



## **Aftershock Summary: About the Film**

In October 2019, 30-year-old Shamony Gibson tragically died 13 days following the birth of her son. Two months later, the film team began documenting Shamony's surviving mother, Shawnee Benton Gibson, and bereaved partner, Omari Maynard, as they began to process what happened and figure out their new normal.

In April 2020, 26-year-old Amber Rose Isaac, died due to an emergency c-section. Within weeks of Amber's death, Omari reaches out to Amber's surviving partner Bruce McIntyre and a lifelong bond is formed. Together, Omari and Bruce begin the fight for justice for their partners with their families and community by their side, while caring for their children as newly single parents.

The film witness these two families become ardent activists in the maternal health space, seeking justice through legislation, medical accountability, community, and the power of art. Their work introduces a myriad of people including a growing brotherhood of surviving Black fathers, along with the work of midwives and physicians on the ground fighting for institutional reform. Through their collective journeys, the film brings us to the front lines of the growing birth justice movement that is demanding systemic change within our medical system and government.

Aftershock premiered at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival in the U.S. Doc Competition, and was awarded the Special Jury Award: Impact for Change. Aftershock was acquired out of Sundance by Disney's Onyx Collective and ABC News Studios and released on Hulu in the US and on Disney+ worldwide on July 19 2022.

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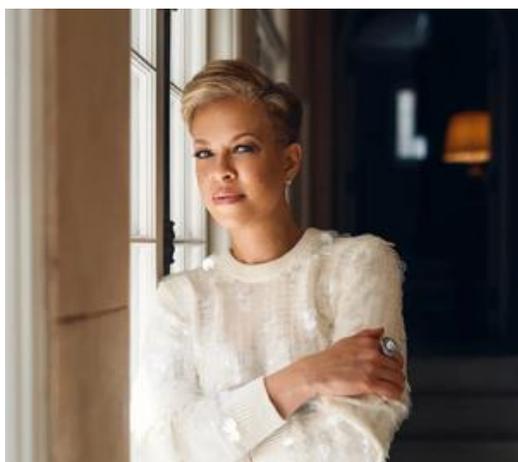


## Aftershock: Meet the Filmmakers



Paula Eiselt is an award-winning independent feature-film filmmaker, producer, and activist known for her journalistic rigor in telling timely and intelligent cinematic stories led by strong-willed characters. She has dedicated her filmmaking career to shining a light on trailblazers and everyday heroes from all walks of life and is most notably known for her two award-winning documentary features, 93QUEEN (POV/HBOMax) and most recently, AFTERSHOCK (Hulu/Disney+).

IndieWire named Paula one of 22 Rising Filmmakers to Watch in 2022. In 2019, she was named one of Jewish Week's "36 Under 36." Paula is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and serves on the board of the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance. She currently lives in New Jersey with her husband and their 4 children.



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### **Aftershock: Cleveland Panelists**

- Heather Rice, PhD, APRN-CNP, PMHS, assistant professor in the School of Nursing at Cleveland State University
- Da'na Langford, CNM, Co-Founder, CEO and Medical Director at the Village of Healing Center in Euclid
- Myla Flores, a New York City-based doula, childbirth educator and lactation counselor who appears in the film
- Shawnee Benton Gibson, Omari Maynard, and Bruce McIntyre – family members of Shamony and Amber, and Black maternal health activists who also appear in the film

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