

# The Good Lie



FILMOPTION INTERNATIONAL PRESENTS A SUKI FILMS & MAUDLIN PICTURES PRODUCTION OF A SHAWN LINDEN FILM  
"THE GOOD LIE" THOMAS DEKKER MATT CRAVEN JULIE LE BRETON PRODUCTION DESIGNER DAVID BLANCHARD DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MARC CHARLEBOIS CSC  
CASTING NADIA RONA PAUL WEBER EDITOR BENJAMIN DUFFIELD COSTUME DESIGNER JUDY JONKER MUSIC COMPOSER NORMAND CORBEIL  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER WALTER KLYMKIW CHARLES CLÉMENT PRODUCED BY KIMBERLEY BERLIN SUSAN SCHNEIR AND SHAWN LINDEN  
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY SHAWN LINDEN

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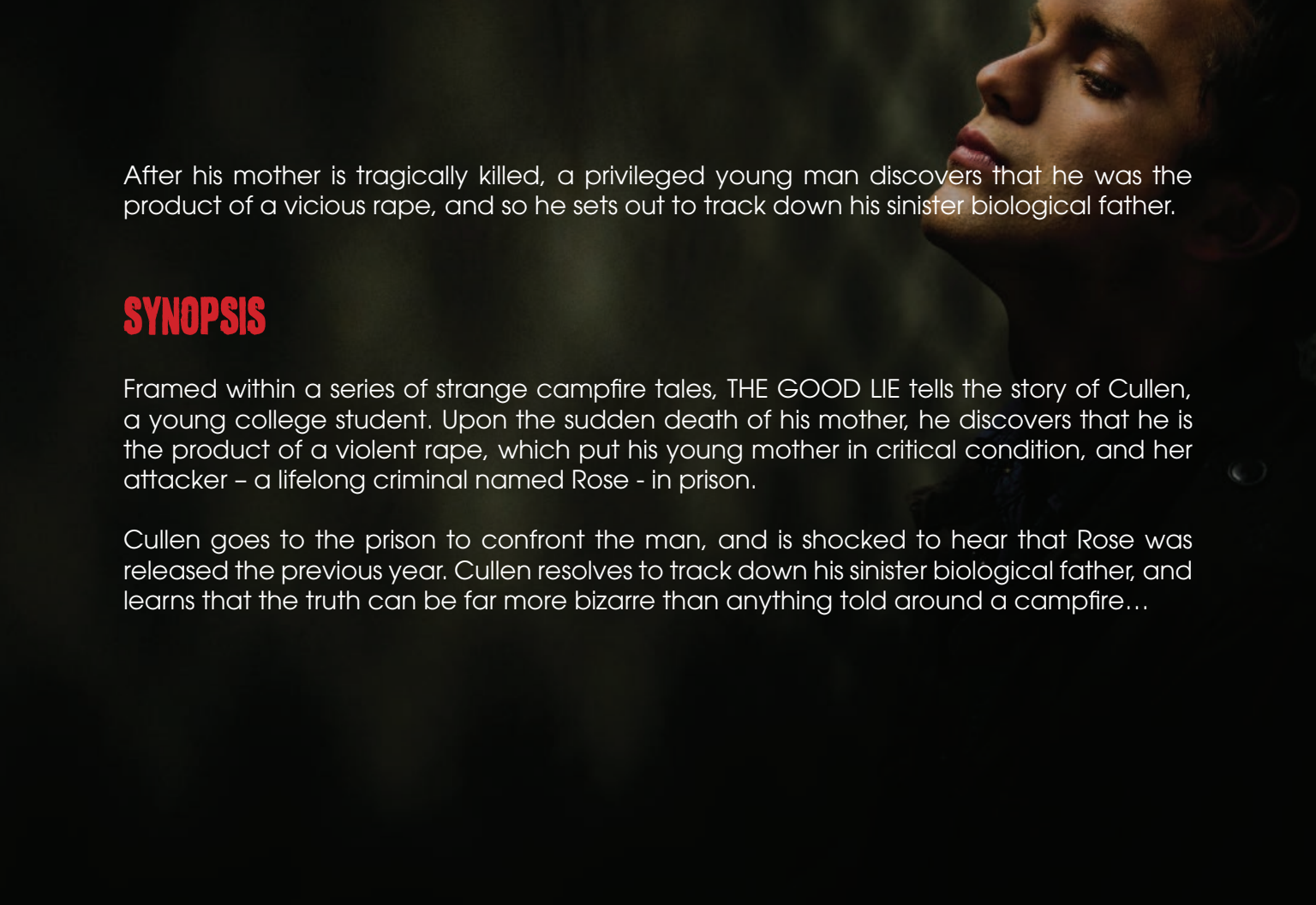
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Running Time: 93 min.  
Formats: DCP / HDCAM SR / COLOR - Scope  
Audio: 5.1 Digital Surround



