

THE ENDLESS

PRESS NOTES

06/20/17

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FACT SHEET

Film title: THE ENDLESS

Directors: Justin Benson & Aaron Moorhead

Aspect Ratio: 2:40:1

Runtime: 111 minutes

Sound format: 5.1

Screening formats: DCP (unencrypted), Blu-Ray

Country: USA

Language: English

Estimated MPAA rating: R

World Premiere: Tribeca Film Festival 2017

International Premiere: Neuchatel International Film Festival

Canadian Premiere: Fantasia International Film Festival

Domestic Distributor:

Well Go USA

Dylan Marchetti

dylan@wellgousa.com

International Sales:

AMP International

James Norrie

james@amp-film.com

Film Festival Information:

The filmmakers are handling the festival run and print traffic of THE ENDLESS directly. For information, please contact them.

Filmmaker Contact Information:

Aaron Moorhead
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Justin Benson
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619.518.9546

Agency: CAA

Jay Baker
Jay.Baker@caa.com

KEY CAST AND CREW

Directed by - Justin Benson & Aaron Moorhead

Written by - Justin Benson

Produced by - David Lawson Jr, Justin Benson, Aaron Moorhead

Produced by - Thomas R. Burke, Leal Naim

Executive Producers - Robert E. Pfaff, Frederick A. Pfaff

Director of Photography - Aaron Moorhead

Editors - Michael Felker, Aaron Moorhead, Justin Benson

Camera Operator - William Tanner Sampson

Production Designer - Ariel Vida

Casting Director - Mark Bennett

Supervising Sound Editor & Re-Recording Mixer - Yahel Dooley

Original Music By - Jimmy LaValle

Aaron - Aaron Moorhead

Justin - Justin Benson

Anna - Callie Hernandez (La La Land, Alien: Covenant, Blair Witch)

Hal - Tate Ellington (Quantico)

Tim - Lew Temple (The Walking Dead)

Shitty Carl - James Jordan (Wind River)

Shane - Shane Brady (Spring)

Lizzy - Kira Powell

Smiling Dave - David Lawson

Jennifer Danube - Emily Montague

Mike Danube - Peter Cilella (Resolution)

Chris Daniels - Vinny Curran (Resolution, Spring)

Production Companies:

Moorhead & Benson

Pfaff & Pfaff Productions

Love & Death Productions

Snowfort Pictures

FESTIVALS

Tribeca Film Festival 2017 - World Premiere, in U.S. Competition

Neuchatel International Fantastic Film Festival 2017 - International Premiere

London Film Festival 2017 - UK Premiere

Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival - | 메인 - 2017 - Asian Premiere

Fantasia Film Festival 2017 - Canadian Premiere

Fantastic Fest 2017

Sitges International Film Festival 2017 - Spanish Premiere

Melbourne Film Festival 2017 - Australian Premiere

MotelX Film Festival 2017

Strasbourg International Fantastic Film Festival 2017

Vancouver International Film Festival 2017

CPH PIX 2017

Milan International Film Festival 2017

Tallinn Black Nights International Film Festival 2017

Cucalorus Film Festival 2017

CRITICAL RESPONSE

100% - Rottentomatoes (as of 6/20/17)

“Cosmic” - Cinapse

“Fascinating” - Nerdist

“Mind-bending” - Variety

“A hit!” - Killer Reviews

“Hypnotic” - Culture Crypt

“Masterful” - We Got This Covered

“A cinematic powerhouse” - FilmPulse

“Remarkable” - Nightmarish Conjurings

“Pure, genre-defying magic.” - Modern Horrors

“Gorgeous...frightens and intrigues.” - Screen Anarchy

“The Endless will f*ck your brain...Justin Benson and Aaron Moorhead deliver an enticing, mysterious genre experiment with The Endless, that stands to be their best work yet.”

