

**KEENAN ODENKIRK** in

**RING  
RING**



Interactive Link: Click Below to Stream Film on FilmFreeway



<https://filmfreeway.com/RingRingShort>

Interactive Link: Click Below to Visit IMDb Page



<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt35527478>



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PALMYRA PICTURES PRESENTS

KEENAN ODENKIRK in

# RING RING

with

CRUZ-GONZALEZ CADEL

SACHA FAVELEVIC

WILL GAUDET

and

BERNIE STARZEWSKI

Produced by

LINCOLN ROGERS

NATHAN CARLBERG

Production Design by

JAKE NOLAN

Executive Producer

ANDREW McCOMB

Original Score by

JEFF RYAN

DAVE SIMLEY

Written and Directed by

LUCAS XAVIER SIMES

# SYNOPSIS

## DARK COMEDY with 16 MIN RUNTIME

Sebastian (KEENAN ODENKIRK), the best man to his friend's wedding, is already running late when he accidentally throws the wedding rings into a trash compactor. While investigating the trash bin, Sebastian falls into the machine and lands in a cavernous chamber filled with garbage and dirty water.

While searching for the lost rings, embarrassed by his friend's efforts to check on his location, the chamber locks, leaving Sebastian to grapple with the compactor walls closing in on him as well as the impending deadline of the wedding.

During his imprisonment in the compaction chamber, Sebastian must interact with the automated help line of the City of Chicago (BERNIE STARZEWSKI), a disenchanted 911 Operator (WILL GAUDET), and the irate parents of Diego, the groom (CRUZ GONZALEZ-CADEL and SACHA FAVELEVIC).

## AVAILABLE LANGUAGES

Film in ENGLISH with brief unsubtitled sections in SPANISH.

Subtitles available in ENGLISH and SPANISH.

## PROJECT TIMELINE

### Script Completed

May 2023

### Pre-Production Begins

July 2023

### Principal Photography

September 2023 to January 2024

### Editing

December 2023 to March 2024

### Post-Production

April 2024 to Dec 2024

### Release

February 2025





  
TRASH COMPACTOR INITIATIVE  
CHICAGO DEPT. OF STREETS & SANITATION



## — STARRING BIOGRAPHY —

### KEENAN ODENKIRK as SEBASTIAN

**Keenan Odenkirk** is a Chicago actor and writer represented by Big Mouth Talent. Originally from Tucson, Arizona, he received his undergraduate degrees in Computer Science and Theatre before moving to Chicago to pursue acting. Onstage, favorite roles include Nick (Virginia Woolf - Jeff Award for 2023 Best Production), Crumpet (The Santaland Diaries), Erik (A Green River) and Osric (Hamlet).

He has appeared with Invictus, Valiant, Quicksilver Shakes, and The Mississippi Bend Players. His work in television and film include FX's Justified: City Primeval, NBC's Chicago Fire, the Award-Winning short film Shovel Man, and the feature film That Night. His written works of comedy can be read at [TheInquist.com](http://TheInquist.com). Keenan is the nephew of actor and comedian Bob Odenkirk.



IMDb

## — DIRECTOR'S NOTES —

A common response I received after pitching the script for Ring Ring was, "**is this autobiographical?**"

In a way, it is. **Ring Ring is a dark comedy**, but the underlying emotion is the stress of ADHD. Sebastian, the protagonist, deals with a world that suddenly can't forgive his mistakes. In a way, the thematic inspiration for the script is therapeutic - it can get bad, but it can never get THIS bad.

**This is my first film** - I have never directed before. This was a truly monumental effort between friends - most everyone in the crew are friends or students, and the project was largely self-funded. We spent many nights with few hours of sleep, and we filmed in a moving company warehouse. I directed it like a silent film, focusing on wider shots that show the full body and set as though it's a photoplay. Keenan was a natural at this style - his mannerisms and physical comedy drive



**Lucas X. Simes**  
Writer & Director

the energy of the scene. The exterior most embodies silent film, underscored by music, with text messages serving as title cards.

On the interior scenes, the phone is Sebastian's only lifeline, and I wanted it to feel like the bringer of life. To punctuate this, the set is cast in **monochrome red light** - only the light of the phone and the trapdoor brings **color back into the shot**. The **narrowing aspect ratio** aims to amplify the stress.

