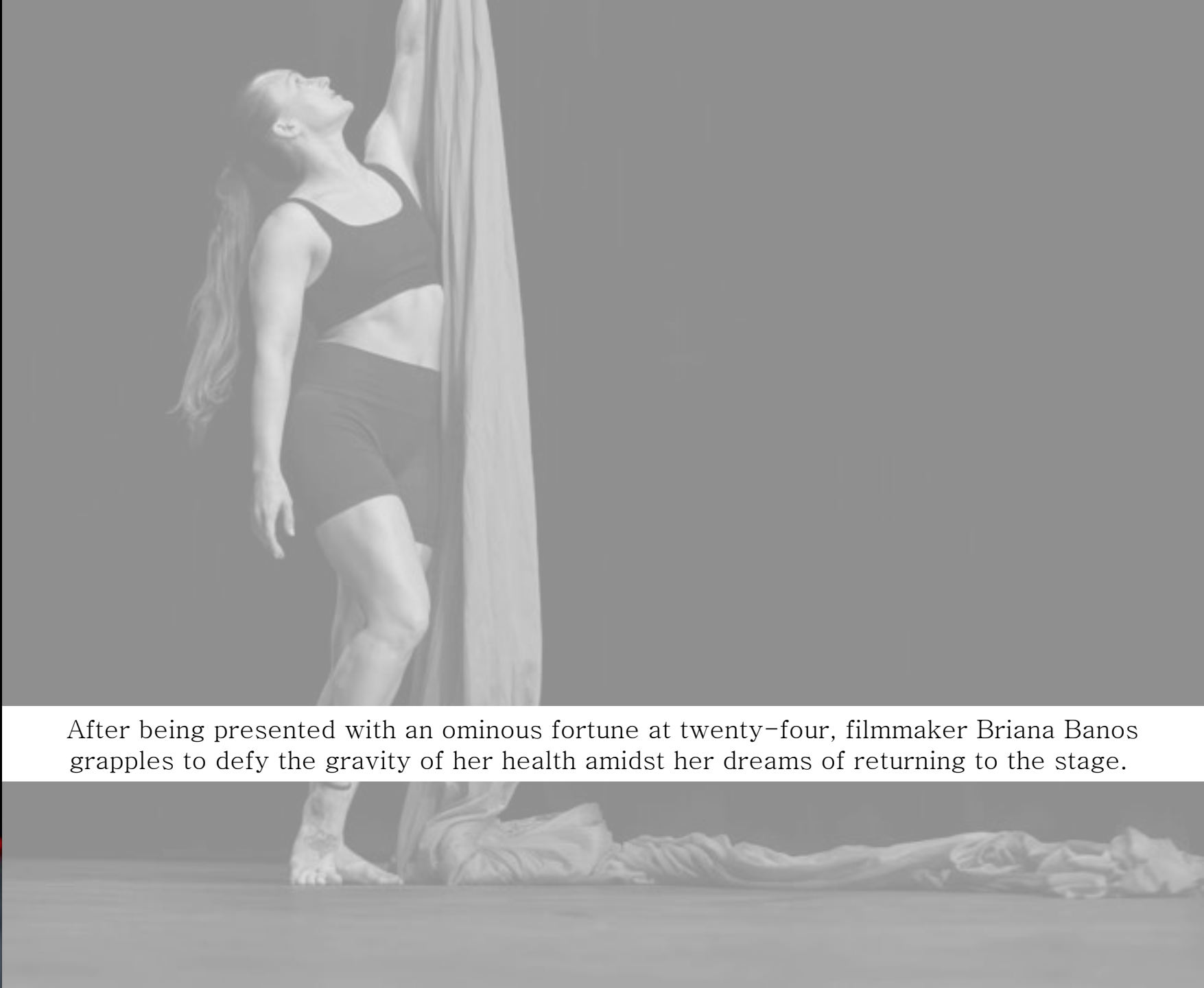




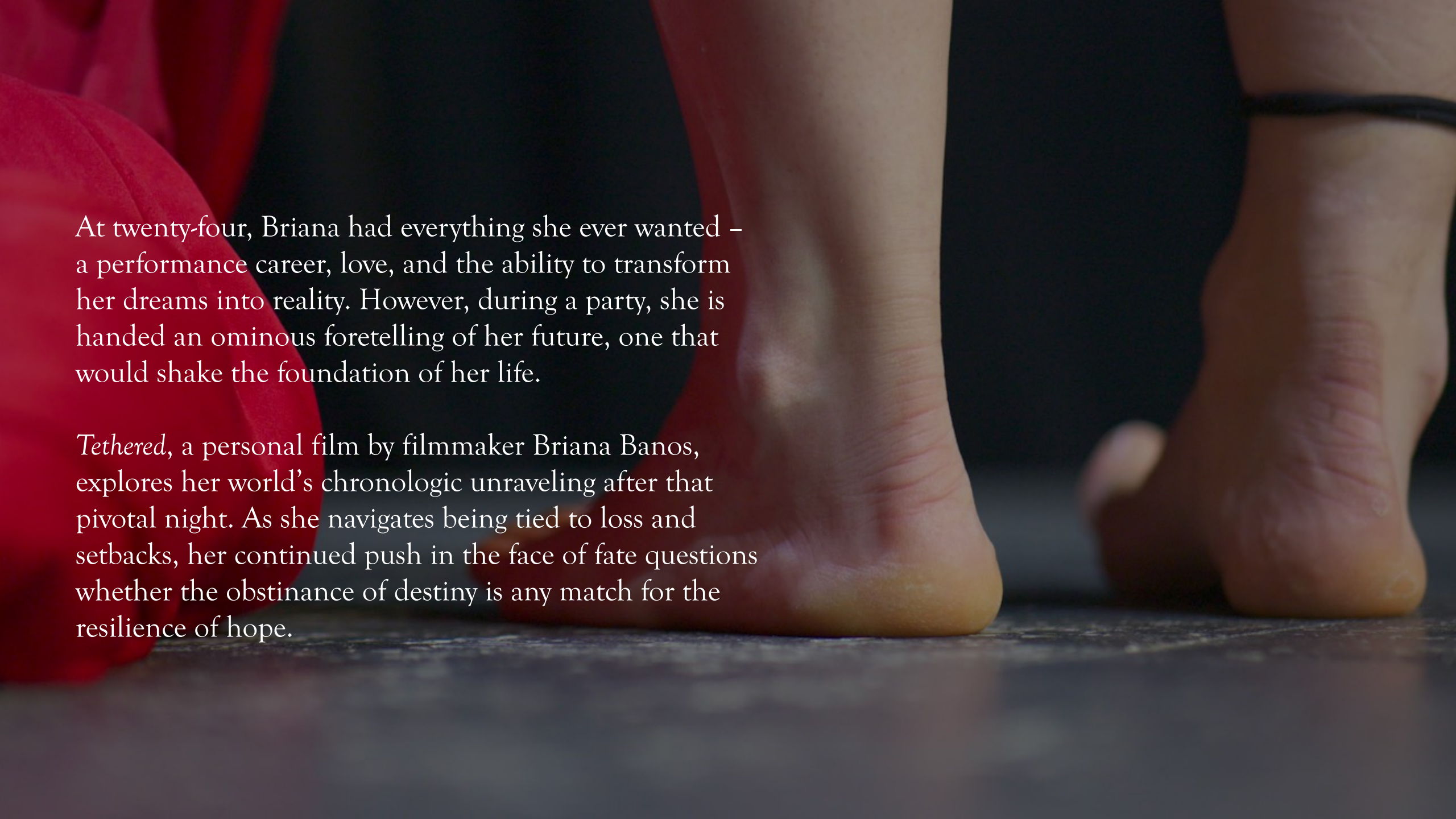
TETHERED



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