

ERICA ASH ROTIMI AKINOSHO VANESSA WILLIAMS TYSON BECKFORD
ADRIAN MARTINEZ JENNA SARAS AND STEPHEN BISHOP

SINGLEHOLIC

GET BACK IN THE GAME



Production notes

Milan Selassie Presents

An Intelligent Media Productions Film

A Nomafrika Tjatji and Black Candy Films Production

In Association with The Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa Limited

SINGLEHOLIC

Directed By

BRYAN BARBER

Starring

ERICA ASH

ROTIMI AKINOSHO

VANESSA A WILLIAMS

TYSON BECKFORD

ADRIAN MARTINEZ

JENNA SARAS

STEPHEN BISHOP

Production Designer

ANDREW ORLANDO

Music Composer

LAMBERT

Film Editor

RICHARD STARKEY, S.A.G.E.

Director of Photography

MICHAEL OZIER

Producers

IMMANUEL JAHWAY

MILAN SELASSIE

Executive Producers

NOMAFRIKA TJATJI

WILLIAM SMITH

MAIJANG MPHERWANE

NIKKI WILTON

ERICA ASH

BRYAN BARBER

ROTIMI AKINOSHO

Written By

MILAN SELASSIE

BRYAN BARBER

OLIVER SCHMITZ

Based on the book 'Singleholic'

by Katharine Bing

Synopsis

An adventure in the spirit of 'Sex & the City' and 'Girls Trip', 'Singleholic' tells the story of a woman who moves to Mauritius to pursue her PhD after a painful breakup with her boyfriend. While there, she goes on a series of very funny dating encounters only to realise that the key to her happiness is to first be comfortable in her own skin.

Rotimi Akinosho, R&B chart topping singer and star of the American TV show 'Power', stars opposite Erica Ash ('Survivor's Remorse', 'Uncle Drew'), Stephen Bishop ('Being Mary Jane'), Tyson Beckford (superstar model and actor), Vanessa A. Williams ('New Jack City', 'Soul Food') and Adrian Martinez ('Focus', 'I Feel Pretty').

About the Film

'Singleholic' is produced by Milan Selassie and is based on the novel by the same name from English author Katherine Bing. Bryan Barber served as the director. This film was shot in Mauritius.

'Singleholic' is distributed in South Africa by Indigenous Film Distribution and will release in 2021.

Q&A: Milan Selassie, producer

How did you come up with the idea for the film?

I was working at William Morris Agency when I read Katherine Bing's book in 2008. I found it absolutely hilarious and I decided that one day I would make a movie of the story. I loved it.

What was it about the book that appealed to you?

It's the first romantic comedy I have read that deals with women being completely open about what their needs are and what they think. It's funny, irreverent, relevant, insightful and commercial. Women who have seen the film have told me that it could be the story of their life. Also, it has a great, catchy title with audience appeal.

Why did you opt for an American/South African co-production?

I have previous experience producing movies in South Africa. In fact, I shot my first movie here in 2013. It's a film-friendly country and I've been impressed by the levels of excellence across the board. The crews are knowledgeable and great to work with. In general, people are friendly, and I enjoy working here.

I also found fantastic local partners and investors here. Nomafrika Tjatji, who is a producer on 'Singleholic' was one of the first people I met when I visited South Africa in December 2012, for the first time. She has a technology and sales background and is an integrous person with whom it has been an absolute pleasure to work.

Why did you choose to set the film in Mauritius?

The book is set in London, and the first writer who adapted it for the screen set it in LA. When we secured money for the film from Mauritius, it made sense to shoot there as it offered us a stunning location and the ideal scenery for the film. On top of that, the government offered us a great tax rebate. Much like South Africa, it's a cooperative and film-friendly environment. We found it easy to obtain permits and to get things approved wherever we went. The cast had an enormous amount of fun shooting there.

What was it like to shoot the film there? Any highlights you can mention?

I was in Mauritius during both pre-production and production. The heads of departments were South African, and the support crew were all Mauritian. Everyone was friendly, hard-working and professional, and I learnt a lot from them. Aside from how easy it was to work with the people and the government, the highlight for me is how beautifully the country is reflected in the film.

Tell us about the style of the movie

It's crisp and fresh and gorgeous. Our director Bryan Barber has a background in hip-hop videos, so we took the decision to go for a glossy, stylised look and feel. We were fortunate to have a great cinematographer and we worked together to ensure those Mauritian colours were captured in all their glory, the blues of sea and sky especially.

