

STATE LIKE SLEEP



Starring: **Katherine Waterston, Michael Shannon, Luke Evans, Michiel Huisman, Mary Kay Place**
Directed and written by first time feature filmmaker **Meredith Danluck**

RT: 104 Minutes

Sales Contact:

Visit Films

173 Richardson Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11222

718-312-8210 | info@visitfilms.com

www.visitfilms.com

SYNOPSIS

One year after the sudden death of her celebrity husband, Katherine Grand receives a phone call that pulls her back to Brussels and the life there that she's tried to forget. Once back, she discovers a web of secrets that compel her to unravel the mysteries surrounding Stefan's last days alive

DIRECTOR/WRITER STATEMENT

State Like Sleep is a movie. It's fiction. However, like any writer, I have drawn from personal experiences, some more than others. It's true I lived in Belgium with someone who masterfully hid a secret life. It's also true that my mom was suddenly hospitalized in Brussels while on a chocolate tour with her friends, forcing me to return years after abandoning my life there. And though the details in the movie are fictionalized, someone very close to me took their own life and I, in many ways held myself responsible. The feelings of complicity and guilt were overwhelming and completely illogical. Looking outside myself for answers and explanations meant I could create a story about what happened, one that excluded me. I needed to tell myself a story to make sense of what had happened which is what Katherine does in State Like Sleep.

This process of grieving is not unusual or unique, Joan Didion speaks of this very same thing in her book *The Year of Magical Thinking*. She talks about this feeling that if one properly explains it and find a target of blame, a death feels like it can be magically reversed. The film explores this impulse we have to reorder the narrative of what we've experienced when the experience is inexplicable. The most inexplicable mystery in life is death so I appropriated the mystery genre to serve the deeper narrative of grief.

- **Meredith Danluck (writer/director)**

ABOUT THE CAST

KATHERINE WATERSTON (“Katherine”)

Katherine recently wrapped filming on FANTASTIC BEASTS 2 opposite Eddie Redmayne. She can next be seen in Jonah Hill’s directorial debut MID 90’s which is being produced by A24 and Scott Rudin. She can most recently be seen as the female lead in ALIEN: COVENANT, the latest installment in Ridley Scott’s ALIEN franchise, opposite Michael Fassbender.

Katherine’s previous credits include FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM, based on the novel by J.K. Rowling and directed by David Yates; Danny Boyle’s STEVE JOBS opposite Michael Fassbender, Kate Winslet, Seth Rogen and Jeff Daniels; and Alex Ross Perry’s independent film QUEEN OF EARTH opposite Elisabeth Moss. Katherine made her break out alongside Joaquin Phoenix in Paul Thomas Anderson’s ’70s drug-fueled crime drama INHERENT VICE for Warner Brothers.

MICHAEL SHANNON (“Edward”)

Academy Award[®], Golden Globe[®] and Tony Award[®] nominated actor Michael Shannon continues to make his mark in entertainment, working with the industry’s most respected talent and treading the boards in notable theaters around the world.

Shannon will soon be seen co-starring in HBO’s *Fahrenheit 451*, opposite Michael B. Jordan. The drama is based on Ray Bradbury’s 1953 dystopian novel of the same name. The film depicts a future where media is an opiate, history is outlawed and “firemen” burn books. It follows Montag (Jordan), a young fireman who forsakes his world, struggling to regain his humanity, ultimately battling his fireman captain and mentor (Shannon). HBO will debut the film May 19, 2018.

Upcoming, Shannon has Meredith Danluck’s *State Like Sleep*, alongside Katherine Waterston, in which he portrays the deceased Belgian husband of an American photographer (Waterston) who, one year after the unexpected death of her husband, receives a call that pulls her back the life she has tried to forget.

Most recently, Shannon starred in Drew and John Erick Dowdle’s *Waco* in which he co-stars next to Taylor Kitsch, Andrea Riseborough and Rory Culkin. *Waco* is based on the FBI and ATF seize of religious leader, David Koresh’s Branch Davidian Texas compound in the spring of 1993.

