

THE GREASY STRANGLER



A FILM BY JIM HOSKING

USA | 93 min | 2016

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In theaters October 7th.

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

The Los Angeles tale follows Ronnie, a man who runs a disco walking tour along with his browbeaten son, Brayden. When a sexy, alluring woman comes to take the tour, it begins a competition between father and son for her attentions. It also signals the appearance of an oily, slimy inhuman maniac who stalks the streets at night and strangles the innocent, soon dubbed "The Greasy Strangler."

LONG SYNOPSIS

Ronnie and his son Brayden run Big Ronnie's Disco Walking Tour, the best and only Disco walking tour in Los Angeles. Ronnie, a delusional relic from the disco era, hides a terrible secret from his shy browbeaten man-child son Brayden. During one tour, both men take a fancy to Janet, a curvy curly redhead who takes a shine to a disbelieving Brayden. The two begin a whirlwind courtship, much to Ronnie's dismay. In the city of Lost Angeles, a Greasy Strangler begins stalking the streets.

As this father-son love triangle intensifies, and the killings continue, Brayden starts to suspect his own father.

BIOS

Jim Hosking – DIRECTOR

The incomparable Jim “Don’t Call Me Jimmy” Hosking began his career as a young copywriter at Mother in London. Though he enjoyed the work and the people there deep down inside he knew he belonged elsewhere, so he packed up his life and moved to New York City where he began his directing career at MTV.

Since then Jim has worked on a variety of commercials gaining notoriety in the UK for his award winning TV spots. Mr.Hosking has also shot several short films, the first of which, Little Clumps Of Hair, premiered on the BBC in 2003. “A Talk About Advertising Awards By Maximillian Villivankk” was shown at AWARD in Australia in 2008, and then screened at Fantastic Fest in Austin where it was hailed as “Quite possibly the greatest Public Service Announcement ever made.”

His short film ‘Renegades’ premiered at the Sundance Film Festival 2010. His next short film ‘Crabs’ premiered at the London Short Film Festival 2012.

He co-wrote and directed the comedy ‘Privado’ for Warp Films in 2012. He contributed the ‘G for Grandad’ segment to ABCS OF DEATH 2 in 2014.

THE GREASY STRANGLER is his feature length debut.

Tim League – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

League is the founder and CEO of Alamo Drafthouse theaters and the producer of both THE ABCS OF DEATH and THE ABCS OF DEATH 2. League also co-founded Fantastic Fest, the largest genre film festival in the United States, and recently established a Drafthouse-branded distribution label - which released the critically acclaimed Jihadi-comedy FOUR LIONS in 2010.

Ant Timpson – PRODUCER

Through Timpson Films, Ant Timpson has executive produced genre favorites DEATHGASM and HOUSEBOUND. He also produced the award-winning TURBO KID as well as THE ABCS OF DEATH and THE ABCS OF DEATH 2. In 1994, he launched The Incredibly Strange Film Festival which is now a section within the annual New Zealand International Film Festival.

Ben Wheatley – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Wheatley is an award winning English director of feature films and television. He directed the critically celebrated features KILL LIST and SIGHTSEERS as well as a segment for THE ABCS OF DEATH. Before **THE GREASY STRANGLER**, he executive produced THE ABCS OF DEATH, AAAAAAAAH! and BELLY OF THE BULLDOG.

Elijah Wood – PRODUCER

Elijah Wood is an actor and film producer known for his roles in LORD OF THE RINGS, SIN CITY and ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND. Through his



production company, Spectrevisions, he has executive produced the narrative features TOAD ROAD, COOTIES and the critically celebrated Sundance favorite A GIRL WALKS HOME ALONE AT NIGHT. Wood has called **THE GREASY STRANGER** “deeply hilarious” and “visionary.”

Josh C. Waller – PRODUCER

Waller is a writer, director, and producer. Partnered with Wood, he executive produced TOAD ROAD and A GIRL WALKS HOME ALONE AT NIGHT. He also produced and directed RAZE and CAMINO.

CAST

Michael St. Michaels | Big Ronnie

Michael St. Michaels was born on January 31, 1944 in Poughkeepsie, New York, USA. He once was a jet-setting hair-dresser to the world's elite who travelled to every European hotspot in the 70s. He has worked in and around Hollywood for decades. St. Michaels is best known to cinephiles for his work in the 80s cult curiosity The Video Dead. **THE GREASY STRANGLER** is his first major lead performance.

