

matchmaker *matchmaker*



A WILLIAM WEDIG FILM

PROJECT SUMMARY AND OVERVIEW

LOGLINE:

On the hunt for revenge, two activists set a trap for an infamous Internet troll, only to discover they have been catfished and lured into a game of deadly puzzles by a faceless hacker known simply as “The Matchmaker.”

Built in the world of alt-right internet trolls combined with direct-action activists set on revenge, *Matchmaker* is a self-contained torture thriller that explores deeper themes of what it means when we become anonymous, but connected.

OVERVIEW:

Genre: Horror/Thriller/Suspense
Rating: R
Audience: Young adults, adults
Style: Hard Candy x Saw x Black Mirror

Self-contained (1 main location)
Primarily 3 characters for 90% of the film
Set to be shot in North Ontario

2W FILMS and TRIMUSE ENTERTAINMENT present MATCHMAKER, MATCHMAKER
Story by DANIEL WASSERMAN Screenplay by DANIEL WASSERMAN & WILLIAM WEDIG
Produced by WILLIAM WEDIG and DEREK DIORIO Directed by WILLIAM WEDIG



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THE STORY

Ezra Kitson is a man on a mission. Haunted and obsessed, the young and volatile American has at last tracked down the man responsible for the death of his sister: Guy Alexander, infamous troll, hacker and online provocateur.

The path has led Ezra all the way to Northern Ontario, Canada, where Guy—fresh off a special appearance at a famous alt-right political convention—is enjoying VIP treatment in an opulent and isolated mansion on a private island.

As Guy sails in on a yacht with a gorgeous woman from the convention on his arm, he's quickly confronted by Ezra. The troll is taken hostage, with help from none other than Guy's own mysterious date, Magali.



Guy is shocked to learn Ezra is a conspiracy theorist obsessed with the Roscoe Affair, a hoax that Guy himself cooked up on a whim to lure in gullible diehards like Ezra's late sister.

Guy insists it was no more than a prank that went too far and led to Naomi Kitson's tragic death. As Ezra ramps up the pressure, Guy at last gives up the password to unlock his computer to provide "intel" on Roscoe.

THE STORY (cont'd)



No sooner than they get the password, Ezra and Magali drop the act. In truth, they're part of an anti-online hate initiative with hopes of ending Guy's infamous career.

But their victory is short-lived, as Ezra and Magali soon discover they have been lured into a far more dangerous trap by a man called the Matchmaker—a faceless mastermind whose elaborate and sinister schemes bear real life-and-death consequences.

The two discover a hidden Wall of Safes, five simple boxes with elaborate codes they must crack before time runs out. In their desperation, they team up with Guy and the three are forced to play along with the Matchmaker's game as their own lives hang in the balance. Yet each new box only reveals new mysteries, riddles they must solve to learn the shocking truth: Who truly was responsible for Naomi Kitson's death?

Box after box the nightmare deepens, everything unfolding exactly as the Matchmaker intended, as we barrel towards an explosive climax where nothing is as it seems...



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POTENTIAL CAST*

“EZRA” (lead)

IMDB STARmeter

EMILE HIRSCH	1,066
JAY BARUCHEL (CA)	1,302
DAVE FRANCO	1,701
AARON ASHMORE (CA)	610
RICHARD HARMON (CA)	6,457

“MAGALI” (lead)

IMDB

HELENA HOWARD	9,529
KIKI LAYNE	5,791
MARSAI MARTIN (CA)	6,394
MELINDA SHANKAR (CA)	12,461
HAYLEY LAW (CA)	10,317

“GUY CLARKE” (lead)

IMDB

TIM ROTH	1,678
ENRICO COLANTONI (CA)	4,180
ELIAS KOTEAS (CA)	2,126
DAVID HEWLITT (CA)	7,010
ALFIE ALLEN	2,382

*Canadian talent marked with (CA). Canadian talent poses a stronger financial advantage and, furthermore, Northern Ontario cast poses and even stronger still.

VISUAL REFERENCES

MOODS / CONTRAST



SKYFALL (2012)



SUNSHINE (2007)



THE TREE OF LIFE (2017)



GREEN ROOM (2016)



BLADE RUNNER 2049 (2017)



1917 (2019)

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VISUAL REFERENCES

COLOR & DARKS MOODS



THE MATRIX (1999)



NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (2007)



APOCALYPSE NOW (1979)



GREEN ROOM (2016)



THE ASSASSINATION OF JESSE JAMES BY THE COWARD ROBERT FORD (2007)



SAINT MAUD (2021)

VISUAL REFERENCES

COLOR AND BRIGHT MOODS



SUNSHINE (2007)



SAINT MAUDE (2021)



GREEN ROOM (2016)



THE SHAPE OF WATER (2017)



THE SHINING (1980)



GREEN ROOM (2016)

VISUAL REFERENCES

FRAMING / SHOTS



MARKETING

THE MARKETPLACE

In the past 20 years, the number of new horror movie releases has exponentially increased; there's more to see than ever before, which proves how popular the genre is with audiences worldwide. To break through the clutter, it is critical to have a creative and "must see" marketing campaign as filmmakers need their movie to stand out from the literal hundreds of others.

