



HEALING THROUGH
MUSIC IN TIMES OF GRIEF

THE *- five years*
OCEAN

A film by Flying Scooter Productions
produced with The Vault Recording Studio
and The Rhythm19 Fund

Directed by Jennifer Schlieper

BRETT
MCCUTCHEON

JUNE
BRACKEN

Media Inquiries: Jennifer Schlieper
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Current Film Festival Official Wins & Selections 'as of 2.27.25

Cleveland International Film Festival

Berlin Lift-Off Film Festival

Pittsburgh Shorts & Script Competition 2024 Audience Award Winner

VIFF (Vienna Independent Film Festival) Winner Best Documentary

Milan FFI Official Selection Best Documentary

Milan FFI Official Selection Best Director

Milan FFI Official Selection Best Cinematography

Milan FFI Best Sound Design

Toronto International Women's Film Festival

Documentaries without Borders International Film Festival

Red Rose Film Festival

Venice Shorts

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THE OCEAN - FIVE YEARS

Run time: 39:58

LOGLINE

An early morning phone call in 2017 changed the lives of two teenage brothers bonded by their love of percussion. One died tragically in a car accident while the other determined to make sense of his loss through music.

SYNOPSIS

September 2017, at the age of 19, Ryan McCutcheon, a wildly talented percussionist and older brother of Brett was killed in a car accident. His family left to wade through the heaviness of death. Five years later, Brett released the hauntingly emotional album "The Ocean - Five Years." Written in collaboration with June Bracken, it fuses classical orchestration and pop as it explores the depth and complexity of grief. The film of the same name mirrors the album's track list to ebb and flow with stories and archives of friends and family who share Brett's journey and their own.

Even through grief, they are determined to honor Ryan's memory and legacy with love, music education and hope.

Brett

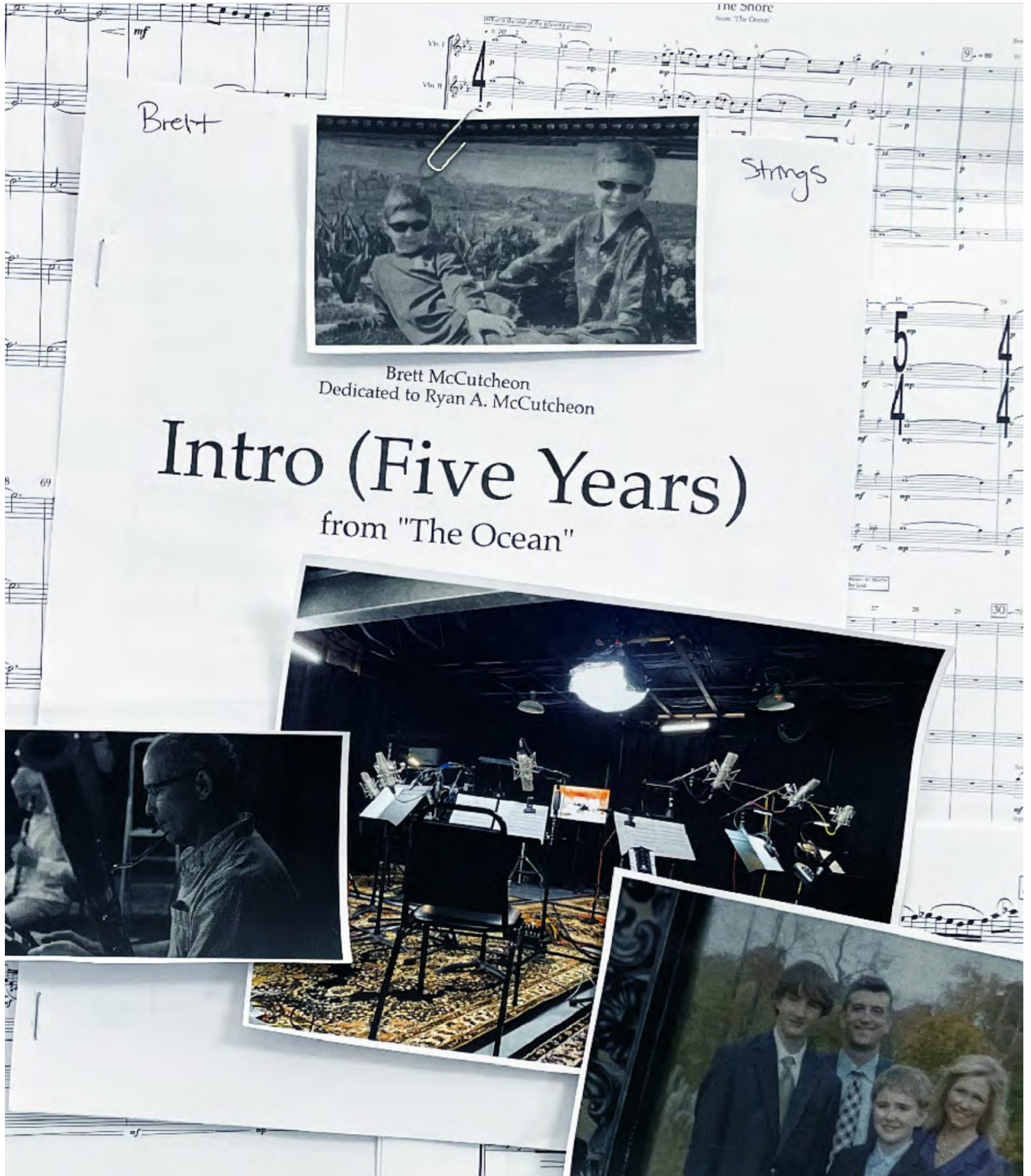
the Shore
from "The Ocean"

