Films of ‘Today’:
A Cinematic Exploration of Technology’s Effect on Society
By Henry Bernstein
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THE PROCESS
Taking on the role of director, producer and co-writer I produced scripts, casted actors, scouted locations, assembled a crew of talented technicians, and rented professional-grade film equipment, all while constantly editing and adapting the screenplays until production. The two films were shot on location in Baltimore and New York City respectively. Actors and crew were brought together from all around the Northeast to create strong, effective and collaborative teams.

THE FILMS
The project was conceived as a series of vignettes that would tell disparate stories, each serving as an example of a way in which technology grips and shapes our society. With my Co-writer, Jacob Rosenberg, we were able to write 6 short films, each revolving around this central topic, and chose two for production.

THE CAST

**THE WINDOW**
In ‘The Window’, Carl Brothers exploits a weakness in a school-run social media website to spy on the private lives of his peers. This allows him to peer past the public personas of those around him, and into their legitimate lifestyles and beliefs, hidden within the depths of their E-mails and Facebooks. But his morbid curiosity leads him to discover a secret he wishes he had never stumbled upon.

**THE CREW**

**Executive Producer**: Ami Cox, JHU
**Director**: Producer, Co-Writer: Myself
**Co-Writer**: Jacob Rosenberg, University of Chicago
**Director of Photography**: Renato Flores, MICA
**Sound Recording**: Yael Weisgell, MICA
**Associate Producer**: Matt Snyder, JHU
**Casting Director**: Roma Murphy, Fieldston School
**Location Manager**: Daniel Sorkis, Fieldston School
**Editor**: Steven Wilsey, Columbia University
**School of the Arts MFA Film Program**
**Sound Mixers**: Renato Flores, MICA

**THE CAST**

**Spencer Lewis**
- Carl

**Harrison Bryan**
- Marcus

**Shantel Sosa**
- Isabelle

**Cole Smith**
- Blake

**THE CAST**

‘Messenger’ tells the story of how the Internet has breached the gap between even the most dissimilar individuals. In the film, Nell, a lonely and isolated high schooler living in middle-America, finds herself somehow intertwined with the world of Islamic fundamentalism.

**THE CREW**

**Executive Producer**: Ami Cox, JHU
**Director**: Producer, Co-Writer: Myself
**Co-Writer**: Jacob Rosenberg, University of Chicago
**Director of Photography**: Dorest Fari, JHU
**Sound Recording**: Ben Hancock, Towson University
**DOP**: Matt Snyder, JHU
**Editor**: Steven Wilsey, Columbia University
**School of the Arts MFA Film Program**
**Sound Mixers**: Jon Shieco, Towson University

**THE CAST**

**Aein McLeod**
- Nell

**Phil Gillen**
- Jack

**Ruby Landov**
- Liz

**Jacob Brandt**
- Pete

Acknowledgements