



A FILM BY DERRY SHILLITTO

**THE  
CORRECTION  
UNIT**

YOUR FUTURE IS AI

A  
**FOYLE  
RIVER**  
FILM





WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MOST  
**VULNERABLE** IN SOCIETY  
WHEN THE MOST  
**POWERFUL** EMBRACE **AI**?

# THE PROJECT

**WRITER/DIRECTOR** **Derry Shillitto**

**PRODUCERS** **Ashley Carter**  
**Luke Radford**

**GENRE** **Action, Science Fiction, Thriller**

**RATING** **15**

**BUDGET** **£80,000**

**LOCATION** **Nottingham**

**SCHEDULE** **August 2023 - March 2024**





# AGENDA

1.



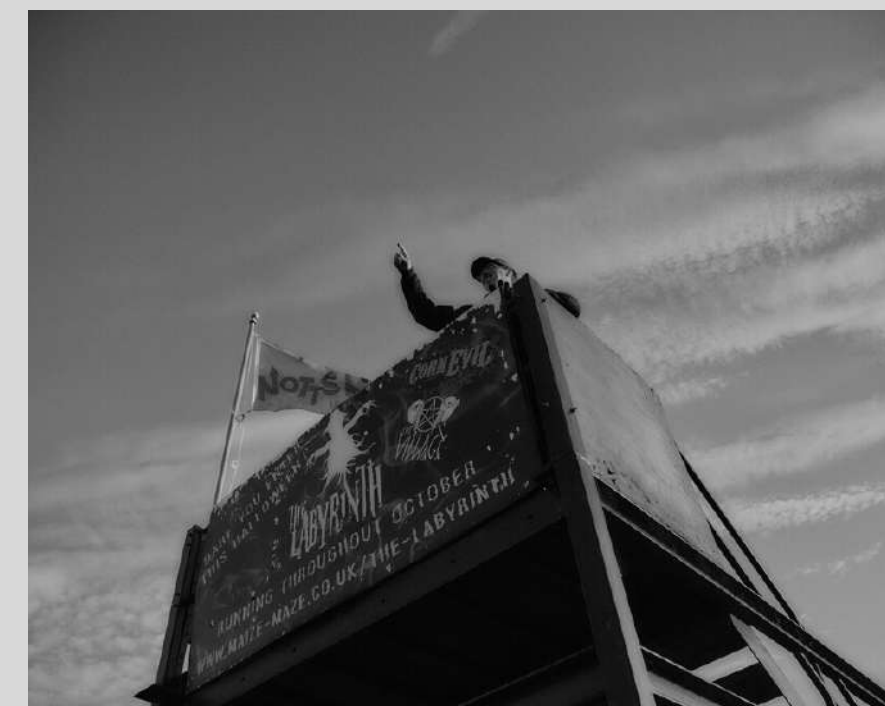
**The Story**

2.



**Production**

3.



**Financial Plan**





1.

# THE STORY



# SYNOPSIS

In a city stricken with violence and poverty, **Shawn** is trapped in a seemingly endless cycle of crime. After being kicked out of another Young Offenders Institute, **nTrac** - a futuristic new AI educational facility - provides him with the opportunity to start again.





But as **nTrac**, under the leadership of shady businessman **James Lee**, begins to exert more and more control over Shawn's life in the form of invasive and manipulative AI, the true intentions of the facility become apparent.

When a fellow inmate is violently killed, **Shawn** and his loyal friend **Tish** lead the other offenders in revolt, facing a desperate race against time and technology to escape nTrac's sinister influence.





# THE CORRECTION UNIT

*The Correction Unit* is a sci-fi thriller set in the dystopian present.

Inspired by the trauma and dread as Chris falls into the sunken place in *Get Out*... The sophisticated manipulation of advanced AI creations like Ava in *Ex Machina* and HAL 9000 in *2001: A Space Odyssey*... The aggressive, witty revolt of the young criminals in *Attack the Block*... *The Correction Unit* explores how artificial intelligence uses unaddressed trauma to alter the negative behaviours and pathways of young violent offenders.

Psychologically thrilling, cinematic, led by powerful and exciting characters, *The Correction Unit* is an entertaining feature that confronts the pressing question:

**What happens to the most vulnerable in our society when the most powerful embrace AI?**



# PRODUCTION STATEMENT

Over the last three years there has been a 21% increase in knife crime and violence against young people aged 10 - 17 in the UK.

*The Correction Unit* was written to explore what responsibility online media has for this increase in violence and how a future that is heavily reliant on AI will affect young people.

A large number of the young actors involved in the film were street cast and have been directly and indirectly affected by gang violence and crime. Working on the film has given them the opportunity to share and explore their lived experiences.