Shannon most recently completed lensing on Chan-wook Park’s *The Little Drummer Girl*, opposite Florence Pugh and Alexander Skarsgård. Set in the late 1970s, yet sharply contemporary, the limited series follows a brilliant young actress (Pugh) who strikes up an acquaintance with an intriguing stranger (Skarsgård) while on holiday in Greece. It rapidly becomes apparent that his intentions are far from romantic. The man is an Israeli intelligence officer, who entangles her in a complex and high stakes plot orchestrated by Spymaster Kurtz (Shannon).

Most notably, Shannon garnered critical acclaim for his Oscar[®] nominated supporting role in *Revolutionary Road*, playing ‘John Givings,’ the psychologically troubled neighbor’s son. Directed by Sam Mendes and adapted by Justin Haythe, Shannon stars opposite Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet and Kathy Bates. He went on to receive additional acclaim for Ramin Bahrani’s timely drama *99 Homes*, co-starring opposite Andrew Garfield. Set against the backdrop of the economic crisis, Shannon portrayed ‘Rick Carver,’ a charismatic and ruthless real estate tycoon gaming the market and home banking system. He was nominated for a Golden Globe[®], Screen Actors Guild[®], Critics Choice[®], Gotham Award[®] and Film Independent Spirit Award on behalf of this performance. Additional accolades include Tom Ford’s *Nocturnal Animals*, opposite Jake Gyllenhaal, Amy Adams and Aaron Taylor Johnson. For his performance, Shannon received an Academy Award[®] and Critics Choice[®] nomination. Shannon was seen

in critically acclaimed, Guillermo del Toro's *The Shape of Water*, a love story set against the backdrop of Cold War-era America. The film co-stars Sally Hawkins, Richard Jenkins, Michael Stuhlbarg and Octavia Spencer. *The Shape of Water* won the 2018 Oscar* for Best Picture.

With over fifty roles in film, Shannon's credits include Nicolai Fuglsig's *12 Strong*; Werner Herzog's *Salt and Fire*; Bart Freundlich's *Wolves*; Matthew M. Ross' *Frank & Lola*; Joshua Marston's *Complete Unknown*; Liza Johnson's *Elvis & Nixon*; Jonathan Levine's *The Night Before*; Peter Sollett's *Freeheld*; John McNaughton's *The Harvest*; Jake Paltrow's *The Young Ones*; Zack Snyder's *Man of Steel*; Ariel Vromen's *The Iceman*; David Koepp's *Premium Rush*; Liza Johnson's *Return*; Marc Forster's *Machine Gun Preacher*; Floria Sigismondi's *The Runaways*; Werner Herzog's *My Son, My Son, What Have Ye Done* and *Bad Lieutenant*; Sydney Lumet's *Before the Devil Knows You're Dead*; Oliver Stone's *World Trade Center*; William Friedkin's *Bug*; Curtis Hanson's *Lucky You*; Michael Bay's *Bad Boys II*; Curtis Hanson's *8 Mile*; David McNally's *Kangaroo Jack*, Cameron Crowe's *Vanilla Sky*; Michael Bay's *Pearl Harbor*, John Waters' *Cecil B. DeMented*; Noah Buschel's *The Missing Person* and Shana Feste's *The Greatest*.

Shannon's film credits include collaborative re-teams with director Jeff Nichols. He recently starred in the sci-fi thriller *Midnight Special* and appeared in the drama *Loving*. Shannon's previous collaborations with Nichols include *Take Shelter*, for which he received a 2011 Film Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best Actor; as well as the films *Mud* and *Shotgun Stories*.

On television, Shannon's credits include Martin Scorsese's HBO series, *Boardwalk Empire*, which completed its fifth and final season. Based on Nelson Johnson's book of the same name, the hit show centers on an Atlantic City liquor distribution ring at the onset of Prohibition. Shannon portrayed 'Nelson Van Alden,' a dedicated senior agent with the Treasury Department who has a strong interest in controlling bootlegging.

