

*To reclaim a stolen life, he must relive the  
nightmare that started it all.*

# *Dreamer*

*Season One*



This is not just a series.  
It is a lived signal—  
forged through story and music.

Built at the intersection of:

- Prestige drama rooted in radical authenticity
- Music as narrative language
- Social impact without didacticism

**A premium prestige series  
built for controlled release  
and global licensing.**

## LOGLINE

A young man's suicide attempt, while dying of AIDS in 2009, triggers an inter-dimensional therapy session with a mysterious being, forcing him to relive his trauma in a psychospiritual thriller rock opera where music is the weapon—and his story is the key to healing a fractured world.

# SYNOPSIS

Based on a true story.

Growing up in Western Canada, Dreamer's desire for love and belonging drove him to make a series of bad decisions. On track to become a professional cellist, his world shattered before him with an HIV positive diagnosis in 1996.

We meet Dreamer in the palliative ward in 2009, lying in a hospital bed, waiting to die from AIDS.

It is through Dreamer's musical mind that we explore the tragedy that brought him to the brink of death and discover the hope for his future.

Every episode will take the viewer on a stunning musical journey through this fantastical story.



Grounded.

Intimate.

Unfiltered.

TONALLY  
ALIGNED  
WITH

**WHIPLASH**  
**MOONLIGHT**  
BABY REINDEER

# A DEFINITIVE 17-EPISODE ARCHITECTURE.

*Dreamer*



## • Three-Layer Narrative •

### The Present (Macro)

The high-stakes mechanics of survival.

### The Past (Micro)

The intimate anatomy of a seduction.

### The Metaphysical (ZYG)

The conversion of the record into signal.

**Engineered as a closed system for sustained engagement and retention.**

A man with dark hair, wearing a dark polo shirt with thin horizontal stripes, stands in a dimly lit hallway. He is looking down at a small object, likely a smartphone, held in his hands. The lighting is warm and low, creating a moody atmosphere. The background shows a doorway and a wall with a shadow cast on it.

# THE PILOT

In 2009, 33-year-old Dreamer is a skeletal ruin, haunted by a 1994 Polaroid of himself—a moment of unguarded joy captured by his predatory mentor, Chuck. Following a desperate suicide attempt, Dreamer is hospitalized in a palliative ward, his body failing from advanced AIDS. As the “static” of trauma threatens to silence him, a shimmering figure named T appears, offering a “signal” through the noise: a chance to reclaim the song he was forced to abandon.

While doctors witness a clinically irrational medical reversal, Dreamer undergoes a visceral transformation. In the dead of night, he manually forces his racing heart to sync with a steady, 60-BPM rhythm—a defiant act of will. This culminates in a sensory-shattering shower sequence where hospital tiles dissolve into a cosmic stage and the water’s roar becomes a thunderous rock-opera.

This “transfusion of will” stabilizes his body but comes with a daunting mission: to survive the present, he must perform a forensic audit of his past. The pilot concludes as Dreamer picks up a notepad and writes a single, commanding word: “LOUDER.” He is no longer a patient waiting for the end, but a resonant force ready to unmake the somatic habits that colonized his soul.

# EPISODE CONCEPTS

## **PART 1 (FIVE EPISODES): "POOR SOUL"**

*A musician's suicide attempt triggers a cosmic intervention. As his body fails in a hospital, his mind is pulled into a breathtaking otherworld by T, an enigmatic guide who uses transcendent concerts to force a harrowing journey through the traumatic memories that brought him to the edge.*

## **PART 2 (TWO EPISODES): "CHANGE"**

*Dreamer moves to a small town to study with a renowned cellist risking everything to get what he wants.*

## **PART 3 (TWO EPISODES): "SWEET SHAME"**

*After coming to terms with the consequences of what he has done, Dreamer must decide if he will continue down this dark path to achieve his dreams.*

## **PART 4 (TWO EPISODES): "DEATH SPELL FOR DAD"**

*Pushed to his breaking point by Chuck's manipulation and a dismissive father, Dreamer's despair turns to dark resolve. In a climactic act of rebellion, he channels his rage into a powerful, written incantation against his dad. This spell marks a terrifying turn, as Dreamer seeks to destroy the forces that control him.*

## **PART 5 (THREE EPISODES): "ORANGE ULTIMATUM"**

*As Dreamer's father nears death, Chuck tightens his grip, pressuring Dreamer to move in and sever ties with Lisa. After the funeral, Dreamer channels his grief into a raw, transcendent cello performance—but Chuck's possessiveness only deepens, pushing Dreamer toward a breaking point between artistic ambition and personal sacrifice.*

## **PART 6 (THREE EPISODES): "IMAGINARY YOU"**

*Reeling from a devastating HIV diagnosis, Dreamer's reality fractures. As he spirals through a hallucinatory Halloween party, his inner turmoil manifests in a nightmarish vision of a mechanized future. Guided by a final, compassionate vision of Zora, he confronts the ruins of his identity and takes a first, fragile step toward grasping his own humanity.*



# FUTURE SEASONS

## SEASON 1

We journey with Dreamer through his troubled youth, and the broken relationships that lead to his HIV positive diagnosis in 1996.