We wanted to pay young people during the term breaks to do something creative and rewarding.

We have been astonished by the level of dedication the first-time actors have given the project so far, and the performances possess a power and authenticity that can't be taught.

Upon the release we are going to help the cast with showreels for talent agents and we are confident that we will create a number of opportunities for the young people involved in the film.



I wanted to create a film that explores the pathway society is pursuing with AI. In an idyllic world, there is potential for AI to help society flourish, but there are a lot of obstacles to overcome.

Chief amongst them, the distinct lack of empathy and compassion - which are themes we explore in *The Correction Unit*. The eye of nTrac is ever-present throughout the film, absorbing and learning from behaviours.

# A WORD FROM THE WRITER/DIRECTOR







We have shot around three-quarters of the film so far, and we have confirmed an international distribution agreement with a streaming/VOD distribution company. The exposure the cast and crew will get from the completion of this film will allow for more work at industry level and start careers for some of the cast who wish to pursue acting.

The production team have worked tirelessly on this film, creating something far greater than its micro-budget would suggest. *The Correction Unit* is an action-packed, thrilling film that addresses contemporary themes of power, impact and the role of emerging technologies - but we need your help to ensure it finds the audience it deserves.

**Derry Shillitto**



2.

**PRODUCTION**





# CREATIVE TEAM



## Derry Shillitto

WRITER/DIRECTOR

Derry is a director and producer whose recent work includes the film *Hollow* and the BFI film *Harm*. He has directed several TV adverts for companies including NHS, Boots and Visit Nottingham, as well as directing music videos and short films that have been screened at festivals around Europe. *The Correction Unit* marks Derry's feature film debut, and is inspired by his experiences as a teacher during lockdown in the UK.



## Lucy Powell

ASSISTANT PRODUCER

Following her graduation with a BA in Filmmaking, Lucy secured a role as a freelance studio camera operator for *BBC East Midlands Today*. She has previous experience working in a variety of roles behind the camera from runner to camera assistant, as well as producing/assisting roles contributing to a range of projects, spanning from advertisements to charity campaigns, experimental and short films.



## Ashley Carter

PRODUCER

Ashley is a writer, documentary maker, lecturer and producer based in Nottingham. Having studied at the National Film and Television School as well as a Masters in Documentary Journalism from Nottingham Trent University, he has directed several short documentaries and one feature, and spent four years as Editor of culture magazine *LeftLion*.



## Luke Radford

PRODUCER

Luke is a filmmaker and producer based in Nottingham. After graduating from the Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies in 2011 he has directed, produced and edited a range of productions including a feature film, short films, music videos and two documentaries for BBC One. Luke's work has been featured on BBC, Netflix and Freevee.



CREATIVE TEAM



# CREATIVE TEAM



## Will J. Carman

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Will is a UK-based cinematographer with experience shooting narrative, music promos, branded content and everything in between. With a passion for creating emotionally-rich images, Will thrives in the narrative sector of filmmaking, taking the story from script to screen.



## Alex Stroud

SOUND

With over fifty short films and nine features under his belt, Alex is a vastly experienced sound mixer based in the East Midlands. Along with his sound team, Antony Brown and Chelsea Toye, Alex continues to grow and progress, with *The Correction Unit* marking one of three feature films they've worked on this year.



## Georgie Levers

SCRIPT SUPERVISOR

Georgie's most recent credits include *Witches*, a BFI-funded short film and *Too Much Money*, a proof of concept scene for a feature film. Last year she was awarded funding from the BFI Network for her short film, *Harm*. The short completed a festival run, received the Social Change award at the Short Film Factory festival and was nominated for three awards at the Women X Festival, including Best Film.

## Esmee Matthews

COSTUME DESIGNER

Esmee is an experienced, passionate costume designer based in Nottingham. Having started out in front of the camera, she took her love for fashion and costume to move behind the camera, and has worked on a number of high-profile short films and theatrical productions. *The Correction Unit* marks her first feature film as costume designer.







## Rufus Wilson

GAFFER

Rufus is a freelance director/DP. His debut documentary short *Escape* had an exciting festival run, winning awards at Cannes Indie Shorts and Roma Short Film Festival. Rufus continues to thrive as a DP working with clients from Umbro to Castore. 2024 will see him DP his first feature film as well as direct a short film of his own.



## Adrian Villeschi

GAFFER

Adrian is a multi-citizen creative raised in Qatar, now thriving in the UK's artistic hubs. Featured by The British Journal of Photography in 2014, he has since established himself as a prominent freelance digi/film photographer exploring a diverse range of genres. His lighting style blends rich/vibrant colours with soft/muted tones and an overall dreamy melancholia, tempered by a meticulous approach to lighting and composition.



