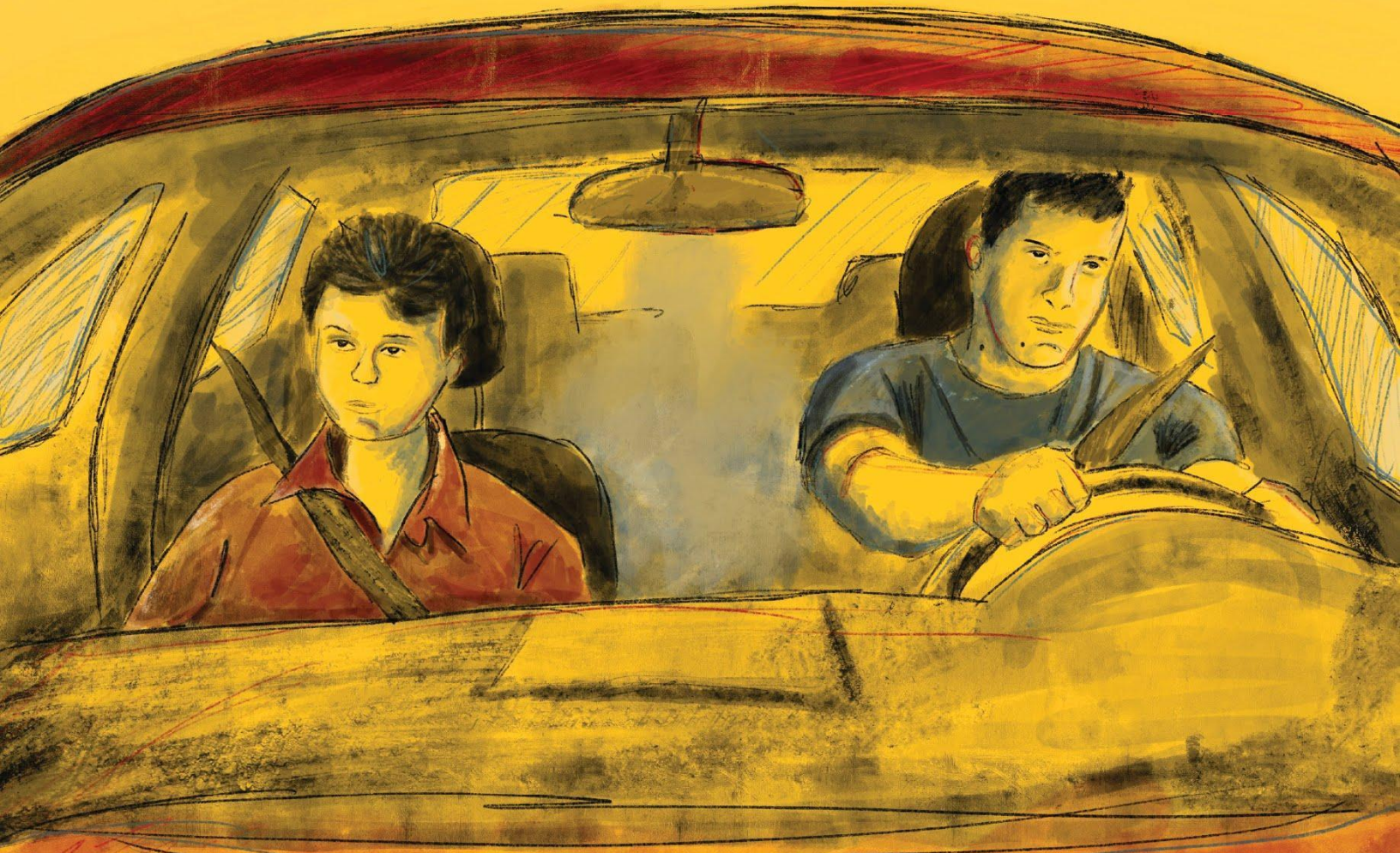


Bumper to Bumper

A FILM BY MANUEL FERNANDEZ



PRESS KIT

Film Information

Title	Bumper to Bumper
Genre	Drama
Language	English
Country	United States
Director	Manuel Fernandez
Screenplay	Manuel Fernandez Michael Jimenez
Production	School of Entertainment and Design Technology, Miami Dade College
Cast	Sean Tapiero Joshua Morgan
Production Date	2022
Release Date	February, 2023
Running Time	16 minutes
Aspect Ratio	17:9 (1.9:1)
Format	2k 2048x1080, Stereo

Logline

A grieving man must teach his deceased friend's brother how to drive or risk never achieving peace.