- Brad Miska, Bloody Disgusting

“Strong performances, solid direction and an eerie, almost inexplicable atmosphere (that’s a good thing) – pair up with a believable and heartfelt brother/brother relationship – which makes The Endless **an automatic winner...the film to beat**”

- Michael Klug, Horror Freak News

“2017 has already given us some great titles in genre filmmaking, and The Endless is certainly another amazing achievement in that respect. Benson and Moorhead have outdone themselves with a **thoroughly engrossing, intelligent, and shocking blend of cult and the occult**. Its Tribeca premiere should ensure lots of attention on the film circuit throughout the rest of the year, what they've done here deserves to be called **one of the best sci-fi films of the year.**”

- Rob Trench, Talk Film Society

“Thought provoking, conversation stirring and frightening in its implications, THE ENDLESS is a self reflective film who’s truest horror lies in the interpretation of the viewer.”

- Christopher Jiminez, Sinful Celluloid

“THE ENDLESS is a similarly elliptical, fascinating viewing experience that **blurs the boundaries between horror, science fiction and psychodrama.**”

- Michael Gingold, Rue Morgue

“As thought-provoking as it is **surreally funny and creepily brilliant.**”

- Anton Bitel, Little White Lies

"Justin Benson and Aaron Moorhead's *The Endless* is an assertion of talents in the most curious, explorative way. **Minds are unlocked, souls are bared and fears are shared**...editing is tight, effects boast **crazed ingenuity** and intrigue is always tickled at the perfect moment...Cinematic control never slips, despite a most treacherous slope where one misstep could domino something far more cataclysmic...**The Endless cements this movie-making tandem as two of the most exciting, energetic and revolutionary directors in American cinema.**"

- Matt Donato, We Got This Covered

"Deeply unsettling, fantastically eerie, a phantasmagoria of surreal mystery...simply put, it's **absolutely magnificent**"

- Jonathan Barkan, Dread Central

"The photography is absolutely phenomenal also and as the story finally gallops towards its climax everything is staged for a **truly epic** finale. **Benson & Moorhead are possibly the most innovative and exciting filmmaking talent in the world right now.**"

- Stephen Harper, The Slaughtered Bird

"Like Benson and Moorhead's previous films, this dynamic is just the foundation for what will become **a dread mindfuck that breaks reality into a million equally fascinating pieces** that will consistently keep audiences guessing...it's this mash-up of genres that makes *The Endless* work so well and something that makes their films wholly unique and **defiant of categorization**...*The Endless* is a **masterfully crafted** genre hybrid that **solidifies Justin Benson and Aaron Moorhead as two of the most interesting and uniquely voiced directors working today.**"

- Adam Paterson, Film Pluse

“The filmmakers previously had a hit with “Resolution”...but **all signs point to “The Endless” being an even bigger success.**”

- Gavin Schmidt, Killer Reviews

“One of the best and rarest things that directors can do, is ride that fine line where they are giving the audience enough information so that their imagination can fill in the blanks with their own creations. Benson and Moorhead did this **masterfully** by giving the viewer just enough guidance to put the pieces together while simultaneously holding back so that they may come up with their own interpretation of what The Endless really is.”

- Shannon McGrew, Nightmarish Conjurings

"Justin Benson & Aaron Moorhead's latest work The Endless finds the indie directing duo continuing their trajectory as **two of the most exciting voices working in genre films today**...The Endless sidesteps the norm in order to create a much different, more original work that **blends Lovecraftian idolatry, science fiction, time loops and family drama**...One admirable characteristic of Benson and Moorhead's filmmaking is their dedication to sampling varying genres within one work...the duo blend elements of science fiction, horror, family drama, and comedy and bend these tropes to fulfill the dramatic arc of their story. **They refuse to allow their films to be pigeonholed** or easily characterized in order to appeal to specific niches.”