# CAST



## **Sonny Middleton**

SHAWN O'CONNOR

A young man haunted by horrors from his past, Shawn is entirely reliant on his drug-dealing older brother for financial stability for him and his aging Mum. Determined to escape the negative trajectory his life is on, he soon realises that, in The Correction Unit, he's just traded one bad life for another.

## **Elleese Bradshaw**

TISH MURPHY

Tish is capable of brilliance, but riddled with the guilt of her troubled past she persistently makes bad choices that have terrible consequences. At The Correction Unit she becomes a leader and believes nTrac could be the trigger for stability in her life. But for how long?



## Kirsty Smedley

YVONNE BAKEWELL

The determined driving force at The Correction Unit, Yvonne believes that education is the only way to avoid manipulation in this world, and is determined to better the lives of her students. As nTrac's methods become more nefarious, she is forced to confront her own past trauma and ultimately choose a side: the immediate welfare of her students or the promise of potentially groundbreaking educational change.

## Ziad Abbaza

JAMES LEE

Tech-minded, arrogant and charismatic, James Lee is the Head Teacher at The Correction Unit. As a key cog in the nTrac machine, and an AI pioneer, he refuses to accept failure as an option and will seemingly stop at nothing to ensure the burgeoning technology is successful.



**CAST**



# CAST



## Zak Hopkinson

JACOB DAVIS

Jacob is a charismatic, unsettled young man who has slipped through the cracks of society, never learning the difference between positive and negative attention. In another life, he could have been incredibly successful but, unfortunately, finds himself in The Correction Unit after being kicked out of multiple Young Offender Institutes.



## Sonny Lake

SONNY HAWKWOOD

Another of the troubled young students at The Correction Unit, Sonny consistently fights against authority, causing friction with the Guardians and his fellow students alike. Unless he changes his behaviour, Sonny risks being made an example of.



