

I AM MARIS

I am meant to live.

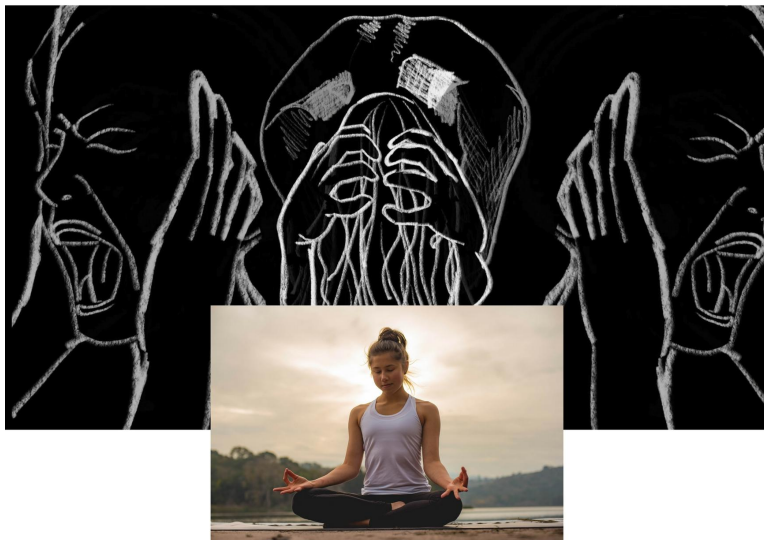
DIRECTED, SHOT AND EDITED BY LAURA VANZEE TAYLOR
PRODUCED BY ARIANA GARFINKEL AND LAURA VANZEE TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CRISTINE PLATT DEWEY, ANNIE RONEY, SUE TURLEY, NANCY BLACHMAN
ILLUSTRATED AND ANIMATED BY BRANDON EVERSOLE
STARRING MARIS DEGENER

WWW.IAMMARISMOVIE.COM



I AM MARIS

PORTRAIT OF A YOUNG YOGI



I Am Meant to Live

A FILM BY LAURA VANZEE TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CRISTINE PLATT DEWEY, ANNIE RONEY, SUE TURLEY, NANCY BLACHMAN
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I Am Maris

[Documentary Feature, USA, 2018]

Running Time:

55 minutes

Format:

1920x1080, 24fps, Sound 5.1

Directed By:

Laura VanZee Taylor

Produced By:

**Ariana Garfinkel
Laura Van Zee Taylor**

Executive Producers:

**Cristine Platt Dewey
Annie Roney
Sue Turley
Nancy Blachman**

In Association With:

ro*co films

More at:

www.IamMarisMovie.com



LOGLINE

Tormented by mental illness, a teenage girl seeks peace through painting, writing, therapy, and yoga.

SYNOPSIS

Since early childhood Maris lived in fear. Her mother states, *"It was worse when she went to bed. Now looking back, I know it was because she was afraid she was going to die. But I didn't get that. I didn't get that at all."*

At 14, Maris is hospitalized. When released, her obsessive need for control and her disabling anxiety return. Only when she discovers yoga does she begin to heal.

Confronting her buried emotions, Maris travels from despair to self-acceptance.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Maris was known in my small community for being a “perfect” kid. When I first came across her artwork, I saw her emotional pain. Having myself suffered from anxiety and depression as a young woman, I was compelled to reach out to Maris and her mother.

They revealed to me a breathtaking story of triumph. Too often, stories about eating disorders focus on scandal, emaciated bodies, “crazy” behaviors and the damaging repercussions. I wanted to tell a non-triggering story of hope and healing. Maris demonstrates that mental illness is not a weakness, but a catalyst for building strength, spirit, and empathy.



DIRECTOR, Laura VanZee Taylor

(DP/Editor/Producer) is a narrative and documentary filmmaker whose short films (The Scenes, Somewhere) have been selected by festivals around the country. *I Am Maris* is her first feature film. Before devoting herself to filmmaking, she spent a decade in the publishing industry. She holds a Master's Degree in Theatre from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Bachelor's Degree from Lewis and Clark College, in Portland, OR. More at www.LauraVanZee.com.



PRODUCER, Ariana Garfinkel

most recently produced the feature documentary *Best and Most Beautiful Things*, which premiered at SXSW (2016), was released theatrically by First Run Features, and broadcast by PBS' Independent Lens and Netflix. Ariana held positions at Miramax, Tribeca Productions and Reno Productions, and worked on location for HBO Films and Columbia Pictures. She graduated from Stanford University.



ANIMATOR, Brandon Eversole

is an artist, interactive and motion designer, and filmmaker. His work is known for its highly conceptual, yet intricate and beautiful style.



Executive Producer, CRISTINE PLATT DEWEY

is Managing Director of ro*co films International. She builds and maintains relationships with media buyers and acquisition executives around the world. She manages the international contracts and works collaboratively with filmmakers to maintain a long-term international distribution presence for each of our films. Cristine joined ro*co in 2005 after several years of experience as a community activist. She has a B. A. in English from Carleton College and a professional back-ground in development and grants administration.