Strings

Brett McCutcheon
Dedicated to Ryan A. McCutcheon

Intro (Five Years)

from "The Ocean"



BIOGRAPHY

DIRECTOR, CREATIVE DIRECTOR & CO-OWNER OF FLYING SCOOTER PRODUCTIONS

Jennifer Schlieper

Emmy-nominated, award-winning filmmaker, director, producer and writer, Schlieper didn't start her career in film. She cut her teeth as a creative and brand strategist at Ketchum, one of the largest PR firms in the world, launching and rebranding products and services for Fortune 100 and Fortune 500 power brands. Making the leap into the corporate side, she led GNC's global marketing efforts as one the youngest female senior executives.

Flying Scooter Productions was born in 2017 out of a need to do something that mattered for those who matter. The intent is to impact through client partnerships, mission-based non-profits and stories silenced by those that fear the truth. Schlieper has written, scored, directed and produced hundreds of stories in the last eight years alongside her producing partner, Courtney Gumpf. From music videos, to concepting, launching and directing the Emmy- and Webby-nominated, 15-part, 1-hour episodic series for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's Front Row, her music acumen transcends every project including commercials, social media series and documentaries no matter the audience.

The Ocean-Five Years is their first film festival release, winning Best Documentary at VIFF and the Audience Award for Best Documentary Short at Pittsburgh Shorts & Script Competition, and Officially Selected at Milan FFI, Documentaries without Borders International Film Festival, Red Rose Film Festival, Toronto International Women Film Festival, Venice Shorts, Berlin Lift-Off Film Festival and Cleveland International Film Festival (as of Feb. 2025).

Schlieper continues to lead strategic initiatives for their global clients and has helped raise millions of dollars through stories and brand activation for some of Pittsburgh's largest non-profits in the homeless and underserved space.

She sits on the board for The Beauty Restores Foundation, The Amelia Project and The Pennsylvania Film Industry Association (PAFIA).

BIOGRAPHY

PRODUCING PARTNERS FLYING SCOOTER PRODUCTIONS

Emmy-nominated producing partners, Executive Producer Courtney Gumpf and Director, Jennifer Schlieper are the co-owners of Flying Scooter Productions who create award-winning documentaries and films. From their extensive exposés on addiction, mental health, homelessness and abuse to the Emmy-nominated Series Front Row for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, their work is considered to be some of the most innovative and visually appealing storytelling in the industry. Their crew of cinematographers, photographers, grips and lighting have been together for more than a decade creating unforgettable imagery. FSP has helped raise awareness and millions of dollars for causes across the country.