After his mother is tragically killed, a privileged young man discovers that he was the product of a vicious rape, and so he sets out to track down his sinister biological father.

## SYNOPSIS

Framed within a series of strange campfire tales, *THE GOOD LIE* tells the story of Cullen, a young college student. Upon the sudden death of his mother, he discovers that he is the product of a violent rape, which put his young mother in critical condition, and her attacker – a lifelong criminal named Rose - in prison.

Cullen goes to the prison to confront the man, and is shocked to hear that Rose was released the previous year. Cullen resolves to track down his sinister biological father, and learns that the truth can be far more bizarre than anything told around a campfire...

## THE CHARACTERS

### CULLEN FRANCIS

If forty is the new thirties, Cullen is the modern equivalent to a teenager; not a child, though not quite yet an adult in mind and body. Nevertheless, on his twenty-first birthday, Cullen is legally and symbolically an unrestricted and active participant in the world. It is on this day that his main connection with the world- his family- is violently disconnected. Uprooted and aimless, he is desperate to repair the critical breach in his identity in the only way he can come up with, regardless of the consequences.

### RICHARD FRANCIS

Once upon a time, Richard met and fell in love with the woman of his dreams. They planned to marry, and have a big family; the future looked bright. Then one night twenty-one years ago, his fiancée never made it home, and their lives were changed forever. Richard always knew that he would have to account for the decision they made, that would shape and define their family unit. But he never thought he would have to answer for it alone.



## **DORIS FRANCIS**

Doris is the loving heart of the Francis family, the foundation upon which it is built; when that heart is suddenly and tragically removed, the stability is thrown into disorder, and it is through this breakdown that the disturbing truth eventually emerges...

## THE CAST

### THOMAS DEKKER - CULLEN FRANCIS

Thomas Dekker is set to become one of the hottest young stars in Hollywood. He was last seen starring in the Kevin Williamson series, THE SECRET CIRCLE. Since then, he has starred in the independent films, SNAP, opposite Nikki Reed, and SQUATTERS with Gabrielle Wilde, Luke Grimes and Richard Dreyfuss. Next up, Thomas will star in PLUSH for director Catherine Hardwicke in a cast that includes Emily Browning and Cam Gigandet.

Thomas is also known for his critically acclaimed turns in HBO's CINEMA VERITE as well as Gregg Araki's festival-favorite KABOOM. Based on the celebrated reality series documenting the lives of the Loud family in the 1970's, Thomas played 'Lance Loud' in CINEMA VERITE, opposite Diane Lane, Tim Robbins, and James Gandolfini. Shari Berman and Robert Pulcini directed the film.



Prior to that, Dekker starred opposite Rooney Mara in Michael Bay's remake of the iconic film *A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET*, directed by Sam Bayer. Dekker's expansive resume also includes work with Cameron Diaz and Abigail Breslin in Nick Cassavetes adaptation of Jodi Picoult's bestselling novel, *MY SISTER'S KEEPER*.

Thomas is also known for his roles in the hit television series *HEROES* and *TERMINATOR: THE SARAH CONNOR CHRONICLES*, where he played 'John Connor' opposite Lena Headey and Summer Glau.