Outside of his roles on screen, Shannon maintains a strong connection to theater. He recently returned to Red Orchard Theatre for its 25th Anniversary to direct the world premiere of *Traitor*, Brett Neveu's adaption of Henrik Ibsen's *Enemy of the People*. *Traitor* included ensemble members Dado, Larry Grimm, Danny McCarthy, Guy Van Swearingen and Natalie West. Prior to this, Shannon was seen in the Red Orchid Theater reprise production of *Simpatico* which is the opening season performance at the McCarter Theatre Center in Princeton, New Jersey. The production included Shannon and the original 2013 cast including Dado, Kristin Ellis, Jennifer Engstrom, Mierka Girten, Van Swearingen and Doug Vickers.

In 2016 Shannon was seen on Broadway co-starring alongside Jessica Lange, Gabriel Byrne, and John Gallagher Jr. in *Long Day's Journey into Night*. Produced by the Roundabout Theater Company and directed by Jonathan Kent, the revival of Eugene O'Neill's landmark 1956 drama led Shannon to a Tony[®] nomination for 'Supporting Actor' as well as 2016 Drama Desk Award for 'Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play.' Prior to that, Shannon appeared opposite Paul Rudd, Ed Asner, and Kate Arrington in *Grace* at the Cort Theatre. For his portrayal of 'Sam,' a distrustful and lonely computer genius who had recently lost his fiancé in a car accident, Shannon was nominated for a 2013 Distinguished Performance Drama League Award. Shannon also led Craig Wright's off-Broadway play, *Mistakes Were Made*, at the Barrow Street Theater. Directed by Dexter Bullard, Shannon portrays 'Felix Artifex,' a small time theatre producer, who gets in way over his fast-talking head when he takes on an epic about the French Revolution. The play received its world premiere at A Red Orchid Theatre in Chicago in 2009 with the same cast and director. The critically acclaimed production garnered numerous accolades for Shannon, including an Outstanding Lead Actor Lortel Award nomination, an Outstanding Actor in a Play Drama Desk Award nomination, an Outstanding Solo Performance Outer Critics Award nomination, and a Distinguished Performance Drama League Award nomination.

Additional theater credits include *Pilgrim's Progress* (A Red Orchid Theater) *Uncle Vanya* (Soho Rep Theatre), *Our Town* (Barrow Street Theatre), *Lady* (Rattlestick Theatre), *The Metal Children* (Vineyard Theatre), *The Little Flower of East Orange* (Public Theatre), *The Pillowman* (Steppenwolf Theatre), *Bug* (Barrow Street Theatre, Red Orchid Theatre and Gate Theatre), *Man From Nebraska* (Steppenwolf Theatre), *Mr. Kolpert* (Red Orchid Theatre), *Killer Joe* (SoHo Playhouse, Next

Lab Theatre and Vaudeville Theatre), *The Idiot* (Lookingglass Theatre), *The Killer* (Red Orchid Theatre), and *Woyzeck* (Gate Theatre).

Michael Shannon grew up in Lexington, Kentucky and began his professional stage career in Chicago, Illinois.

LUKE EVANS (“Emile”)

In just a little over a decade, Welsh actor Luke Evans has made an immediate impression in Hollywood making his mark as a leading man across all genres. Evans began his career doing theater in London's West End and most recently starred as ‘Gaston’ in Disney’s highly successful, live-action adaptation of the animated classic, “Beauty and the Beast.” Directed by Academy Award winner Bill Condon, the film released in theaters on March 17, 2017 and has grossed over \$1.2 billion in the worldwide box office.

Evans was most recently seen in TNT’s upcoming drama series “The Alienist” and starring alongside Daniel Brühl (“Rush”, “Inglorious Bastards”). Based on the international best-selling novel by Caleb Carr, the show is set in the Gilded Age of New York City in 1896. Evans plays ‘John Moore’, a newspaper reporter for the New York Times who is enlisted by newly appointed NYPD commissioner Teddy Roosevelt, to track down one of New York’s first serial killers, along with Brühl’s ‘Dr. Lazlo Kreizler,’ a doctor who studies deviant behaviors, after a series of haunting, gruesome murders of boy prostitutes. The show premiered in January 2018.