Opened in 2017, Flying Scooter Productions® is a female-owned and operated film and strategy studio headquartered in Pittsburgh, PA. In the Spring of 2023, they were granted a 501(c)(3) for The Amelia Project® to help high school and college students receive hands-on experience in filmmaking through impact-driven, purpose-filled projects. By providing workforce development and lifestyles, The Amelia Project gives students opportunities to explore storytelling in an open and safe environment steeped in experience.



"We want to help raise up the next generation of voices."

BIOGRAPHY

BRETT MCCUTCHEON

A dedicated multi-instrumentalist, composer, and music educator, Brett embarked on his musical journey while living in Prague, Czech Republic. He began playing the piano at the age of four, discovering a lifelong passion for melodies. Later excelling as a saxophonist and percussionist - leading marching bands and ensembles - Brett remains grounded and committed to nurturing emerging talents. After studying music education at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, his genuine love for music education led him to guide high school marching bands post-graduation. He is now a Band Director at Mt Lebanon High School, just outside Pittsburgh, PA.

Teaming up with long time friend and collaborator June Bracken, Brett recently co-produced the EP "The Ocean - Five Years," a resonant orchestral pop masterpiece. The project showcases his brilliance, featuring notable musicians like Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra members and Chris Jamison from "The Voice."

BIOGRAPHY

The Ryan McCutcheon Rhythm19 Fund at The Pittsburgh Foundation

On September 30, 2017, Ryan A. McCutcheon, 19, was killed in an automobile accident while returning to his college campus after assisting high school drum students at a local band festival. The Rhythm19 Fund was established by his family through The Pittsburgh Foundation to keep his spirit alive through music.

Ryan was an accomplished percussionist, a dedicated instructor and a mentor to high school and college students. Following his graduation from North Allegheny, Ryan attended Robert Morris University. He remained active musically, marching with Nomad Indoor Drumline, advising the drum line for the Hampton High School Marching Band and playing drums with his friends in a college rock band. He was also an active drummer at The Vault Recording Studio in Pittsburgh where he frequently played and recorded.

Ryan was a bright, light-hearted, funny and loving soul. He loved playing music, working with kids and teaching others.

The mission of The Rhythm19 Fund is to honor Ryan's memory by providing access to art and music education for children and youth.

Through charitable contributions and volunteerism, we provide access to music for children and encourage the use of music to enrich the lives of those with challenges or special needs. The fund also strongly encourages the continuation of music programs for school children.

We are active in fundraising, providing financial support and volunteering our time. To date, the fund has raised over \$200,000. As a result, we have awarded numerous high school scholarships, supported local music programs with equipment purchases and even helped fund trips to music competitions.

We also enjoy hosting several high school and middle school field trips, and support a week long "Music Makers" summer camp for 8th through 12th grade students at The Vault Recording Studio each year.

CREW

<i>Production Agency</i>	<i>Flying Scooter Productions</i>
<i>Director</i>	<i>Jennifer Schlieper</i>
<i>Executive Producers</i>	<i>Jennifer Schlieper Courtney Gumpf Brett McCutcheon Bob McCutcheon Dana McCutcheon</i>
<i>Producer</i>	<i>Waya Slater</i>
<i>Director of Photography</i>	<i>Phillip Atkins</i>
<i>Editor</i>	<i>Dylan White</i>
<i>Cameras</i>	<i>Nick Hewitt Stefano Ceccarelli Anita Harnish Greg Neiser</i>
<i>Audio</i>	<i>Nathaniel Robinson</i>
<i>Finishing Editor</i>	<i>Ashley Gallardo</i>
<i>Film Mix</i>	<i>Bob McCutcheon</i>
<i>Recording Engineers</i>	<i>Bob McCutcheon Jimmy Hoyson Brian Ammon</i>
<i>Mastered</i>	<i>Bob McCutcheon</i>
<i>Writer</i>	<i>Jennifer Schlieper</i>
<i>Colorists</i>	<i>Dylan White Jennifer Schlieper Phillip Atkins</i>