- Mike Snoonian, Film Thrills

“Originality, wit, tension, beautiful cinematography, an outstanding cast, and that heart-pounding score. **It is going to be stuck in my mind for awhile.**”

- Rachel Hauschild, The Farsighted

"The duo's move in front of the camera reveals that the two have been hoarding some legit acting chops this entire time. They really nail the patter of brothers whose

connection is close but contentious...It's obvious the filmmakers know what this kind of relationship looks, sounds and feels like, and it's hard to overstate the importance of this chemistry to the film...**In the last decade, it's tough to think of many filmmakers who have had as good a run in the arena of genre fiction in independent film as Benson and Moorhead."**

- Scott Wold, Paste Magazine

"The Endless isn't just terrific – it's **poised to be that breakout genre hit that It Follows and The Babadook were** in past years. **This isn't just hype...**The film is sharply written, smart and funny. It's tense and uncertain at moments, but it's not overtly scary, which actually works in its favor. There's no pressure to deliver big scares and there's no let down when it doesn't and it allows the film to just be really good...**The Endless so insanely watchable.** It is a film that **audiences will likely come back to for multiple viewings."**

- Jamie Righetti, Slash Film

"**Effortless in its coolness...**The Endless is special. It's an emotionally affecting story about brotherly love and coexistence...The chemistry between the actors makes the movie sing. They feel authentic and genuine."

- William Dass, Film School Rejects

"The Endless takes its cue from family, and is arguably their most **intimate and personal** work to date...The **gorgeous cinematography** brings to life the particular combination of the metaphysical and the real at which these filmmakers are particularly adept...The Endless succeeds both as a family drama, and as a fantastical film that **both frightens and intrigues."**

- Shelagh Rowan-Legg, Screen Anarchy

“Benson and Moorhead have distinguished their unique fingerprint on genre cinema in the same way that you can say names such as Ti West, Ben Wheatley, or Mike Flanagan and immediately have a good grasp on the kind of experience that is in store...“The Endless” has a similarly **hypnotic beauty to its subtly building terror and a texture of maverick spirit other horror films just don’t have.**”

- Ian Sedensky, Culture Crupt

“**Its true scope is cosmic in nature** and The Endless has the courage of its convictions, unafraid to go all-in on some deeply strange subject matter...[It] showcases just how far [Aaron and Justin] have come as filmmakers...The Endless finds the talented duo operating at the peak of their technical prowess...[it] succeeds in conjuring an oppressive mood that permeates the frame...A huge part of that is the score by Jimmy Lavalle, which weaves beautifully with the camera’s motion to keep you off-balance throughout...**Benson and Moorhead are rapidly establishing themselves as two of the more distinctive and important voices in genre cinema today, and at this moment in time, they seem to have no ceiling.**”

- Brendan Foley, Cinapse

“The Endless is quite the anomaly, striking **a perfect balance between funny and tense that keeps viewers on their toes** for the entirety of its runtime.”

- Curt Oglesbee, Horror Geek Life

“Give them a camera, a location, and the cost of one year’s tuition at an Ivy League school, and they can make magic. Aaron Moorhead and Justin Benson are just such **wizards of ingenuity**, to the extent that their latest, “The Endless,” devises an elaborate supernatural premise they can pull off with minimal special effects...the bond between them is palpable, delivering just the dynamic the movie needs. Moorhead’s unafraid to play vulnerable and weak, while Benson has a gruff Jake Gyllenhaal-esque quality that suggests additional career possibilities in case this whole directing thing

doesn't pan out — although by all appearances, the pair have nothing to worry about on that front.”

- Peter Debruge, *Variety*

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Two brothers return to the death cult from which they fled a decade ago, to find that there might be some truth to the group's otherworldly beliefs.

LONG SYNOPSIS

Living in poverty in a shared studio apartment in Los Angeles, two brothers (Justin and Aaron) receive a mysterious videotape in a box that seems to have been shipped through a hundred countries before arriving on their doorstep.

On it, a Heaven's Gate-esque cult member talks about an impending "Ascension". We learn that the brothers were raised in this cult, and fled from it a decade ago because Justin pulled Aaron out when he became aware of an impending mass suicide.

But this tape seems to say otherwise -- their old family is alive and well, which opens a crack in the brothers' relationship: why did Justin pull Aaron away from the only family he's ever known, lie about their mass suicide, and have him live this destitute life?