## SEASON 2

Dreamer must face the reality of living in the 90's and 2000's as an HIV-positive man. He explores communities suffering, not only from the AIDS epidemic, but from around the world, and begins to come to terms with the larger reality of global inequality.

## SEASON 3...AND MORE

DREAMER is the epic, true-story saga of a musician who must first completely shatter—succumbing to AIDS and the trauma of abuse—before he can be guided by a celestial being on a journey to reassemble his soul. His ultimate victory is not just surviving, but transforming his pain into a global movement of healing, finally fulfilling his youthful promise to 'mean something.'





# MUSIC AND SOUND

In *Dreamer*, music is not a soundtrack—it is the central nervous system of the story, driving plot, emotion, and reality itself.

## A DIEGETIC SCORE: MUSIC WITH A SCORE

- The sonic landscape is built from the epic, genre-bending music of The Promise, T's band from Zyx.
- Their songs are not background music; they are a tangible force within the narrative that *Dreamer* (and sometimes those around him) can physically hear and feel, blurring the line between hallucination and reality.

## THE MECHANICS OF MEMORY & VISION

- The music acts as a direct gateway. A driving rock anthem from a Zyx concert will seamlessly score a montage of *Dreamer*'s teenage rebellion. A soulful cello note will trigger a specific, traumatic memory.
- This creates a unique storytelling device where sound dictates the edit, seamlessly transitioning between:
  - o PRESENT (Hospital): The diegetic beep of a heart monitor.
  - o VISION (Zyx): The full, immersive concert experience.
  - o MEMORY (Past): The memory itself, now scored by the Zyxian anthem.

## AN IMMERSIVE AUDIO-VISUAL EXPERIENCE

- The sound design is intricately woven with the music. The hum of hospital lights morphs into the resonant pulse of the Blue Room; the drip of a shower becomes a rhythmic cowbell keeping time with a Zyx backbeat.
- This approach promises a series where the audience doesn't just watch the story—they experience it synesthetically, feeling the visceral connection between *Dreamer*'s physical agony and his transcendent artistic spirit.



# THE CHARACTERS

# POTENTIAL CAST

## DREAMER

*Dreamer is a musician whose lifelong search for love and acceptance, shaped by abuse and a destructive affair with his mentor Chuck and leads him, after surviving AIDS and near death in 2009, to finally confront his trauma and learn he is worthy of love.*



**LUCAS HEDGES**

Boy Erased  
Manchester By The Sea  
Lady Bird



**NOAH JUPE**

Hamnet  
A Quiet Place  
Honey Roy



**MIKE FAIST**

Challengers  
The Bikeriders  
West Side Story

*Incentivizing a talent agency with full packaging abilities will allow Dreamer to secure stronger than standard talent agreements. This list is a mere summary of sought talent.*



# POTENTIAL CAST

## MARGARET

*Margaret is Chuck's fiercely loyal best friend that she'd leave her husband for him, if he weren't gay. Beneath that loyalty lies obsession, and she quietly works against anyone who threatens her idealized version of him.*



**JULIA ROBERTS**

Erin Brockovich  
Steel Magnolias  
August: Osage County



**SARAH PAULSON**

American Crime Story  
The Goldfinch  
Carol



**LINDA CARDELINI**

Dead to Me  
Green Book  
Brokeback Mountain

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# POTENTIAL CAST

## CHUCK

*Chuck, a renowned cellist and professor, is Dreamer's mentor whose brilliance and guarded past of abuse fuel a midlife crisis in which he seeks validation through Dreamer while masking his pain with carnality and a deep longing for justice, recognition, and belonging.*



**NCUTI GATWA**

Doctor Who  
The Roses  
Sex Education



**MAHERSHALA ALI**

Moonlight  
Green Book  
Swan Song



**SHEKU KANNEH-MASON**

British Cellist

*Incentivizing a talent agency with full packaging abilities will allow Dreamer to secure stronger than standard talent agreements. This list is a mere summary of sought talent.*

A man in a dark suit stands with his back to the camera in a narrow hallway with red walls. He is holding two briefcases, one in each hand. The hallway has two sets of stairs on either side, each with a wooden handrail. Several framed pictures are hanging on the walls. A long fluorescent light fixture is mounted on the ceiling, casting a warm glow. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and cinematic.

**THE TEAM**



## TIMOTHY BARTSCH

CREATOR / WRITER / CO-SHOWRUNNER

Formed through classical training and classic rock influence, T (Timothy Bartsch) is a Toronto-based composer and performer whose life and art were profoundly shaped by his HIV diagnosis in 1996.