Recently, Evans wrapped production on Tate Taylor’s “Ma.” The film will be a combination of a horror picture and a psychological thriller and is produced by Jason Blum’s Blumhouse Productions. Octavia Spencer stars in the film as well. Evan’s has also recently wrapped production on Luc Besson’s “Anna,” starring alongside Helen Mirren. He will also star in produce the Netflix comedy feature film “Super Normal.”

Evans can also be seen “State Like Sleep” starring alongside Kathryn Waterston and Michael Shannon. The drama revolves around the basic need for human connection and love. The film will premiere at the 2018 Tribeca Film Festival.

In 2017, Evans was seen in Annapurna’s “Professor Marston & The Wonder Women.” The film chronicles the life of Harvard psychologist and inventor Dr. Marston (Evans) who created Wonder Woman and his relationship with his wife, fellow psychologist and inventor Elizabeth (Rebecca Hall), and their polyamorous relationship with Olive Byrne (Bella Heathcote). The film premiered at the 2017 Toronto Film Festival.

In 2016, Evans starred in Universal Pictures big screen adaptation of the highly successful book of the same name, “The Girl on The Train”, opposite Emily Blunt and Justin Theroux, directed by Tate Taylor.

Evans also starred in Ben Wheatley’s suspense noir film “High Rise”, for which he received a Best Supporting Actor nomination at the British Independent Film Awards and THR just named Evans one of the Best Performances of 2016.

In December 2015, Evans reprised his role as the iconic dragon slayer and archery expert, 'Bard the Bowman' in the final installment of Peter Jackson's “The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies.” Evans also appeared as ‘Bard’ in the third installment, “The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug.” The films were released in December 2014 and 2015 and co-starred Martin Freeman, Ian McKellen, and Richard

Armitage. Prior to this Evans was seen in the lead role of the heroic Dragon-slayer Vlad in Gary Shore's *Dracula Untold*. The role saw him star alongside Charles Dance, Dominic Cooper, and Sarah Gadon and strengthened his global recognition and was a global success.

For BBC, Evans starred in Chris Chibnall's ("Broadchurch") "The Great Train Robbery," as the infamous, real-life train robber "Bruce Reynolds." The special aired in December 2014 and detailed the great train robbery of 2.6 million pounds from a Royal Mail train from Glasgow in 1962 and the aftermath when Reynolds spent five years on the run before being jailed in 1978. The mini-series that garnered awards recognition from BAFTA TV committee as well as the Monte Carlo Television Festival.

In Summer 2013, Evans starred as the villain 'Owen Shaw' in the sixth installment of Universal's "The Fast & Furious" franchise. Directed by Justin Lin, the film opened in May and has grossed over \$700 million world-wide. He returned to "Fast Seven" and has also been immortalized in the new "Fast & Furious: Super Charged" attraction at Universal Studios amusement park.

Between 2010 and 2012, Evans' career began to take off with supporting and starring roles in films such as "Immortals" for director Tarsem Singh, "The Three Musketeers" for director Paul Anderson, "The Raven" starring opposite John Cusack for director James McTeigue and "No One Lives" for director Ryuhei Kitamura.

Evans first co-starring role came in Fall 2010 when he portrayed the lead role of 'Andy' in acclaimed director Stephen Frears' "Tamara Drewe," based on the hugely successful Guardian newspaper comic strip and graphic novel by the same name. This romantic comedy, which premiered at The Cannes Film Festival, told the story of a young newspaper reporter (Gemma Arterton) who returned to the town she grew up in as her family sold her childhood home. Evans earned many fans and turned the heads of critics and journalists both stateside and internationally for his charming performance.

