Project Title: Fire Escape: An Interactive VR Series

Created by: Vassiliki Khonsari, Navid Khonsari, Andres Perez-Duarte, Sam Butin

Synopsis
Through the fog of the city peer into the private lives of eight diverse New Yorkers from your fire escape to discover suspicion and deception -- all unfolding in real time. Set against a shadowy backdrop of contemporary gentrification where disenfranchised tenants become twisted in a string of dark mysteries and a murder. Audiences exercise their voyeuristic tendencies in this rich and innovative interactive cinematic narrative which harnesses the strengths of virtual reality --- where audiences must reconcile their own role as an observer to reveal the truth.

Creator’s Artistic Statement

Our greatest challenge with developing Fire Escape was the technical limitations of making such an ambitious project for Mobile VR. Having EIGHT full motion captured characters, with live environments all running simultaneously on mobile tech became a balancing act of fidelity and processing.

Fire Escape exposes audiences to a diverse group of New Yorkers who are not often represented in new technology storytelling. In doing so, Fire Escape fosters a deeper understanding and empathy for these represented characters — allowing audiences to interact with and view these characters in their most private and vulnerable moments. Ultimately, it becomes a humanizing experience of witnessing others but also via interaction, audiences can unpack their own unconscious bias toward others -- and hopefully come away with more empathy.
Design for the platform. Always challenge yourself to represent more diverse and dynamic characters — work alongside a diverse group in production. Never shy from scrapping your work if you are not pleased with the direction.

Creator’s Bio:
iNK Stories is an entertainment company focused on creating visionary stories that elevate, entertain, and engage audiences through digital experiences. Our award winning projects have garnered top honors from institutions such as BAFTA, Sundance, Tribeca, UNESCO, (DICE), International Mobile Game Awards, and IndieCade, plus 2017 Facebook’s Game of the Year.

Full Credits

Project Creator - Vassiliki Khonsari, Navid Khonsari, Andres Perez-Duarte, Sam Butin
Key Collaborator - Lulu LaMer, Maria Essig
An Interactive VR Series by iNK Stories
Composed by Nima Fakhrara
Sound Design by Leon Rothenberg
Animation Producer Rosanna Sun
Technical Director Dennis Hauck

ASMR Darling, Todd Soley, Ethan Rains, Edward Jackson, Michelle Lukes, Olivia Preciado, Tanya Henderson, Giselle Gilbert.

Fire Escape Episode 1 is World Premiering at Tribeca.
Episode 1 will be released commercially Late Spring 2018, with Episode 2 & 3 to shortly follow.

Fire Escape features YOUTUBE star, ASMR Darling — in game name is ASMR SWEETIE. A real life internet sensation, she is one of the most viewed ASMR (Autonomous Sensory Meridian Response) personalities on YOUTUBE with a following of more than 1.5M subscribers known for relaxing viewers with her whispering voice videos.

Fire Escape Private Party (PNI) for details please contact riley@inkstories.com