

HOBOWITH A SHOTGUN

LOG LINE:

Delivering justice, one shell at a time...

SYNOPSIS:

A train pulls into the station – it's the end of the line. A Hobo jumps from a freight car, hoping for a fresh start in a new city. Instead, he finds himself trapped in an urban hell. This is a world where criminals rule the streets and Drake, the city's crime boss, reigns supreme alongside his sadistic murderous sons, Slick & Ivan. Amidst the chaos, the Hobo comes across a pawn shop window displaying a second hand lawn mower. He dreams of making the city a beautiful place and starting a new life for himself. But as the brutality continues to rage around him, he notices a shotgun hanging above the lawn mower... Quickly, he realizes the only way to make a difference in this town is with that gun in his hand and two shells in its chamber.

A HOBO'S ROOTS: \$150 and a case of beer....

It all began in 2007 with an announcement on Ain't It Cool News, of a Grindhouse Trailer Contest. Co-sponsored by the SXSW Film Festival and Robert Rodriguez, the contest gave a three-week deadline to come up with a "Grindhouse" style trailer for a fake movie. On the day of the announcement Jason Eisener called friend and collaborator Rob Cotterill and they agreed to begin shooting that evening.

Reflecting on his original inspiration, Eisener recalls "The idea for HOBOWITH A SHOTGUN stemmed from growing up in the 80's and 90's. I was raised in a Catholic home and as a result, never had the chance to experience genre films at the cinema. A small shed in our backyard served as a gateway to these films. Our "backyard cinema" was setup with a small television and a VHS player, which was perfect for us." Eisener and his best friend John Davies, the eventual writer of the feature, would scour pawnshops and corner stores looking for any 70s or 80's genre movie that they could get their hands on. "These movies fueled our imagination and drove us to make films", Eisener recalls. "HOBOWITH A SHOTGUN is not exactly a tribute to these films, but instead embodies everything that we love about the genre; and continues to build on it".

For the next six days they wrote and shot the now famous trailer in the true nature of the films they love - with no permits, running around the streets with a blood soaked hobo carrying a real shotgun. The budget for the short was \$150, and was mostly spent on pizza and cigarettes for David Brunt, the actor who played the Hobo in the trailer. The limited budget meant pulling in a lot of favours. After a week of post-production work, the trailer was finished and shipped off to Austin Texas. The Hobo creative team, comprised of Eisener, Davies and producer Rob Cotterill, anxiously awaited the news from down South. For almost a month, the team waited and watched as the HOBOWITH A SHOTGUN trailer gained a phenomenal amount of praise and support on the Internet. As the online community argued over the merits of all the entrants to the competition, HOBOWITH A SHOTGUN quickly became a fan favorite. The incredible online support that HOBOWITH A SHOTGUN received was astonishing. It was included as one of the trailer favorites by Ain't It Cool News founder Harry Knowles on the hugely popular film news website, won G4 Tech TV's star of the month and garnered a massive fan base through YouTube.

This exciting month culminated with the news that HOBOWITH A SHOTGUN was a finalist (one of three) in the trailer competition. Eisener, Cotterill and Davies bought their tickets to Austin. With a lot of buzz around the contest, and fierce competition, the creative team anxiously awaited the verdict, which was being announced at a seminar put on by Robert Rodriguez at the SXSW festival. With nothing but supreme bragging rights on the line, Rodriguez announced the winner – HOBOWITH A SHOTGUN. Since then, HOBOWITH A SHOTGUN has received massive industry support. Jim Sherry (then with Alliance Films) heard about this upstart Canadian short winning the contest and decided to strike 186, 35mm film prints of the trailer to be theatrically released with the Canadian run of

GRINDHOUSE. The Internet support also blew up and HOB0 made the YouTube weekly top ten. The trailer has since become a YouTube sensation, having received over one million hits to date. The trailer drew in fans from around the world, many of whom commented on the trailer, expressing their love for HOB0 and demanding a feature film.