## Julio Lewis

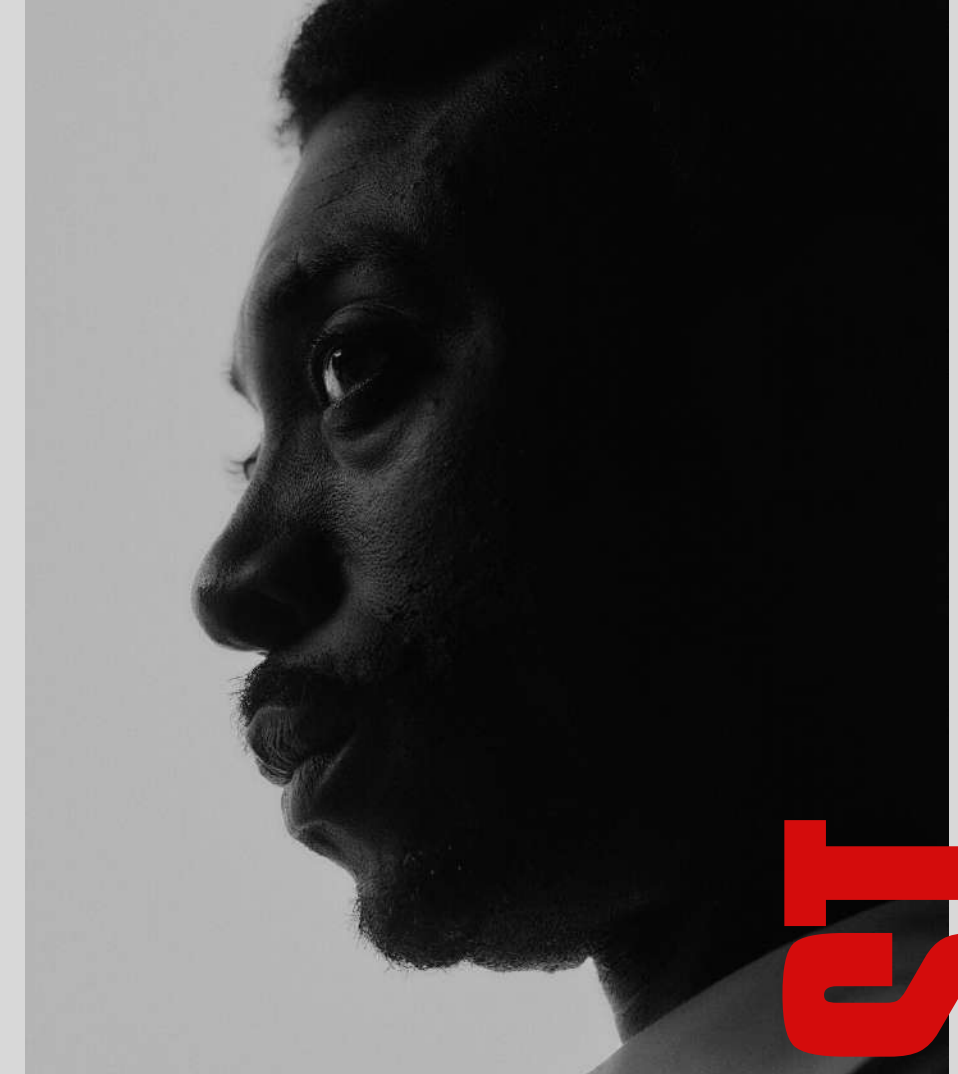
DONAVAN MITCHELL

As the head of the Guardians – the caretakers who run nTrac’s day-to-day activities – Donovan is an enigmatic, stoic figure who serves as James Lee’s right-hand-man and, when needed, his enforcer.

## Jonny Phillips

JOHN SMYTH

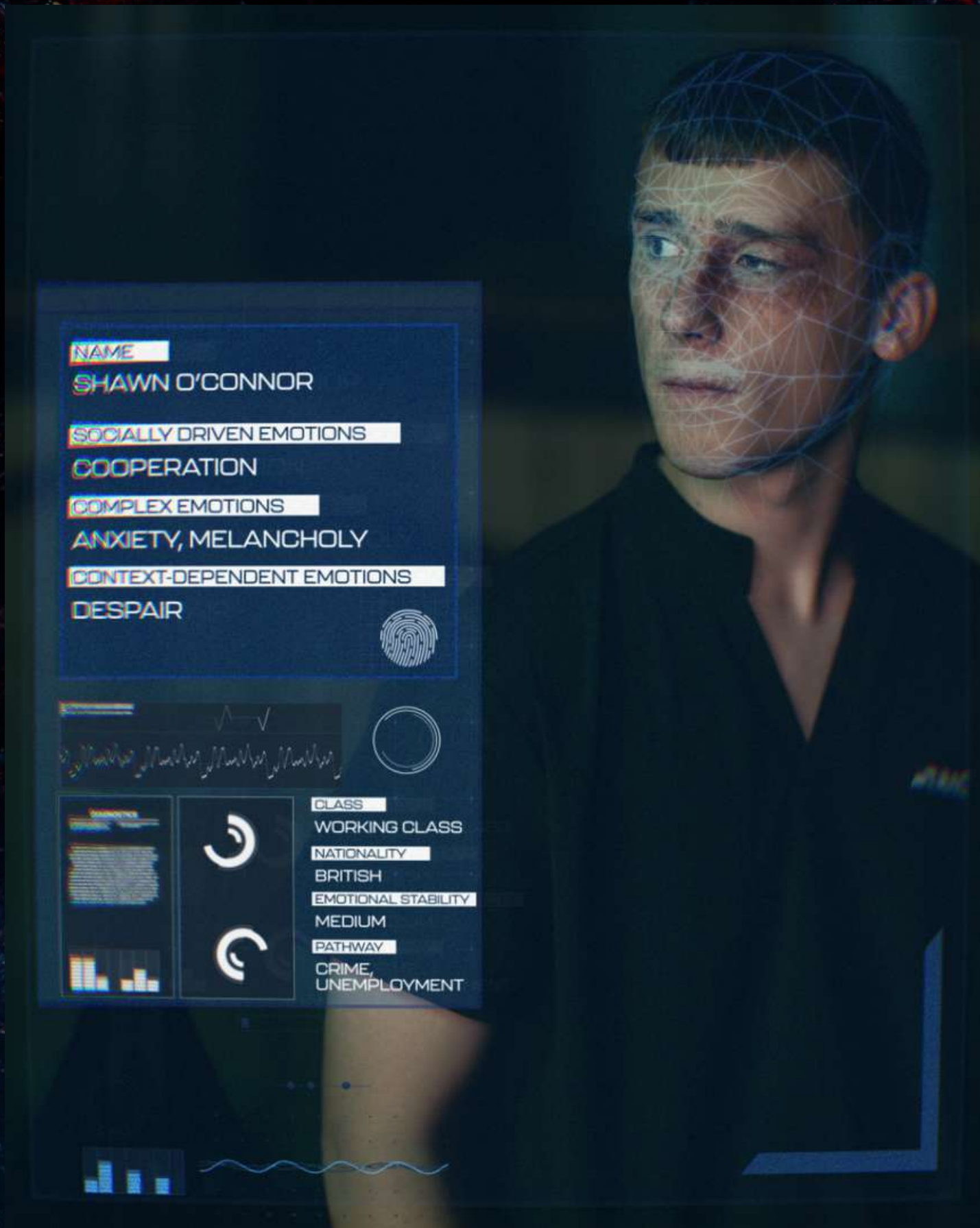
A shadowy figure who exists on the level above James Lee in the nTrac hierarchy, John Smyth’s appearance ensures that conflict is elevated to a new level.