An active musician, singer, and songwriter, Thomas has several self-produced albums and has performed live at such venues as The Viper Room, while his original song, *DRIFT*, appears in his film *ANGEL'S CREST*. To add to his many talents, Thomas is also a director and is in pre-production on his fourth film, *WALK OF FAME*, with Killer Films set to produce.

Thomas resides in Los Angeles, where he is also a musician, painter, sculptor, photographer, and an artist in the truest sense of the word.

## MATT CRAVEN - FRANCIS

Matt Craven is an accomplished actor of film and television with over forty films to his credit, most recently X-MEN: FIRST CLASS, DEVIL, PUBLIC ENEMIES, DISTURBIA, DÉJÀ VU, A SIMPLE CURVE, THE CLEARING, THE STATEMENT, TIMELINE and THE LIFE of David Gale. He has worked with award winning directors including, Alan Parker, Norman Jewison, Tony Scott, Michael Mann, Katherine Bigelow and Adrian Lyne in JACOBS LADDER. His television credits include the HBO mini-series FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON and THE PACIFIC along with TNT's NUREMBURG. He starred in the critically acclaimed HIGH INCIDENT and L.A. DOCTORS and can currently be seen on the number one show on television NCIS.





## JULIE LE BRETON - DORIS FRANCIS

Julie Le Breton first came onto the public's radar with the Genie-nominated feature QUÉBEC-MONTRÉAL. Previously, she'd been a familiar face on television's MINUIT LE SOIR, HOMMES EN QUARANTAINE, CIAO BELLA, RUMEURS and WATATATOW, as well as FRANÇOIS EN SÉRIE (for which she received a 2006 Géméaux Best Actress nomination), NOS ÉTÉS (for which she received, in 2008, another Géméaux Best Actress nomination), LES INVINCIBLES and LES HAUTS ET LES BAS DE SOPHIE PAQUIN IV. Currently, she plays Kim in MAUVAIS KARMA on Radio-Canada and Véronique Côté on TVA's TOUTE LA VÉRITÉ.

She also shines in the theater, where she was recently seen in *La Parade du temps qui passe*, *Bureaux*, *Antigone* and, most recently, *Huis clos*.

On the big screen, Julie starred in L'OEIL DU CHAT, LA PEAU BLANCHE and MAMAN LAST CALL, as well as in a dozen or so other short and feature films. Of particular note was her role as Lucille Richard in the film MAURICE RICHARD, for which she received both a Jutra nomination while winning the 2007 Genie for Best Actress in a Leading Role. She was also seen in Érik Canuel's CADAVRES, as well as in Michel Monty's UNE VIE QUI COMMENCE. More recently, she appeared in Ken Scott's STARBUCK and in Jean-Philippe Pearson's LE BONHEUR DES AUTRES. In the summer of 2012, she shot another pair of features, Charles-Olivier Michaud's EXIL, filmed in Haiti, and PEE-WEE, directed by Éric Tessier.





## SHAWN LINDEN

### DIRECTOR - WRITER - PRODUCER

Shawn Linden is a writer, director and producer. Born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba, he spent four years studying Philosophy and Film Studies at the University of Manitoba, and then eight years working in the Art Department in the local film and television industry. His first feature film, the self-produced no-budget *NOBODY*, starring Costas Mandylor (*THE SAW FRANCHISE*) and Ed O’Ross (*LETHAL WEAPON*, *FULL METAL JACKET*), screened at over fifty film festivals worldwide, and won over a dozen awards. Acquired by the U.S.-based Shoreline Entertainment in 2008, the film is now being distributed throughout most parts of the world. In 2009, his screenplay *HUNTER HUNTER* was selected for the NSI Features First National development program, and he was awarded the inaugural NSI Jim Murphy Bursary for the graphic novelette *Dire Wolf*. In the past two years, he has had five original screenplays optioned, the most recent being *THE DUELIST* to U.S. production company Gold Circle Films (*THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT*, *WHITE NOISE*, *THE FOURTH KIND*). Shawn completed his second feature as writer/director/producer: *THE GOOD LIE* is a Manitoba/Quebec co-production with funding support from SODEC and Telefilm Canada. The film stars Thomas Dekker (*TERMINATOR: THE SARAH CONNOR CHRONICLES*, *CINEMA VERITE*) and Matt Craven (*X-MEN: FIRST CLASS*, *PUBLIC ENEMIES*, *A FEW GOOD MEN*).

