

YOUNG BODIES HEAL QUICKLY



Written and Directed by Andrew T. Betzer
Produced by Eric Nyari
Executive Produced by Pamela Koffler, Balazs Nyari and Christine Vachon



World Premiere / Narrative / 16mm
102 Minutes

Screenings

Saturday, April 19 at 6:30pm – World Premiere, Bow Tie Cinemas Chelsea 6
Monday, April 21 at 10:00am – Press & Industry, Bow Tie Cinemas Chelsea 5
Monday, April 21 at 7:00pm – Public Screening, Bow Tie Cinemas Chelsea 5
Wednesday, April 23 at 4:00pm – Public Screening, Bow Tie Cinemas Chelsea 5
Friday, April 25 at 10:30am – Press & Industry, Bow Tie Cinemas Chelsea 9
Friday, April 25 at 7:00pm – Public Screening, AMC Loews Village 7, Theater 2

For clips, images and other press materials, please visit:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ok4vutjtv0iubg5/T2slzrWJOe>

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

Two brothers, Older (age 20) and Younger (age 10), are fleeing arrest for the "accidental" killing of a young girl....destination: anywhere. On the road, they have a series of run-ins with strange characters that further remind them just how out on a limb they really are. Reaching their estranged father's desolate compound on the seashore, the walls begin to close in. Just as tensions are about to boil over, Dad forces Older and Younger on his own yearly trip - to re-enact the Vietnam War in a remote forest.

LONG SYNOPSIS

Older, age 20 (Gabriel Croft) escapes incarceration and seeks out his little brother, Younger, age 10 (Hale Lytle). Clearly a bad influence, Older gets the both of them involved in the "accidental" killing of a young girl and they are forced to flee the scene of the crime and hide out until their mother manages to come to the rescue. Rather than surrender them to the police, she helps them escape. Thanks to Mom, the brothers now have a car, some cash, and a place to go hide out, beginning a bizarre road trip.

Along the way, they encounter a host of people ranging from their unwelcoming sister (Kate Lyn Sheil) to a troubled maid (Julie Sokolowski) and her violent lover (Alexandre Maraouni). Eventually, they wind up on the doorstep of their father's compound, wherein the three of them are quickly reminded why they are estranged from one another in the first place. Just as the walls are about to close in, their father packs up his brood and takes them on a road trip of his own.

Dad forces Older and Younger to accompany him on his yearly sojourn. They join several other lovers of militaria in a remote forest where they re-enact actual Vietnam War battles. Dad is on the U.S. side and his sons play Viet Cong. Once in the "jungle," the three of them revert to hostile tendencies building up to a final confrontation between father and sons, leaving the audience to decide what is real and what is make believe.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

My name is Andrew T. Betzer, and I recently made a film. Envisioned as a road movie with a picaresque sensibility, *YOUNG BODIES HEAL QUICKLY* started with the idea of two brothers with a considerable age difference and a flip-flopped level of maturity. The older brother acts more like a pre-teen while the younger brother carries the onus of a person far beyond his age. All the characters in the film were sketched from people that I have known or met throughout my life, especially the brothers. They are all cryptic yet finely drawn and reminiscent of the broader base of humanity as I see it. Throughout their journey, the brothers and the people they encounter feed off of each other's pathologies and keep getting themselves deeper and deeper into a place they may never be able to emerge from.

I choose to shoot the film in a very immediate and literal style. I feel that it best served the "contemporary / here and now" purpose of the story and allowed some of the more fantastical elements of the film to fit in seamlessly. I wanted the chance to make it on 16mm film as well (before that chance is gone). I also feel that if the style of the film were too slick, it would do it a disservice. 16mm film, for me, seems to have qualities that embody the grit and grime of not only these characters, but the "road" itself.