**CAST**



# CONCEPT STILLS





**NAME**  
SONNY KANE

**SOCIALLY DRIVEN EMOTIONS**  
REJECTION

**COMPLEX EMOTIONS**  
CONTEMPT

**CONTEXT-DEPENDENT EMOTIONS**  
DESPAIR

**CLASS**  
MIDDLE CLASS

**NATIONALITY**  
BRITISH

**EMOTIONAL STABILITY**  
LOW

**PATHWAY**  
PRISON, VIOLENT CRIME

NTIRAC

**NAME**  
JACOB DANIELS

**SOCIALLY DRIVEN EMOTIONS**  
REJECTION, COMPETITION

**COMPLEX EMOTIONS**  
CONTEMPT

**CONTEXT-DEPENDENT EMOTIONS**  
DEFIANCE

**CLASS**  
MIDDLE CLASS

**NATIONALITY**  
BRITISH

**EMOTIONAL STABILITY**  
MEDIUM

**PATHWAY**  
DESTITUTE

NTIRAC

**NAME**  
MAYA HENDERSON

**COGNITIVE EMOTIONS**  
FRUSTRATION

**COMPLEX EMOTIONS**  
ANXIETY, MELANCHOLY

**CONTEXT-DEPENDENT EMOTIONS**  
DESPAIR

**CLASS**  
MIDDLE CLASS

**NATIONALITY**  
BRITISH

**EMOTIONAL STABILITY**  
LOW

**PATHWAY**  
LIMITED LIFE CHOICES

NTIRAC



**NAME**  
 KYRAN BAILEY

**COGNITIVE EMOTIONS**  
 REALISATION

**COMPLEX EMOTIONS**  
 PRIDE

**CONTEXT-DEPENDENT EMOTIONS**  
 DEFIANCE

**CLASS**  
 MIDDLE CLASS

**NATIONALITY**  
 BRITISH

**EMOTIONAL STABILITY**  
 MEDIUM

**PATHWAY**  
 LIMITED LIFE CHOICES

**NAME**  
 NICKY THOMPSON

**COGNITIVE EMOTIONS**  
 CONFUSION

**COMPLEX EMOTIONS**  
 EMBARRASSMENT

**CONTEXT-DEPENDENT EMOTIONS**  
 RESIGNATION

**CLASS**  
 WORKING CLASS

**NATIONALITY**  
 BRITISH

**EMOTIONAL STABILITY**  
 LOW

**PATHWAY**  
 AT RISK OF HARM

**NAME**  
 HANNAH SMITH

**COGNITIVE EMOTIONS**  
 CONFUSION

**COMPLEX EMOTIONS**  
 ANXIETY

**CONTEXT-DEPENDENT EMOTIONS**  
 RESIGNATION

**CLASS**  
 WORKING CLASS

**NATIONALITY**  
 IRISH

**EMOTIONAL STABILITY**  
 LOW

**PATHWAY**  
 DESTITUTE, POVERTY





*The Correction Unit* is proud to be a Nottingham production. Almost all of the cast and crew are from Nottingham, and the film has been entirely shot at locations in and around the city.

# LOCATIONS



Nottingham Girls' High School  
Nottingham



**LOCATIONS**



Confetti X  
Nottingham



**LOCATIONS**



**Thieves Wood**  
Mansfield, Nottingham



**LOCATIONS**



**Jesse Gray Primary School**  
West Bridgford, Nottingham



**LOCATIONS**



**Notts Maze**  
Arnold, Nottingham



**LOCATIONS**



Sherwood  
Nottingham



**LOCATIONS**



**Space 2**  
Sneinton, Nottingham



**LOCATIONS**



**River Rooms**

West Bridgford, Nottingham



**LOCATIONS**



# Castle House Nottingham



# LOCATIONS



# REFERENCES

Some of the films that influenced the themes and aesthetic of *The Correction Unit*



