

Dated: 17-07-2023

To Whomsoever It May Concern,

Gautam Ghattamaneni worked with my production as the second-second assistant director on the short film 'The Lonely Hearts Club". Initially joining as an intern, Gautam proved himself both in pre-production and on-set to be promoted to a full-time position.

Having joined in the early stages of pre-production, Gautam made up for his young age with a hunger to learn and prove himself. He worked hard to understand shot breakdowns and production master-breakdowns, and diligently contributed to the same. He was resourceful and diligent, contributing to the actor workshops and the various look-tests and consume trials. He also attended the location-scouts and coordinated with the production design team. He also helped the second assistant director prepare the call sheet.

On set, Gautam was given the responsibility to get over 30 junior artists (extras) ready. Since this was a period film, he had to work tirelessly with the costume and hair/make-up teams to ensure it went to plan and they stayed on schedule. Additionally, Gautam was given the responsibility of pulling 'clap' on set. He executed this flawlessly and remained in sync with the continuity supervisor . It was a very tense sync-sound shoot on a live-location, and Gautam kept his cool the entire time.

We were so impressed with Gautam's work and his ability to shoulder responsibility, that we decided to promote him from an unpaid intern to a paid assistant director, with a union wage. Gautam's personal character is equally as impressive as his work ethic. His ability to hold the attention of those far older and more experienced than him is truly impressive. He has great listening skills and absorbs information like a sponge. He is a deeply empathetic person and is always willing to lend a helping hand to those around him.

Gautam's ability to perform under immense professional pressure will definitely serve him well in a formal, academic environment. He is an intelligent, hard-working, and charismatic young man who will be an asset to any university he joins. Feel free to reach out to me with any questions at tamhane.chaitanya@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Chaitanya Tamhane Director and Producer