Throughout my body of work (all shorts until now), I try to treat every picture as a fully-realized entity that can stand on its own while still referring back to one another thematically. Most of the scenarios for my pictures begin on a very instinctual level. I, as do most filmmakers, have certain preoccupations that tend to run throughout my work. I do not have a concrete understanding of where they come from, nor do I want to. By following that way of thinking, it makes for a final piece of work that tends to leave an audience with more questions than answers, more mystery than facts...a sure way to give a film a longer lifespan in a viewers mind. I like that idea. I strive for it.

It must be noted that YOUNG BODIES HEAL QUICKLY is dedicated to the memory of my son, Ilan. When he was born, I was not sure if I would be able to make another film. As I was writing this film, he was struggling to live. After he was gone, it served as a refuge from his loss. The film belongs to him, as it was always intended to.

FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Andrew T. Betzer (Writer/Director/Producer)

Andrew T. Betzer (b. 1974) is a 2000 graduate of the University of Maryland (UMBC) film program. His short films have played in numerous festivals including Cannes, London Film Festival, Rotterdam, AFI, Torino and Slamdance. In 2008, his short film SMALL APARTMENT won the Grand Jury Award for best narrative short film at the SXSW Film Festival. Also, his short film JOHN WAYNE HATED HORSES was an official selection of the 2009 Cannes Directors' Fortnight. In 2009, he was named one of Filmmaker Magazine's "25 New Faces Of Independent Film." Even more recently, a retrospective of Andrew's short films was shown at New York's Anthology Film Archives. It was accurately entitled "Running Amok With Andrew T. Betzer." YOUNG BODIES HEAL QUICKLY is Andrew's first feature film as writer and director.

Pamela Koffler (Executive Producer)

Pamela Koffler is an Emmy Award winner who in 1995 co-founded indie powerhouse Killer Films with partner Christine Vachon. Based out of New York, Koffler has produced more than 60 acclaimed independent films including Todd Haynes' Venice Film Festival Award-winning I'M NOT THERE as well as Haynes' controversial first feature, POISON. Since then, she has gone on to produce some of the most celebrated American indie films including, Academy Award® winning films FAR FROM HEAVEN, BOYS DON'T CRY, ONE HOUR PHOTO, HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH, HAPPINESS, SAFE, and I SHOT ANDY WARHOL in addition to DIRTY GIRL, THEN SHE FOUND ME and SAVAGE GRACE. In television, Koffler executive produced the Emmy® nominated TV movie Mrs. Harris in 2005 and the Golden Globe winning miniseries, Mildred Pierce for HBO. Recent works include: CAROL starring Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Kyle Chandler and Sarah Paulson directed by Todd Haynes; STILL ALICE starring Julianne Moore, Alec Baldwin, and Kristen Stewart, directed by Wash Westmoreland and Richard Glatzer; AT ANY PRICE starring Dennis Quaid and Zac Efron, directed by Ramin Bahrani; KILL YOUR DARLINGS starring Daniel Radcliffe, directed by John Krokidas; MAGIC MAGIC starring Michael Cera, directed by Sebastian Silva; and THE LAST OF ROBIN HOOD starring Dakota Fanning, Susan Sarandon and Kevin Kline, directed by Wash Westmoreland and Richard Glatzer.

Balazs Nyari (Executive Producer)

Born in Hungary, Balazs Nyari immigrated to the United States as a boy during the Hungarian Revolution. After years of experience as an innovator of optical effects, in 1982 he found Cineric, Inc., the industry's finest facility for restoration and preservation as well as a leader in post-production in New York City. Cineric's achievements include the world's first 4k b/w restoration with Sony Pictures on DR. STRANGELOVE and the world's first 4k color restorations with Twentieth Century Fox on THE KING AND I and CAROUSEL. Recent credits include ON THE WATERFRONT, THE GRAPES OF WRATH, TAXI DRIVER, JAWS, and OLYMPIA.