It was on the heels of this success that the trio began work on the full-length feature version with acclaimed feature film producer Niv Fichman of Rhombus Media, the company behind award-winning films such as *The Red Violin* – not exactly the most natural match. Fichman first heard of the trailer through Sherry. He was immediately struck by the sheer outrageousness of the trailer but also recognized a real talent in Eisener's directing. "It was very clear, very quickly that Jason had a vision. All his life since he was a kid, he was wrapped up in this – he knows more about this genre than anyone else", Fichman recalls. "Jason's vision is not only original but it comes from a very studied and learned place." He arranged to bring the three guys to Toronto where they discussed their vision for a feature length version of HOB0 WITH A SHOTGUN.

Swept up by the enthusiasm of the young team of filmmakers from Halifax, Fichman decided to take them into the fold and guide them through the hoops of the Canadian film industry. From there the four worked together to finesse the realities of style, script & budget. Once these elements merged to a perfect fit, the next challenge became casting. They needed to find the perfect "Hobo".

RUTGER HAUER AS “THE HOBO”

In describing the casting process, Fichman recalls, “We always felt that it was really important that the lead in a film like this be someone iconic, someone who captures the fan base of the trailer but went much further beyond that”. Eisener adds, “I feel that cinema today is lacking the iconic characters that an audience can genuinely stand behind. Characters with a champion-like status.” To bring this iconic feel to the character, the filmmakers turned to Rutger Hauer. “Rutger Hauer came up at the very beginning of the casting process. We were all united in wanting him,” says Fichman.

Hauer recalls the first time he heard about HOB0, “There was a message from my agent. There was a young bunch of people making this movie. They have no money and he said ‘Rutger, this is not my kind of movie.’ So I read the script and thought, ‘What the hell is this?’ I was in Cape Town shooting a movie and thought, ‘let’s see what the director says.’ Two or three days later, we connected over Skype – Jason and I were like brothers. I said, ‘let’s go to work!’”

THE LOOK OF HOB0

HOB0 WITH A SHOTGUN takes place in a dark seedy world; permeated with grime, disease, and citizens surrendering to their bleak futures. What better location to shoot the film than Dartmouth, Nova Scotia? Eisener shot the original trailer on the cold winter streets of neighboring Halifax. Not only did these streets fit the look of the trailer, but they also helped to inspire the tone of the film. Like Halifax, Dartmouth has the look and feel of a big city suburb – it embodies the spirit of a small town but contains the industrial, and in parts dilapidated feel that perfectly suited HOB0. “Growing up in Halifax and Dartmouth, I know the turf and I know the people, making it the perfect location for shooting my first feature,” says Eisener.

Streetlights, clubs, arcades, and neon pawnshop signs are all that illuminate the streets. The Hobo creative team joined forces with Director of Photography, Karim Hussain, who together found inspiration for the look and feel of the film in classic exploitation films such as Gary Sherman’s Vice Squad and Walter Hill’s The Warriors, with the added splash of Brian Trenchard-Smith’s Dead End Drive-In and Danny Steinmann’s Savage Streets. Eisener elaborates, “While growing up, I was heavily influenced by the earlier films of Sam Raimi and Peter Jackson. My shooting style reflects this influence as I keep the camera moving around a lot”.

JASON EISENER: LIVING THE DREAM

These past 3 years working on Hobo have been so crazy, it's been hard to find time to just sit back and think about how much has changed in my life. I remember growing up in Dartmouth Nova Scotia with my best friend John Davies (writer of Hobo With a Shotgun) working on short films everyday after school. We had always dreamed that one day we would get the opportunity to make a feature film. Every time we had to make a career goals list, making a feature film was always at the top.

Before being filmmakers we are film fans, we spent a lot of our childhood in front of the screen. When we started getting interested in filmmaking we were always paying close attention to the mechanics of filmmaking. But the first actor who taught us the mechanics of acting was Rutger Hauer. Some of his films like "The Blood of Heroes", "The Hitcher" & "Wanted Dead or Alive" were big inspirations. Little did we know that one day we would get the chance to work with him.