On Aaron's insistence, they go back to their homestead deep in the high desert forest of the southwest in order to get some closure. But when they arrive, they discover that the "cult" might not really be a cult at all, and they're not certain just how welcome back they are.

And there seems to be a dark truth to the commune's otherworldly beliefs that suggest the laws of the natural world may be very different than we assume, which propels THE ENDLESS into a Lovecraftian tale about brotherhood, giving up your personal autonomy, and history's weird, malevolent tendency to repeat itself.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Hashtag:

#TheEndless

Twitter:

@JustinHBenson

@AaronMoorhead

@DavidLawsonJr

Instagram:

@AaronMoorhead

@Justin_Benson

@trashcanart

@lealnaim

@gucci__tom

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/TheEndlessFilm

www.facebook.com/loveanddeathfilms/

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

We have been fortunate enough to have made a couple indie films that were seen by festivals and general audiences alike. With this privilege came opportunities to make movies on a bigger scale (that we are infinitely excited for), but we also had an itch we had to scratch -- one that stemmed from the do-it-yourself ethos that gave us these opportunities in the first place. So we made a decision to just do what we know we can do, and what we love: just go make a movie that we're inspired by. *THE ENDLESS*, conceived from this decision, then ended up spiralling into something much bigger and more wonderful, and it's our favorite film yet. The movie is a fluid culmination of the thoughts and ideas that we've been giddily sharing with each other over the last 5 years over beers, coffee and long flights.

We find the movie a bit hard to describe without citing other films that we never intended to pay homage to, but we hope that when people leave the theater they feel like they've seen a singular vision, the ultimate aspiration being that someday that vision will best be described as a Moorhead&Benson film. The premise and mythology was a lighting strike of whatever that thing a film we make is, every element of this oddly charming world falling into place like mystical filmmaking synchronicity. And though as indie filmmakers we're always aware of the power of a populist sensibility in storytelling, the exploration of this world was following creativity and heart above all else. So with the same absolute freedom as our previous two features, we harmoniously bootstrapped a story about brotherhood, family, spirituality, and the importance of rebellion and anti-conformity in the face of the heartbreaking, funny, and of course scary, great big mysteries of life.

- Justin Benson & Aaron Moorhead, Directors of *THE ENDLESS*

ABOUT THE CAST

CALLIE HERNANDEZ

A natural talent, with a striking presence, Callie Hernandez is quickly establishing herself as one of Hollywood's most sought after young talents.

Hernandez can next be seen in **Ridley Scott's** highly anticipated **ALIEN: COVENANT** – sixth installment in the popular **ALIEN** franchise – opposite **Michael Fassbender, Katherine Waterston** and **Billy Crudrup**. The 20th Century Fox film has been slated for May 19, 2017. She has also wrapped production on David Robert Mitchell's crime thriller **UNDER THE SILVER LAKE** opposite **Andrew Garfield, Riley Keough** and **Topher Grace**, which was recently acquired by A24.

Hernandez was most recently seen as 'Tracy' in the Academy Award® nominated musical **LA LA LAND** from director **Damien Chazelle**, opposite **Emma Stone** and **Ryan Gosling**. That same year, she starred as the lead in Lionsgate's found footage horror sequel **BLAIR WITCH**, which made its debut at the 2016 **Toronto International Film Festival**. This follows roles in **Robert Rodriguez's** cult classics **MACHETE KILLS** and **SIN CITY: A DAME TO KILL FOR**.

On the small screen, Hernandez stars on the Epix political satire series **GRAVES** opposite **Nick Nolte**, which was recently renewed for Season 2. She stars in the leading female role of 'Samantha', a free-spirited waitress who meets Graves (Nolte) during his journey. Becoming his muse and often following along for the journey as he seeks to right his self-perceived wrongs. Prior, she appeared in Robert Rodriguez's horror series **FROM DUSK TILL DAWN: THE SERIES**.

The Texas native currently resides in Los Angeles.