Prior to his film career, Evans had successfully carved out an enviable stage career starring in West End plays and musicals such as "La Cava," Boy George's "Taboo," "Avenue Q," "Dickens Unplugged," "A Girl Called Dusty," and, at the acclaimed Donmar Warehouse, "Small Change" and "Piaf." His powerful, trained voice and engaging stage presence made him the perfect choice for leading roles such as 'Chris' in "Miss Saigon" and 'Roger' in "Rent."

Evans made his UK feature film debut in the role of 'Clive' in the 2009 British Independent Film Academy nominated feature "Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll," Mat Whitecross's biopic of the London punk-rock scene founder Ian Dury of "Ian Dury and the Blockheads." It was Warner Brother's action/fantasy/drama "Clash of the Titans," however, that put Evans on the map, where he portrayed the charismatic god, 'Apollo.'

After "Clash of the Titans," Evans was next seen in the Ridley Scott's remake of "Robin Hood," playing the Sheriff's head henchman to Russell Crowe's interpretation of 'Robin Hood.'

MICHEL HUISMAN ("Stefan")

As an established actor, Michiel Huisman has made an immediate impression in his plethora of work on the big and small screen in both the English language and his native Dutch.

Michiel is universally known for his role on HBO's hugely successful fantasy drama series *GAME OF THRONES*, as 'Daario Naharis'. From series four to series six, Huisman's character was the leader of a band of mercenaries and a love interest of 'Daenerys' (Emilia Clarke). The show attracted record

viewership on HBO and was acclaimed by critics and received multiple award nominations, most notably for the Primetime Emmy Awards, Golden Globes and BAFTA TV Awards.

Michiel will next be seen in *THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY*, Mike Newell's adaptation of New York Times bestseller of the same name. The story is set in the aftermath of World War II and sees Michiel as 'Dawsey Adams', who forms a life-changing bond with journalist Juliet Ashton (Lily James) when she decides to write about the book club. The film will be released by Studio Canal in the UK and Netflix in the US. He'll also be seen in *THE RED SEA DIVING RESORT* - a retelling of the rescue of Ethiopian Jewish immigrants to Israel in 1981 featuring Haley Bennett, Chris Evans and Ben Kingsley.

2018 will also see Michiel lead a stellar cast in the Netflix reboot of *THE HAUNTING OF HILL HOUSE*, directed by Mike Flanagan. The ten episode drama is a modern reimagining of Shirley Jackson's classic 1959 novel and centres upon four people living in an 80-year old mansion. Huisman will take on the role of 'Steven Crane', the oldest Crane sibling and a published writer of supernatural books – including a memoir about his family's time living at Hill House.

Huisman can also be seen in Stephanie Laing's romantic Netflix drama, *IRREPLACEABLE YOU*. Huisman plays 'Sam' opposite Gugu Mbatha-Raw as 'Abbie', soul mates destined to be together forever. A twist of fate as a result of a stunning cancer diagnosis spurs Abbie to embark on a hilarious mission to seek a future girlfriend for her fiancé and childhood sweetheart, who's clueless when it comes to dating.

September 2017 saw Michiel's film *INDIAN HORSE* screen at the Toronto International Film Festival, the second feature directed by Stephen Campanelli. An adaptation of Richard Wagamese's award-winning novel and a quintessential Canadian story, the story was executively produced by Clint Eastwood and sheds light on the dark history of Canada's Residential Schools and the indomitable spirit of Indigenous people. Michiel stars alongside Forrest Goodluck, Michael Murphy, Michael Lawrenchuk and Johnny Issaluk. Michiel also appeared in Paul Currie's romantic thriller *2:22*, opposite Teresa Palmer last year. He features as 'Dylan', a man whose life is derailed when an ominous pattern of events repeats itself in exactly the same manner every day, ending at precisely 2:22pm.

2015 saw Michiel as the male lead in Lee Toland Krieger's turn of the century romantic drama *THE AGE OF ADALINE*, starring alongside Blake Lively, Harrison Ford Ellen Burstyn. The film tells the story of a young woman, born at the start of the 20th century, rendered ageless after a near-fatal accident. After a multitude of solitary years, she meets 'Ellis' (Huisman) who complicated the eternal life she has settled into.