It feels like it was yesterday that I walked onto the set of Hobo With a Shotgun, our life long dream came true right in front of my eyes. I was surrounded by supporting friends from home and I was giving direction to my favourite actor. It just seemed too good to be true. Having Rutger join us on this crazy adventure was a pleasure, and I'll always be grateful for the hard work he put into this film.

Without the support of our friends and crew, producers Rob Cotterill and Niv Fichman, there is no way this film would have ever been realized. I understand how lucky we are to have had this opportunity, but I have to say I still haven't had time to let it all sink in. And that might not happen until I sit back and watch the madness we created for the screen at Sundance.

ABOUT THE CAST:

RUTGER HAUER (Hobo)

Rutger Hauer is a world-class iconic actor who has worked with numerous renowned filmmakers including Ridley Scott, Christopher Nolan, Phil Noyce, Lina Wertmüller, Ermanno Olmi, Robert Rodriguez, Dutch director Paul Verhoeven, and appeared in George Clooney's "Confessions of a Dangerous Mind."

2010 sees him involved in a number of independent international productions, including "Portable Life," "Black Butterflies," "Hobo With a Shotgun," "The Rite" (also starring Sir Anthony Hopkins), as well as a comeback on set with a director he is very fond of: Ermanno Olmi with his latest production "Il Villaggio di Cartone" ("The Cardboard Village").

In the last decade, he was involved in major Hollywood productions, such as Warner Bros. "Batman Begins" (directed by Christopher Nolan, with Christian Bale, Gary Oldman, Michael Caine, Morgan Freeman and Liam Neeson), the TV mini-series "The Poseidon Adventure," and "Sin City," the all-star cast film directed by Robert Rodriguez together with Frank Miller, who wrote and illustrated the graphic novel series on which this movie is based.

In 2006, he set up the "Rutger Hauer Filmfactory" in the Netherlands, with the purpose of pulling together new talent in the filmmaking world with renowned international filmmakers who share their knowledge and experience during workshops. Hauer is in the "director's seat" as he takes the participants on a tour through their creative domain.

In 2007, he wrote a book entitled "All Those Moments: Stories of Heroes, Villains, Replicants, and Blade Runners." This unprecedented and long-awaited autobiography was published by Harper Entertainment, with all proceeds going to charity initiatives.

In September 2008, Hauer was honoured in the Netherlands with the prestigious "Golden Calf" Culture Award. This is granted by the Board of the Netherlands Film Festival Foundation to a person or organization that brought important contributions to the film culture, and it refers to his Rutger Hauer Filmfactory organization, as well as to his Milan (Italy)-based "I've Seen Films - International Film Festival."

"I've Seen Films" represents a merger of the best classic film festival traditions with the most advanced high-definition digital, satellite, and internet technologies, aiming at promoting and uniting filmmakers worldwide, by affording their works new and long-term exposure with fresh platforms of visibility. Hauer, by involving many notable artistic talents and filmmaking experts, is clearly marking a turning point in today's world of film and festivals.

GREGORY SMITH (Slick)

Canadian-born Gregory Smith has accomplished a lot in his 26 years. As an actor, he has starred in 25 feature films, including "The Patriot," opposite Mel Gibson and Heath Ledger; "Closing the Ring," directed by Richard Attenborough which premiered at the 2007 Toronto Film Festival; "Small Soldiers," opposite Kirsten Dunst and produced by Steven Spielberg; "Nearing Grace," opposite Jordana Brewster and David Morse which opened the 2005 L.A. Film Festival to critical acclaim; and "Book of Love," opposite Frances O'Connor and Bryce Dallas Howard and which premiered at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival. Additionally, he has starred in over 100 episodes of television, most notably as the protagonist in The WB's hit series "Everwood" which aired for four seasons.

