

**Savage** is a high concept fusion of drama and animation where Polar Bears offer career advice and Tigers act as bodyguards: Calvin and Hobbs meets Being John Malkovich.

Savage:        The Art of Living is Living in Art

An aspiring artist retreats into her vivid imagination in order to survive a hostile world. The characters of her canvases ~ the wild beasts of Africa, exist along side her while she navigates New York's ferociously territorial art world. When a callous young actor cons her by posing as an influential critic, her imaginary support group springs into action. Ultimately, the cruel prank backfires when the actor discovers her astounding creative genius. Stepping through the canvas, he delves into her mesmerizing world of beauty and vision, forcing him to confront his own mediocrity.

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Kat found the primal savagery inherent in Tigers quite useful, as her evil landlord was about to find out. Good riddance.

The characters of Kat's paintings ~ the beasts of Africa, would often step into her life as bodyguards, confidantes and moral support, helping counter the harsh realities of Manhattan's ferociously territorial art world. Her imaginary jungle is a refuge and the wildlife within are her greatest allies. But the art world is a vicious place and a hurtful comment regarding Kat's aspirations provokes a night of carnage at a busy gallery opening: her beasts have run riot.

Despite her quirks, her friend and mentor Damien Ashe, recognizes her talents and encourages her to persevere. But he warns, "It's a tough game" and recommends compromise. "My art speaks for itself" Kat insists and refuses to buy into the commercial approach that Damien suggests.

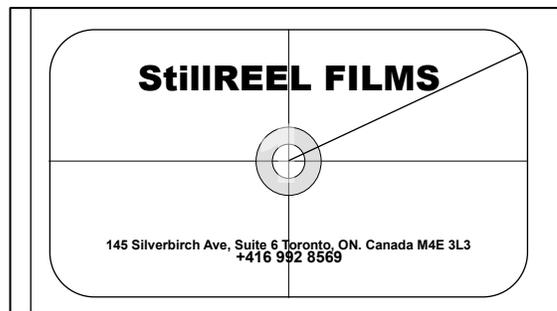
To help her out, and to prove a point, Damien organizes a solo show for her at his gallery in Chelsea. Kat is thrilled at the prospect but also terrified of confronting Manhattan's art elite head on.

While Kat prepares, Damien hosts a banquet in her honour during which an acquaintance of Damien's poses as a sophisticated critic. Soon, the charming Lewis finds his way into Kat's bed. However, after viewing her world of vision and beauty, he is overwhelmed by her creative genius. Stepping into the canvas, he experiences the depths of her passions and is forced to confront his own mediocrity. Conflicted in his desire for the woman and his own artistic integrity, he must decide whether to reveal all with sincerity or continue to play the ruse.

Kat's show goes up but opening night is not a success. Further, the reviews are damning. By now, Lewis regrets his folly and wishes only to come clean and save Kat's fragile ego. He confesses his scheme, hoping for forgiveness. But Kat is crushed. With heavy remorse, she abandons her dream and leaves behind the hopes and goals that have defined her for decades.

Kat adopts a simple life as a graphic designer outside of the city. During a visit to her new home, Lewis tries to win her back but she's found new peace of mind and steadfastly refuses. Frustrated, Lewis departs, slamming the door on her and their relationship. Kat is unmoved by his anger but must recognize a deeper truth: she must follow her bliss. Her muse soon returns with a powerful fury.

Back in Manhattan with renewed confidence and purpose, Kat re-works her jungle series. Soon, her work is hanging once again and she feels the satisfaction of success that had previously eluded her.



Executive Producer Bryn Chamberlain

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