MARY KAY PLACE (“Elaine”)

Mary Kay Place was first critically acclaimed for her role as country singer Loretta Haggers on the hit comedy series, “Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman”, for which she won the Emmy for Best Supporting Actress in a comedy. After working for the head writers of *MAUDE* at Norman Lear's Tandem Productions, Place also began co-writing for numerous TV series, including “*M*A*S*H*”, (for which she earned an Emmy nomination in 1973 with Linda Bloodworth), and “*The Mary Tyler Moore Show*”, among others. Appearing in over 50 feature films her acting credits include Hal Ashby's “*Bound for Glory*”, Martin Scorsese's “*New York New York*”, Alan Pakula's “*Starting Over*,” *The Big Chill*, *Captain Ron*, Alexander Payne's *Citizen Ruth*,” *Manny and Lo*” (for which she received a Best Supporting Female nomination from the Independent Spirit Awards), Frances Ford Coppola's “*The Rainmaker*,” Spike Jones' “*Being John Malkovich*”, *Sweet Home Alabama*”, “*Shrek*, *Forever After*”; *Smashed*, Nancy Meyer's “*It's Complicated*”, “*The Intern*” and *Private Benjamin*; “*I'll See You in My Dreams*” and the upcoming “*Diane*” and a film just completed by the singer/songwriter Sia. Place can also be seen co-starring in Netflix's “*Lady Dynamite*”, the Bravo series, “*Imposters*,” *Grey's Anatomy*, and Matt Weiner's new anthology series, *The Romanoff's*. Other television credits include *Black-ish*, HBO's critically acclaimed series, “*Big Love*,” (EMMY nomination as Adaleen Grant); “*Getting On*”, “*Looking*” and “*Bored to Death*”; “*Grace and Frankie*”, “*The New Normal*”, “*King of the Hill*”, “*My So Called Life*”, “*The West Wing*” and “*All In The Family*”. She has

also directed television episodes of "Friends"; HBO's "Dream On" and "Arliiss"; "Baby Boom" and other shows as well as recorded three albums on Columbia Records.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

MEREDITH DANLUCK (Writer/Director)

Meredith Danluck graduated from School of Visual Arts in New York with a Bachelors in Fine Arts and has exhibited at the Liverpool Biennial, Reina Sofia Museum, MoMA, PS1 Museum and Venice Biennale. Her short films, feature documentaries and experimental films have screened at a number of festivals and museum venues including Sundance, Toronto International Film Festival, SXSW and Margaret Mead. In addition to making films, Danluck has worked producing multi-screen tour visuals for Jay Z, Beyonce and John Legend and has produced a number of films for Vice Media. Her ambitious four channel feature film entitled, North of South, West of East, where four feature length narrative films play simultaneously in perfect symphony, was commissioned by Ballroom Marfa and screened at Sundance 2013. That same year she was selected for the Sundance Writers Lab as well as the 2013 Sundance Directors Lab where she developed State Like Sleep. She lives and work in Los Angeles.

JULIA LEBEDEV (Producer)

Julia Lebedev is a producer and one of the founders of Sight Unseen Pictures, alongside Eddie Vaisman and Oren Moverman, an independent production and financing company with offices in LA and NY. Sight Unseen most recently partnered with Lena Waithe with the aim to develop and finance independent projects that identify and champion emerging voices currently underserved in the marketplace.

Previously, Lebedev was CEO and founder of Code Red Productions, where she produced and financed the Independent Spirit Award winning feature, DEAR WHITE PEOPLE, directed by Justin Simien. Following its success as a feature, Lebedev helped turn the project into a Netflix Original Series, which premiered in April 2017 to great acclaim, receiving nominations from the Gotham's, the NAACP Image Awards, and winning the Audience Award at SXSW. Season 2 will premiere on Netflix this year. Lebedev's other films include Oren Moverman's THE DINNER, which was selected for official competition at the 2017 Berlin Film Festival and was released by The Orchard. Her Executive Producer credits include the 2014 Toronto Film Festival selection, the animated film, THE PROPHET, inspired by Kahlil Gibran's beloved classic book, and the social documentary I AM THALENTE, which won the Audience Award at the 2015 Los Angeles Film Festival. Code Red's previous films include THE GOOD DOCTOR, starring Orlando Bloom, Riley Keough, and Taraji P. Henson, and HONOUR, an English thriller, starring Paddy Constantine. Prior to launching Code Red in 2009, Lebedev started her career on the development team at Participant Media.