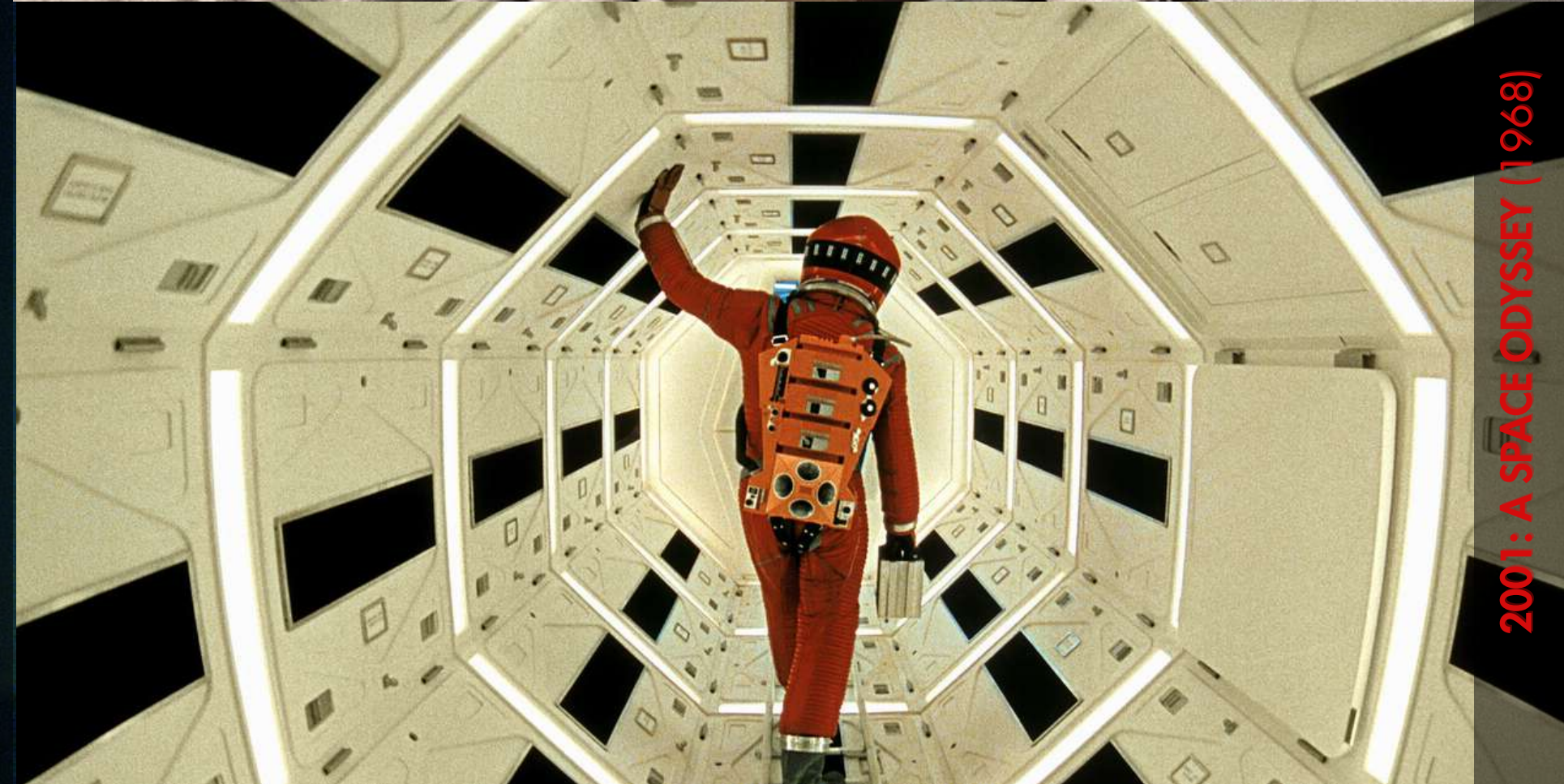
A CLOCKWORK ORANGE (1971)



GET OUT (2017)



ATTACK THE BLOCK (2011)



2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY (1968)

