
THE
BEAST
BY: DEREK CROSSLEY & PAUL REESE

GENRE
*Psychological Thriller.
*Elevated Horror.

TARGET RATING
*Rated R.

RUNTIME
*113 Minutes.



BUDGET
*ABOVE/BELOW THE LINE- $4,157,133.42
*FRINGES- $235,208.32
*GRAND TOTAL- $4,572,846.76
*CA Tax Credit- ($922,345.07)
*NET TOTAL- $3,650,501.69

PRODUCTION LOCATION
*Greater Los Angeles Area.

ORIGINAL IP
*WGA Registered Script.

DEVELOPMENT STATUS
*Packaging & Financing.

EXPLOSION OF ELEVATED HORROR

Elevated horror consistently delivers outsized returns relative to modest budget.

PSYCHEDELIC RENAISSANCE

Public fascination with consciousness and psychedelic science has never been greater.



OPPORTUNITY

STREAMING

Premium genre films continue to thrive across global streaming platforms.

AUDIENCE

Audiences increasingly seek intelligent, conversation starting genre films.

THE STORY



SYNOPSIS:

Brilliant neurosurgeon Max Oxley's first experience with a powerful form of human DMT awakens a connection he cannot understand or abandon. As his obsession deepens, scientific curiosity gives way to addiction, violent experimentation, and moral collapse, blurring the line between breakthrough and madness.

THEMES

CONSCIOUSNESS
The mystery of human awareness.

MEANING
Humanities relentless search for purpose.

MORALITY
Whether noble ends can excuse terrible means.

MORTALITY
The urgency created by our finite lives.

OBSESSION
The thin line between discovery and destruction.



AUDIENCE

The Blast bridges the commercial appeal of elevated psychological thrillers with the intellectual curiosity of today's rapidly growing consciousness and science communities, creating multiple audience entry points beyond traditional horror.

THE BLAST

CONSCIOUSNESS & SCIENCE COMMUNITY

- Neuroscience enthusiasts.
- Psychology and philosophy audiences.
- The growing psychedelic community.
- Podcast listeners interested in consciousness, mental health, & human behavior.

ELEVATED GENRE ENTHUSIASTS

- Fans of psychological thrillers and elevated horror.
- Viewers drawn to original, intellectually engaging storytelling.

PRESTIGE INDEPENDENT FILM AUDIENCE

- Festival audiences.
- A24, Neon, and MUBI viewers.
- Cinephiles seeking original, filmmaker-driven cinema.

COMPARABLE FILMS



TALK TO ME (2023)

GRIEF, ALTERED STATES, COMMERCIAL BREAKOUT

- Estimated budget- $4.5M.
- Gross- $48.3M domestic / $92M worldwide.
- Became A24's highest grossing horror release domestically at the time & launched a sequel/franchise opportunity.



MIDSOMMAR (2019)

PSYCHEDELIA , GRIEF & PSYCHOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION

- Estimated budget- $9M.
- Gross- $27.4 domestic / $48.6M worldwide.
- Became an enduring A24 cult hit, achieving lasting cultural relevance as a landmark of contemporary psychedelic and elevated horror.



INFINITY POOL (2023)

PSYCHEDELIC DESCENT & CULT GENRE AUDIENCE

- Estimated budget- ≈$4.5M.
- Gross- $5.08M domestic / $5.2M worldwide.
- Sundance premiered, Neon distributed genre film that reinforced the market for uncompromising, film maker driven psychological horror.

COMPARABLE FILMS



LONG LEGS (2024)

INDEPENDENT GENRE & THEATRICAL BREAKOUT

- Estimated budget- $10M.
- Gross- $74.3M domestic / $128M worldwide.
- Became Neon’s highest grossing domestic release and a major theatrical breakout for original independent horror.



THE SUBSTANCE (2024)

ELEVATED GENRE & PRESTIGE CROSSOVER

- Estimated budget-$18M.
- Gross- $17.6M domestic / $77.3M worldwide.
- Won Best Screenplay at Cannes.
- Nominated for five Academy Awards.

INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS



COMMERCIAL GENRE APPEAL
Elevated psychological thriller with broad genre appeal.

TRANSFORMATIVE LEAD ROLE
A compelling showcase for award caliber talent.

FESTIVAL POSITIONING
Designed for both prestige and genre festivals.

CONTROLLED RISK
Maximum production value w/ disciplined financial planning.

EVERGREEN THEMES
Universal questions that create lasting audience engagement.



RELEASE STRATEGY

FESTIVAL PREMIERE
Launch at premiere genre and prestige festivals to generate critical acclaim and momentum.

DOMESTIC & INT'L SALES
Leverage festival exposure, success and talent attachments to secure distribution partners.

LIMITED THEATRICAL
Targeted release to build reviews, audience awareness and premium digital value.

GLOBAL STREAMING
Reach broad market audiences through premium streaming platforms, where elevated genre films have demonstrated strong long-tail engagement.

