

IRON GLOVE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

# A NICE GUY



A FILM BY DOMINIQUE NIEVES STARRING AMILCAR JAVIER KELVIN GRULLON DOMINIQUE NIEVES DIRECTED BY SHAE D'LYN

Dominique Nieves  
Iron Glove Productions, Founder  
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# IRON GLOVE PRODUCTIONS

## Synopsis

What begins as innocent flirtation, turns into three people from distinct walks of life learning about themselves and each other. Kenneth is furious when Dana takes an interest in their essentric co-worker Jamie, frustrated that she hasn't set her eyes on himself. With Jamie lending unexpected wisdom, and Dana sharing her darkest secret, Kenneth learns that relationships can be much more complicated than they appear. They are all faced with something they've never had to do before, consider walking a day in each other's shoes.



Dominique Nieves

## Accolades

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## Filmmaker's Note

The screenplay for 'A Nice Guy' was inspired by Nieves' work in sexual violence response and prevention, and the daunting statistics of intimate partner violence specifically in Puerto Rico -- having one of the highest rates of intimate partner violence in the world.

We shot in N.Y.C. with a diverse team including a Latinx cast, woman director over 40, and Kuwati assistant director.

## Specifications

Film Type	Dramatic Short
Runtime	8 minutes
Premiere Date	Summer 2018
Film Language	English
Shooting Format	4K
Aspect Ratio	16:9
Film Color	Color



Kelvin Grullon, Dominique Nieves



Amilcar Javier

## FAQ with the Cast & Creator

### **Dominique Nieves- Writer, Producer, Lead (Dana):**

#### **What makes this 'MeToo' story unique?**

This film was completed months before the 'MeToo' movement garnered attention, and the support for the consent conversation has given me hope and validation as a storyteller. I have worked with victims of intimate partner violence, but I particularly wanted to bring this nuanced story to audiences because I was disappointed with how I saw rape portrayed on screen. However, this film doesn't aim to be a demonstration of the "ideal" way to discuss assault, and I purposely never use the word rape in the screenplay. It shares the views of unique people, misguided or not, and challenges the viewer to consider a new perspective regarding rape culture.

#### **Medical student-filmmaker is a unique title, what prompted you to start making films?**

I have always been committed to the arts in addition to studying health science, consistently performing and creating while pre-med at Columbia University. I started film and TV work while in a specialized science program at The University of Pennsylvania. It was my first time studying science alone, so I sought arts opportunities. Serendipitously, Pennsylvania won the coveted filming tax credit that year, and I got a tiny role on a pilot and danced in a feature film. That tiny role, on that cancelled pilot, brought me to a network television set to be in a scene with the accomplished principal actors. The prop master walked me through the creative process that went into making my characters props- I fell in love with production many years before I produced my own film.

I continued acting upon return to N.Y.C., but I was already passionate about becoming a physician, so I applied to my dream school, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. I figured, if Ken Jeong can do it, why can't I?

#### **How do you make film & medicine work?**

I strongly believe that acting has better equipped me to become a compassionate physician. Acting is all about



embodying the emotions of someone completely different from yourself, and imaging how they feel in a situation, as opposed to how you would feel in those circumstances. This skill is imperative for treating patients objectively, because there are many experiences that may not have a significant impact on myself, but would devastate others. It's my job as both an actor and future physician to understand the difference.

### **What led you to produce 'A Nice Guy'?**

I was sitting in Shae D'lyn's acting class when inspiration hit, and I started writing out a scene on the back of my sides, the screenplay was born. A few months later, I took a motivational class at The Actor's Green Lounge led by Kristin Hanggi (Tony nominated director) & Natalie Roy (Actress) that encouraged me to collaborate & produce my own work. I began pre-production that day!



### **Amilcar Javier- Actor (Jamie), Graphic Designer:**

#### **What drew you to the role of Jamie?**

I found the script and the role particularly interesting because I kept witnessing men I respect perpetuating rape culture and trying to write it off as "locker room talk", but it's more than that. It's not okay. But I always felt like I was the only one calling them out on it.

#### **What was the best part of working on 'A Nice Guy'?**

I had the unique & rewarding opportunity of working both as an actor and graphic designer for Iron Glove Productions. I created the film's title graphics, promotional posters, and the company's website. I'm honored to lend my talents to a production company that focusses on creating art with a

message and consistently adding laurels to our film poster has been a dream come true!

## Why should people see this film?

I'm glad to see that campaigns like 'MeToo' have shed light on the experiences women face on a daily basis; experiences that are regularly ignored and minimized, both in media and reality.

Seeing 'A Nice Guy' selected to festival after festival further affirms that its story must be told, that action must be taken, that change must happen, and that men (myself included) must do better.

## Kelvin Grullon- Actor (Kenneth):

### How was acting in this film valuable to you?

I learned a lot while exploring my character and the message of the film. I realized that as men, we aren't really taught how to take rejection. A lot of the time we think rejection (from another person) has to do with us. We think it's our fault and that we "didn't have game". But that's not always the case. If a woman says 'No' it's because she means 'No' and that's it. Rejection doesn't always have to do with us, and therefore there's no need to push. That's something I learned along with Kenneth and it has made a real difference in my life.



### What were the challenges of playing a character like Kenneth?

We all knew that we were tackling a difficult subject, so naturally I was a bit nervous at first. "Actor Kelvin" was in the way, so-to-speak, trying to be careful, and not offensive in any way. But I think we all wanted to do right by this story by making sure we were honest about it (even if that honesty would be ugly).