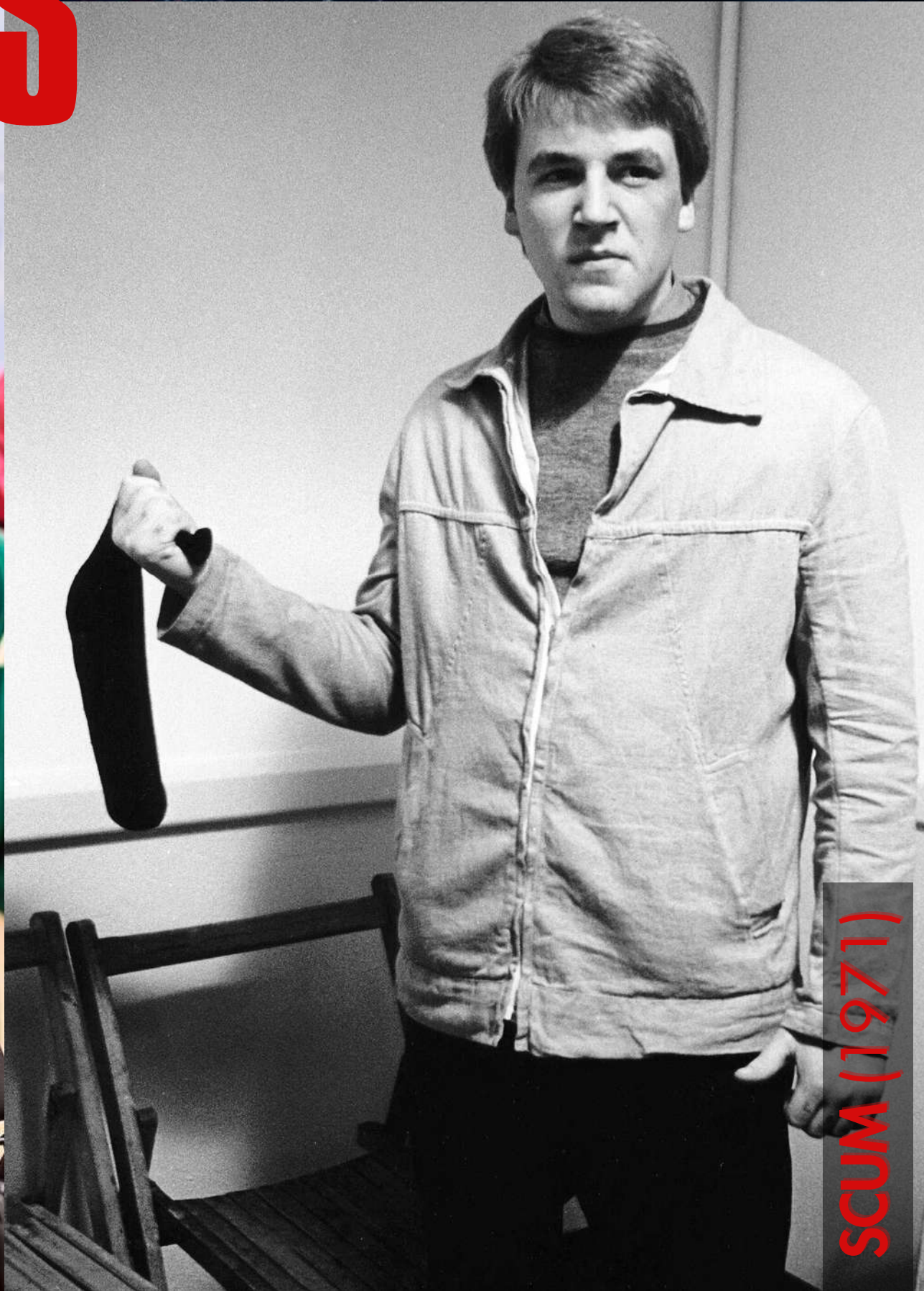


# REFERENCES

Some of the films that influenced the themes and aesthetic of *The Correction Unit*



SQUID GAME (2021)



SCUM (1971)



THE MAZE RUNNER (2014)



# ETHICS

*The Correction Unit* has taken tangible steps to ensure that all stages of production are as ethical as possible. These include:

- All on-set catering is plant-based to reduce our carbon footprint
- Shared transport to cut down on fossil fuel usage
- All unused food is donated to Open Kitchen, a Nottingham-based charity that feeds people in need





**3.**

# **FINANCIAL PLAN**





# BUDGET

Due to the availability of several cast-members who are still in full-time education, filming on *The Correction Unit* has been scheduled over three production phases.

Phase 1 and 2 have been completed, and we are currently raising funds for Phase 3 and Post-Production.

Our budget has been accurately calculated to include the costs of Phases 1 and 2, as well as quotes for Phase 3 and Post-Production.

