



SHORT FILM

competition

FESTIVAL DE CANNES

# IMAGO

A FILM BY RAYMUND RIBAY GUTIERREZ

## **SYNOPSIS**

On a humid night within the bustling slums of Metropolitan Manila, Inday, a 54-year-old single parent of a special child goes to her unusual work.

### **Director's Statement:**

Imago is about a unique kind of occupation that exist in the Philippines. The story was brought up to me by my mentor, Director Brillante Ma. Mendoza about a job connected to the Funeral Industry. These people are waiting outside the hospital looking for people in their bereavement, in hopes to offer their funeral service, making money from people's misfortune.

On the surface level, ordinary people may find this unethical. But from a pragmatic standpoint, they are just plainly fulfilling their occupation just like any blue-collar job.

Immersing with these people had made me empathize with them, especially from the source of the story that I appreciate how they value life amidst the hardships of their everyday endeavors, even if means earning decent money from the dead.



## Raymund Ribay Gutierrez

Born in Philippines in 1992. Graduated from Mapua Institute of Technology with a BS Multimedia Arts and Sciences. Attended Brillante Mendoza's directing film workshop and eventually worked as a 2nd assistant director and cinematographer under him. Also studied screenwriting under Armando Lao's "Found Story" method of writing.

### Director's Treatment:

My objective in telling Imago is to portray precisely what I saw during my immersions with the ambulance chasers in the public hospitals of Manila in hopes of creating authentic connection between the audience and my characters. The production design also renders a clinical look by muting the blue colors. We see to it that it should look very real using found objects in our location. While the cinematography attempts to render a gritty look that matches the location of the film. Framing are mostly done in wide angles focusing on the main character to invoke a neo-realistic feel all throughout the feel, as the audience is a sole witness, if not an accessory of what is happening.

## CAST

Inday- Ruby Ruiz  
Cesar Mangahas- Louie Tan  
Ellen Mangahas- Upeng Fernandez  
Nurse- Dominique Leslee Q. Fuentes  
Inna- Inna Tuason  
Babysitter- Catherine Escalona  
Gravedigger- Kiko De Guzman  
Funeral Agent #1- Nato  
Funeral Agent #2- Cris Bayor  
Funeral Agent #3- Eden Solidor  
Orderly Man- Rodolfo C. Genetia Jr.  
Pregnant Woman #1- Rose Ann De Jesus

Pregnant Woman #2- Agnes Monilon  
Prostitute #1- Yak Fernandez  
Prostitute #2- Christine Florendo  
Man on the car- Boyet Abajero  
Police #1- PO1 Mark Guevarra  
Police #2- PO2 Lito Caloson



**Writer / Director:** Raymund Ribay Gutierrez  
**Creative Consultant:** Brillante Ma Mendoza & Armando Y. Lao  
**Producer:** Brillante Ma Mendoza  
**Line Producer:** Carlo Valenzona  
**Musical Director:** Gian Gianan  
**Editor:** Diego Marx Dobles  
**Production Designer:** Harley Alcasid  
**Cinematographer:** Joshua Reyles  
**Sound Design:** Mike Idioma  
**Casting Director:** Christine Florendo  
**Production Manager:** Martin Mayuga  
**Project Coordinator:** Antonio Del Rosario  
**Assistant Director:** Mark Sarmiento  
**Soundman:** Alfie Bautista  
**Art Director:** Ryan Faustino  
**Propsman:** Kiko De Guzman  
**Setman:** Vicvic Taniegra  
**Wardrobe:** Ara Flores  
**Make-up Artist:** Rufa Lovino

**Country:** Philippines  
**Duration:** 15 minutes  
**Screening Format:** DCP  
**Original Language:** Filipino  
**Sound Format:** 5.1/Stereo

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