Smith is also an accomplished producer and photographer. In 2008, he developed and produced a comedy for Sony Screen Gems, which starred Kenan Thompson, Zachary Levi and Fran Kranz. As a photographer, he travels all over the world photographing the different people he encounters.

As an entrepreneur, Smith co-founded theU.net – an immersive student network that releases high production value, high energy youth oriented video tours of the most popular colleges in the USA. He and his partner raised \$1 million to both develop and execute the concept. He also structured a deal co-branding theU.net with AOL Time Warner subsidiary, The WB. He will launch his next technology startup company imminently.

Last year, he starred in Reginald Harkema's "Leslie, My Name is Evil" which had its world premiere at the 2009 Toronto Film Festival. The movie was released in Canada in May.

2010 has been a busy year for Smith. In Jim Sheridan's "Dream House," Greg stars opposite Daniel Craig as the gothic young man who is obsessed with the unsolved murders of Craig's family. In Chaz Thorne's "Whirligig," he plays the lead "Nicholas" in a coming of age story about a lost young man whose shameless lies lead him all the way to discovering the truth. Greg also filmed a segment of Josh Stolberg's anthology film "Conception." In the film, Greg stars with Julie Bowen as one of nine couples dealing with sex, love and the almost inevitable consequence: pregnancy. Most recently, he filmed "Hobo With a Shotgun" which was directed by Jason Eisner.

Greg can next be seen starring as "Dov Epstein" in the new ABC/Global television series "Rookie Blue." This series follows a group of recent graduates from the police academy as they try to navigate their ways as rookie officers. The show will premiere simultaneously in Canada and the U.S. June 24, 2010. Smith currently splits his time between Los Angeles and Toronto.

BRIAN DOWNEY (Drake)

Brian Downey was born and raised in St. John's, Newfoundland. His interest in entertainment is life-long although that didn't stop him from trying his hand at being a department store manager, a laundry van driver, a iron-ore miner, bookstore clerk and doing numerous other jobs. He made the transition into acting via music. Brian was playing bass in a blues band that was approached by a theatre company to write and perform a show about the impact of an oil discovery off the coast of Newfoundland. The extreme success of that show, "Some Slick", led him to write and act in dozens of original stage plays, as well as dozens of plays written by others. His first feature film role was in "The Adventure of Faustus Bidgood", as the maniacal Fred Bonia-Coombes.

Since that role, Brian has appeared in more than 100 television, radio and film productions. The longest running and most widely distributed of these is the Sci-Fi classic Lexx, which has been broadcast in well over 100 countries.

He has played opposite Academy Award-winner Jessica Lange, Sam Rockwell, Malcolm McDowell, Barry Bostwick, Tim Curry and in this production with Rutger Hauer.

As of May 2010, Brian has acted in two Nova Scotia-lensed productions, Whirligig, directed by Chaz Thorne and Hobo With a Shotgun, directed by Jason Eisener.

NICK BATEMAN (Ivan / RIP)

Actor, model, four-time world champion martial artist Nick Bateman landed his first major acting role in Hobo With A Shotgun. Born in Burlington, Ontario, Nick desired be a Ninja Turtle and at the age of four his mom enrolled him in Goju Ryu Karate.

In 1998, Nick became a regional champion for karate and during this time he began acting and doing numerous television commercials. In 1999, his focus turned primarily to martial arts and he began to compete at the world level. His talents as a martial artist led him to his first world championship in 2003. He went on to win three more world titles. In 2003, at age 17, he was inducted into the WKU Hall of Fame as competitor of the year. He has also won two Sport Martial Arts Viewers Choice Awards.

He also began performing in televised martial arts events using weapons and doing choreographed fight scenes with a team called Sideswipe. He competed at the 2004 ESPN International Best of the Best Martial Arts competition where he placed second against 10 world champions. While competing at this event in Miami, a Model Universe competition was going on in the same venue. A friend jokingly signed him up to compete and he place fifth out of 100 models.

It was at this Model Universe event he met Calvin Klein and began a career as a model.