Christine Vachon (Executive Producer)

Christine Vachon is an Independent Spirit Award and Gotham Award winner who co-founded indie powerhouse Killer Films with partner Pamela Koffler in 1995. Over the past decade and a half, the two have produced some of the most celebrated American indie features including Academy Award winning films FAR FROM HEAVEN, BOYS DON'T CRY, ONE HOUR PHOTO, HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH, HAPPINESS and SAFE. In television, Vachon recently executive-produced the Emmy and Golden Globe winning miniseries MILDRED PIERCE for HBO. On the occasion of Killer's 10th anniversary in 2005, the company was feted with a retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art. Recent works include: CAROL starring Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Kyle Chandler and Sarah Paulson directed by Todd Haynes; STILL ALICE starring Julianne Moore, Alec Baldwin, and Kristen Stewart, directed by Wash

Westmoreland and Richard Glatzer; AT ANY PRICE starring Dennis Quaid and Zac Efron, directed by Ramin Bahrani; KILL YOUR DARLINGS starring Daniel Radcliffe, directed by John Krokidas; MAGIC MAGIC starring Michael Cera, directed by Sebastian Silva; and THE LAST OF ROBIN HOOD starring Dakota Fanning, Susan Sarandon and Kevin Kline, directed by Wash Westmoreland and Richard Glatzer.

Eric Nyari (Producer)

Eric Nyari is the International Representative for Cineric, Inc., New York's premiere film restoration and preservation facility, as well as President of Cineric Creative, its new entity for content development and post-production services. He has recently served as an Executive Producer for director Ramin Bahrani's AT ANY PRICE (starring Zac Efron, Dennis Quaid, and Heather Graham), which premiered in competition at the 69th Venice International Film Festival, and director Sam Levinson's ANOTHER HAPPY DAY (starring Ellen Barkin, Kate Bosworth, and Demi Moore), winner of the 2011 Sundance Film Festival's Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award. He is a partner in the Tokyo-based production company Tokyo Story and has produced three films in Japan, including director Amir Naderi's CUT (starring Hidetoshi Nishijima and Takako Tokiwa), Opening Film of the 68th Venice International Film Festival's Orizzonti section and winner of the 2012 Japanese Professional Film Awards for Best Director and Best Actor. His work has been featured in publications such as *Cahiers du Cinema*, *Screen International*, *Bloomberg*, and *Newsweek*. Eric was born and raised in New York City and studied economics at Northwestern University and Japanese at Keio University.

Sean Price Williams (Director of Photography)

While working at Kim's Video and becoming a fixture at every NYC repertory theater, Williams has breathed cinema every day of his life since he was a teenager. His cinematography is showcased in Jessica Oreck's BEETLE QUEEN CONQUERS TOKYO, which premiered at SXSW '09, and for which *Variety's* Justin Chang described the cinematography as "pure poetry." The film went on to win a Special Jury Prize for Artistic Vision at Cinevegas '09. Williams was the DP on Ronald Bronstein's FROWNLAND, which received a Special Jury Award at SXSW '07 and was named the 2007 Gotham Awards "Best Film Not Playing at a Theatre Near You." He has shot films for Alex Ross Perry (THE COLOR WHEEL), Robert Greene (FAKE IT SO REAL), and Andrew T. Betzer (JOHN WAYNE HATED HORSES and SMALL APARTMENT). Williams was also the DP for Bob Byington's upcoming comedy, SOMEBODY UP THERE LIKES ME. In addition, he worked for Abel Ferrara and extensively as Albert Maysles' B-cameraman. His VHS collection is a legendary archive.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Hale Lytle (Younger)

Hale Lytle, 11 years old, was born and raised in Richmond, Virginia. He started his acting career with the main role in Craig Macneill's award-winning short film HENLEY. After a trip to the 2012 Sundance Film Festival with HENLEY, Hale decided to continue acting and has not had a moment's rest since. He spent the past summer acting in several short films. YOUNG BODIES HEAL QUICKLY is his feature film debut.

Gabriel Croft (Older)

Gabriel P. Croft, originally from New England, currently splits his residency between Lincolnton, NC and Myrtle Beach, SC. Gabriel was cast as a lead in the feature film YOUNG BODIES HEAL QUICKLY on the strength of his physicality and his uncanny ability to appear roguish, yet undeniably likable on the screen. He performs all of his own stunts in the film. Gabriel can also be seen in the documentary FAKE IT SO REAL, Robert Greene's loving portrait of a ragtag group of professional wrestlers.