LIBRARY VALUE
Evergreen themes and growing cultural interest in consciousness and psychedelics position The Blast for continued relevance beyond its release.

MEET US

THE TEAM



PAUL REESE
Founder/Producer/Writer

DEREK CROSSLEY
Producer/Writer

JJ HOUSE
Director

PEDRO BRINGAS
Director of Photography

JORDAN MICHAEL
Line Producer

COLEMAN MASON
Colorist

YONATHAN WEZELI
Camera Operator

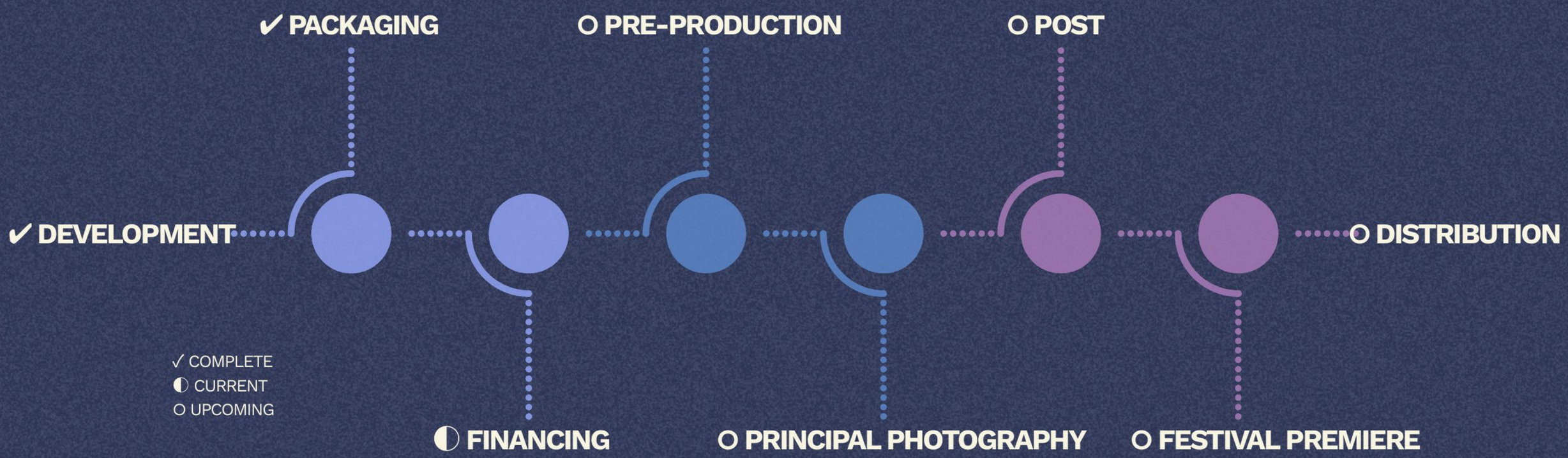
CHARLES LITTLE
Editor

AARON RICHARDSON
1st Assistant Director

EXECUTION HIGHLIGHTS

- WGA registered screenplay.
- Financing package complete.
- Production budget finalized.
- Shooting schedule complete.
- Stripboard complete.
- Cast DOOD complete.
- Critical Assumptions complete.
- Core production team attached.
- Film Independent Fast Track Submission.
- Potential casted roles.
- California tax incentive strategy in place.

PRODUCTION ROADMAP



FINANCING STRUCTURE

PRODUCTION BUDGET

$4.5M

CA TAX INCENTIVE

≈$922K

CAPITAL REQUIRED

≈$3.6M

*Leveraging California's film incentive program reduces upfront capital requirements while maximizing on-screen production value.

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

1
FINANCIAL
- California tax incentive.
- Efficient production budget.

2
PRODUCTION
- Character-driven story telling.
- Practical production approach.

3
MARKET
- Multiple distributor pathways.
- International audience appeal.

4
STORY
- Original IP.
- Timely subject matter.



AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

The Blast is designed to spark conversation long after closing credits, turning audience curiosity into sustained word-of-mouth and long-tail discovery.



FESTIVALS
Generate credibility, reviews, awards momentum and distribution interest.

PODCASTS & PRESS
filmmaking/indy film, philosophy , science based podcasts.

CONSCIOUSNESS COMMUNITIES
Psychedelic researchers, Neuroscience.

DIGITAL CAMPAIGN
Teaser campaign, Cast interviews, BTS content, Reddit AMA's.

WORD OF MOUTH
Have people seriously asking themselves what the heck did they just watch?

THIS FILM

An original Psychological thriller that combines commercial genre appeal with emotionally resonant, thought provoking storytelling.

WHY NOW

Elevated horror, streaming demand and the psychedelic renaissance have created a rare market opportunity.

THIS TEAM

An investment ready package backed by experienced collaborators, disciplined planning and a clear path to production.

***We're not just making a film. We're building an unforgettable cinematic experience designed to endure.**

THE BEAST

A FEATURE FILM

WRITTEN BY DEREK CROSSLEY & PAUL REESE

DIRECTED BY JJ HOUSE