Elizabeth De Razzo | Janet

Elizabeth De Razzo was raised in Los Angeles, CA and Laredo, Texas, the oldest of three girls. After graduating high school in Laredo, she immediately relocated back to LA and began pursuing her acting career in earnest. She appeared on stage as Estella in REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES: THE MUSICAL, and had featured roles on THE WEST WING and SIX FEET UNDER. Her first big break was a guest starring role in a 2005 episode of COLD CASE. Elizabeth continued to guest star on television for the next few years, and in 2010 became a recurring guest star on HBO's EASTBOUND AND DOWN, playing the beloved role of Maria until the series concluded in late 2013. Elizabeth stayed busy in 2014, traveling to South America to shoot THE 33, a star-studded feature about the Chilean mine collapse in Copiapó, and reunited with EASTBOUND AND DOWN co-star Jillian Bell in the Comedy Central series IDIOTSITTER. In addition to her busy acting schedule, Elizabeth is also singer/songwriter and an avid philanthropist.

Sky Elobar | Big Brayden

Sky Elobar is a classically trained musician who has played in numerous bands over the years. He plays guitar bass & vocals across many genres jazz, hard rock, metal. His acting stint started in the 2000s and he's been in everything from national commercials through to network television like MY NAME IS EARL and NEW GIRL. He has worked with **THE GREASY STRANGLER**'s director before on the shorts “Renegades” and Crabs. He recently played Dr. Stanley in Jarrod Hess's comedy DON VERDEAN. He likes long walks on the beach.

Joe David Walters | Oinker

A Texan via Los Angeles, Joe Walters has appeared in more than 20 national spots in the US. Also the star Renegade in the Jim Hosking short film “Renegades,” which shook up the Sundance Film Festival in 2010. The film was inspired by and dedicated to “The



Original Renegade-Joe David Walters". "Jim and I had worked on a number of commercials together and decided to make a short film before he left Los Angeles." Joe is also the entrepreneur behind Texas Joe's Beef Jerky which is a hit in the UK.

DIRECTOR INTERVIEW WITH BIRTH.MOVIES.DEATH

In January of this year, we were pleased to announce that Drafthouse Films was teaming up with Timpson Films, SpectreVision, Andrew Stark's Rook Films and SIGHTSEERS and KILL LIST director Ben Wheatley to produce **THE GREASY STRANGLER**, from writer (with Toby Harvard) and director Jim Hosking. Hosking is previously responsible for some of Fantastic Fest's favorite shorts, including "Renegades" and ABCS OF DEATH 2 segment "G is or Grandad," as well as the terrific short film "Crabs."

THE GREASY STRANGLER, whose script SpectreVision's Elijah Wood called the "most disgusting, vile, and all-around grotesquely hilarious piece of cinema we'd ever read," is Hosking's feature debut, and today Sundance announced that the film will premiere among its opening weekend midnight programming. I had a chance for a brief chat with Hosking in celebration of the news; read on for that and for a synopsis of the film!

The Los Angeles-set tale follows Ronnie, a man who runs a Disco Walking tour along with his browbeaten son, Brayden. When a sexy, alluring woman comes to take the tour, it begins a competition between father and son for her attentions. It also signals the appearance of an oily, slimy inhuman maniac who stalks the streets at night and strangles the innocent, soon dubbed "The Greasy Strangler."

Congrats on your inclusion in Sundance's midnights lineup! How do you think THE GREASY STRANGLER will play in the typical midnight movie setting?

I think it feels like the logical setting for **THE GREASY STRANGLER**. If you had to say what time of day should this film play, the answer would be 'just as the bells of midnight begin to toll!' But how exactly will it play? Well, part of the fun for me is, honestly, I don't know. A midnight movie should catch people off guard. Me included. Even when I made it!

Your previous shorts ("Crabs," "Renegades," "G Is For Grandad," etc) all have a very singular, wonderfully awkward feeling to them. What does THE GREASY STRANGLER have in common with those films?

Well, it has me in common with them. I love awkwardness and singularity, that's true. I like to keep things a little loose to create something unique. I don't want the film or the scene to be a certain way - I want it to find itself and surprise me and then hopefully be more than I imagined... If I knew how everything would play, I would be less engaged. Of course I have strong ideas about casting and wardrobe and location, etc, so the viewer will ultimately get a strong whiff of Hosking whatever the project. **THE GREASY**



STRANGLER does have a particularly strong whiff. I like filmmakers with a voice. So I decided to try to have one, too!

You've got a lot of Fantastic Fest family attached to this film: Ben Wheatley, SpectreVision, Drafthouse Films. Talk about how Fantastic Fest factors into THE GREASY STRANGLER's genesis.

