with her but that is no problem because she has her imagination!

Radiant, brave, and full (literal!) magic. Even when trapped, she inspires her older self to stand up and fight.

Must be comfortable performing inside a confined prop birdcage and working closely with the lead actress for an emotional embrace.

CIRCUS MASTER (35–50s) - Supporting, presenting female or non-binary, any ethnicity.

The theatrical, manipulative orchestrator of the Evil Circus. This character is the personification of Odessa's depression.

Charismatic, menacing, and psychological. She takes sadistic pleasure in exploiting Odessa's insecurities, theatrically mocking her dreams.

Requires a vocal presence and precise physical timing with a prop whip.

FORTUNETELLER (40-60s) - Supporting, presenting female, any ethnicity

A mysterious and very spiritual woman that speaks entirely in cryptic, absolute truths about fate.

Intense, unpredictable, and commanding. She possesses a rough, urgent energy when interacting with Odessa, serving as a catalyst who forces her onto her journey.

Must be ok with fog machine.

Featured Extra Characters - EVIL CIRCUS TROUPE

An uncanny ensemble of nightmarish street performers who shift from whimsical entertainers to an evil crowd. Must be physically expressive and comfortable with stylized movement, minor stunts, and being in a minor sword choreography stunt.

ACROBAT (any age, any gender): Highly flexible; twists and leaps.

JUGGLER (any age, any gender): Must possess juggling skills.

CLOWN (any age, any gender): Expressive physical comedy and menacing expressions.

STRONGMAN (any age, any gender): Big physical stature; handles prop weights.