

# Chilly & Milly Press Kit

UPDATED: December 10th, 2021



Movie Poster

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## AT-A-GLANCE

- Animated Documentary short film
- Duration: 9 min
- Finished: August, 2021
- World premiere: 2022 Sundance Film Festival (forthcoming)
- Directed by William D. Caballero
- Produced by William D. Caballero and Elaine Del Valle
- TAGS: family, health, diabetes, grief, coping with loss, Puerto Rican, latinx, North Carolina
- Funded by Latino Public Broadcasting (through funding by Corporation for Public Broadcasting) and the Guggenheim Fellowship
- Project homepage: [www.wilcab.com/chilly-and-milly](http://www.wilcab.com/chilly-and-milly)

# SYNOPSIS

## **Short Synopsis:**

11 years after filming a documentary about his family, director William D. Caballero returns home to revisit scenes from his documentary with his parents, CHILLY & MILLY. Chilly, William's father, is a diabetic with kidney failure, whose illness detrimentally affects his and his family's lives. Milly sees her sole purpose in life as to taking care of her loved ones. While watching the documentary, Chilly and Milly discuss their life together, and their successes and setbacks in life. When Chilly passes away during the pandemic, Milly comes to terms with her loss.

## **Long Synopsis:**

11 years after filming a documentary about his family, WILLIAM returns home to revisit scenes from his documentary with his parents, CHILLY and MILLY. Chilly, William's father, is a diabetic with kidney failure, whose illness detrimentally affects his and his family's lives. Milly, William's mother, is the matriarchal caretaker of the family. Milly sees her sole purpose in life as to taking care of her loved ones such as her husband, and her parents.

As William, Chilly, and Milly rewatch the documentary, the family reflects on their lives. Chilly and Milly discuss their life together, including their early lives in Coney Island, their move to North Carolina, and their successes and setbacks in life. Milly discusses her past surgeries, and her job as a caretaker to her family. Milly recalls a traumatic event where she couldn't help Chilly, and the helplessness she felt. Chilly recounts his near death experience, where he finds a newfound will to live. Milly and William try to help Chilly through a diabetic emergency, and together they watch the gradual deterioration of Chilly's health.

After Chilly passes during the pandemic, William and Milly must come to terms with their loss. With Chilly's passing, Milly is tasked with finding a new purpose in life.

# FILM INFORMATION

## Film Title

Chilly & Milly

## Log Line

An animated documentary about a devoted caretaker, her chronically ill husband, and the power of undying love.

## Contact Info

Colibrí Creative Media (William D. Caballero)

[william.d.caballero@gmail.com](mailto:william.d.caballero@gmail.com)

## Website

[www.wilcab.com/chilly-and-milly](http://www.wilcab.com/chilly-and-milly)

William D. Caballero - Producer and Director  
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Elaine Del Valle - Producer  
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## Technical Info

Running Time: 08:59

Exhibition Format: DCP and/or PRORES (h.264.mp4 file format) Audio

Format: 5.1

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Shooting Format: Digital, 4k

Color, English



# ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

## **Director's Statement**

I grew up in Fayetteville, North Carolina, in a trailer in my grandparent's backyard. My parents, two hardworking NuyoRicans moved there to escape the poverty and housing projects of Brooklyn in the 1980s, to give me a better chance to achieve the American dream. While I was eventually able to go to college and forge a career as a multimedia filmmaker, my parents stayed behind in the trailer. They deteriorated physically, with health problems affecting every aspect of their lives.

CHILLY & MILLY follows the slow decline of my father's health, and my mother's role as his primary caretaker. A diabetic with kidney failure, my father had to endure dialysis treatments and debilitating nerve damage. My mother was always there to provide for his every need, saving his life countless times when his blood sugar dropped to dangerous lows. The pair were the main subjects of AMERICAN DREAMS DEFERRED, my first autobiographical documentary feature, shot in 2008 during my last year of graduate study at NYU, and screened nationally on PBS in 2012. The film explores whether or not my father would get the kidney transplant he so desperately needed (spoiler alert: he didn't).

In 2018, I returned to Fayetteville to rewatch scenes of this documentary with my mother and father, and recorded this conversation. Together we recounted our lives from the past decade. For my father, the last ten years of his life were mired by both declining health and complications getting adequate support from government-run healthcare. As his chronic pain became too excruciating to bear, he made a decision to stop going to dialysis treatment. He would pass away in my old bedroom during the pandemic lockdown in May, 2020 (in the same single-wide trailer home in rural North Carolina that he and my mother purchased in 1994), with my mother/Milly and I by his side.

After receiving funding from the Guggenheim Foundation (2018) and Latino Public Broadcasting (2021), I set about creating a short film about my parents, utilizing the 3D animation style that I had developed in recent years. The short film features many scenes where 3D modeled avatars of myself and my parents, inserted into a miniature handbuilt replica of their trailer, sit on the couch 'watching' scenes directly from the documentary. This unique usage of B-roll is quite meta, exploring and expanding what a documentary can be when it is presented both honestly and artistically.

