

BIO

Artistically, **Krizia De Abreu** is a screenwriter, director, editor, graphic designer and poet. In filmmaking, she specializes in the Horror/Fantasy/Thriller genres. In poetry, she heavily favors writing in a free-verse style. In her professional career, she has written horror adaptations of many beloved fairy tales and folktales. When approaching films, she takes inspiration from works that see the horror genre through a lens of beauty and are motivated by character drive. When approaching poetry, she takes emotional influence from Edgar Allan Poe, whose work uses the medium of metaphor to describe all things macabre. In her poetry, she touches on the topics of femininity, mental health, sexuality, death and overcoming obstacles.

She graduated from Columbia College Chicago (May 2021), earning a Bachelor's degree in Filmmaking. Though a very flexible writer and creator, she discovered her natural talent as a Horror filmmaker. Her ultimate goal is to acquire as many skill sets as possible in her genre, going as far as obtaining a certification in Special Effects Makeup. As a world-building artist, she plans to create characters on paper to transform into living and breathing creatures on set.

What she loves about filmmaking is how visual it can be. Specifically, she loves how in her own work she's able to take her character's mental state and have it embodied on the screen in an abstract way. She loves this as a writer, director and aspiring makeup artist because she is able to create "monsters" that are so much more than just "monsters".

Artist Statement

At age 10, my writing mimicked the pain of a heartbroken poet and the morbid likeness of an Edgar Allan Poe excerpt. At such a young age, my writing became my only form of expression, and my escape. While the other kids in my 4th grade class were writing about becoming super heroes, I wrote about my feelings and my perspective on the world around me. Deep Down, I wanted to be “normal”, not the 10-year-old with dark thoughts and pencil. I tried to drown these ideas as I grew older and found that no one approved of style of art. My writing had made me feel “dark” and “ugly”, so I thought my perspective was something to keep bottled up inside me like a secret. Adulthood has been an awakening for me. I am who I am today thanks to my struggle to become comfortable in, and proud of, myself. The struggle allowed me to unknowingly tap into the deepest parts of myself, and discover other styles to express artistically. I have become an extremely versatile artist, ready to express each and every emotion able to be experienced. I want to tell the rough stories about pain, about loss, about growth, and especially about overcoming. Dark comedy, Thriller Drama, and Fantasy Horror are all in my vocabulary now. I've now grown appreciative when I speak of my art and I can proudly call myself an artist. In these fields, my mind is seen as beautiful- and now I see it like that too. After acquiring a Bachelor's degree in filmmaking, I started my own production company, *Black Swan Productions*, and then acquired a Bachelor's of Science degree in Psychology. As someone who experiences life so heavily in her own head, the human mind has also been a space that invokes so much curiosity in me. As a mental health advocate, I've always felt that there is a responsibility for art to convey these human experiences in a way that is ethical and honest. I take my craft very seriously and believe that as a writer who takes an immense amount of interest in Psychological Thrillers, earning my degree in Psychology was a crucial step in my journey. At the very core of all forms of my work, I embrace and interpret human experience. My characters are not caricatures. Their struggles are not exploited, they are explored and expressed.

I aspire to evoke relieved tears as audiences hear my words and feel my visuals as they dance liberated across the screen- Because we all have or will survive a beautiful struggle. The true secret is that it's only where we struggle, that we can grow.

And because of my beautiful struggle, I have not only found myself but have emerged from the cocoon an inky butterfly.

What I admire most about my potential is not just my talent within the film industry, but my commitment to giving back to it. I feel called to one day help other artists flourish in the same way I will flourish. Only then will we have an industry that reaps everlasting fruition.

-Krizia De Abreu