Edinburgh College of Art

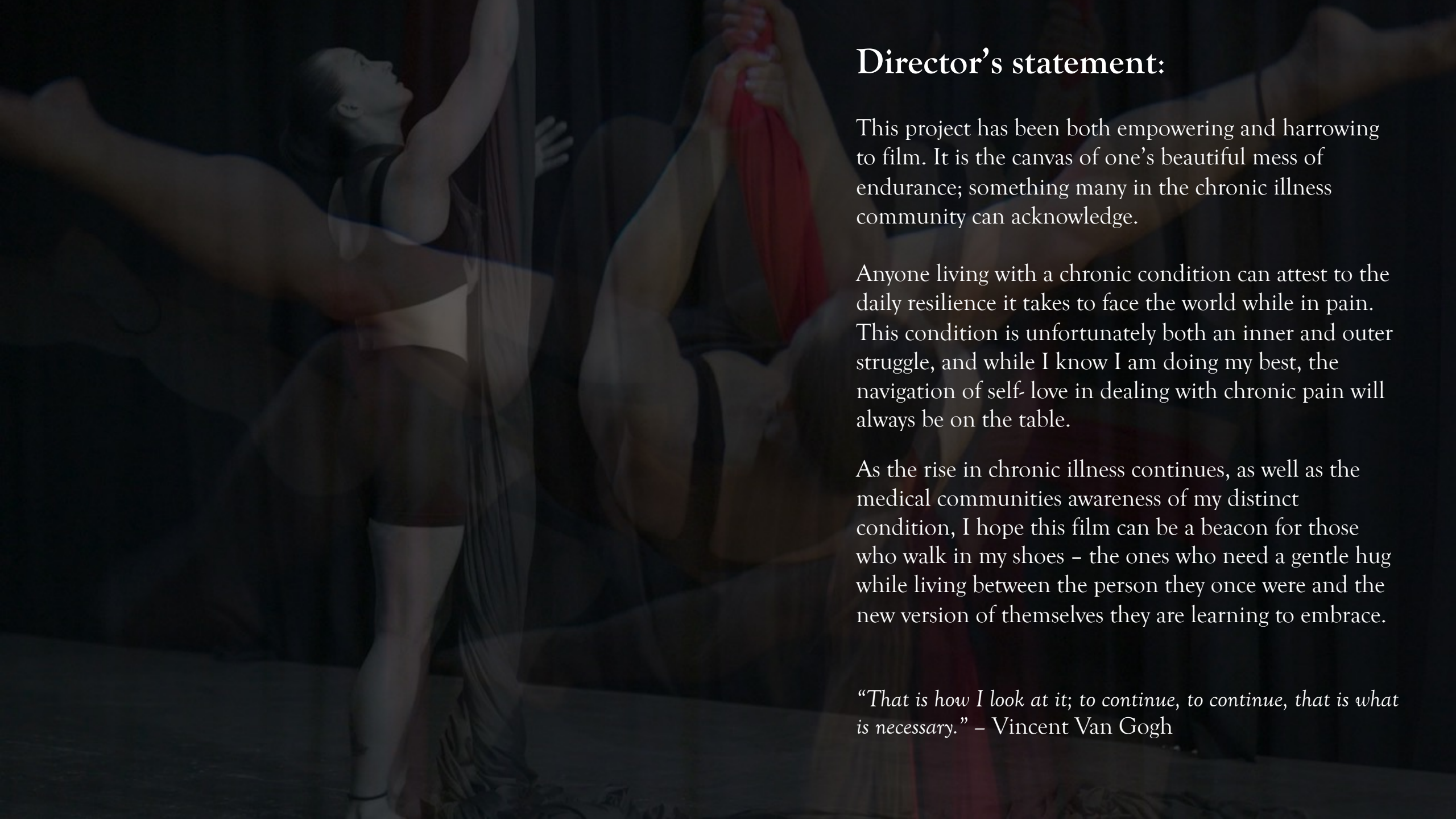


After being presented with an ominous fortune at twenty-four, filmmaker Briana Banos grapples to defy the gravity of her health amidst her dreams of returning to the stage.