Give us a brief description of the main players and how each drives the story.

Sarah: She is the lead protagonist. She decided to get her PhD after a painful break up with her boyfriend. Sarah is awkward, loveable, and honest.

Gigi: One of Sarah's best friends, she's married with kids and has become slightly unhappy in her marriage, which seems perfect from the outside.

Manuel: Sarah's trainer and good friend, Manuel is a playboy, but he has insightful and sometimes humorous philosophies on dating.

Michael: Sarah's rich romantic love interest, he is seemingly perfect in every way...until he dumps her.

Sam: Sarah's other romantic love interest, Sam is a struggling artist who is studying towards his master's degree at the same university where Sarah is completing her PhD.

Charlie: Sarah's friend and Jackie's love interest.

Jackie: Sarah's friend, Jackie is an honest, straightforward, go-getter who knows what she wants and is unapologetic about it.

What were some of the challenges of making the film?

We were working on only the second international production to be shot in Mauritius, so they were learning as we were.

As a producer, you want everything to run smoothly. That means navigating personalities and egos in order to get the best performances from your actors, directors and crew. It was a most worthwhile journey for me, and I learnt two important things: one -- never give up; two -- it is always darkest before dawn.

Who is the target market for the film?

It's for anyone who loves romantic comedies and a having a good laugh.

What are you most proud of having achieved with this film?

I am most proud of coming under budget and completing a beautiful film that everyone enjoys watching. In addition, I had never done grading or sound design before, and I got to learn a lot about that on this film. I realised that I am really good at some of the technical stuff. It is amazing how hues can influence the mood of an audience. We played around a lot with colours to make it all comes together.

I am also really happy with the soundtrack. Our composer was able to create music to match specific scenes in a way that advances the story so well.

I am deeply grateful to the Indigenous Film Distribution team for their belief in the film, and all the support they have provided.

I also want to stress how important my strong faith in God has been throughout this process, and how grateful I am to Him.

Biographies – Cast

Erica Ash – Sarah Wilcox

Erica Ash is a producer, actress, comedian, singer and model. She was a cast member on the sketch comedy programs 'The Big Gay Sketch Show' (2006-2008), 'MadTV' (2008-2009), and later starred in a lead role on the Starz sitcom 'Survivor's Remorse' (2014). She is also known for Scary Movie 5 (2013) and Uncle Drew (2018). Recently, Erica appeared as an ex-prostitute in the film 'Skin in the Game' (2019), as Veronica Greasley in the TV series 'Legacies' (2019), and as Grace in 'Family Reunion' (2019).

Olurotimi Akinosho – Sam Bishop

Olurotimi Akinosho, known professionally as Rotimi, is a Nigerian-American actor, singer, and model. He is known for his role as Darius Morrison on the Starz series 'Boss', and currently stars as Andre Coleman on 'Power'. He made his silver screen debut in the film 'Black Nativity' (2013). Following this, he starred in 'Imperial Dreams' at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival, which later won for Best of NEXT. Rotimi next appeared in the high grossing film, 'Divergent' (2014). In 2016, he acted in the movie 'Deuces' alongside Lance Gross and Larenz Tate. A contemporary R&B artist, Rotimi released two digital mixtapes, titled The Resume (2011), While You Wait (2011). His videos have been featured on international entertainment media including MTV, MTV Base, and VH1 Soul. Rotimi has performed on stage, opening for Jennifer Hudson, T.I., Estelle, and NERD; he also performed on BET's show '106 and Park', and appeared in R&B singer Keyshia Cole's music video 'Trust and Believe'. In 2015, 50 Cent signed Rotimi to his label, G-Unit Records. He also released his first G-Unit single 'Lotto' featuring 50 Cent. In 2016, Rotimi released 'Doin it', a single from his 5-track project, Summer Bangerz. In 2017 he released his first debut EP called 'Jeep Music Vol.1'.

Vanessa A. Williams – Jackie Chisolm

Vanessa A. Williams is an actress and producer. She is best known for her roles as Maxine Joseph-Chadway in the Showtime drama series, 'Soul Food' (2000–04), for which she received NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actress in a Drama Series and as Nino Brown's feisty gun moll, Keisha in the 1991 crime drama film, 'New Jack City'. Vanessa is also known for role as Anne-Marie McCoy in the 1992 horror film 'Candyman' and as Rhonda Blair in the first season of the Fox prime time television soap opera, 'Melrose Place' (1992–93). She has also starred in several made for television movies, including 'Our America' (2002). She has also had roles in several smaller productions in recent years.