## FILMOGRAPHY

2011 - Writer (story) - THE DOOMSDAY SCROLLS Science Fiction, Made-For-TV

Directed by Jason Borque - Cinetel Films

2007 - Writer/ Director/ Producer - NOBODY Science Fiction

Fort Garry Films HYPERLINK "<http://www.nobodythemovie.com>" [www.nobodythemovie.com](http://www.nobodythemovie.com)

BEST OF FEST - 2008 H.P. Lovecraft Film Festival (Portland, OR)

BEST FEATURE - 2008 Foursite Film Festival (Ogden, UT)

BEST THRILLER - 2008 Thriller Chiller Film Festival (Grand Rapids, MI)

BEST THRILLER - 2008 Trail Dance Film Festival (Duncan, OK)

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY - 2007 New York Horror Festival (New York, NY)

OFFICIAL SELECTION - 2009 Amsterdam Festival of Fantastic Films (Netherlands)

OFFICIAL SELECTION - 2008 Brussels International Fantastic Film Festival (Belgium)

OFFICIAL SELECTION - 2008 Marbella International Film Festival (Spain)

OFFICIAL SELECTION - 2007 Sao Paulo International Film Festival (Brazil)

## SCREENPLAYS OPTIONED - IN PRODUCTION

HUNTER HUNTER - Optioned February 2010 - Frantic Films (Winnipeg)

SELECTED - 2009 NSI FeaturesFirst National production development program.

WINNER - 2009 NSI FeaturesFirst Jim Murphy Bursary, for the novelette Dire Wolf

THE DUELIST - Optioned September 2010 - Gold Circle Films (Los Angeles)

FINALIST- 2008 Gotham Screenplay Competition

FINALIST- 2008 WILDsound Screenplay Competition

FINALIST- 2008 Florida Media Market Screenplay Competition

KILL OR DIE - Optioned April 2009 - Suki Films (Montreal)

## **DIRECTOR Q&A**

### **WHERE DID THIS IDEA COME FROM?**

The story is a tribute to my mother, and to my grandparents, who are not my mother's biological parents. Like my mother, I have a great deal of respect and admiration for my grandparents, and I love them as much as I would were they my own flesh and blood. For me, it seems that this biological factor clearly should make some difference, and yet I feel none. On the contrary, I feel extremely fortunate to have taken part in their lives.

After my grandfather had died and my grandmother was on her deathbed, I sat with her for a few hours, and told her about the story idea I was writing for which she was an inspiration. For the first time, I heard about the details surrounding my mother's adoption. While my mother was definitely not the product of rape like the protagonist in the film, such cases were certainly not uncommon in Canada in the 1940s. This final conversation brought the idea into relatable terms for me, and when she died, gave it a resonance that carried me through the years of rewrites, and eventually through the production of the film. As the specter of Doris Francis says to her beloved son, family is whoever is at home. My grandmother taught me that.

### **WHY USE THE CAMPFIRE AS A BACKGROUND TO TELLING CULLEN'S STORY?**

Because THE GOOD LIE is ultimately a story about stories, and the campfire is where the first stories originated.

## **HOW AND WHY DID YOU CHOOSE YOU CHOOSE THE CAST?**

Casting the role of Cullen was the biggest challenge, of course. We needed someone who could fully absorb the predicament our protagonist finds himself in. When I finally came across Thomas, his face looked to me like a cross between an angel and a demon, which is exactly how I saw Cullen. After a few conversations with him, I knew we had found our brooding young protagonist.

The role of Richard was a lot easier. We cast actors for a week until Matt Craven's name came up, and then we hired Matt Craven. I've been a fan of his work for a long time. His ultra-soft voice has the capacity for a subtle yet piercing kind of emotion that is hard to find in real life, even harder to find in an actor.

