

Confidential Informant

(proof of concept)

She's the means ... 'til the end.



OFFICIAL SELECTION

San Pedro
International Film
Festival
2025

The Teaser

(click & see)

OFFICIAL SELECTION
**FLIFFShorts (Fort
Lauderdale International
Film Festival)**

2025

Confidential Informant

(proof of concept)

RUNTIME

11:39

WRITTEN, DIRECTED & EDITED BY

Charlie Lyons

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

James Sullivan

PRODUCED BY

LEVEL 4 FILMS

Logline:

When a female police detective sees a conflicted young woman enter a house,
the detective arrests her and forces her to make a hard choice.



2025

OFFICIAL SELECTION

RFN

Indie Fest

This is the beginning of ...

The story of two women who share more in common than you'd expect
More in common than they expect
Both on different paths
Crossing each other's
Battling the different ways drug addiction has invaded their lives
Locked together in conflict
As each of them struggles to achieve their dream
Trying to overcome what they must
Needing to overcome who they are
To become what they desperately want to be

This is the proof of concept. And the beginning of their journey.



OFFICIAL SELECTION

ANCHORAGE
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

2025

CAST:

Celeste Oliva

Detective Linda Patton

Courtney St. Gelais

Erica Driscoll



Celeste Oliva is an award-winning actor of the stage and screen. Along with her lead in Confidential Informant, her upcoming roles include Marie on Hulu's hit series Paradise and Camille Russo in the Amazon series 56 Days. She's also garnered roles in the films American Fiction, I Care A Lot, Exorcist Believer, Eva Viktor's Sorry, Baby and Salem's Lot. She's played recurring characters in HBO's We Own This City and CBS's Bull, and has guest starred in Grey's Anatomy, NCIS Hawaii, Blue Bloods, The Blacklist, FBI: Most Wanted, and many others.

On stage, The Boston Globe called her a "tour de force" for her "riveting solo performance" in George Brant's Grounded. More recently, she received an Elliott Norton Award for her role in Tiny Beautiful Things. She's appeared both in regional productions and off-Broadway, including roles in Between Riverside and Crazy, Arcadia and Ch'inglish, for which she received a Best of Boston award. Celeste is also a book narrator and voice actor. She's repped by The Lisa Lax Agency and managed by Entertainment Lab. Follow her on Instagram: @actingcelested.

Courtney St. Gelais (they/she) is a theatre practitioner, teaching artist, director, and film actor. Much of their professional work has been inspired by the works of Shakespeare. This influence is seen most recently in their professional directorial debut with the award-winning world premiere of Jillian Blevin's queer historical dramedy, Romeo and Her Sister, which was produced and staged at the New Hampshire Theatre Project. The production earned awards for outstanding direction of a professional play and outstanding lead and supporting actors. As a film actor, in addition to her lead role in Confidential Informant, she's appeared in the short films, Smack-Man Resurrected, Avery, and Spin. Spin has won multiple awards at the Rome International Film Awards and the Sweden Film Awards, and was also accepted into the Festival De Cannes short film market in 2022.

Courtney also teaches artists of all age groups, inside and outside the classroom, and holds a BFA in Acting from Salem State University. They currently reside in Manchester, New Hampshire with their husband, Tyler, and their two corgis, Eevee and Seiko.





I'm a writer & director. I write plays, film and TV scripts. I've written and directed two short films, Better Angels and Confidential Informant, which is a proof of concept for the feature film to come. I've also directed a short play of mine, Fiasco, off-off Broadway in New York City. My play Confidential Informant, upon which the film is based, was produced in Cambridge, Massachusetts at The Foundry by TC2 Theatre Company. It was performed to sold-out crowds and received standing ovations.

When I joined the TC2 Theatre Company's PlayLab, at the very first session, as I sat there listening to my fellow playwrights make their introductions, a clear thought came to mind: "If I'm going to be a part of this lab, I have to be as honest as I can be in my writing." What I wrote next was the first draft of Confidential Informant. It's an authentic, honest story about the different ways addiction can invade people's lives. The story's based on my many years of experience as a prosecutor and criminal defense attorney. It's both fictional and completely true. And a story I had to tell. Additional trivia: I've hitchhiked across the USA, was a laborer, a brick and stone mason, taught English in Japan, and drove a semi truck (very briefly). I was also a roadie for a Boston band, a drummer in a Boston band. And I once yelled at Johnny Rotten to get the f*ck out of my way. Mr. Rotten did so with a smile.
Instagram: @charlielyonswrites



The only bio James Sullivan needs is this: I couldn't have done it without him. I asked him how he wanted to be credited for this film, and he said as director of photography. Which he was. So that's how he's credited. However, he was also the 1st Assistant Director. He kept me on schedule, managed the shoot, and got me everything I needed to complete the film. All while beautifully capturing the images and performances we needed. On a micro-budget.

He -- and the crew he put together -- was amazing. On two of the coldest nights in December, in Boston, no problem was insurmountable. They all moved in sync, methodically, with purpose, and with a clear love for the craft of filmmaking -- from minute one to hour twelve. Outstanding.

CREW:

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

JAMES SULLIVAN

1ST ASSISTANT CAMERA

OTTER MOORE

GAFFER

JOHN VALLE

KEY GRIP

CHRIS BROWN

"I have to say, it's AMAZING. I Love the pace, the quiet, the dark. That long opening is tantalizing, and by the end of this scene, I'm all in. The sound is fabulous. So strong. But wow – the lighting, the shadows that hang over both of these women, both of them so reluctant to move forward with this deal, both of them so trapped in the inevitable."

Marty Kingsbury - Dramaturge

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Starring: Celeste Oliva & Courtney St. Gelais; Written, Directed & Edited by Charlie Lyons; Director of Photography James Sullivan; 1st Assistant Camera Otter Moore; Gaffer John Valle; Key Grip Chris Brown. Produced by Level 4 Films
(a proof of concept)

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Letterbox

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