During his modeling career he lived in Milan, as well as New York and Miami.

In 2006, he moved to Vancouver, BC and enrolled in a business program at Capilano College. Upon graduation in 2008, he decided to move home to Burlington, where he opened his own karate school called Bateman Martial Arts Academy. While running the business, he continued to model and in 2009 he worked with top photographer Bruce Webert for the Abercrombie & Fitch campaign.

Nick maintains his passion for acting and stunt work, infusing karate and stunts in a number of acting roles.

ROBB WELLS (Logan)

With seven of his new characters ready to hit the airwaves, Robb Wells has taken his career to another level as an actor, writer and producer of the new Showcase original series *The Drunk and on Drugs Happy Funtime Hour*.

Just before embarking on the *The Drunk and on Drugs* series, Wells gets caught up in crime-induced urban chaos of *Hobo With A Shotgun*.

Best known to North American audiences as the pot-smoking jailbird *Ricky* on *Trailer Park Boys*, Wells is set to enter the psyche of television viewers with a wild bunch of personas with names like Stabby Brutto, Kris Kream, Peter P. Squalls, Rico, Chase Lightning, Cris Tall and Uncle Moley.

Born in Moncton, New Brunswick, Wells moved to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia at the age of eight. His dad was a civilian officer in charge of RCMP Forensic Crime Lab. In his Dartmouth neighbourhood, he lived a few houses from John Paul Tremblay, who became a longtime friend and co-star.

In high school, Wells was named to the Nova Scotia soccer team which competed in the Canadian championships. At a World Junior Tournament in New Jersey, the team won gold for Canada. Wells was one of the team's top players.

Besides his strengths on the soccer field, Wells also had an artistic flair for acting and writing plays. One of his first efforts was a play he wrote for Saint Andrews Anglican Church in Colby Village, near Dartmouth. As the story goes, the church pastor cancelled the play after its first show, because there was too much swearing. In high school, he hung out with Tremblay and Mike Clattenburg (who became *Trailer Park Boys* director). They collaborated on a short film called *One Last Shot*. Wells was the principal actor named "Robb" and co-writer. The short was featured in the Atlantic Film Festival.

For a few years, Wells and Tremblay operated a successful chain of pizza restaurants called J.R. Capone's. Between deliveries and flipping pizzas, they would often pass the

time by making zany videos of themselves.

After catching the acting bug at an early age, Wells collaborated again with Tremblay and Clattenburg on their first indie film called *Trailer Park Boys*, a 66-minute feature in mockumentary style which was screened at the Atlantic Film Festival and spawned the creation of the highly rated television series. Wells starred as Ricky in the long-running television series, which included a Christmas special and other one-hour specials. Wells has a writing credit in all of these projects. The TV series hit the big screen in two feature films called *Trailer Park Boys - The Big Dirty* (2006) and *Trailer Park Boys - Countdown to Liquor Day* (2009).

He picked up a Gemini Award in 2005 for Best Ensemble Performance in a TV series.

Wells co-hosted the *East Coast Music Awards* with *Trailer Park* co-stars Mike Smith and John Paul Tremblay in Charlottetown (2006) and Halifax (2007).

He has toured extensively throughout North America with a live show, which he also co-writer and appeared as Ricky and has hosted many comedy festivals coast to coast. He can also be seen in The Tragically Hip's music video *The Darkest One*.