At twenty-four, Briana had everything she ever wanted – a performance career, love, and the ability to transform her dreams into reality. However, during a party, she is handed an ominous foretelling of her future, one that would shake the foundation of her life.

Tethered, a personal film by filmmaker Briana Banos, explores her world's chronologic unraveling after that pivotal night. As she navigates being tied to loss and setbacks, her continued push in the face of fate questions whether the obstinance of destiny is any match for the resilience of hope.



Director's statement:

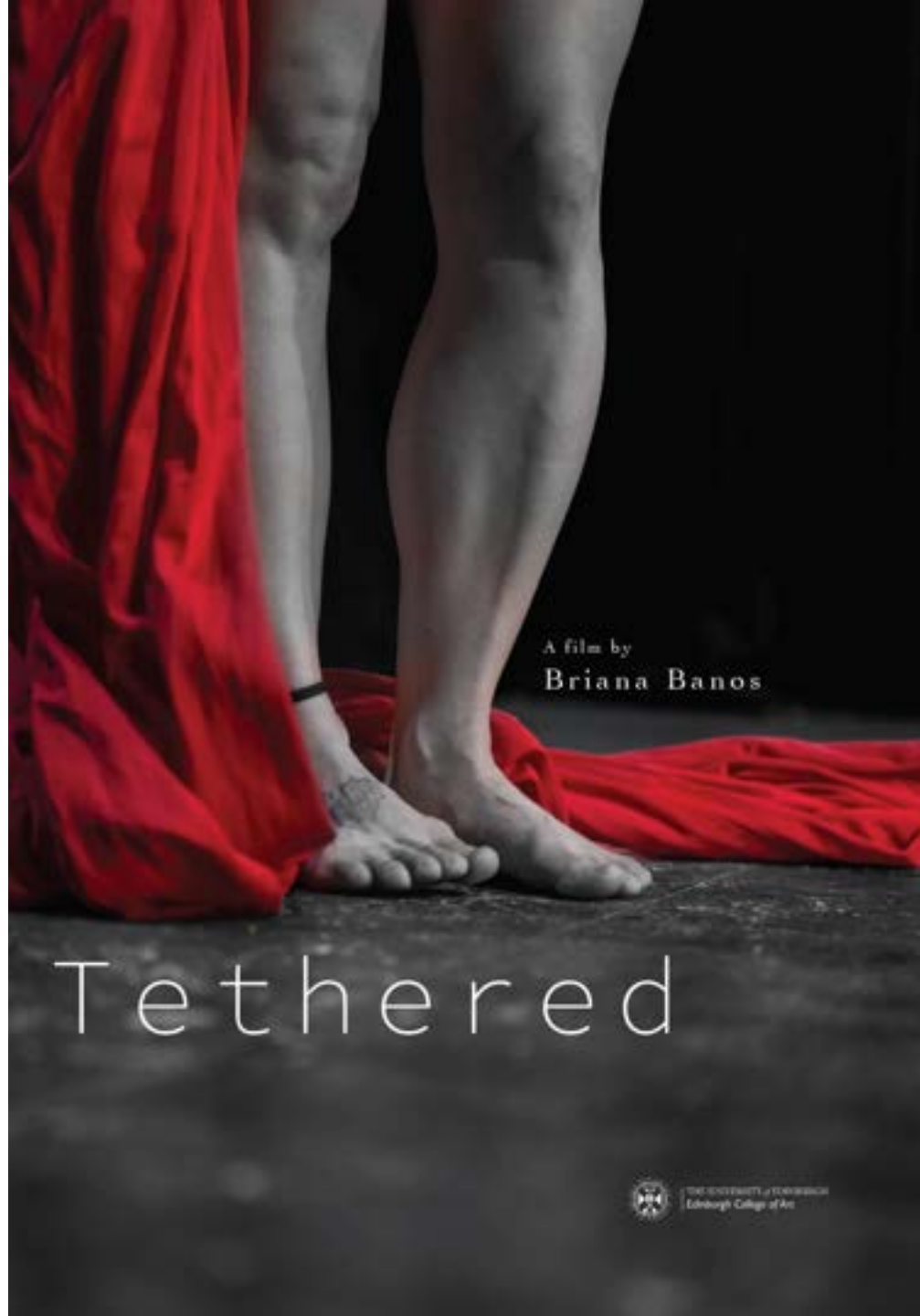
This project has been both empowering and harrowing to film. It is the canvas of one's beautiful mess of endurance; something many in the chronic illness community can acknowledge.