Sight Unseen has a banner 2018 and Lebedev produced the highly acclaimed MONSTERS AND MEN from breakout director Reinaldo Marcus Green at this year's Sundance Film Festival, which sold to Neon for US distribution; and executive produced DIANE, Kent Jones's narrative feature debut starring Mary Kay Place and Jake Lacy, executive produced by Martin Scorsese.

The company is currently in prep on *Sea Fog*, the English language remake of Director Bong Joon Ho's, thriller on the water, *Hae Moo*; Justin Simien satirical horror feature *Bad Hair*, and *Bad Education* with Cory Finley directing and Mike Makowsky penning the script about the Long Island School Superintendent who embezzled millions.

Sight Unseen maintains a diverse slate of projects in development, including *Man On A Mission*, the story of Richard Garriott, one of the first private citizens to travel to space, in addition to several limited television series, in collaboration with filmmaker Ido Fluk (*The Ticket*), producer Michael Ellenberg, and filmmaker Alma Har'el (*Bombay Beach*).

EDDIE VAISMAN (Producer)

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Vaisman most recently Executive Produced Paul Dano's directorial debut WILDLIFE starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Carey Mulligan, which premiered in competition at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival, and the Netflix original film, THE DISCOVERY written and directed by Charlie McDowell and starring Robert Redford, Jason Segel and Rooney Mara. His other producing credits include Oren Moverman's THE DINNER, which was selected for official competition at the 2017 Berlin Film Festival and was released by The Orchard, Lake Bell's IN A WORLD..., Michael Polish's BIG SUR and Rob Zombie's 31. He started his career in 2004 at Kathryn Bigelow's Paramount-based production company First Light and was Director of Development from 2006-2010 at Sony-based Avenue Pictures where he worked on CLOSER and ANGELS IN AMERICA, among other projects. Following, Vaisman was Head of Production at 3311 Productions and the US consultant for London-based sales and finance company Protagonist Pictures.

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ANGEL LOPEZ (Producer)

Angel Lopez currently works as the VP of Development with the production and financing company, Sight Unseen, based in Los Angeles and New York. Most notably, he produced Justin Simien's award-winning hit, DEAR WHITE PEOPLE, now an acclaimed series on Netflix. His film career began at Focus Features, where he worked in marketing and production. There, he participated in campaigns for such films as BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN and THE CONSTANT GARDENER. He then worked as a development executive at Participant Media, where he contributed to films such as THE SOLOIST and THE BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL. He executive produced Oren Moverman's THE DINNER, starring Richard Gere and Laura Linney. He also wrote and directed his own short film, I CAN'T WITH YOU, which had its premiere at the 2016 Holly Shorts Film Festival.

CHRISTOPHER BLAUVELT (Director of Photography)