Among Wells' other film credits are *A Hole in One* (2004) with Michelle Williams (*Dawson's Creek*) and singer Meat Loaf the U.S. feature *Virginia's Run* with Gabriel Byrne

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS:

JASON EISENER (Director)

Ever since Jason Eisener can remember, movies have been a huge part of his life. Dartmouth, littered with pawnshops, served as a gold mine for a young horror/sci-fi obsessed fan & emerging filmmaker. Spending his time, & whetting his appetite on any genre movie he could find, it wasn't long until he decided to buy a video camera. Jason soon began creating his own films with high school becoming his testing grounds; quickly, he realized that he wanted to entertain people through film for a living. Jason went on to enroll into the Screen Arts program at the Nova Scotia Community College where he learned every aspect of the film industry, which helped prepare him & the world for his 60-minute film "Fist of Death." This zombie action thriller was played to a sold out audience at the Oxford Theater in 2003, and went on to play at numerous universities across Canada. With underground success Jason was inspired for his follow up film "The Teeth Beneath." With a budget of \$300, this 45 minute film, went on to exceed any of his expectations, selling out the premiere and his showing at The Atlantic Film Festival. The Coast Magazine recognized it as best local film, and it put Eisener on the Chronicle Herald's 2005 honor roll for having such contribution to the art scene in Halifax. Continuing his successes, In 2007 Jason collaborated with Rob Cotterill and John Davies to make the fake trailer, "Hobo With a Shotgun" which went on to win the SXSW Robert Rodriguez Grindhouse Trailer Competition. With it's huge following & support, Alliance Atlantis distributed the trailer theatrically, and was shown in 186 theatres across Canada, along with Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino's film Grindhouse. TREEVENGE was the follow up short film from Jason and Yer Dead Productions Inc, produced in 2008. TREEVENGE details the experiences and horrifying reality of the lives of Christmas trees. The film won a slew of awards from the festival circuit in 2009 including an Honorable Mention (for Shorts) at the Sundance Film Festival, Audience Award for Best Short from Toronto After Dark, Fantasia, San Francisco Independent Film Festival among many others. It was on the heels of the success of Treevenge and the Hobo trailer that Jason had the idea to turn the Hobo concept into a feature film. The result is an exploitation style vigilante epic starring Rutger Hauer. Shot in Halifax in the spring of 2010, the feature version of "Hobo With A Shotgun" is already experiencing tremendous buzz, fueled by a fervent online fan base. Hobo with a Shotgun will have its world premiere at Sundance in January 2011.

JOHN DAVIES (Writer)

John has been a fan of movies since his earliest memories due mostly in part to his mother who found it a necessity to have her son aware of the genre films and literature of his age. He grew up dreaming of becoming a pulp novelist, writing short stories of horror themed mystery and creating violent stage plays for his school projects.

In a high school drama class a story that John and long time friend Jason Eisener had created got turned down as a possibility for a stage play because it was deemed to over the top and impossible to portray. Upset about the rejection John decided to write the play out as a short film. The experience was so positive that he decided a career in film-making was the career path he needed to take. Unsure of what to do in the industry John enrolled in a technical film course at his local community college. There he learned the basics of lighting, shooting, and producing, but found classes he had the greatest enthusiasm for like writing, special effects, and directing were sub par or absent. To get back to what he loved he wrote a script for his final project that stayed true to the genre world he'd been attached to since childhood. A movie called "Fist of Death", which was an hour long kung-fu zombie film. The film went on to become a local cult classic, selling out its premier show and to playing in university screenings across Canada.

In 2007 John helped create the winning fake trailer "Hobo with a Shotgun" for a promotional contest put on at SXSW for Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino's film "Grindhouse."

The feature version of "Hobo with a Shotgun" written by Davies is premiering at the 2011 Sundance film festival

KARIM HUSSAIN (Director of Photography)