Executive Producer, ANNIE RONEY

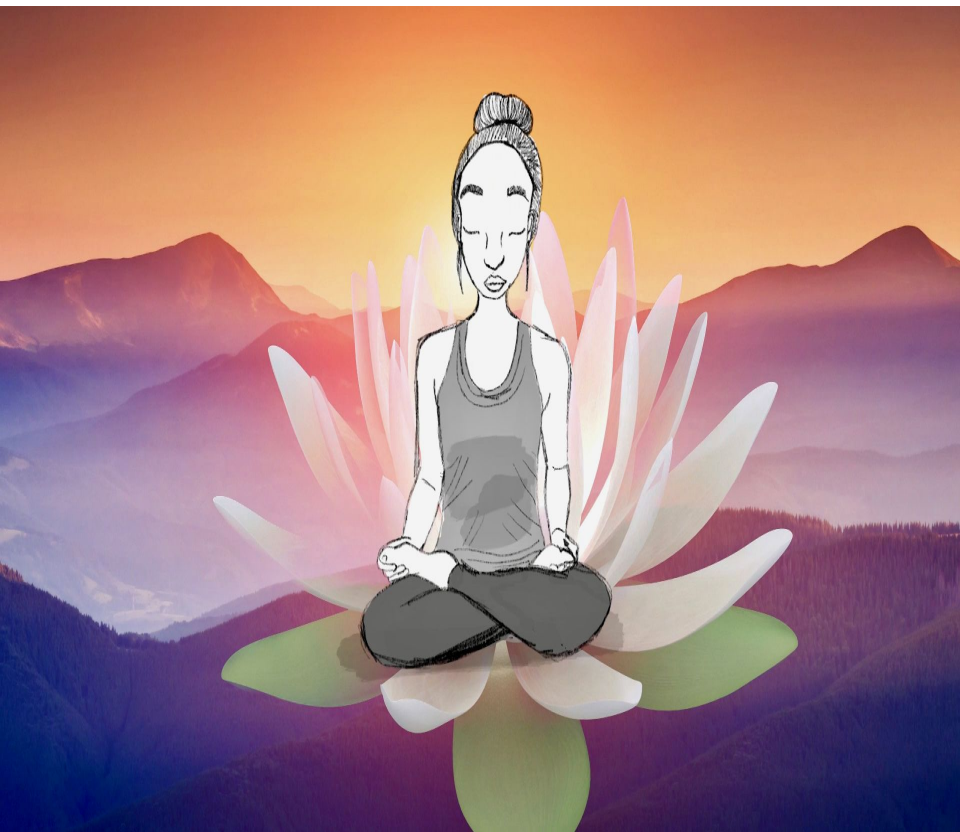
Annie Roney is Founder and CEO of ro*co films. After nine years working with a top industry distributor, Annie founded ro*co films in 2000 with two complimentary ideas: the belief that a well-told, well-researched and emotionally-driven documentary can challenge the way people think about issues in every corner of the globe; and, to be entrusted with the distribution of these stories, ro*co needed to be in service to the filmmaker first and foremost. The combination has earned ro*co the trust and respect of countless independent filmmakers in the US and abroad and, in turn, ro*co has curated the most highly acclaimed collection of documentaries in the world.

Executive Producer, SUE TURLEY

Sue Turley is Managing Director of ro*co films productions. Sue is responsible for exploring ro*co's interests in all areas of documentary development, funding and production, with special attention towards adapting documentaries into feature films and/or scripted TV series. ro*co films productions was founded in 2009, and, under Sue's leadership, together with Founder and CEO of ro*co films, Annie Roney, has secured previous partnerships with OWN: The Oprah Winfrey Network, The OWN Documentary Club, and most recently with Chris Columbus' 1492 Pictures and Lisa Erspamer Entertainment. As a consultant and independent producer, Sue has contributed to the growth of ro*co films since its inception. She has a strong background in production as Producer/Executive Producer on several documentary film projects. Sue currently serves on the IFP Advisory Board and continues to serve on granting committees for both narratives and documentaries for The International Documentary Association (IDA) and the San Francisco Film Society.



ro*co films international is committed to finding audiences around the world for the best documentaries of our day. We have eleven Oscar-nominated and or/winning documentary films under our watch, as well as a slate of award-winning film festival documentaries. We license our films worldwide, territory by territory, for theatrical, broadcast, digital, home video, and educational distribution.



CONTACT US

More at:

www.lamMarisMovie.com

Follow Us on Facebook:

@lamMarisMovie

Learn More:

www.YogaMaris.net

Contact the Director:

lauravanzee@gmail.com

For Rights and Distribution:

*Please contact Cristine Platt Dewey, Managing Director ro*co films International, at **cristine.platt.dewey@rocofilms.com***

CREDITS

Directed, Shot and Edited by:

Laura VanZee Taylor

Produced by:

**Ariana Garfinkel
Laura VanZee Taylor**

Executive Producers:

**Cristine Platt Dewey
Annie Roney
Sue Turley
Nancy Blachman**

Animation and Illustration by:

Brandon Eversole

Original Blog Posts and Paintings by:

Maris Degener

Second Editor:

Eli Olson



CREDITS (cont.)

Voiceovers Recorded by VERONICA SIMONETTI
WOMEN'S AUDIO MISSION, SAN FRANCISCO

Opening Sequence Cinematography JOE HEATH

Opening Sequence Assistant Camera SIDNEY COX

Opening Sequence Gaffer MATTHEW STOUPPE

Opening Sequence Assistant Producer ATTILA ROSTAS

Production Assistants ELINOR TAYLOR

MARGARET LEVY

CREDITS (cont.)

Audio Post Production BERKELEY SOUND ARTISTS

Re-recording Mixers JAMES LEBRECHT

ERIK REIMERS

Dialog Editor ERIK REIMERS

Sound Design BIJAN SHARIFI

JAMES LEBRECHT

Sound Effects Editor WILLIAM SAMMONS

HD Finishing ZAP ZOETROPE AUBRY PRODUCTIONS - SAN FRANCISCO

Colorist GARY COATES

Online Editor ASHLEY PAGÁN

Post Production Supervisor KIM AUBRY

Production Counsel GEORGE M. RUSH LLP

Still photography by Eric Ruud