For the role of Doris, we were looking for an actor from Montreal. Julie Le Breton is a well-known and highly regarded French actor, who at the time was looking to play more English language roles. We took advantage of this, and I feel extremely fortunate to have had the chance to work with her. I hope she makes people cry.

The last central character in the story- I won't say his name here - is played by Kent McQuaid, another talented actor from Montreal. If you want to know why I cast him, watch the film. It will be clear after that.

# CAST

**CULLEN FRANCIS**

Thomas Dekker

**RICHARD FRANCIS**

Matt Craven

**DORIS FRANCIS**

Julie Le Breton

**SPIRO**

Spiro Malandrakis

**KEVIN**

Kevin Coughlin

**ALEX**

Alex Weiner

**JESSE**

Jesse Rath

**MAZZY**

Janine Theriault

**SYLVIE**

Danette MacKay

**HARLAN**

Ross Neil

**GIBBS**

Danny Blanco Hall

**ORVILLE**

Michael Mando

**MAN**

Kent McQuaid

**SARA MURRAY**

Kimberly-Sue

**VINCE**

Chip Chiupka

**TOTO KALE**

Stephen McIntyre

**KYLE STUDENT**

Kyle Switzer

**PAUL**

Robert Brewster

**WARDEN**

Guy Sprung

## CREW

### BENJAMIN DUFFIELD - EDITOR

BENJAMIN DUFFIELD is a Montreal-based director/editor working in both documentary and fiction films. In 1994 he directed and edited CTV's MISSING CHILDREN, and in 1996 he joined five filmmakers to make YUKONNA for National Geographic, an expedition documentary up the Yukon River.

He has edited numerous feature films, including THESE GIRLS starring Caroline Dhavernas & David Boreanaz, BANSHEE with Taryn Manning, and co-edited THE HIGH COST OF LIVING starring Zach Braff and Isabelle Blais.

He also cut many American and Canadian television series (CBC'S 18 TO LIFE – which received two Gemini nominations for Best Editing – 15/LOVE, and GRAND STAR), and feature documentaries (ILAN ZIV'S SIX DAYS, IRENE ANGELICO'S BLACK COFFEE, and Terence McKenna's Gemini Award winning TRAIL OF A TERRORIST for CBC and PBS: FRONTLINE).

He is currently editing BEING HUMAN for Syfy and directing a documentary on interactive installation artist Rafael Lozano-Hemmer entitled YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED.

## MARC CHARLEBOIS - DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

After graduating from Arts and Communications at Loyola Concordia, Marc Charlebois got his first break working on the set of Robert Altman's *QUINTET* film (Feb 1978). He was in charge of de-icing the stairway to the set. Not much of a job, but he did have the opportunity to get inspired by the direction of Altman and the cinematography of legendary DP, Jean Boffety.

In the following 20 years, Marc Charlebois has worked as a Lighting technician and then as a Chief Lighting Technician. He has had the chance and the pleasure to work with extraordinary Directors of Photography such as Thomas Vamos, Alain Dostie, Guy Dufaux, Pierre Mignot, Karol Ike, Lajos Koltai, Raoul Coutard, François Catonné, Michel Brault, and Philippe Rousselot. Their work has served as inspiration to Marc as he became a cinematographer himself in 1993.

## JUDY JONKER - COSTUME DESIGNER

A graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada in Set Design, Judy Jonker has designed costumes for stage and screen for the past 15 years. She has created costumes for various Quebec films including Denis Arcand's *L'ÂGE DES TÉNÉBRES* and *DÉDÉ À TRAVERS LES BRUMES* by Jean-Philippe Duval. Her work has been seen on stage at the TNM, the Rideau Vert and the Espace Libre theatres in Montreal. She also designed the costumes for the Cirque du Soleil show *Solstrom*, as well as for Canada's presence at the closing ceremonies of the Turin Olympics, in addition to work on various operas and dance performances.