Tyson Beckford – Manuele

Tyson Beckford is a model and actor best known as a Ralph Lauren Polo model. He was also the host of both seasons of the Bravo program 'Make Me a Supermodel' (2008). On the big screen, he is known for 'Zoolander' (2001), 'Biker Boyz' (2003) and 'Into the Blue' (2005). In 2014, Vogue Magazine named him the greatest male model of all time.

Adrian Martinez – Charlie/King Arthur

Adrian Martinez is an actor, writer, comedian, producer, and director, with over 100 film and TV credits. He is best known for 'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty' (2013) and 'Focus' (2015). He was also a series regular in NBC's 'The Backlist: Redemption' (2017) on NBC. Martinez was also seen on season 1 of CBS All Access's 'No Activity' produced by Will Ferrell. He plays the lead in his directorial debut, 'iGilbert' (2018) based on his original screenplay. Adrian is a series regular in ABC's new drama, 'Stumptown', opposite Cobie Smulders (How I Met Your Mother).

Jenna Saras – Georgina Winter

Jenna Saras is a South African actress known for 'Momentum' (2015), a South African-American action thriller directed by Stephen Campanelli, and starring Olga Kurylenko, Morgan Freeman and James Purefoy. She appeared in 'Skeem' (2011) and 'Death Race 2' (2010). She has also appeared in many commercials, short films and music videos.

Stephen Bishop – Michael Webb

Stephen Bishop is an actor and retired baseball player. He is known for 'Moneyball' (2011), 'Battleship' (2012), 'Safe House' (2012), and 'Miss Meadows' (2014). In 2017, he played the role of Michael Roland in the psychological thriller 'Til Death Do Us Part' alongside Taye Diggs. He plays David Paulk in the BET television show 'Being Mary Jane'. In 2018, Stephen was cast in a recurring role on the series 'Criminal Minds' as supervisory special agent Andrew Mendoza.

Biographies – Production Team

Milan Selassie – Producer

Milan Selassie is an American film producer/writer, best known for his work as the producer on the Lifetime hit 'Back to School Mom' (2015), which was filmed in Cape Town. He is extremely knowledgeable about the film industry and filmography in general. His professional background is mostly in politics and investment banking. Milan managed capital for high-net-worth individuals and then he worked in Washington on the International Relations Committee for the US Congress. But through all that he always had a strong interest in the cinema. Working for the William Morris Agency, one of the world's top talent agencies, gave him an insight into the film business, and on how to go about choosing projects and securing finance and distribution.

Bryan Barber – Director

Music video and motion picture director Bryan Barber is known for his clear and distinct authorial voice and visual style. He has worked with hip-hop group OutKast and made his feature film debut with 'Idlewild', a 1930s musical set in the fictional town of Idlewild (inspired by the Michigan resort town that served as a safe vacation haven for middle-class blacks in the pre-Civil Rights era). The film starred OutKast (whose members include André 3000 and Big Boi), Paula Patton, Terrence Howard and Faizon Love, and included an accompanying album produced by OutKast.

Lambert – Music Composer

Lambert is a pianist and composer from Hamburg, Germany. He plays jazz, free-improv music and classical music. Known to many across Europe and the world, Lambert's unique and original style of music blurs lines between contemporary and traditional classical music, with his music avoiding definition. He has six albums to his name and composed the soundtrack for German film 'Hedi Schneider is Stuck' (2015).

Richard Starkey – Film Editor

Richard began his film industry career in the first digital audio suite in South Africa, in 1991. After being headhunted, he moved into film editing and trained at Cutaways under two of the country's top offline editors where he worked for seven years on high-end TV commercials. In 2003, Richard branched out into TV drama and features, and has now worked in almost every genre imaginable. His body of work includes editing and grading 'Tali's Wedding Diary' for Showmax, director's cuts on 'Outlander' S3, for Sony and Starz, editor on 'Bring It On: Worldwide Cheersmack', for Universal 1440, and additional editing on award-winning SA

film 'Johnny is Nie Dood Nie', as well as a host of feature films, television series, music videos and commercials. Apart from editing, Richard is also a digital workflow consultant, post supervisor and colourist on many of his projects.

