

Kristy Milliken
Intimacy Coordinator

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“Why is it assumed that actors won’t know how to safely stab someone, but they’ll know how to safely pretend to have sex with someone they’ve possibly just met?”

Chloe Dallimore, Actor

Kristy Milliken

Intimacy Coordination Roles

Stranger, Brother (Film), Dir. Annelise Hickey, Prod. Josie Baynes, Tessa Mansfield-Hung, Wildebeest, 2024

Howl (Film), Dir. Domini Marshall, Prod. Josie Baynes, Wildebeest, 2024

Afterparty (Film), Dir. Jules Enter, Prod. Justine Pitcher, 2024

Wanderlust (Film), Dir. Michelle Flynn, Erika Lust Productions/X Confessions, 2019

Superhost (Film), Dir. Michelle Flynn, Light Southern Productions, 2018

Momentum Vol 4 (Film), Dir. Michelle Flynn, Light Southern Productions, 2017

Momentum Vol 3 (Film), Dir. Michelle Flynn, Light Southern Productions, 2017

Relevant Training, Workshops & Awards

Mental Health First Aid, 2023

Intimacy On Set - Intimacy Coordinator Training (Adelaide), 2018

(Supported by the Equity Foundation)

We Are Not Your Demoiselles with Candice Breitz & Melissa Gira Grant (Berlin), Symposium, 2018

(navigating sex as work in art & film)

Guerrilla Girls Making Monkey Business, Workshop, 2018

(Ethics and aesthetics in contemporary art)

AAIA Photographer of the Year Award 2018

Master of Contemporary Art, Victorian College of the Arts, 2016

Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance Member

About Kristy

Kristy is an intimacy coordinator for film, television, and photographic productions, with 20 years experience spent at the intersection of the arts and sexuality spaces.

She has personally directed numerous scenes depicting sex and intimacy for film and photoshoots and collaborated with talent across the gender, age, race, body shape and sexuality spectrum. Kristy has earned a strong reputation for cultivating safe and supportive environments for actors, performers, models and crew to explore challenging scenes.

Kristy holds a Masters of Contemporary Art (VCA) and was amongst the first Australian professionals invited by the Equity Foundation to undergo intimacy coordination training in 2018.

"You made it easy to the point I felt so comfortable, I was down for anything! (just joking). Sometimes when people want to make you feel comfortable they normalise it by saying it very much "out loud" but it has the opposite effect. You made no fuss about anything and I feel inspired by the way you do your job - Thank you" - Annon Actor

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What is an Intimacy Coordinator?

When your production involves intimate or highly exposed scenes, avoiding surprises is crucial. That's where an intimacy coordinator comes in, serving as an advocate and liaison between actors, directors, and the production team. Their role is crucial in maintaining the director's creative vision and ensuring a respectful, secure environment for everyone involved.

Intimacy coordinators prioritise clear communication. Rather than making assumptions, they initiate discussions with actors and directors, to understand and predict the challenges that might arise during intimate scenes. Addressing any concerns early can help prevent misunderstandings and production delays. Actors feel safer to go even deeper into the process and character, knowing their boundaries will be upheld and respected and directors have the space to focus on realising their vision with confidence that their actors feel empowered to communicate any concerns.

At the director's request, intimacy coordinators also choreograph scenes to enhance their realism and emotional depth. They also may collaborate with the costume department to develop physical barriers or adjustment costumes to accommodate scene demands and actors' comfort.

Intimacy coordinators are a response to the unique challenges working on productions that depict intimate and difficult material. Their presence ensures that everyone, from actors to crew, benefits from a workplace that's not just safe, but supportive and transparent. Intimacy Coordinators do this work in plain sight and take any guesswork or assumption out of making actors and crew comfortable in their workplace. Choosing to work with an intimacy coordinator signals the production's commitment to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism as well as a dedication to fostering a safe, creative, and productive environment for everyone.

At what stage do we bring an Intimacy Coordinator in?

The best option is to bring an IC on as early as possible, ideally at the stage the actors are given their scripts. However the second best option is as soon as you realise you need one, we are brought in at all stages. A few benefits of bringing an IC in early:

- Shows the production values it's cast, crew and sets the best professional standards for them.
- Establish boundaries early so actors are used to working within them.
- By making an IC the default on any production with intimate scene requirements, you remove the need for your actors to ask for one, which may itself create tension.
- Having boundary setting conversations early means they don't have to happen on set, when it may delay the production and create stress, pressure and risk.

You should hire an Intimacy Coordinator if your production contains:

- Scenes with nudity (real or simulated)
- Scenes with simulated sex
- Scenes with intimate kissing & touching (more than just a peck on the cheek)
- Scenes with intimacy featuring young actors (eg. it could be their first kiss)
- Sexualised / suggestive movement (eg. burlesque/strip-tease/lap dancing/group sex)
- Scenes involving sexual trauma.
- Scenes with body contact where genitals may come into contact (clothed or unclothed) eg. In a situation where a couple were laying on top of one another.
- On productions where there are pre-existing relationships/dynamics within the group that necessitate an outside eye.
- Where an actor (or member of the crew) has requested one.