I recognized (as an actor) that it wasn't about me, it was about the story. And interestingly enough that was the same lesson Kenneth also needed to learn: that it's not about him.

## Bios



### **DOMINIQUE NIEVES - Writer, Producer, Lead**

Dominique Nieves is a Nuyorican actress, writer, producer, director and founder of Iron Glove Productions. She took courses in writing & film in high school & as an undergrad at Columbia University, but it wasn't until she pursued acting professionally that she realized she was passionate about making her own work from the ground up. As an actress, she is known for portraying strong willed characters and her commanding presence.

As a filmmaker she aims to highlight imperative social justice issues by challenging audiences to examine unique perspectives.

Her current films on the festival circuit explore society's perceptions of sexual assault and immigration.

Nieves is also a Medical Student at The Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, New York. She finds that the same tools she uses to create characters as an actress and writer, can be used to build relationships with patients. She uses her creative work as an outlet for activism; raising awareness and impacting others.

[DominiqueNieves.com](http://DominiqueNieves.com)



### **AMILCAR JAVIER - Lead**

Amilcar Javier is a New York City based actor training with Shae D'lyn at Humanity Studios. He is passionate about drama, comedy and improv. In addition to his career in film, television and theater, Amilcar is also a software developer.

Film credits include the impassioned president of an alternate United States in the award winning short drama RACCA (dir. Dominique Nieves), a dark horse undertaking a futuristic 12 step program in an urban, mixed media coming of age story, These F\*\*king Steps I Climb (dir. Miguel Ortiz), and a

repenting, Latino womanizer in the short drama You Fatima (dir. Adrian Manzano). Television credits include featured roles on Hulu's The Looming Tower & Netflix's Orange is the New Black. Theater credits include the lead in Cheesecake! (Best Actor Award, Strawberry One-Act Festival, NYC).

[AmilcarJavier.com](http://AmilcarJavier.com)



### **KELVIN GRULLON - Lead**

Kelvin is a Dominican American actor from Washington Heights in New York City. He is a LaGuardia Arts High School graduate (the 'fame' school) and a University of Virginia alumni. Upon graduating from Virginia with an architecture degree he began training at Humanity Studios. He has starred as the leading man on numerous indie short films.

Some of his credits include: lead role in the drama-comedy pilot "Guap" (dir. Chris Meyers), the lead role in the indie drama feature film "No More Lonely People" (dir. Orlando Reyes), and his rendition of the one-man show "the Brief

Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao" (dir. Elise Thoron) produced by Young Audiences NY. He's also made appearances with comedy troupe "Room28 Comedy" which has been featured on Mas Meior TV and BuzzFeed.

[KelvinGrullon.com](http://KelvinGrullon.com)



### **SHAE D'LYN - Director**

In addition to her twenty years as a NY-LA working actress on stage and in film, Shae made films in Puerto Rico for 8 years. Her films have been featured in the Boston Film Festival, won the Coco de Oro festival, and featured on public television in Puerto Rico. Her feature-length documentary "Los Vandalos" about the struggle between the power structure and graffiti artists fighting to have a personal voice, premiered at the Latino Film Festival of Los Angeles. Her project, "HEARME – The Imagine Project" won the Audience Award at the Elevate Film Festival from its 5,000 attendees. The film connects orphans in Iraq, Sierra Leone,

Zimbabwe, Cambodia, Puerto Rico and Compton through music.

Her recent acting credits include Nicole Holofcener's "Can You Ever Forgive Me" as Nell opposite Melissa McCarthy and Richard E. Grant, "Gypsy" as Margaret opposite Naomi Watts, "Orange is the New Black" as Mary-Bethany opposite Taylor Schilling, and Woody Allen's "Cafe Society" as Carlotta.

[imdb.me/shaedlyn](http://imdb.me/shaedlyn)





### **HAMAD AL-TOURAH - Assistant Director**

Hamad Al-Tourah is a Kuwaiti filmmaker and writer. In 2008, Hamad obtained a dual degree in Cinema Studies and Journalism, with special emphasis on the Middle East in print and film, from New York University.

After a year working in post-production and distribution for documentaries, he left for Singapore to complete a three-year master's program in Film and Television at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts Asia. During that time, he had his short film, Alice In The Meantime, screen at the Palm Springs International Short Film Festival, was named a

Kuwaiti Merit Scholar, and was announced as one of four filmmakers to receive a production grant from the Doha Film Institute for his short film, Playtime.



### **SAM SCHMITZ - Cinematographer**

Sam Schmitz is an award winning filmmaker born in Queens, New York; known for his cinematography and editing in narrative and commercial work. He graduated from the New York Institute of Technology- receiving the New York Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Scholarship Award, from the organization that grants Emmy awards.

[SamSchmitz.online](http://SamSchmitz.online)

## Full Credits

Written & Produced by Dominique Nieves

Directed by Shae D'Lyn

Starring

Jamie- Almilcar Javier  
Kenneth- Kelvin Grullon  
Dana- Dominique Nieves

Assistant Director Hamad Al-Tourah

Director of Photography Sam Schmitz

Editor Carlos Berrios

Production Assistant Taylor D. Martin

Key Grip Igor Kuwonu

Script Supervisor Peggy Sheretz

Sound Recorder Jackie Mitchell

Production Company Iron Glove Productions



Kevin Grullon, Dominique Nieves



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