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SENIOR STRESS: YOU'RE NOT ALONE IF YOU STILL DON'T HAVE A CLUE

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Senior year of college: it can be the best of times, it can be the worst of times. In most cases, it's a little bit of both. However, the commonalities of the senior year experience stop there. Florida State students are reacting to the impending reality of graduation in a wide variety of ways—no two people have the same plan.

Take senior Emily Ghomshe, for example—she is looking into working for an Alaskan or Mediterranean cruise line so she can travel cheaply while saving up for a working holiday visa that will allow her to move to Ireland, New Zealand or Australia for a year. Beyond that, as it is for most senior, things are up in the air for her.

"I don't want to be an adult, but I'm also sick of school. Basically, I want to go anywhere. I don't really like plans because they never go how you planned. I just make a

choice and see what happens and if it sucks, I can deal with it. What I want now may not be what I want in the future but I do not have any intent on settling down or having children, so that gives me more options," Ghomshe said.

If Ghomshe is an example of a student with seemingly everything figured out, then Pao Rodriguez and Celina Monaghan serve as their counterparts and sources of comfort for those don't even have a five-month plan, let alone a five-year one.

"I kind of have a plan in my

head, but whether or not that's going to be executed, I don't know. It's all tentative; I just know for sure that I'm going to move to California. But I can't just go to California and be a beach bum, though I'm hoping to be. I'm just scared of being unhappy in a position I know I could've avoided by putting in more effort," Rodriguez said.

Monaghan's hope to move to London for work or school, while different from Rodriguez's plan to take a year off out west and figure things out as they come, is nonetheless

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Film school alum looking to break into Hollywood

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Move over Los Angeles, Tallahassee is making a name for itself in the world of film-making. The recent success of Wes Ball's *The Maze Runner* has brought a lot of attention to FSU's already prestigious film school and has shown that the Seminole connection runs deep in Hollywood. Aside from the glitz and glam of Tinsletown, FSU alumni are also widespread in the indie scene. One such member is Class of 2001 alumnus Lesley Demetriades, a producer/actress on the cusp of making her directorial debut

Women...and Sometimes Men is a smart, quirky romantic-comedy that explores unconventional relationships, polyamory and sexuality. The movie is about Sara, a young New Yorker who ends her engagement after one day to explore the feelings she's having for another woman. The inspiration for the film came from journal entries from Demetriades' female friends, recounting their romantic lives. Matthew Holtzclaw, another FSU alum, used these entries to write the screenplay. Former Noles Ian Carroll and Shannon O'Dowd are also involved with the project, playing the lead actor and producer, respectively. This will be the first feature



Ian Carroll



Lesley Demetriades

length movie to be released from Carroll and Demetriades's production company, Unknown Works.

"In growing up, we think we're normal or abnormal in different ways," Demetriades said. "Normal is just the things we're used to, just the things we repeat. Nobody is really normal. What I was interested in was telling a story that wasn't black and white. It's not a romantic comedy, it's life."

Described as the happy medium between a light-hearted Woody Allen film and one of the more somber works of the Dardenne Brothers, *Women...and Sometimes Men* stands out from the average rom-com not only in the subject matter—but in the way it is presented.

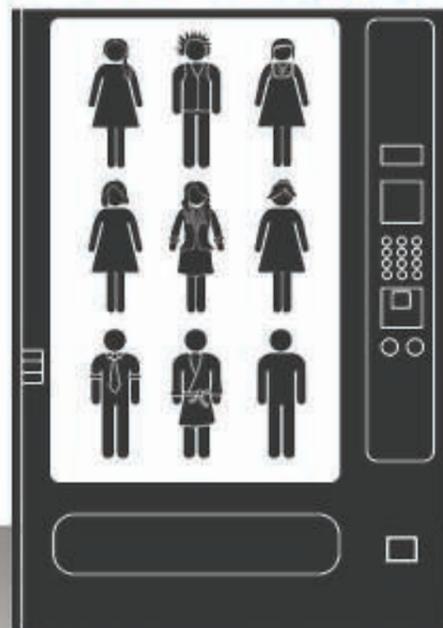
"We didn't want to wrap it up in a nice, tiny bow," lead actor Ian Carroll said. "This is based on real-life experiences where there are no clear-cut answers. Our goal is to show people looking for answers and our hope is to get the audience to talk about them."

The aim is to entertain as well as raise awareness on touchy subjects. Lesbianism and women's sexuality have been addressed in cinema before, but they all tend to be swept under the same overarching rug, usually using a singular, one-dimensional portrayal of homosexuality as a general representation of a multifaceted human being. This movie isn't an LGBT public service announcement on gay tolerance. The lesbian plot is a subset of the main lesson, which is to not be held captive by what others think of you. Accessing femininity and being happy with who we are also important themes—the big picture is freedom.

"There's no societal freedom if at first there's no personal freedom," Carroll said.

Women...and Sometimes Men recently had the honor of getting accepted by Hatchfund.org. Hatchfund.org is a non-profit organization that only accepts a quarter of artist's submissions. Demetriades has until November 18 to raise \$8,000 and her stretch goal is \$13,250. You can be a part of this movie with your donation, happens to also be tax-deductible. If you want to see this movie get lifted out of pre-production, you can donate on the films page on hatchfund.org.

WOMEN*



*AND SOMETIMES MEN

PHOTO COURTESY OF LESLEY DEMETRIADES

'Women...and Sometimes Men' is stacked with former Seminoles, from the writing staff to the cast.