Dihantus Engelbrecht – Costume Designer

Dihantus is a skilled, dynamic and innovative costume designer with 25 years' experience. He was nominated for a South African Film & Television Award in 2013 for his design on 'Spud 2: The Madness Continues'. He specialises in fashion and fantasy and is known for delivering to budget and on time. Thanks to many years of dressing and designing for A-list artists, he handles cast members with care, empathy and good humour.

[end credits]**CAST**

ERICA ASH	Sarah Wilcox
ROTIMI AKINOSHO	Sam Bishop
VANESSA A. WILLIAMS	Jackie Chisolm
TYSON BECKFORD	Manuel 'Manny' Rivera
ADRIAN MARTINEZ	Charlie 'King Arthur' Fisher
JENNA SARAS	Georgina 'Gee Gee' Winter
STEPHEN BISHOP	Michael Webb
ABEL THÉSÉE	Dr Sirach Moges
DANIELE BONINO	John Winter
AARON APPLETON	Speed Dater
VINCENT PELLEGRIN	Speed Dater
JOALAN CHEDUMBRUN	Speed Dater
ARNAUD ALPHONSE	Speed Dater
ROMAN BLANCET	Maître D'
ORNELLA FRANCOISE	One Time Girl
LAETITIA DARCHE SAUZIER	Maria
OLIVIER DAUPHINE	Dexter the Masseur
OLIVER PONIN	Handsome Masseur
JULIE TAYAK	Sophie
QUINCY RAMSAMY	Dissed Girl at Club

CREW

First Assistant Director	Antony Tanev
Second 2 nd Assistant	Kofi Zwana
DOP	Michael Ozier
B Camera Operator / Steadicam	Andrew Luscombe
A Camera 1 st AC	Kent Satram
B Camera 1 st AC	Jonathan Kyle
A Camera 2 nd AC	Siboniso Makiwane
B Camera 2 nd AC	Ali Mohamed
DIT	Arno Durandt
VT Operator	Shaun Dobson
Key Hair and Make-Up	Tonie Eisley
Key Make-Up	Jeremy Dell
Make-Up Assistant	Melisa Klein
Daily Hair Assistant	Dominique Chan
Costume Designer	Dihantus Engelbrecht
Costume Supervisor	Carol Isaacs
Costume Standby	Ilze Geustyn
Costume Buyer	Aimee van der Merwe
Costume Assistants	Vanessa Bancilhon David Bezant
Seamstress	Aida Auckburaullee
Costume Trainee	Sibonisile Mgbobhozi
Extras Casting	Kalysto Sheik
Production Designer	Andrew Orlando
Art Department Coordinator	Cindy Sasman
Production Designer's Assistant	Gloria Vivien
Set Decorator	Michael Barfoot
Leadman	Carmen Lotz
Set Dressers	Carma Le Roux Sales Anne-Lise Blackburn

	Laetitia Grassy
Standby Set Dresser Assistant	Darren Damien
Swing Gan Lead	Vikash Mugun
Swing Gang	Dinesh Koodun
	Ajay Reega
Props Master	Anton Kock
Assistant Props Master	Benedicte Banessy
Standby Props	Christiaan Payne
Props Assistant	Matthieu Adrien
Sound Mixer	Conrad Kuhne
Boom Swinger	Ian Arrow
Gaffer	Guy Stallard
Best Boy	Abu Mohamed
Sparks	Salim Mohammad
	Noor Shaikh
	Rajeev Gungahresoon
Genny Operator	Billy André
Key Grip	Keith Smith
Dolly Grip	Dylan Bland
Best Boy	Chris Fabre
Assistant Grips	Shyam Noyan
	Jakhoo Swaveeraj Singh
Location Scout	Sunveek Gobin
Locations Coordinator	Stassie Combrinck
Location Manager	Deon van der Walt
Unit Assistants	Jean Baptiste
	Victor Melisse
Transport Manager	Warren Smith
Unit Set Captain	Anil Mugun
Transport Trainee	Thendo Netshirando
Producer's Driver	Yusuff Khodabaccus
Director's Driver	Nawaz Boolaky