Karim Hussain is a Cinematographer, Director and Writer, specializing in genre and art house cinema. His first feature SUBCONSCIOUS CRUELTY (Cinematographer, Director, Writer), started shooting when he was just 19 years old and premiered six and a half years later to sold out crowds in October 2000 at the prestigious SITGES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL in Spain, where audience members fainted from its graphic content and its cult reputation began. His 2nd feature, ASCENSION (Cinematographer, Director, Writer), starring Marie Josée Croze, won the NEW VISIONS AWARD at SITGES in 2003. His short film THE CITY WITHOUT WINDOWS (Cinematographer, Co-Director, Co-Writer) was nominated for the BEST SHORT FILM JUTRA AWARD in 2003 and played over 40 International Film Festivals around the world, including TORONTO, ROTTERDAM and SAN SEBASTIAN. LA BELLE BETE (THE BEAUTIFUL BEAST) followed in 2006, an adaptation of Marie-Claire Blais' classic novel that Hussain was Cinematographer, Director and Writer on, starring Caroline Dhavernas, Marc-André Grondin and Carole Laure. Festivals included MAR DEL PLATA, SITGES, STOCKHOLM and it won the BEST OF THE FEST award at BUFF 2008. Hussain also Co-Wrote Nacho Cerda's THE ABANDONED in 2006, which premiered in the MIDNIGHT MADNESS section of THE TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL and then had a 1000 print release through Lion's Gate in the United States.

Since then, Hussain has been working full time as a Cinematographer on various projects and short films, also features such as Gilles Paquet-Brenner's WALLED IN (2009), starring Mischa Barton and Cameron Bright, Olivier Abbou's upcoming TERRITORIES (2010), a political horror satire and THE THEATRE BIZARRE (2011), an anthology horror feature for

which he shot episodes for Richard Stanley, Douglas Buck and one that he photographed and directed himself.

HOBO WITH A SHOTGUN (2011), which he shot for Jason Eisener, marks a culmination of a mutual life-long love for genre films and eccentric cinematography that he shares with the creative team of HOBO. An old friend of Producer Rob Cotterill, who worked years ago on SUBCONSCIOUS CRUELTY, and of the same school of obsession as Jason Eisener, HOBO was a chance for Hussain to fully embellish his love for the extremes of the genre in a creative environment where visual insanity was encouraged, and the only limits to the imagination, were how far Jason Eisener would take it. HOBO was photographed with the revolutionary RED MYSTERIUM-X camera system which enabled shooting at ultra-high resolution in low light conditions previously impossible in cinema, and made in collaboration with a stunning Nova Scotia crew and post production team at Technicolor Toronto that greatly contributed to its unique look. HOBO is indeed, in Technicolor!

ROB COTTERILL (Producer)

Rob Cotterill has been working in film since 1994, starting while going to Concordia University in Montreal. His first taste of working on a film set was on Karim Hussein's "Subconscious Cruelty" and after he worked on several of Mitch Davis' projects at the Montreal based Infliction Films. After completing school, Rob began working in the industry as an Assistant Director and still does. Through fate, on the set of Trailer Park Boys, Rob met Jason Eisener, whom he quickly forgot until a year later, when they met again, and began talking about making films together. A partnership was born, beginning with a documentary about Halifax's Pink Velvet Burlesque Troop, and after, with a collaboration, including writer Jonathan Davies, on the fake trailer version of Hobo With A Shotgun. Hobo was an entrant into the Robert Rodriguez & Quentin Tarantino SXSW trailer competition in Austin Texas, which it won, garnering massive internet support, and the backing of Alliance Films in Canada to strike 186 film prints to release Canada wide with the Grindhouse Feature. During the shooting of Hobo, Eisener & Cotterill conceived of their next project, a fifteen-minute short film about the injustices suffered by Christmas trees through the unique perspective of the trees themselves. This film was called Treevenge and went on to win multiple awards around the globe including an honorable mention as best short film at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival. With the successes of these films and two other viral shorts Report Card & The Number to Heaven, The Hobo with a Shotgun Feature Film creative team was solidified. The partnership formed Yer Dead Productions, a Halifax based, genre centered, production house. Now focused and determined, all efforts went towards the feature film version of Hobo with a Shotgun. Teaming up with one of Canada's most experienced & respected producers Niv Fichman, the stage was set and shooting began on the streets of Halifax & Dartmouth Nova Scotia in the spring of 2010. Hobo with a Shotgun will be released in the spring of 2011 after its World Premiere at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. Now with a strong creative team, including Jason Eisener &

writer John Davies, and a continuing collaboration with Fichman the group have several projects in various stages of development and they plan to take Halifax over by force.

