

Lost on the Way

Nevan Swanson, 2018

This year, I made a narrative short film. I wrote, directed, filmed, and edited the project. I worked alongside Sam Kyzivat '18, who created an original score and did sound design. The film was a yearlong endeavor. It was written, and largely filmed in the Fall semester. Further filming and post-production was done during the Spring semester. Sam and I worked closely together, and with our respective faculty mentors throughout the process. The final product is a 23 minute film, which we plan to submit to short film festivals in the near future.

Through the Grua/O'Connell Research Award, I was able to purchase necessary camera equipment for the production of the film. The funds allowed me to use equipment that was integral to the project. Being able to use and learn about a camera I would have otherwise been unable to access was a gratifying experience. The aesthetic qualities of the film, toward which I aimed, could not have been achieved without the generous funds we received.

The film follows two characters, played by Nick Barnes '18 and Sarah Guilbault '18, on a journey for closure, exploring their relationship through themes of documentation, memory, and loss. Nick and Sarah, start out on opposing sides with their opinions on how to experience life. By the end of the film, they reach a similar recognition of both the power of documents, and the tension between documentation and experience.

Selected clips from the film can be viewed here: <https://vimeo.com/268784879>

Faculty Mentor: Michael Kolster

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