Anyone living with a chronic condition can attest to the daily resilience it takes to face the world while in pain. This condition is unfortunately both an inner and outer struggle, and while I know I am doing my best, the navigation of self-love in dealing with chronic pain will always be on the table.

As the rise in chronic illness continues, as well as the medical communities awareness of my distinct condition, I hope this film can be a beacon for those who walk in my shoes – the ones who need a gentle hug while living between the person they once were and the new version of themselves they are learning to embrace.

“That is how I look at it; to continue, to continue, that is what is necessary.” – Vincent Van Gogh

Postcard



Briana Banos

Tethered

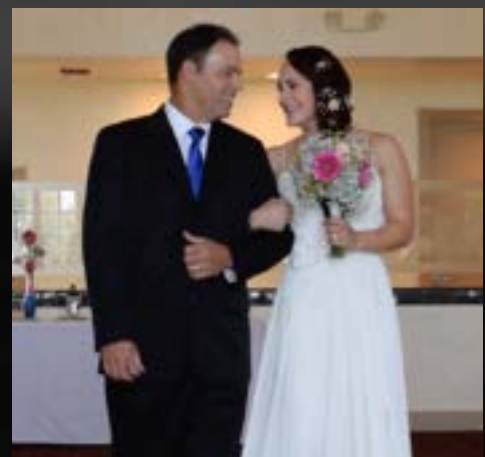
Synopsis

After being presented with an ominous fortune at twenty-four, filmmaker Briana Banos grapples to defy the gravity of her health amidst her dreams of returning to the stage.

A blurry indoor scene, possibly a hallway or a room. In the center, a person with dark hair and a yellow crown-like headpiece is seen from behind, holding a large white sign with illegible text. To the left, a woman with long dark hair is looking towards the center. To the right, a man in a white shirt is looking at a smartphone. In the background, another person is visible, and there's a framed picture on the wall. The overall image is out of focus.

“... And I was all in.”









Director's Biography:

Briana Banos has been an avid performer since a very young age.

After graduating from the University of Florida with a B.A. in English, she was accepted as a Royal Caribbean performer for three contracts before quitting in 2014 due to her health.

During the most formidable years of battling with Topical Steroid Withdrawal, Briana kept herself busy by creating YouTube videos, spreading awareness, and finding purpose in sharing her story.

In 2017, she crowdfunded enough money to circumnavigate the globe in order to interview patients and doctors on the subject of Topical Steroid Withdrawal; in 2019, Briana released the first ever documentary on the subject. During this time, she took up a full time job as a dance/theatre teacher for five years. Her health, however, plummeted again in 2021, forcing her to assess her life's trajectory. Briana quit her job in 2022 and applied for film school just before the new year. She wanted to learn more about film and how it could be used as a creative form of advocacy in the health space.

Briana will be graduating summer 2024 with an MA in Film Directing from the University of Edinburgh.