At 20, while studying cello at the Hochschule für Musik in Detmold, Germany, he learned he was HIV-positive and returned to Vancouver uncertain of his future. Turning from classical performance to songwriting, he began blending rock and classical forms into what he calls “psychedelic, jazzy-classical, musical-theateresque, art rock.” His rock opera *Dreamer* chronicles how he contracted HIV, his years of spiritual and social transformation, and his near-fatal AIDS-related illness in 2009, followed by a remarkable recovery. After developing the work through stage productions and international performances, T formed the band The Promise as a statement to the world, to the future of humanity, the children of today — “Never again will the sun go down.” This means — “We will do our best to provide a better world for you than the world we found ourselves in.”

Their debut album, *Lost in Love No More*, premiered at the 2020 World AIDS Conference. With a mission to raise awareness and help end AIDS through music, Southern Time Productions is now preparing to begin preproduction on the first season of the *Dreamer* series.

# EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Founded in 2012 by partners Matthew Helderman & Luke Taylor, Buffalo 8 is a full-service film and media company, focused on production, post-production, and finance based in Santa Monica, California, with films premiering and awarded at Sundance, Berlin, Toronto, and SXSW.

Buffalo 8 is built on the fusion of entrepreneurial ethos and quality filmmaking. The company is also partnered with industry-leader BondIt Media Capital, enabling streamlined production and finance opportunities, and ABS Payroll for payroll accounting services for indie projects of all sizes.



buffalo 8  
A BONDIT COMPANY

[Production](#): Producer Rep / Preferred Vendor Rates, etc.

[Post-Production](#): Sound / Color / VFX / Deliverables, etc.

- [Team / Service Offerings](#)
- [Buffalo 8 Company Resources](#)



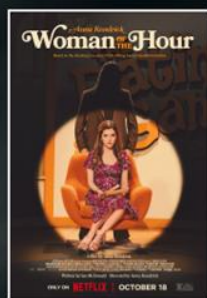
[BondIt Media Capital](#) is a world-renowned film, television and media financier founded in 2013. Based in Santa Monica, BondIt is a flexible financing partner for projects, producers and media companies alike.

- [Team / Service Offerings](#)
- [BondIt Company Resources](#)



[ABS Payroll](#) specializes in entertainment & payroll accounting services designed for indie projects. As ABS is part of the [BondIt family of companies](#), ABS can offer competitive rates to Buffalo 8 & BondIt-related productions.

- [Team / Service Offerings](#)
- [ABS Payroll Company Resources](#)



# SOUTHERN TIME'S PLATFORM TREE

## ST Homepage

### ST Production

#### ST.TV

Southern Time's hub integrates music, film, and community via PPV, downloads, and subscriptions. Built as an independent, data-sovereign ecosystem, the infrastructure natively hosts original Southern Time assets alongside licensed external music and film content, maximizing platform utility and ecosystem yield.

#### The Promise

This flagship showcase for The Promise offers direct-to-fan sales and live streaming. It ensures creator autonomy for future artists via transparent, decentralized revenue.

#### ST Community

This vetted network for LOHAS and Cultural Creatives utilizes AI-driven discovery, a privacy-first architecture for data ownership, and an optional AI Creation Suite. It features integrated payment rails for P2P giving, investor-creator matching, and a values-aligned marketplace. Community-driven governance supports social workgroups and decentralized collaboration, with revenue generated through ethical sponsorships, memberships, and premium services.

### Shared Social Space

This shared space enables STC professionals to volunteer and mentor STFC members while facilitating direct donations and impact matchmaking. It features an ethical marketplace for STFC products, and a trust-based core built on transparent governance and network effects.

### ST Foundation

#### STF Community

This vetted network for underserved communities features independent governance, a one-time membership fee, and a privacy-first architecture for data ownership. It includes integrated P2P payment rails for donations, support groups for shared experiences, and a trusted marketplace for value exchange. Revenue is generated through ethical sponsorships and premium services, creating a self-sustaining ecosystem for mutual aid and decentralized change.

#### STF Donations Portal

This hub provides immersive VR storytelling and project transparency, powered by a one-time or recurring donation gateway. It features exclusive The Promise concerts—free for STFC members—and serves as a recruitment hub for on-the-ground volunteer initiatives.

**Dreamer and The Promise are the primary engines for user acquisition and retention data.**

# BUILT FOR CONTROLLED PREMIUM RELEASE...

## Release Strategy

First-window exclusivity on proprietary platform (3–4 months).

Direct audience ownership + engagement data capture.

Leveraged transition into premium global licensing.

## Value Creation

Proven performance de-risks acquisition.

Increases downstream licensing value.

Enables controlled, eventized global rollout.

# CURRENT PROGRESS AND NEXT STEPS NEEDED

We have completed the development phase of **'Dreamer, Season One,'** and our production company has been operational since 2005.

What we need now is **Seed funding** to the tune of **CAD 4M.**

**3M** of which to execute the preproduction phase of 'Dreamer, Season One,' and

**1M** to deploy our data-sovereign streaming and social infrastructure.

This setup is engineered to establish post-revenue operations

**by Month 3 via native Beta platform livestreams of our local GTA performances by The Promise,**

capitalizing on immediate grassroots acquisition

ahead of the Month 7 *Dreamer* overture album rollout.

# Dreamer

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