Christopher Blauvelt is a third-generation film craftsman who combines his extensive experience with a fresh creative eye. A protégé of Harris Savides, Chris worked on films for directors Noah Baumbach and David Fincher and operated on Tom Ford's *A Single Man*, Spike Jonze's *Where The Wild Things Are*, and Gus Van Sant's *Restless*. Chris' work as a cinematographer includes Sofia Coppola's edgy commentary on spoiled youth, *The Bling Ring* and *The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby* with Jessica Chastain and James McAvoy for director Ned Benson, which premiered at the Cannes and Toronto Film Festivals. Chris also lensed Kelly Reichardt's *Meek's Cutoff* and *Night Moves*, starring Dakota Fanning, Peter Sarsgaard and Jesse Eisenberg, which premiered at the Venice and Toronto Film Festivals, and most recently *Certain Women* with Kristen Stewart, Michelle Williams and Laura Dern which premiered at Sundance 2016. *Max Rose*, starring Jerry Lewis, is another film Chris shot which made its debut at Cannes in 2013 while Chris was busy working on Jeff Preiss' directorial debut *Low Down* for producers Ron Yerxa and Albert Berger. The film tells the story of the renowned but forgotten jazz pianist Joe Albany and stars John Hawkes and Elle Fanning for which Sundance awarded him Best Cinematography at the 2014 festival. *I Am Michael* for director Justin Kelly, premiered at Sundance in 2015 and also at Sundance in 2016, Chris lensed *Indignation*, which is the directorial debut of Focus Features veteran James Schamus. In 2017 Chris was chosen by a life long mentor Gus Van Sant to shoot *Don't worry he won't get far on foot*, based on the autobiography of the Portland Oregon native, and quadruplegic

cartoonist John Callahan played by Joaquin Phoenix, and starring Jonah Hill, Kim Gordon, Rooney Mara and Carrie Brownstein. Finishing the year off with the directorial debut of Chris' good friend Jonah Hill is *Mid 90's*. A story of a teenage boy in Los Angeles struggling with a tough home life, later befriending a group of skateboarders who teach him some tough lessons about class, race and privilege. Stevie is played by Sunny Suljic, his mother, Katherine Waterston and brother Lucas Hedges. Chris has also been named by Variety and Indiewire as a "Top DP to Watch". <http://www.artistry.net/clients/directors-of-photography/christopher-blauvelt>

ZOSIA MACKENZIE (Production Designer)

Zosia Mackenzie is a Production Designer based in Toronto, Canada. Her design credits include *Mobile Homes* and *Mean Dreams* (both of which premiered at Quinzaine des Realisateurs, Cannes in 2017 and 2016, respectively) as well as the feature films *Tomato Red*, *The People Garden*, and *Guidance*. Her most recent film, *Giant Little Ones*, is currently in post-production. Zosia also holds a degree in Radio and Television Arts from Toronto's Ryerson University.

DANIEL BEKERMAN (Executive Producer)

Daniel Bekerman has produced over twenty films in the past 4 years. Recent productions include; *The Witch*, a US/Canada co-production, winning Best Director Award at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival, the 2017 Independent Spirit Award for Best First Feature with sales to Universal and A24, and finished 2016 as one of the highest grossing independent films in the world. *Rememory*, starring Peter Dinklage and Anton Yelchin, premiered at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival, and subsequently sold to Google Play and Lionsgate. *Backstabbing For Beginners*, a Canada/Denmark coproduction starring Theo James and Ben Kingsley, also sold to A24. Scythia is also a leading Canadian service producer whose partners in production have included K5, Sierra Affinity, Endgame Entertainment, Voltage Pictures and Netflix. Scythia recently announced a development fund in partnership with Stellar Citizens. For its first project, the fund has optioned the book "The Eden Express" by Mark Vonnegut.

ETHAN LAZAR (Executive Producer)

Ethan Lazar is a New York-born film producer with experience spanning independent production, film finance & distribution in Los Angeles, New York and Canada. Prior to relocating to Toronto in 2014, Ethan worked at Exclusive Media, Annapurna Pictures and Worldview Entertainment after starting his career in the mailroom at Management 360.

Ethan works at Scythia Films developing, packaging and producing feature films while leveraging resources on both sides of the border. Recent credits include *Backstabbing for Beginners*, a Canada-Denmark treaty co-production from director Per Fly starring Theo James & Ben Kingsley and *The Witch*, winner of the Director Prize at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival and two Independent Spirit Awards.

In 2016, Ethan launched the film financing arm of Toronto-based production company Stellar Citizens which provides bridge loans, tax credit and gap financing for feature films.

Ethan is a graduate of the College of Arts & Sciences at Vanderbilt University.