Plot Summary

Anthony is a grieving man in need of peace following his friend, Ben's, suicide. Feeling largely responsible, he hopes to ease his conscience by teaching Ben's younger brother, Miles how to drive. Upon realizing Miles intended to establish a connection to grow closer to his estranged brother, Anthony struggles to offer any solace. Ignoring his needs and proceeding with the session leads to Miles crashing and tempers flaring. Anthony realizes to make amends with Miles he must open up and preserve Ben's memory. In doing so, Anthony reconciles with Ben and accepts a larger presence in Miles's life.

Director's Statement

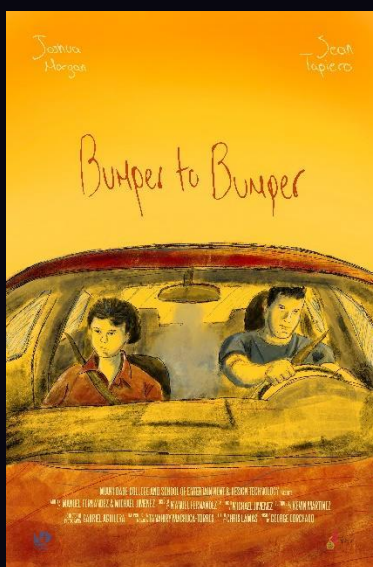
When I was 16 years old, two friends of mine committed suicide in the span of a year. During that period, nothing produced resonated with me or validated what I experienced; more often than not, I found the representation to be one-sided. Typically, there was an emphasis on the how and the why, but the same level of attention was rarely shown to those left behind with little closure. Focusing on the aftermath and the uncertainty that lay ahead was what I related to and felt compelled to explore. For several years, I avoided the subject out of fear I lacked the maturity as a writer or a person to reflect on this artistically. However, my mind was changed after the outline brought about a long-overdue conversation with a great friend who also experienced that frustrating concoction of grief and bitterness alongside me in silence. Though it may have taken six years to speak about it, I'm grateful we finally found the composure and the courage to do so. Initially, I had this notion this project would be the only positive I could muster from that experience; perhaps, I would feel that I had conquered this once and for all. However, I was wrong, as I've been several times before; I'm still weary of looking back but assured I could carry their memory without dragging myself down in the process. 'Bumper to Bumper' isn't and shouldn't be exclusive; grief and struggling to progress are far too universal. I hope anyone watching the film also feels ready to take another step forward.

Media

To download all the media files [click here](#).

Poster

27x40



[Download 27x40](#)

Trailer Download

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-WhPA5yT3F2_Ms7ZCOknuz3y2-sUVY2c/view?usp=share_link

Featurette Download

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1upJWcjinH6XL3IRXmgaK0li3u8OfrmKih/view?usp=share_link

Film Stills Download

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Kh-01jD0rPCDgeXklMkWjFZbVwjylfST?usp=share_link

Behind the Scenes Images Download

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ThmfrnfES2rOKI_SNwBzLlziu3XYErDX?usp=share_link

Film Download

Please contact us for the full film.

Cast Bios

Sean Tapiero as Anthony



[Download Sean's Headshot](#)

Sean Tapiero is a South Florida based actor with a concentration on film. His most recent notable achievements are starring in the ensemble cast of an immersive theater Netflix production "Money Heist: The Experience" along with a leading role in the film The Love Gala cast by Lori Wyman. With an immense passion for his work, Sean is very dedicated to bringing honesty to his roles and telling stories he believes really matter.

Joshua Morgan as Miles



[Download Josh's Headshot](#)

Joshua Morgan is an actor and filmmaker originally from Tampa, Florida. At age eight, he wanted to give acting a shot at a local theater specializing in productions for minors. Since then, he has been totally immersed and invested in the arts as well as actively working on professional films, both behind and in front of the camera.