CAST

Brett McCutcheon

Bob McCutcheon

Dana McCutcheon

June Bracken

Terese LaVallee

Matt Hickly

Danielle Omasits

Liam Beaber

Christopher Wu

Chris Jamison

Jimmy Hoyson

Justine Campagna

Luke Wood

Members of The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra



MUSICIANS/PARTS

<i>Piccolo</i>	<i>Rhian Kenny</i>
<i>Flute 1</i>	<i>Jenny Steele</i>
<i>Flute 2</i>	<i>Alyssa Pysola</i>
<i>Clarinet 1</i>	<i>Michael Rusinek</i>
<i>Clarinet 2</i>	<i>Ron Samuels</i>
<i>Bass Clarinet</i>	<i>Jack Howell</i>
<i>Oboe</i>	<i>Max Blair</i>
<i>Bassoon</i>	<i>Phil Pandolfi</i>
<i>Horn 1</i>	<i>Steve Kostyniak</i>
<i>Horn 2</i>	<i>Mark Houghton</i>
<i>Trumpet 1</i>	<i>Sam Huss</i>
<i>Trumpet 2</i>	<i>Drew Fennell</i>
<i>Trumpet 3</i>	<i>Karen Sloneker</i>
<i>Trombone 1</i>	<i>Jim Nova</i>
<i>Trombone 2/3</i>	<i>Liam Beaber</i>
<i>Bass Trombone</i>	<i>Jeff Dee</i>
<i>Tuba</i>	<i>Craig Knox</i>
<i>Violin 1</i>	<i>Justine Campagna Susanne Park</i>
<i>Violin 2</i>	<i>Marta Krechkovsky Krystyn Houck</i>
<i>Viola</i>	<i>Andrew Wickesberg Sean Juhl</i>
<i>Cello</i>	<i>Allie Lee Karissa Shivone</i>
<i>Bass</i>	<i>Joe Campagna John Moore</i>

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MEDIA LINKS

THE OCEAN - FIVE YEARS WEBSITE

www.flyingscooterproductions.com/theocean

The Ocean - Five Years Trailer

<https://youtu.be/jZ-B5N1x4qQ?feature=shared>

The Ocean - Five Years Approved BRoll Package

<https://vimeo.com/1009317709/d5a93eb13a?share=copy>

The Ocean - Five Years Behind the Scenes Photos & Poster Art

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13CdtvbSPtZgZe5aUWi39B7pesmQL3Oib?usp=drive_link

Logos

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Nxv4gg-XRi_XNURc_8L6k3olrQEZqoac?usp=drive_link

Press Release

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EoM3MLoim6QDQ_Lp3d9756tEiOr6qwW4pQ9TMpnt1uU/edit?tab=t.0

LINKS TO CURRENT PRESS

WTAE

<https://www.wtae.com/article/mt-lebanon-band-instructor-grief-music-documentary-loss/62967831>

Mt. Lebanon Magazine

<https://lebomag.com/documentary-on-childhood-grief-closes-local-film-festival-tonight/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

<https://www.post-gazette.com/ae/movies/2024/12/04/flying-scooter-pittsburgh-film/stories/202411290059>

Our Region's Business | WPXI

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/pittsburgh-communities/our-regions-business-vault/a1bcc139-df1c-4c2e-9dd4-4679f675aac4/>

CBS News

[https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/video/young-man-turns-to-music-to-mourn-his-older\[...\].eum1ZRoaXllhozJUoWTHyoL4H22Sif8CiQ_aem_ggPizd5LALYRAyAp_DhnYw](https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/video/young-man-turns-to-music-to-mourn-his-older[...].eum1ZRoaXllhozJUoWTHyoL4H22Sif8CiQ_aem_ggPizd5LALYRAyAp_DhnYw)

Indie Cinema

<https://indie-cinema.com/2024/08/the-ocean-five-years/>

The Messenger

<https://messengerpaper.com/index.php/slide-show/17582-finleyville-native-creates-award-winning-film-documentary-relating-to-grief-slide>