This film wouldn't have past the script stage without the enthusiasm of our DP and co-producer, Lincoln. He and I are friends from college, and ran into one another by chance on the street after many years, to discover that we lived just one block from one another. I invited him to a party, where I pitched the script - his response, immediately, was: "Let's make this." Everyone involved in the crew is a lifelong Chicagoan, and **our wish is to make Chicago itself a character in the film**. The city is present in everything that Sebastian interacts with. Anyone who has gotten a car towed and had it taken to Lower Wacker Drive understands the pain of city bureaucracy, and it serves as a great foil to Sebastian's frustration.

Lucas Xavier Simes, Writer and Director



## — CAST BIOGRAPHIES —

### CRUZ GONZALEZ-CADEL as DIEGO'S MOTHER

**Cruz Gonzalez-Cadel** is an award-winning theatre, film, and television actor originally from Argentina. She has recurred on FX's Fargo, guest-starred on NBC's Chicago Med, and co-starred on Showtime's The Chi and Fox's Empire. Principal film credits include Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice, Heist 88, and Rounding. She can also be seen starring in the upcoming film Single Car Crashes.

### SACHA FAVELEVIC as DIEGO'S FATHER

**Sacha Favelevic** is an actor originally from Argentina. He currently lives and works in Chicago, IL. He is known for his role in the 1987 film The Stranger, directed by Adolfo Aristarain.



### WILL GAUDET as 911 Operator

**Will Gaudet** is originally from Chicago, IL, where he continues to live and work. He has been exposed to comedy, theater, and improvisation his whole life. This is his first role in a film.

### BERNIE STARZEWSKI as Phone Cop

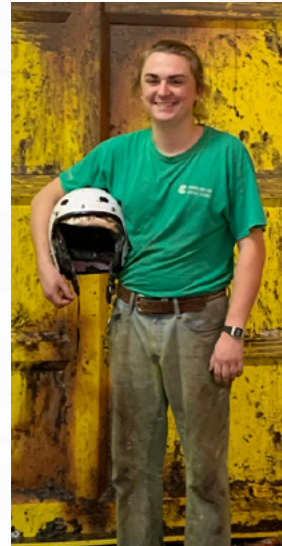
**Bernie Starzewski** is a voice actor in Wisconsin. He was born and raised in Brighton Park, Chicago. Bernie owns and operates shows in the Parkview Playhouse theater in Manitowoc, WI.



# SET DESIGN

Designed and constructed by Production Designer **Jake Nolan**, the indoor set was constructed out of wood at a massive scale, with the lateral walls sitting on caster wheels, allowing them to be pushed by hand as the chamber compacts Sebastian. The walls were pushed by two teams of two in coordination with one another, with their position and the garbage reset after every shot. The compactor set was assembled, used, and disassembled over two and a half days.

The outdoor trash can, also by Nolan, was intended to be visually intimidating, inspired in shape and smooth, semi-gloss texture by the monolith from 2001: A Space Odyssey and the Orthanc (the tower at Isengard) in the Lord of the Rings. The trash can was so believable that the crew had to stop passersby from using it during the two days of outdoor shooting.



## LINCOLN ROGERS

Director of Photography and Producer

Lincoln Rogers is a 25-year-old native Chicagoan who has been behind a camera since he was eight. Alongside working as an Art Director & Video Producer at SOCIALDEVIANT, a local Chicago advertising agency, Lincoln is a director, cinematographer, and producer of short films.

He made his directorial debut in 2022 with The Goji Project, which premiered at the University of Illinois Film Festival, and has since gone on to receive accolades at the Los Angeles International Film Festival and the Zero Degree Film Contest, among others.



## LUCAS XAVIER SIMES

Writer and Director

Lucas is a 28-year-old Senior Art Director at VML, an advertising agency. Born and raised in Chicago, but of a Latin American background, he is a dual citizen of the United States and Argentina. As a hobby, he is a digital 3D artist, photographer, and avid reader.

Lucas has a lifelong dedication to the arts, and is an artist by way of family. His parents are classically trained painters. His goal in filmmaking is to put Chicago back in the minds of the world. He is a great fan of classic film, and his greatest inspirations are Buster Keaton, the Marx Brothers, The Three Stooges, and The Simpsons.

He is the co-president of Palmyra Pictures and is currently directing the documentary film The Crappening, covering the events of the Dave Matthews Band Chicago River incident.



## CONTACT

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