Press Kit

Key Information

Contact

lead marketingDustin Neidermane-mailpsdust@gmail.comcell phone1 (760) 578 9390

Internet Information

website www.cakebrigade.com/alltimesherald

twitter @alltimesherald

facebook www.facebook.com/alltimesherald

Technical Information

TRT 9:30 NTSC DVD, HD BluRay, HD mov file Stereo Sound 16x9 COLOR

logline

A lonely retiree named Herald becomes lost in a nightmarish maze of misshapen memories as he searches for his long lost love, Nancy, for one last encounter.

short synopsis

Herald is a lonely retiree who is unsatisfied with his life. He is stuck in a strange yet drab retirement home where the nurses are mean and robotic. His only escape is his own memory. However on this peculiar night, Herald finds his memories becoming real once again. His retirement home becomes a treacherous maze of misshapen memories in which Herald searches for his long lost love, Nancy.

long synopsis

Herald is a lonely retiree who is unsatisfied with his life. He is stuck in a strange yet drab retirement home where the nurses are mean and robotic. His only escape is his own memory. However on this peculiar night, Herald finds his memories becoming real once again. His retirement home becomes a treacherous maze of misshapen memories in which Herald searches for his long lost love, Nancy.

In this dreamlike world, Herald is never quite sure what is real. Are these memories he can trust? Or must he move on? As Herald searches for his love, he finds he is being stalked but an ominous figure.

Director's Statement

tagline

memory is a monster

concept

AT ALL TIMES, HERALD is a surreal trip examining the dangers of getting lost in one's memories.

director's statement

For my senior comprehensive thesis, I decided to create a surreal short film. For me, this project is not just an exercise in writing out of my element, but it is also something I could really sink my teeth into and engage critically.

After studying surreal cinema and working a film festival in Prague, I knew I wanted to make use elements that delved into a different world. As a student who spent his research hours on documentary narratives and procedures, I gave myself a project that was completely new to me.

From the way it was written to the method of its execution, I was pushed to utilize new tools and new methods.

AT ALL TIMES, HERALD focuses on the end of one's life, but it really is about new beginnings and starting over.

Herald's memories are contorted and unclear. They are misshapen and bizarre. However, when he relives them, they are as real as ever.

Memories are precious, but we can often become lost in nostalgic tendencies. We can obsess over these remembered stories that are never actually quite clear. They are made up and rewritten. Both good and bad memories have the ability to become "monsters" in our mind. They can take hold of us.

The Filmmakers

Dustin Neiderman

director, writer

Dustin Neiderman is a Senior studying Media Arts and Culture at Occidental College. He has studied film at FAMU, and worked as a programming assistant at an International Documentary Festival in the Czech-Republic. Over the summer of 2012, he created an interactive documentary and photo essay following a surge of embroidery industries in Kolkata, West Bengal. This will be Dustin's first foray into the complex world of fictional narrative.

Isaac Tovares producer

Isaac Tovares is a Junior at Occidental College studying film production in the Media Arts and Culture major. Isaac is an eighth generation Texan (whose ancestors fought at the Alamo) but grew up in Boston. Isaac was a PA at Modulus Studios, LLC, a post production house in Boston, and works for Occidental Colleges on campus Television network. In his spare time you will most likely find Isaac hiking, playing his hand drum or piano, or in the kitchen with his father cooking authentic Texas Mexican delicacies.

Cullen Parr

director of photography

Cullen Parr is a Junior at Occidental College working in cinematography, animation, and post production. Cullen works as the graphic designer and animator for the college television station and creates a variety of short films on his spare time.

Lauren Mahoney

casting director

Lauren Mahoney is an Occidental Senior taking courses anywhere from Marxism to Capitalism to Web Design. She has interned at Brave New Films and worked as a social media assistant for the UEPI. She is currently working on a documentary that follows young entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley and Mexico. She hopes to make science fiction films.

Anna Jane Jones

art & costume design

As an Art History major with an extensive background in wearable arts, metal fabrication, and a small blue sewing machine, Anna Jane was cut and tailored, as it were, for the job of costume assistant. Her academic interests have been focused in the study of architecture and architectural history, making the prospect of production design particularly intriguing.

Sarah Winters

assistant director

Sarah Winters is a senior from Chicago. She is a manager at Occidental Telefund, leader of the Spoken Word Club on campus, and currently the Production Intern for a creative marketing company. She likes Game of Thrones, reading, and thrift shopping. Next year, she hopes to be attending a graduate film program.