Props Truck Driver	Hemraj Dayenta Singh
Wardrobe Truck Drivers	Aaj Ooriah Kevin Ramful
Make-Up Truck Driver	Arashen Cavaree
Camera Truck Driver	Chetandeo Koodin
Lighting Truck Driver	Mauracheea Kreshnachand
Grip Truck Driver	Omduttsingh Boodhun
Unit Truck Driver	Shiwanand Bahadoor
Cast & Crew Shuttle Drivers	Sultana Sookhun Feroz Abedeen Baboo Gowreesunker Deepak Deehoo Sanjay Khugpath Vikram Lodechand Ramalinga Pillay
Production Accountant	Lily Lacheva
1 st Assistant Accountant	Stasi Petrova
Accounts Trainees	Ekta Ramlugun Kheertee Beekye
Line Producer	Lynne-Anne Vosloo
Production Manager	Mayra Garcia
Production Secretary	Roxanne Sibilski
Production Assistant	Jean-Paul Adolphe
Set Production Assistant	Amit Bholah
Assistant to Producer	Dakshinee Awootar
Medic	Ranveer Boojhawon
Post-Production Facility	Refinery cape Town
Post-Production Supervisor	Lauren van Rensburg
Digital Intermediate Producer	Peta Synnot-Marzetti
Dailies Operator	James McIntosh
Editor	Richard Starkey S.A.G.E
Assistant Editor	Ismail Salahuddin

Title Graphics	Graeme Armstrong
DI Colorist	Kyle Stroebel
End Roller	Armien Baradien
Engineering	Gerhard Kriel
Mastering & OC Technician	Armien Baradien
Audio Post Facility	Audio One
Sound Design	Barry Donnelly
ADR Post coordinator	Peta Synnot-Marzetti
ADR Recording Engineer	Barry Donnelly
Dialogue Editor	Charl Mostert
SFX Editor	Barry Donnelly
Re-Recording Engineer	Barry Donnelly
Foley Studio	Foley Factory
Foley Artist	Franziska Treutler
Foley Editor	Till Aldinger
Foley Mixer	Matthias Radcliffe
Music Composed Performed and Produced by Lambert	
Music Supervisor	Milan Selassie

What's This Feeling

performed by Slakah The Beatchild
 Composed by Byram Joseph
 Active Music Publishing
 Reservoir Media Management

The Right Place

Composed by Raphael Lake, Ben Fisher
 Extreme Music Library Ltd
 Sony Music Entertainment (SA) Pty Ltd

Enjoy Yaself

Composed by Byram Joseph
 Performed by Slakah The Beat Child
 Active Music Publishing
 Reservoir Media Management

Ginza Samba

Composed and performed by Vince Gauraldi
 Courtesy of Fantasy Records
 Cireco Music

Hau Que Luchar

Composed by Randall Cooke, Andrew Bojanic,
 Elizabeth Hooper, Ruben Martinez
 Superpop Music Library (ASCAP)
 Superpop Song Library (BMI)

If It Ain't Hip

Composed by Emil Viklincky
 Brilliant-Musik Switzerland
 Joachim Tautz, (Suisa)

If You Need It, I Got Candy

Composed by Jonathan Jackson,
 Jabril Battle
 Ole Colorful Flame Music
 Ole complete Vision Music
 Sony Pictures Television Inc.

Heartburn

Composed by Tom Griffiths, Adam Zapel,
 Roscoe Williamson
 Extreme Music Library Ltd
 Sony music Entertainment (SA) Pty Ltd

Madiba

Composed and Performed by Shaun Martin
 Shuwun Music

A House in the Hamptons

Composed by Werner Tautz
 Brilliant-Musik Switzerland
 Joachim Tautz, Suisa

Angel Cakes

Composed by Steve Jablonsky
 Directors Cuts
 Production Music Ltd.

Get Back (Ft Chantae Cann)

Composed by Khari Cabral Simmons
 Paige Lackey Martin
 Solunari Music & In the Mind of Me Music

The Producers Would Like to Thank

Moges Selassie
 Genet Selassie
 Dr. Sirach Selassie
 Saba Selassie
 Daniel Lubega
 David Kwame Adomakoh
 Nkululeko Sowazi
 Cassian Elwes
 Lawrence Morera
 Athule Mbekeni
 Dr. Patrick Thomas
 Adnan Qalbani
 David Panton

Eric Porres
Eli Aheto
Eddie Babbage
Mark Feller
Omar Chanan
Ethan Salter
Jane Fry
Nanda Narrainen
Anishnee Veerappapillay-Coolen
Dakshinee Awootar
Bhavanesh Parbhoo
Debbie McCrum
Helen Kuun
Thandeka Zwana
The wonderful people of Mauritius

Filmed entirely on location in Mauritius