TARGET AUDIENCE

MATCHMAKER MATCHMAKER will appeal to fans of dark, artistically driven, claustrophobic horror and thriller films, a genre made famous by legendary director James Wan in *Saw*, Quentin Tarantino in *Reservoir Dogs*, and sleeper hits like Netflix's *Squid Game*, created by Hwang Dong-hyuk. The movie will also appeal to fans of puzzle thrillers with multiple twists and turns, such as Rian Johnson's *Knives Out*, Tarantino's *The Hateful Eight*, and the Canadian production of Vincenzo Natali's *The Cube*.

PREMIERE AND RELEASE

Trimuse's goal will be to have *Matchmaker, Matchmaker* premiere at highest level film festivals in the world, such as Toronto International Film Festival, Sundance, Berlin.

Additionally, we hope to have a targeted festival run at premiere horror festivals worldwide, including Toronto After Dark, Fantasia in Montreal, Fantastic Fest in Austin, TX and Cinequest in Los Angeles. Following these screenings, we plan to release to theaters in Canada in 2024 through Trimuse's Cineplex relationship. International sales will come from the festival screenings and market screenings.

PUBLICITY

Press Long-Lead	Articles and stories for reviewers of horror and the supernatural
Sales Sheet	General use for trade
Digital Press Kit	Press mailings, trade and consumer
Photos	For publicity use, included in press kit
EPK	"The Making Of" special featuring B roll footage
Social Media Program	Targeted at teen plus; unique viral marketing campaign on multiple platforms
Soundtrack	Special song downloads for contests and promotions
Pre-release Press	TBD
Premiere	Premiere film festival screening TBD
Media Screenings	TBD
Other	

PROMOTIONS

On-Line	Targeting websites that match teen plus demos for horror, thrillers and the supernatural
Television/Print/Radio	Target teen plus audience
Retail	Retail tie-ins featuring free tickets and other giveaways TBD
Promo Screenings	TBD
Tie-Ins	Product Placement back-ends/Retail/On-Line/
Premiums	Buttons/T-shirts/Gadgets/Gizmos/Stickers, etc.
Collector Premiums	Special limited run merchandise, like a supernatural detective badge
Other	TBD

KEY CREW

WILLIAM WEDIG

[co-writer / director / producer]

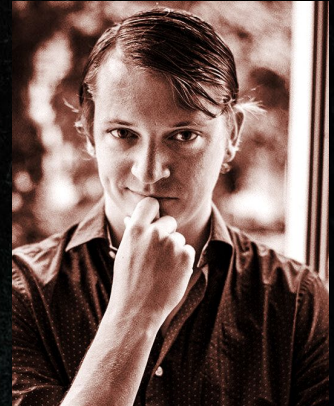
Will's work has been seen in theaters, on TV and in festivals such as Sundance and TIFF.

His debut, *RISE OF THE DEAD*, was released by Lions Gate Entertainment and won the Colony Film Festival. His film, *FORGED*, starred Margo Martindale and won Best Picture at the HBO New York Latino Film Festival, playing multiple cities theatrically. The NY Times wrote, "Mr. Wedig is sure of his material. 'Forged' is nasty, brutish and short, in all the best ways."

Will also directed 26 half-hour episodes of *TEAM TOON* for Cartoon Network EMEA, which was released on Netflix. The show starred Disney starlette and CW breakout Meg Donnelly.

His short film, *BYGONES*, won the Coney Island Film Festival. In 2023 he's slated to direct *VIVISECTION*, produced by WorkHorse Cinema with a budget of \$6-7MM USD.

For more, visit: www.williamwedig.com



[NARRATIVE REEL](#)



DANIEL WASSERMAN

[writer]

Paris-based Daniel Wasserman is a filmmaker with a ride-or-die vision of storytelling. Past feature scripts have garnered awards and recognition, including *Safehouse*, a finalist in the Slamdance Feature Screenplay Competition and *00:00:00*, a second-round in the Austin Film Festival Screenplay Competition.

On the directing side, Wasserman's short films have been featured in film festivals and microcinema screenings coast to coast, including the Los Angeles International Short Film Festival, the Coney Island Film Festival, the Big Apple Film Festival, the Queens Film Festival and more.

KEY CREW



JOHN GILLESPIE

[executive producer]

John Gillespie has an Honours Degree in both Law and Film Studies from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. John began his career with commercials at Rawi Sherman in Toronto, which led him to the realm of feature films and documentaries. Since 1993, John worked on fifteen features as an art director/production designer before producing. In 2002, John started a publicly traded film company that ventured into distribution. Shortly after, in 2003, John produced *Hollywood North* which Premiered in the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) featuring the Directorial Debut of Award-Winning Producer Peter O'Brian. From 2004 - 2008 John collaborated with Kim Coates with Ewan McGregor (*Ice Cream Bandits*), Mark Irwin (*A Perfect Day*), and Saul Rubinek. John discovered 2009 was a great time to shift his focus to further develop and expand his real estate investments. With the onset of 2010, John partnered with Brad Clark to launch a film production company, which currently is developing six Feature Films and a TV series. Along with his passion for film creation, John has acquired 30 feature films in his library.