Dylan Sittig

production assistant

Dylan Sittig is a Senior Urban and Environmental Policy Major with an interest in film-making. He is the director of the Occidental College Television station known as CatAList. He enjoys creating viral short films, riding his bicycle, cooking, and playing his accordion.

The Cast

Martin Beck

Martin Beck has an impressively extensive history as an actor for film, television, and theater. He and his wife actress Brenda Sheehy Beck, wrote and produced The Tele-Support Group for cable TV. The show was seen in most of the U.S. and Canada. It was the Becks way of giving back to the folks who are in need of support for muscle movement disorders. The show was distributed by the Dystonia Medical research foundation of Chicago. He was a member of The Actors Conservatoy Ensemble from 1990-1995, where he produced, directed and acted. He also has a history with The Los Angeles actors theater and The Los Angeles Theater Center, and is a member of the Gazzo theater workshop.

Phoebe Craddock

Phoebe is a British born actress who grew up in Australia and Hong Kong. She trained at London's Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art as well as gaining a Master's degree in Education from the University of London. She is currently based in Los Angeles.

She has appeared in many theatrical productions as well as film work and is best known for her work in the Finnish film noir "Walter". European credits include: BBC award winning short "Eyeball Tennis" and "The song of the Morrow" as well as "Staged" where she plays a cabaret dancer.

In the US she recently completed 1930's themed "Fake" as well as playing a sardonic nurse in the student short "At All Times, Herald".

Matt Wrather

Matthew Wrather is an actor whose career, begun as a child in his native Los Angeles, spans two decades and three continents. Matt appeared alongside Sam Waterston in Travesties at Long Wharf Theater and alongside Ed Asner in the short film The Raft. Additional film credits include the titular character in Lucas Mirelles's black comedy A Bad Person and a would-be terrorist with pangs of conscience in Iris Hefler's Brother's Keeper, produced by Academy Award-winner Bobby Moresco. Stage work includes Lt. Charles in The Adding Machine, directed by SITI Company's J. Ed Araiza, and the initial reading of Paula Vogel's A Civil War Christmas, directed by Tina Landau. Beyond acting, Matt is an accomplished singer, pianist, and composer, with two full-length musicals and dozens of musical theater songs to his credit. And he is founder and editor-in-chief of Overthinking It, a successful website for pop culture nerds. He holds a newly-minted M.F.A. from UCLA and his B.A. from Yale.

Screen Credits

Director, Writer Dustin Neiderman

Producer Isaac Tovares

cast

Herald Martin Beck

Nurse Phoebe Craddock

Darrel Matt Wrather

Nancy (Voice) Christina Edison

Nancy (Double) Abigail Roth

Monster Puppeteer Landon Koenig-Muenster

Partiers Alex Broad

Lauren Mahoney

Gabrielle Melamed

Dylan Sittig

Sean Smith

Director of Photography Cullen Parr

Editor, Visual Effects Dustin Neiderman

Casting Director Lauren Mahoney

Art & Costume Design

/ Monster Rangler Anna Jane Jones

Assistant Director Sarah Winters

Sound Alex Broad

Jordan Delano

Dylan Sittig

Assistant Camera Aaron Spoto

Production Assistant Dylan Sittig

Gaffer Alex Broad

Key Grip Jordan Delano

IndieGoGo Producers Phil Campbell

Andrew Neiderman

Ray Smythe

Dana Jones

Janyne Katz

Zack W.

Keith Jones

Shannon Neiderman

Ryan Bartecki

Sandor Stern

Richard Crystal

Abby Bass

Elizabeth England

Craig Rumbaugh

Michelle Gross

Linda Biggi

Rick Sharp

Francene Fisher

Harold Matzner

Christopher Erlendson

Michael Serk

Mark Angel

Valohna Wynn

Raffy Cortina

"Nobody's Darling But Mine"
Written and Performed by Gene Autry
Published by Columbia Records
Under Public Domain, Creative Commons License (archive.org)

Special Thanks

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Locations

Occidental College Los Angeles, CA 90041

Private Residence Westwood, CA 90024

24P HD Camera and DIVA Lighting by EVS

Lighting and Equipment courtesy of Occidental College Art History and Visual Arts Department.

Production Services Courtesy of Flannel Pig Production Services

The characters and events depicted in this motion picture are fictitious. Any similarity to actual persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.

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Stills





Production Stills