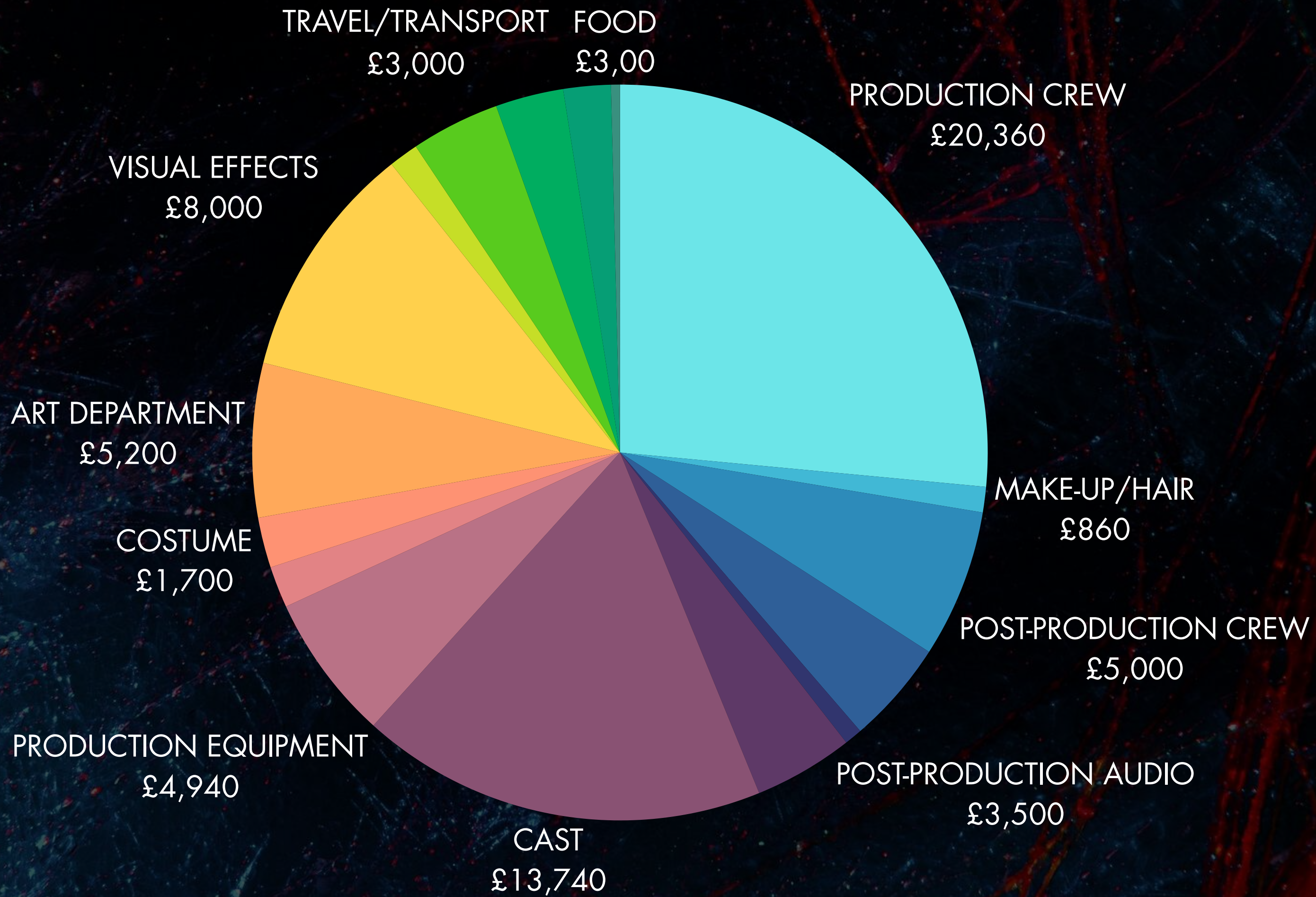
Production crew and cast will be paid their own day rate whilst on set. Post-Production crew (Picture and Sound) will be paid project fees.

## THE CORRECTION UNIT

## BUDGET AS AGREED

PRODUCTION CREW	£20,360
MAKE-UP/HAIR CREW	£860
STUNT CREW	£600
POST-PRODUCTION VIDEO	£5,000
POST-PRODUCTION AUDIO	£3,500
ART DEPARTMENT	£5,200
CAST	£13,740
LOCATION COSTS	£3,360
PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT	£4,940
PROPS	£1,400
COSTUME	£1,700
VISUAL EFFECTS	£8,000
MUSIC	£1,000
TRAVEL/TRANSPORT	£3,000
HOTEL/LIVING	£2,300
INSURANCE/FINANCIAL/LEGAL	£1,600
FOOD	£3,000
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>£79,560</b>







# PUBLIC FUNDING

*The Correction Unit* is open to public funding via Greenlit - a creative industry specific crowd-funding site that allows organisations and individuals to donate any amount towards the production and promotion of creative projects such as this film.

Different levels of contribution are rewarded with a tiered system of incentives, including posters, original film props and, for donations over £2500, an IMDb credit as Associate Producer.



# PRIVATE FUNDING

We are also offering both equity investment opportunities and standard ROI opportunities in *The Correction Unit* - exchanging money for either a percentage of the film or an agreed upon percentage return on investment, which increases with the level of money invested.

With a worldwide distribution agreement already signed with Vision Films, we believe that *The Correction Unit* is a strong investment opportunity for all levels of investor.





YOU WILL NOT BE CONSTRICTED BY SOCIETY'S **ALGORITHM**.  
HERE IS WHERE YOU GET BACK CONTROL... OF YOUR **LIVES**,  
YOUR **OPTIONS**... AND YOUR **PSYCHE**.



# CONTACT US

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Please feel free to get in touch with any questions or if you require further information about investing





**THANK YOU**