MARK HOLDOM

[executive producer]

Mark graduated from the University of Waikato, New Zealand, with a Bachelor of Science in Physics, Math, and German. He has 22 years of experience in finance, 39 years in film and music production as well as marketing and distribution, and 39 years working in management, staffing, and company organization. He has worked in positions related to sales, acquisitions, and strategic consultation. He was a financial adviser for Morgan Stanley Dean Ritter, an Internet Investment Consultant for Sims Systems, and the VP of Investments for UBS Paine Webber. Mark has spent the past 17 years attending major film and TV markets worldwide, including: Cannes, Toronto, Sundance, Berlin, Venice, Rome, MIP TV, MIPCOM, Filmart, AFM. His projects include *BUCKOUT ROAD* (2018), *RATCHET & CLANK* (2015), *VALLANZASCA* (2010), *HOLLA* (2006), *Hate2o* (2006), *TRACI TOWNSEND* (2005), and *BLUE HILL AVENUE* (2001). He also has several film and television projects currently in development. His background extends to production for music and ballet, as well as serving as a music/touring manager for major musical acts including Metallica, Alanis Morissette, and The Feelers.



KEY CREW

DEREK DIORIO

[producer]

Derek Diorio has produced and directed hundreds of hours of dramatic, animated, documentary and live-action television programming and feature films starring the likes of Ernest Borgnine, Eli Wallach, Graham Greene, Michael Moriarty and Terri Garr. He produced the critically acclaimed series *Hard Rock Medical* and *Unsettled*.

He's been writing, directing and producing on Northern Productions for the last 15 years and has recently teamed with cinematographer Clement Lush and Trimuse Entertainment to create a slate of horror films to shoot in North Bay.



CLEMENT LUSH

[cinematographer]

Clem Lush is a Toronto based Cinematographer with vast experience working in the North. Clement translated the high energy, "living-on-the-edge" experience of being a professional skateboarder into his skills as an editor, colourist and Cinematographer. He gained an intricate understanding of the post-production workflow, working on iconic films such as *Fight Club* and *X-Men*. He moved from the post world and slid seamlessly in behind the camera and has become one of the finest shooters, displaying an affinity for leveraging sparse resources and turning them into high quality, emotionally resonant images.

He is the owner and operator of Lush Brothers, a full service production company, and his most recent work includes past films *Happy FKN Sunshine* (2022), *Becoming Burlesque* (2017) and *Poor Agnes* (2017, 2nd unit DP).



PRODUCTION COMPANIES

DISTINCT FEATURES

Distinct Features is an innovative and versatile production company based in North Bay, Ontario, Canada. Founded in 1999 in Ottawa, the Distinct Features mandate is to produce quality films and television programs with audience appeal, for theatrical and television markets both domestic and abroad. Distinct Features excels in working collaboratively in a creative, team-based environment.

Distinct Features President, Derek Diorio, has produced, directed and/or written well over 300 hours of dramatic, animated, documentary and live-action television programming and five independent feature films starring the likes of Ernest Borgnine, Eli Wallach, Graham Greene and Terri Garr. Most recently Distinct completely *Happy F'K'IN Sunshine*, shot in North Bay by leveraging a lot of Canadore College's resources by hiring graduates, renting facilities at competitive rates, and creating mentorship opportunities for students to help build up the cast and crew base in the north.

TRIMUSE ENTERTAINMENT

Founded by producer John Gillespie and William Alexander, Trimuse Entertainment is a full service, Canadian independent film production & distribution company whose mandate is to develop, produce and distribute quality motion pictures, nationally and abroad. Since its inception as a distribution company in 1999, Trimuse has acquired and distributed over thirty (30) motion picture and television projects.

The company's supernatural thriller, *Buckout Road*, from writer/director Matthew Currie Holmes was released theatrically in September 2019. Trimuse's most recent feature is R.L. Stine's *Zombie Town*, based on the book by R.L. Stine, starring Dan Akroyd and Chevy Chase.

2W PRODUCTIONS

Founded by writer/director William Wedig in 2011, 2W Productions has been solely focused on the development and production of high quality, artistically driven-genre projects. Genres include action, horror, thrillers and sci-fi with a heavy focus on character driven and artistically made stories.

Recently, 2W's screenplay, *The Devil's Chasing Me*, placed in the top 100 submissions and placed in the semi-finals of the ISA's Table Read of Screenplay for Park City/Sundance 2023 as well as the semi-finals of the Final Draft Big Break Screenplay Contest. Additional projects in development include *Vivisection* (feature, horror), *The Hive* (anthology TV, horror), and *Crashing Through the Snow* (animated feature, family/holiday).

CONTACT



WILLIAM WEDIG

Will@2WFilms.com

917.686.6439

Will@2WFilms.com
www.williamwedig.com
917.686.6439

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