I consider this poignant film to be my most powerful short film yet. It honors my father and celebrates my mother, while also being a testament to every selfless mother/caretaker out there who have devoted their lives to taking care of others.

Chilly and Milly will premiere at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival.

# CREDITS

Chilly	<b>Guillermo “Chilly” Caballero</b>
Milly	<b>Migdalia “Milly” Caballero</b>
William	<b>William D. Caballero</b>
Director/Producer/Writer/Storyboard Artist/Editor	<b>William D. Caballero</b>
Cinematographer/ Motion Graphics	<b>William D. Caballero</b>
Producer	<b>Elaine Del Valle</b>
Animation Director	<b>Brad Jones</b>
3D Modeler	<b>Chang Kim</b>
3D Rigger	<b>Stephen Mann</b>
Miniature Set Designer	<b>Greg Pinsoneault</b>
Composer	<b>Rene Boscio</b>
Woodwinds	<b>Anna Rosen</b>
Production Assistant	<b>Emily Kinser</b>

## PROMOTIONAL IMAGES



*Chilly, Milly, and William*



*Milly trying to help Chilly*



*Milly grieving*

# BIOS



## **William D. Caballero**

*Director - Producer - Writer - Storyboard Artist - Editor*

William D. Caballero is a Los Angeles-based filmmaker, multimedia storyteller, 2018 Guggenheim Fellow, and 2021 Creative Capital Award recipient. Born in Coney Island, New York and raised in Fayetteville, North Carolina, Caballero obtained the Gates Millennium Scholarship in 2001, and returned to New York City where he graduated from Pratt Institute (BFA Digital Art, 2006, Minor in Art History ) and New York University (MA The Arts and Humanities in Education, 2008). Caballero's directorial films have debuted at the 2017 and 2022 Sundance Film Festival, 2013

Slamdance Film Festival, and the Museum of Modern Art, and on major networks, such as HBO, PBS, Univision, and World Channel. He aims to empower all creatives to tell their own stories in their own unique voice.



## **Elaine Del Valle**

*Producer*

Elaine Del Valle is an award-winning producer, writer, and director. Her original drama pilot, *The System*, is currently in development at CBS. She is a WarnerMedia 150 artist in the process of directing a film adaptation of her award-winning autobiographical stage play, *Brownsville Bred*. Elaine's latest short films, *Me 3.769* and *Princess Cut*, can be seen on HBO.



## **Brad Jones**

*Animation Director*

Brad Jones is a digital artist who adopts all available tools to help create and tell stories. Using tools from photogrammetry, digital sculpting to Path tracers and Real-time rendering. He has been learning Unreal and all it has to offer over the past two years.



### **Chang Kim**

*3D Character Modeler*

Chang Hun Kim is a 3D modeler, motion graphic and 3D visualization designer. He has been working with the director William D. Caballero for many years such as Gran'Pa Knows Best and Victor and Isolina. He has also worked on commercial works for LG and Novartis.

### **Stephen Mann**

*3D Character Rigger*

Stephen Mann is a Computer Animator, specializing in character rigging and character fx. His 20 year career has spanned working on multiple feature films, including Robots and X-Men, visual effects work for Serial Television shows including Dare Devil, Jessica Jones, and commercials for clients such as Verizon, Cadillac, and SuperCell.

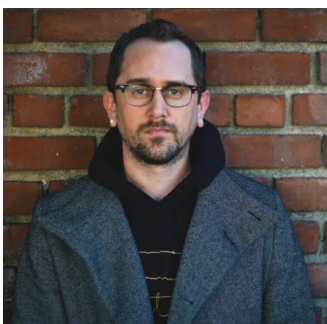


### **Greg Pinsoneault**

*Miniature Set Designer*

Greg Pinsoneault is a Los Angeles based fabricator and miniaturist. After earning a BFA in Scenic Design from The Theatre School at DePaul University in 2015, he worked in Chicago as a freelance model maker and scenic designer where he garnered 2 Jeff Award nominations before pursuing work in stop motion animation. He has fabricated at Screen Novelties, Open the Portal, Stoopid Buddy Stoodios, Ancient Order of the Wooden Skull, and the Chiodo Brothers on

projects for Nickelodeon, Adult Swim, and Netflix.



### **Rene Boscio**

*Composer*

René G. Boscio is an LA-based Puerto Rican composer best known for his unique blend of acoustic and Latino instruments with modern, experimental electronics. He began his career in music over 20 years ago in his hometown of Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. In 2013, he moved to Los Angeles, where he worked with composer Blake Neely. During the following three years he created additional music for over 100 episodes of television series including Riverdale (The CW), Blindspot (NBC) and The Flash (The CW). Since then, he has composed original scores for over a dozen feature films.