EULOGY FOR A VAMPIRE

Screenplay by Andrè Salas
Produced and Directed by Patrick McGuinn

Willing Suspension Films presents

EULOGY FOR A VAMPIRE

106 minutes, Color, 2009, English, 35mm, 1:1.77 Screen Ratio

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LOGLINE

A remote rural monastery is overtaken by a mysterious drifter.

SYNOPSIS

A remote rural monastery inhabited by the monks of the mysterious Order of Pathicus is the site of a heinous murder, committed by a young novice, Anthony, upon another young novice, Florian, when his affections and sexual desires are not reciprocated. Flash forward twenty-five years – Father Anthony, now the head priest of the monastery, has maintained the secret of the murder, and the hiding place of Florian’s corpse. But all is not well: animal eviscerations, strange sounds in the night, and the presence of a strange “phantom goat” in the dark corridors forebode an evil presence. Add to this, the handsome young drifter, Sebastian who is found unconscious near the monastery. His strong sexual presence unsettles the young novices as well as the other resident priest, Father Lars. One by one, each of the monks unravel by their own obsession with the young man. All but Rafael, who resists the temptations set before him, and escapes the crumbling monastery by the film’s end. Rafael discovers that Sebastian is possessed by the evil spirit of Florian, in order to avenge Florian’s death at the hands of Anthony over two decades ago.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Producer/Director Patrick McGuinn (Sun Kissed) teams up with screenwriter André Salas (Latin Boys Go To Hell) in this exciting and strange homage to genre classics Dark Shadows, Hammer Films of the 1960’s, and Italian 1970’s giallo horror films. With the rich cinematography of Nickolas Dylan Rossi (Sun Kissed), and a cast of gifted new-comers, McGuinn and Salas deliver a film that is powerful in its supernatural evocations, percolating with a distinctive sexual pulse and a menacing tone, while paying tribute to great horror classics.

Developed as a sequel to a previously-written screenplay by Salas, Vampire in a Boys’ Dormitory, McGuinn saw potential in reducing the cast and location scale of that project, re-designing the story with a more remote setting and supernatural influences. Cast with members of the New York independent theatre community, the film boasts some unusual and taut performances.
ABOUT THE CAST

Wilson Hand as FATHER ANTHONY

Wilson Hand has appeared in John Guare's The House of Blue Leaves and Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest at the Arrowhead Repertory Theatre in Nantucket, Massachusetts. He also appeared in Harold Pinter's The Birthday Party and Frank Wedekind's Spring Awakening at Princeton University. Wilson studied film production at USC Film School and lives in New York City.

David McWeeney as FATHER LARS

A handful of events in David’s younger life helped to prepare him for the role of Father Lars. In no particular order, a few are listed here:

- From the age of fourteen to seventeen, David attended an elite boarding school for Catholic boys that was founded and run by an order of Benedictine monks.
- Starting at the tender age of fifteen, David was recruited by a bible cult that would preoccupy his life for the next five years.
- Much to his astonishment, at the not so tender age of twenty-four, David was cast (in the lead role) of an all-male play, performed by the senior acting company at SUNY College at Purchase. The play, Billy Budd, was adapted from the last story ever written by Herman Melville.
- The author, Herman Melville, and David share the same birthday, August 1st.

Damacio Ruiz as RAFAEL

Damacio trained with the San Francisco Mime Troupe, and later joined the avant-garde group Hardcore Thrush. After two successful years of subversive musical theatre and co-producing Thrush TV, a collaborative video project, Damacio relocated to New York City where he has performed in many short films and independent features.

Angelo Tursi as SEBASTIAN

Angelo Tursi is a composer, musician, artist, and former fashion designer living in Brooklyn, NY. He has performed his music in venues large and small across the USA. He makes his acting debut in Eulogy for a Vampire.

Ryan G. Metzger as FLORIAN

Ryan is very active in the New York indie theatre scene, having appeared in numerous venues around the city. Some of his stage credits include the title role in Shakespeare’s Hamlet and Frank-n-Furter in The Rocky Horror Show. He is also the lead vocalist for the symphonic power metal band Aspire, who are currently recording their third studio album. www.RyanMetzger.com
Craig Philip Lumsden as ERIC

Craig, a Texas native, has studied acting at HB Studio, and comedy improvisation at Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre. He has appeared in several independent and student films as well as theatre productions. Within the past decade he has developed several theatrical "personalities" to entertain the New York nightlife crowd.

Darin Guerrasio as BROTHER MATTHEW

A native of Stamford, Connecticut, Darin has had the opportunity to work with several New York-based Theatre Companies such as Algonquin Theatre, The Workshop Theater Company, Shotgun Productions, White Plains Performing Arts Center, and Edge Theater Company. His Film credits include: The J Line to Riches, Halloween Face, The Corporate Knobs, and the upcoming short film, "Bullsh*t". Visit Darin's website: www.DarinGuerrasio.com

Nate Steinwachs as STEFANO

Nate is a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York. He has performed in off-off Broadway theatre and is a figure model at the School of Visual Arts. He can be seen in the Heaven web series pilot as Adolf Hitler, viewable at http://mediaatlarge.net/heaven.php

Shawn Hollenbach as McGee

Shawn is a New York-based stand-up comedian. He's the host of here! TV's Busted, featured on here! TV's Hot Gay Comics Live and the producer of Closet Cases, a Critics’ Pick from Time Out New York. He's also in Second Guessing Grandma with Kathleen Chalfont directed by Bob Giraldi.