NIV FICHMAN (Producer)

Niv Fichman has 30 years experience and over 200 feature films, documentaries, and television series to his name. Currently, Niv is in the postproduction phase of *HOBO WITH A SHOTGUN*, starring Rutger Hauer. His latest production was William Phillips' comedic western *GUNLESS*, starring Paul Gross, Sienna Guillory and Dustin Milligan. He recently produced Fernando Meirelles' adaptation of Nobel Laureate Jose Saramago's *BLINDNESS*, written by Don McKellar and starring Julianne Moore, Mark Ruffalo, Danny Glover, and Gael Garcia Bernal; as well as Paul Gross' World War I romantic epic *PASSCHENDAELE*, top grossing Canadian film of 2008. Fichman has previously produced renowned directors such as Francois Girard, Olivier Assayas, Guy Maddin, Don McKellar, Peter Mettler, Peter Wellington, Kevin McMahon, Marc Evans, as well as his partners at Rhombus, Larry Weinstein and Barbara Willis Sweete. Feature films include *THE RED VIOLIN*, *THIRTY TWO SHORT FILMS ABOUT GLENN GOULD*, *LAST NIGHT*, *THE SADDEST MUSIC IN THE WORLD*, *CLEAN*, *SNOWCAKE* and *SILK*. Selected television projects include *SLINGS & ARROWS*, *YO-YO MA: INSPIRED BY BACH*, *SEPTEMBER SONGS* and *LE DORTOIR*. Awards include an Oscar for *THE RED VIOLIN*, seven Emmys and numerous Genies, Geminis, Golden Pragues as well as a Golden Rose of Montreux and a Prix Italia. In June 2007, Niv Fichman was named the Canadian Producer of the Year by the CFTPA.

FRANK SIRACUSA (Producer)

As a producer, Frank Siracusa has amassed an impressive list of credits, including the television pilot *The Others*, where he worked under DreamWorks and Steven Spielberg. He has produced numerous television movies including *The Triangle*, *Sanctuary*, *Santa Who?* with Leslie Nielsen, *One True Love* with David Hasselhoff, *On Hostile Ground* with John Corbett, *Common Ground*, *Love Songs*, written by Nobel Prize winning playwright Charles Fuller, *Murder Most Likely*, which was nominated for a Gemini Award for Best Dramatic Program and *Summer's End*, which won Best Cable Movie at both the Chicago International Children's Film Festival and the Young Artist Awards. Siracusa also received a Daytime Emmy Award on behalf of *Summer's End* for Outstanding Children's Special.

In 1999, Siracusa partnered up with Due South Producer Paul Gross to form Whizbang Films. In 2001 Frank was Producer on *Men with Brooms*, a feature film written and directed by Paul Gross that was released in March 2002 and garnered the highest box office for an English speaking Canadian film of the last twenty years.

Siracusa produced the critically acclaimed television movie *The Sins of the Fathers*, starring Tom Sizemore and Ving Rhames as well as *The One* for ABC and *A Christmas*

Visitor for the Hallmark Channel as well as the Series *Platinum* for CBS, UPN, and American Zoetrope, *Martha: Behind Bars* for CBS and *Tilt* and *Codebreakers* for ESPN. Siracusa Executive Produced *H2O*, a mini-series for CBC and the sequel *The Trojan Horse*. Recently Frank has been Executive Producing *ZOS: Zone of Separation* an eight part series for The Movie Network currently nominated for a Gemini Award for Best Series, *The Good Witch*, *Bridal Fever*, *For the Love of Grace*, and he is a Producer on the Feature Film *Passchendaele* which was the Official Opening Night Film of the Toronto International Film Festival 2008 and was the highest grossing Canadian film of 2008, winning the Golden Reel Award and Best Picture Genie Award. Frank most recently produced a 13 x 1 hour drama TV series for Showcase Television / Canwest called "*Crash & Burn*".