## DAVID BLANCHARD - PRODUCTION DESIGNER

David Blanchard is a Montreal based Production Designer who has worked for over 20 years on both Feature film and television projects, in Canada and Internationally. These projects include both location driven and studio projects.

He brings his years of experience at the NFB, episodic televisions, including 2 years as Production Designer on the CBC series SOPHIE, as well as many independent features, to bear on every project he is involved in. He sees each new project as a challenge and an opportunity to capture the essence of the script.

## SUSAN SCHNEIR - PRODUCER

Susan started her film career in 1978 from the lowest rung, an office driver. Thirty years later she produced THE HIGH COST OF LIVING. In between, she learned the nuts and bolts of real filmmaking, working on many Canadian feature films as a sound recordist, sound editor, picture editor and Post-Supervisor. Susan then started as a production manager working on the first English prime time TV series shot in Montreal, MOUNT ROYAL, for Alliance Communications (Alliance Atlantis). From that experience she went on to Line Produce two Feature Films.

After starting her family, it was time to step back and create a way to work on her own terms. In 1994 she pioneered the field of Professional Representation in Montreal by starting Blitz Management with one Director of Photography. It was a thriving enterprise for 15 years representing some of the finest Quebec talent behind the camera until she joined Kim Berlin at Suki Films.

## **KIMBERLEY BERLIN - PRODUCER**

With a career that has spanned over two decades, Kim Berlin has over 30 films, hundreds of hours of episodic television, music videos and commercials to her credit. A hands-on producer, she consistently brings projects in on time and on budget with creative integrity.

In 1984, Ms. Berlin started her career as a production assistant. She quickly moved up the ranks and became one of Canada's most sought after 1st assistant directors. Her 15 years of on-set experience, a most valuable asset, allowed for the seamless transition to Ms. Berlin becoming a producer.

Ms. Berlin has worked with companies ranging from Buena Vista International, Disney, Hearst, Saban Entertainment, Alliance International, MGM, Serendipity Point Films, CTV, TMN, Showtime and the Family Channel Movie Central, Telefilm, SODEC, FIDEC, to name a few.

Formerly President of Production at Blackwatch Communications, Ms Berlin produced several feature films that were sold to domestic and international markets. Ms. Berlin has also produced for the Sci-Fi channel as well as for The Oxygen Network. Ms Berlin as Head of Production for Omni Films was instrumental in the development of the series HEARTLAND.

In 2008 Kimberley Berlin and Susan Schneir combined their unique and formidable production talents and incorporated Suki Films which is at present a multi award winning company.

## **SUKI FILMS - PRODUCTION COMPANY**

Kimberley Berlin and Susan Schneir combined their unique and formidable production talents in 2008 and incorporated Suki Films. Suki Films is a fully operational Montreal-based boutique production house that acts as an independent producer and consultant for clients throughout Canada and the United States.

In 2010 Suki Films produced *THE HIGH COST OF LIVING* starring Zach Braff and Isabelle Blais directed by Deborah Chow and which was in the official selection at the Toronto International Film Festival. The film garnered numerous awards including Sky Vodka's award for Best First Feature as well as Super Ecran's Best Screenplay and Female Eye Film Festival 9th Edition's Best Film to name a few.

*THE GOOD LIE* is the second feature under the Suki Films banner starring Thomas Dekker and Matt Craven and will have its world premiere at the Busan International Film Festival. Kimberley and Susan are in pre-production on their next films, *BOY TOY AKA PATCHTOWN*, a short film selected in the official selection at the Toronto International Film Festival 2012 and winner of the Best US Short in L.A. and numerous other awards. Suki Films will turn this into a feature length film now entitled *BOY TOY* to shoot in the fall of 2012.

Suki Films is committed to producing films that will resonate with all viewing audiences and compete at the highest level within the current marketplace and festival circuits.

## **MAUDLIN PICTURES - PRODUCTION COMPANY**

Maudlin Pictures is a Canadian production company based in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Headed by producer Shawn Linden, the company specializes in science fiction, horror, and other genre-based productions.

# DISTRIBUTION IN CANADA AND INTERNATIONAL SALES

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