Sal Bardo as YOUNG ANTHONY

Sal Bardo is an actor, musician and writer from New York City. He studied music at NYU and acting at Herbert Berghof Studio. Sal's recent credits include the premiere of A Grave for Sister Agatha at the American Theatre of Actors and the upcoming independent feature Motel Americana.

ABOUT THE SCREENWRITER

André Salas is a Brooklyn-born writer/filmmaker based in the NYC area. His first script, Latin Boys Go To Hell (based on his novel of the same name) became a hit feature film for Strand Releasing, finding fans both in the U.S. and Europe. Since then, he has continued writing bizarre hybrids that pay homage to cult, erotic and horror cinema, playing with preconceptions of genre storytelling. His directorial debut, the short film Vampiras, debuted in the Berlinale's Panorama section in 2007.
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

_Eulogy for a Vampire_ is a tragic tale of unrequited love leading to destructive consequences. Conformity, corruption and repression are explored within the monastic context. I've long had an admiration for men of the cloth, but have also had an aversion to the high level of sadism wielded by superiors to novices within this hierarchic structure. It's my hope that this supernatural tale reveals the crushed idealism of these lost souls and their diminished, fading world.

From a technical standpoint, I wanted to visualize André's screenplay with the tools of vintage cinema: grainy, faded 16mm color film stock, black & white super-8mm and Kodachrome film stocks. Fuji 500 film stocks were used predominantly for the narrative portion of the story – drawing visual inspiration from such classic horror films as *The Exorcist*, *Rosemary's Baby*, and *The Sentinel*.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Patrick McGuinn was born in Los Angeles in 1966. He began making super-8mm films at age nine. After studying production at NYU Film School, he worked as an assistant film editor on PBS documentaries, and later branched out into independent filmmaking.

FILMOGRAPHY

2009  _EULOGY FOR A VAMPIRE_, 35mm, 106 minutes  
2007  _PINK SHIRT_, Super-8mm on video, 4 minutes  
2006  _SUN KISSED_, 35mm, 92 minutes  
2005  _PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS_, Video, 61 min.  
2003  _SPERM WHALE_, 35mm & 16mm, 8 min.  
2002  _BABY BLUE_, 35mm & 16mm, 7 min.  
2001  _SODA POP_, 16mm, 7 min.  
1999  _KILL ME TOMORROW_, 35mm, 80 min.  
1997  _SPF 2000_, 16mm, 10 min.  
1996  _SUROH: ALIEN HITCHHIKER_, Video, 74 min.  
1994  _DESERT SPIRITS_, 16mm, 35 min.  
1990  _SAY THANK YOU, PLEASE_, 16mm, 7 min.  
1989  _WHEN THE OWLING HAS COME_, 16mm, 6 min.  
1988  _AGNES KEEDAN'S SECRET PLAN_, 16mm, 13 min.  
1986  _TERRENCE BAUM_, 16mm, 5 min.

Production Company URL

www.myspace.com/willingsuspensionfilms

MOVIE URL

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PRODUCTION CREDITS

CAST

Wilson Hand   …  FATHER ANTHONY
David McWeeney  …  FATHER LARS
Damacio Ruiz   …  RAFAEL
Angelo Tursi   …  SEBASTIAN
Ryan G. Metzger  …  FLORIAN
Craig Philip Lumsden  …  ERIC
Darin Guerrasio  …  BROTHER MATTHEW
Nate Steinwachs  …  STEFANO
Sal Bardo   …  YOUNG ANTHONY
Shawn Hollenbach  …  MR. McGEE

CREW

Producer/Director    Patrick McGuinn
Executive Producer    Peter Perrone
Screenwriter     André Salas
1st AD/Continuity    Robert Ziegler
2nd AD/FX Liaison   BC Furtney
Cinematography    Nickolas Dylan Rossi
Assistant Camera    Nick Morr
Lighting/Grip    Tim O’Connor
Sound Mixer    Charles Mead
Art Direction    Susan Morningstar
Visual Effects    Jesse LeChok
Special Effects Makeup    Sam Kingcaid
Thematic Music    Christian Hawkins
Production Assistance    David Brown, Jonathan Lees
Film Processing    Technicolor, New York
Negative Matching    World Cinevision Services
Sound Mix    Soma Studios, Chicago
35mm Blow-Up    Metropolis Labs, NYC
Title Services    Sal Mallimo

End Credit Song “The Evidence Remains”
Composed and Performed by
David Brown

SPECIAL THANKS

Eleanor Ambos    Eric Luszcz
Michael Balabuch    Jonathan Lees
Anthony Chapman    Laura Martin
James Cronk    Graciano Nunez
Sam Daley    John Ort
Vefa Erdem    Dan Pane
Jeremy Hinsdale    Ruth Pinsky
Ron Hunt    Eliza Roberto
Deborah Kroll    Dolores Tickner
Serena Kuo    Joey Violante
Wildermania    C.P. Voigt
Sanjin Sabljak    David J. Turan

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