Some of his most notable artistic endeavors are: His portrayal of "Napoleon" in an award-winning theater production of "Animal Farm", co-directed/starred in the award-winning short film "The Show", working on a number of student projects for UCF and SCAD, and directing/writing the Pilot episode for his horror anthology "Kill the Lights" entitled "Children of the Pines".

Crew Bios

Manuel Fernández – Director

Born and raised in Miami, Florida, Manuel (also known as Manny) has had the honor of being able to bring his short story to life this year 2022. It has been his wish to take on his first directorial role and to be one of the creative writers. He's previously worked on a couple movies such as "En Las Sombras" and "I am Become Death" and is eager to see what comes next. He hopes to screen Bumper to Bumper at forthcoming film festivals and gain the attention his short film deserves. He is also looking forward to receiving his BAS in film to advance his profession and work on as many projects as he can. Manny intends to work in the art department of movies in addition to directing and writing them.

Michael Jimenez – Cowriter and Producer

Michael Jimenez is a Latino-American filmmaker who graduated from Miami Dade College, earning his bachelor's degree in Film, Television, and Digital Productions. He continues to tell stories with emotional and thematic complexity, hoping to inspire.

Gabriel Aguilera – Director of Photography

Gabriel is a cinematographer based in Miami, FL originally from Habana, Cuba. He was interested in the process of filmmaking since he was a kid, eventually finding his place in photography. Gabriel obtained his bachelor's degree in Miami Dade College, where he met director Manuel. During his time at the school, he completed several projects as director of photography. He and Manuel worked on different projects before, but Bumper to Bumper is their first collaboration as DoP and director.

Director Q&As

Q: What made you write Bumper to Bumper?

A: The story, the concept was something I always wanted to comment on artistically. The question was always, was I mature enough as a person or as a writer and filmmaker to make this film. Eventually it just came to a time where I felt like I was, and I decided to give it a go.

Q: What did you hope to achieve from making this film?

A: I wanted to share an experience, my story, and show something that I think is overlooked. Especially when it comes to suicide, we typically don't see the aftermath in movies and shows. In this film we wanted to prioritize the aftermath and depict how people without answers struggle with the holes left in their lives.

Q: Why the aftermath?

A: I remember that period of time when I lived through those moments, I felt there was nothing being made that resonated with me and validated my experiences. I didn't just wanted to take this subject and sensationalize it. I wanted to tell a human story and focus on people that need to find their way again without any answers, and find peace.

Q: How do you feel about using your own personal experience in the story?

A: For Mike and me, this is probably the most personal and vulnerable we ever gotten with writing a story. There comes a moment when we kind of acknowledge that we must dig really deep and have discussions we haven't had before. Revisiting that subject was difficult at first. But it eventually took me to reconnect with an old friend of that time, we both lived through these experiences. And it led us to a conversation that it took us 6 years to have. From that point on I felt prepared to write the story.

Q: What do you expect people to take away from "Bumper"?

A: Often when we talk about the subject of suicide, we see it in a headline, in statistics, and it becomes desensitized, and that circles back on how I wanted to tell the story focusing on the aftermath. How we need to pick up the pieces afterwards. The process of grieving is shown in a lot of different ways, and I think at times we become hyper focused in the way we feel, and forget to look around and see how we are impacting others.

Credits

Directed by
MANUEL FERNÁNDEZ

Written and Produced by
MANUEL FERNÁNDEZ
MICHAEL JIMENEZ

Executive Producers
ADRIAN GARCIA
TOMMY DEMOS

Co-Producer
KEVIN MARTINEZ

Production Designers
DANIELA QUEVEDO
MIRIAM BIEN-AIME

Director of Photography
GABRIEL AGUILERA RAMÍREZ

Edited by
CHRIS LAMAS

Music Supervisors
JORDAN LINSLEY
AMANDA PROFFITT

Unit Production Manager
TANAHIRY MACHUCA-TORRES

First Assistant Directors
ALEJANDRO "AJ" RODRIGUEZ
TANAHIRI MACHUCA-TORRES

Seconds Assistant Director
ANDRES OTERO GONZALEZ

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