

EXCELETTO
PRODUCTIONS



presents

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

A FILM BY EUGENE ROCCO UTLEY

24 MIN / U.S.A. / COLOR / 2025 / ENGLISH

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ALEX POTEAT

LINA TORREY

TWEED MANNING

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



EXCELETTO PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

A FILM BY EUGENE ROCCO UTLEY "BEHIND CLOSED DOORS" ALEX POTEAT LINA TORREY TWEED MANNING AND CODY LAVIGNE
MUSIC BY BROOKS LEIBEE AND EUGENE ROCCO UTLEY EDITED BY EUGENE ROCCO UTLEY DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JUSTIN KNIPPER ASSISTANT DIRECTOR KATIE MANN
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SEAN PLACE AND EUGENE ROCCO UTLEY PRODUCED BY EUGENE ROCCO UTLEY AND DANIEL KLINE WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY EUGENE ROCCO UTLEY

LOGLINE

An anxiety-ridden teenager searches for connection at a high school party, until an unexpected connection finds him instead.



iMessage



SYNOPSIS



EDDIE is a teenage boy going to his first high school party in an attempt to overcome his social anxiety and make friends. With little support systems in his life, between having no mom and an emotionally distant dad, all he has for connection is his piano and phone. Just before leaving, he is approached by a woman online, but he ignores it.

The party goes miserably after a series of unfortunate events along with a fight with his dad, Eddie goes home in a wreck. In a moment of weakness, he texts the woman online. As the night progresses, he learns her intentions for messaging him and cannot help but feel a sense of validation and comfort that he is finally wanted by someone.

FILM STILLS



MEET THE DIRECTOR



EUGENE ROCCO UTLEY

Eugene Rocco Utley is an award-winning filmmaker based out of Murrells Inlet, South Carolina. Known for his character-driven stories and his tonally mosaic style, Eugene Rocco is constantly looking to bridge the gap between art and entertainment and deliver compelling yet challenging stories to audiences.

Eugene Rocco began his career at Clemson University where he studied World Cinema and Media Writing. After graduating, he produced his award-winning debut, *A Gift for a from the Shallows* (2022), a mystery folk thriller. He is best known for his sophomore showing *A.B.* (2023), a heartfelt mockumentary dedicated to artists' mental health.

Eugene Rocco now presents his most recent and ambitious effort, *Behind Closed Doors*, hoping to shed light on the challenges that entail his generation's current social landscape.

CAST BIOS



Alex Poteat - Eddie

Alex is a recent graduate from the University of South Carolina Upstate, where he earned his BA in theatre performance with a musical theatre concentration. His background primarily falls under theater, where he has been a part of an extensive list of productions and has starred in ones such as Pinocchio as Pinocchio himself, The Little Mermaid as Jetsam, and The Rocky Horror Show as Rocky. Behind Closed Doors marks his screen acting debut.



Lina Torrey - Robin

Lina was born in Manatí, Puerto Rico. Grew up in Barceloneta and moved to Charleston, South Carolina at age 11. She's a trained actress who has starred in projects such as: Consequences, Burn, and Behind Closed Doors.



Tweed Manning - Lenny

Tweed Michael Manning began his journey into the industry as a young adult. Showcasing his talents in multiple areas of the film and print world. He is best known for his roles in Encounter (2018), starring Luke Hemsworth, and Fate Alchemy (2023). He continues to bring his talents all across the globe and has even traversed into working behind the lens and producing as well.



Cody Lavigne - Tate

Cody is an Atlanta-based Actor known for television projects such as Mate to My Lycan King (2024) and Unfiltered (2024).

CAST & CREW

Pre-Production Team

Sean Place.....Executive Producer
Eugene Rocco Utley.....Executive Producer
Daniel Kline.....Unit Production Manager
Daniel Kline.....Line Producer
Eugene Rocco Utley.....Producer
Sean Place.....Casting Director

Cast

Alex Poteat.....Alex
Lina Torrey.....Robin
Tweed Manning.....Lenny
Cody Lavigne.....Tate
Kaleigh DeSordi.....High School Extra
Logan Martin.....High School Extra
Caleb Soliday.....High School Extra
Avery Walters.....High School Extra

Production Crew

Eugene Rocco Utley.....Director
Katie Mann.....Assistant Director
Justin Knipper.....Director of Photography
Brooks Leabee.....Assistant Camera
John SteeleGaffer
Michael DiGiorgio.....Production Sound Supervisor
Ian Scheffer.....Production Sound Recordist
Marcus Patterson.....Script Supervisor
Josh Donnelly.....Production Assistant
Marcel Patterson.....BTS Photographer

Post-Production Crew

Eugene Rocco Utley.....Editor
Eugene Rocco Utley.....VFX Artist

BTS PHOTOS



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

One of the most important discoveries I made when finding the proper direction for *Behind Closed Doors* was that, no matter what genre or style this would be categorized as at the end of the day, I was meant to direct this as if it were a horror film. Leaning into any dark comedy angles would be a disservice to the severity and sensitivity of the topic, but anything too dramatic would feel emotionally manipulating and offer nothing new, critical, or engaging to the story. No matter what classification this would eventually adopt, this film had to be treated as a horror film that didn't know it was a horror film.

When writing this story, it began as a personal reflection on the ways that I would retreat to digital spaces to cope with feelings of loneliness as well as escape my social anxieties. But this story grew past a personal connection once I realized I was not just me, but my entire generation being plagued by this. The more I share this story, the more people my age, and even younger, have expressed how they've felt that they feel more comfortable with finding connection online than in-person; and how the social digital landscapes we've grown up with have made finding connection so easy that we don't feel true connection at all anymore. To me, this concept is so terrifying that I could no longer see this story as anything besides a horror film - one where our systemic longing for connection only lures us into the worst of directions, no matter how comforting they may seem.

No matter the reasons we feel disconnected from things, whether due to the mass shifts in our social landscapes or something closer to home such as an absent mother and emotionally distant father, our searches for connection cannot be found through escapism but rather embracing our vulnerabilities and anxieties. Otherwise, we will only doom ourselves to feeling whole when we're behind closed doors.



LINKS & OTHER MATERIALS

TRAILER LINK

[Behind Closed Doors \(2025\) - Official Trailer](#)

WEBSITE LINK

exceletto.com/behindcloseddoors

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Contact for any inquiries regarding Behind Closed Doors (2025) or requests for more film stills, links, or filmmaker/actor interviews.

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