Julie Sokolowski (Maid)

The ever mysterious Julie Sokolowski was born in 1988, Lille, France. She first appeared as the lead role of Celine in Bruno Dumont's acclaimed 2009 film HADEWIJICH. Her part was that of an overzealous nun in the midst of a serious spiritual crisis. After being firmly planted on the map in

HADEWIJICH, Julie joined the cast of Andrew T. Betzer's film YOUNG BODIES HEAL QUICKLY. She is currently editing her own short film and writing a feature length script.

Alexandre Marouani (Chef)

After appearing in several short films for director Jean Manuel Fernandez, Alexandre Marouani made his feature film debut playing the lead role of Ernst Ipsum in EYES FIND EYES (2010). It is through Jean Manuel that Alexandre met his friend and cinematographer Sean Price Williams. Alexandre and Sean worked together on several short films in Paris and New York, where Sean introduced him to Andrew T. Betzer. Alexandre has since appeared in three of Andrew's films, including SMALL APARTMENT, which won Best Short Film at the 2008 SXSW Film Festival and YOUNG BODIES HEAL QUICKLY. In addition to film and theatre, he acts in a great many television commercials for companies ranging from Peugeot to Samsung.

Daniel P. Jones (Dad)

Daniel P. Jones was born in Melbourne, Australia. A jack-of-all trades, Daniel has recently turned to acting and writing – helping establish the Plan B theatre company in 2004. His work with Plan B lead to a long-standing collaboration with internationally-acclaimed Australian director Amiel Courtin-Wilson. His first short film, CICADA (which he wrote and starred in), premiered at Cannes Directors' Fortnight in 2009 to a rapturous critical response. Daniel and Amiel continued their close working relationship and developed the feature film HAIL (Venice '11), which he also co-wrote and starred in alongside his partner Leanne Letch. It was named Best Australian Film of 2012 by esteemed critic Adrian Martin. Daniel's prose has been published in the short story anthology "Ten Years of Things That Didn't Kill Us," published by Paroxysm Press.

Kate Lyn Sheil (Sister)

After studying at the Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institute, Kate Lyn Sheil has acted in a number of independent films including Sophia Takal's GREEN (SXSW '11), Joe Swanberg's SILVER BULLETS (SXSW '11), Rick Alverson's THE COMEDY (Sundance '12), the horror anthology V/H/S (Sundance '12), Bob Byington's SOMEBODY UP THERE LIKES ME (Locarno '12), and Amy Seimetz's SUN DON'T SHINE. Most recently she appeared alongside John Gallagher Jr. in Zachary Wigon's THE HEART MACHINE (SXSW '13). She currently resides in New York.

CAST

Younger: Hale Lytle
Older: Gabriel Croft
Dad: Daniel P. Jones
Mom: Sandy Hale
Constable: Judson Rosebush
Maid: Julie Sokolowski
Chef: Alexandre Marouani
Sister: Kate Lyn Shiel
Cunis: Johnathan Fraser
Mosiah: Mosiah Maddox
Girl 1: Ali Lynch
Girl 2: Pilisa Mackey

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Writer/Director/Producer: Andrew T. Betzer
Executive Producers: Pamela Koffler, Balazs Nyari and Christine Vachon
Producer: Eric Nyari
Director of Photography: Sean Price Williams
Location Sound/Post Sound Design: Sarah Spencer
Post Production Supervisor: Andre Basso
Editor: Andrew T. Betzer

1st Assistant Camera: Bartek Rogowski
2nd Assistant Camera/Steadicam: Daniel Cowen
Gaffer/Key Grip: Jon Moore
1st Assistant Director: Martin Steger
2nd Assistant Director: Adam Burnett
Production Manager: Lynda Meier
Grips: Adam Burnett, Martin Steger, Bartek Rogowski
Stills: Eleonore Hendricks

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