Well, I had a couple of shorts show at Fantastic Fest in the past. Andy Starke, the producer who first got behind *Greasy*, met me through Todd Brown who was involved with Ant Timpson and Tim League of Drafthouse in ABCs OF DEATH 2. Andy produced my "G for Grandad" segment. Then ABCs premiered at Fantastic Fest. And Elijah Wood spoke to Ant Timpson at Fantastic Fest about **THE GREASY STRANGLER** at the time of ABCs. So without Fantastic Fest, none of this would exist, quite possibly. And a shout out to Zack Carlson!

You wrote the film with your "G Is For Grandad" co-writer Toby Harvard. Do you find that you two have distinct roles when co-writing, or is the entire process more collaborative?

We decide to write a script. We throw ideas around. Something sticks. We write out an outline over Skype. Then we take turns writing the script. One of us writes. The other then tweaks and takes the script further. Then the other will tweak that and take the script further. Etc. Until it's written. The rule is that nothing can be deleted without there being a discussion. If one of us doesn't like something then generally it will go. That being said, if one of us loves something enough then there is enough trust to let it remain. And fortunately often the same things captivate us. We respect each other and write in different ways on our own separate projects. So HH projects are a very unified voice. It flows...

THE GREASY STRANGLER is one hell of a title. Tell me about it.

I said to Toby, my co-writer, that we should write an insane horror film for our favourite actor who I shall call Mister X. Toby said Mister X could be a greasy strangler. We had a script already, a feature called "Crabs" that was different from the short film "Crabs," where the dad who would be played by Mister X kept saying how greasy the city was and how he wanted to get away from all the greasiness. So we were into Mister X being into the word greasy. Then on February 15, 2013, I replied to Toby that the film should be called **THE GREASY STRANGLER**. Et voilà, as they say in France.

CREDITS

Big Ronnie
Big Brayden
Janet
Big Paul
African Tourist
Swedish Tourist
Indian Tourist
Big Thaddeus
Oinker
Ricky Prickles
Danny The Crooner
Big Heine
Directed by
Screenplay

Producers

Line Producer
Director of Photography
Unit Production Manager
Production Coordinator
Office PA
Script Supervisor
1st AD

2nd AD
Key Set PA
Set PA

Runner

Set Medic

Lighting

Michael St. Michaels
Sky Elobar
Elizabeth De Razzo
Gil Gex
Abdoulaye NGom
Holland MacFallister
Sam Dissanayake
Jesse Keen
Joe David Walters
Sal Koussa
Carl Solomon
Dana Haas
Jim Hosking
Jim Hosking
Toby Harvard
Elijah Wood
Tim League
Ant Timpson
Andy Starke
Josh Waller
Daniel Noah
Theo Brooks
Mårten Tedin
Nick Andrus
Tatiana Bears
Sarah Alammuri
Sherry Gunderman
Josh Labrucherie
Chad Nicholson
Carey Field
Frank Paulino
Matthew Gowan
Joe Vezzetti
Kendall Foote
Shane Lawson
Zack Ogle
Luke Balls
Margie Cooper
Elizabeth Worley
Alex Antov
Chris Simpson
Shin Takakura

Sound
Production Designer
Set Decorator
Set Dresser

Prop Master
Art Assistant

1st AC

2nd AC
Gaffer
Key Grip
Best Boy Grip
Best Boy Electric

Sound Mixer
Costume Designer
Assistant Costume Designer
SFX Makeup

HMU
HMU Assistant
Assistant Editor
Stunt Coordinator
Catering
Crafty PA
Casting Director
Background Casting
Production Attorney
Location Scout
Security

Honey Wagon Driver

Masahito Yano
Jason Kisvarday
Kelsi Ephraim
Bonnie Ephraim
Madelyn Kime
David Duarte
Zack Carlson
Aaron Mager
Adam Cowan
Will Emery
Jesse Barba
Joey Brown
Sean C Mehen
Chris Wieland
Kunle Bagot Simmons
Mikey Davis
Anthony Peluso
Armando Macias
Christina Blackaller
Benett Rogers
Doug Brown
Todd Tucker
Bianca Appice
Martin Astles
Michelle Sfarzo
Lexx Staats
Cale Thomas
Tavner Murphy
Dorian Kingi
Chris Turbis
Cody Holland
Danielle Aufiero
Lee Kissick
Sarah Santos
Julie Karlitz
Oris Turner
Adam Martinez

Joe Unger