TATE ELLINGTON

Tate Ellington can be seen in the upcoming independent film, **THE ENDLESS**, from directors Aaron Moorhead and Justin Benson, which premiered at the **2017 Tribeca Film Festival**. He was recently seen in a major recurring arc on Showtime's hit show, **Shameless**, opposite **Emmy Rossum** and **William H. Macy**.

Last year, Tate saved the world from a terrorist strike as 'Simon Asher' in ABC's thrilling series **Quantico**. He was also seen in both Universal's **Straight Outta Compton**, based on the creation of the legendary rap group N.W.A as well as the sequel to the blockbuster horror film **Sinister**. Ellington continued to show his range by appearing in two major recurring roles as a friend and colleague to Mindy Kaling on the hit comedy series **The Mindy Project** as well as one of the deadly leaders of Terminus in AMC's smash show **The Walking Dead**. Other TV credits include **Big Bang Theory**, **The Blacklist**, **Parenthood**, **Castle**, **The Good Wife**, and **NCIS: Los Angeles**.

Ellington's first major film role was as **Robert Pattinson**'s best friend, 'Aiden' in the Summit film **Remember Me** opposite **Pierce Brosnan** and **Chris Cooper**. He also starred in the indie film **The Elephant King**, which premiered at the **Tribeca Film Festival** and garnered him a **Best Actor** award at the **Brooklyn International Film Festival**. Tate recently finished production on the indie horror film **Belzebuth** as well as the lead in the indie comedy **Enchanted Forest** directed by Josh Klausner. Additional film credits include **Taking Chance** for HBO Film, **RED** opposite **Brian Cox**, and the independent features **Northeast**, **Silver Tongues**, **Red Hook**, **Breaking Upwards**, **Descent**, **The Kitchen**, and **Ricky Gervais' The Invention of Lying**.

Theater credits include **The Philanthropist** on Broadway opposite **Matthew Broderick** and **Steven Weber**, **The Shape of Things** for the Rising Sun Performance Company, and the 2004 Fringe Festival-winning **Dog Sees God** at the SoHo Playhouse.

LEW TEMPLE

Lew Temple is an American film actor, perhaps best known for his roles as Axel on "**The Walking Dead**," the character of Ned Oldham in the action adventure thriller, "**Unstoppable**" which also starred Denzel Washington, Chris Pine and Rosario Dawson; directed by Tony Scott, and Cal the diner manager in the comedy-drama "**Waitress**."

Temple is an extraordinarily diverse actor who often is compared to a chameleon: he has the unique ability to take any character and make it his own.

Other Film and TV credits include: recurring roles on "**Wicked City**" (ABC), as Dave and "**Longmire**" (Netflix), as Archer Loftus. He was part of the Oscar Award winning "**Rango**" as Mr. Fugus and Sgt. Turley, along side Johnny Depp, Isla Fisher, Abigail Breslin, Timothy Elephant, Ned Beatty and Harry Dean Stanton, directed by Gore Verbinski. He also appeared as the ranger, Hollis, 2013 Disney blockbuster "**The Lone Ranger**," alongside Johnny Depp and Armie Hammer, also directed by Gore Verbinski. He was Locus Fender in the action film "**Domino**," starring Kiera Knightley and Mickey Rourke, directed by Tony Scott. And Rob Zombie's soon to be released "**31**" starring Malcolm McDowell, "**Halloween**" starring Malcolm McDowell, Brad Dourif, and Scout Taylor- Compton, as well as "**The Devil's Rejects**" with Bill Moseley, Sid Haig, William Forsythe, and Sherri Moon Zombie. And the Indie suspense thriller "**Night Moves**" starring Jesse Eisenberg, Dakota Fanning and Peter Sarsgaard. And starring in "**Wicked Blood**" as Donny Baker, along with Abigail Breslin, Sean Bean and James Purefoy.

Temple began his acting career on the stage of the prestigious Alley Theatre in Houston, Texas, working alongside artists such as Vanessa Redgrave in "Julius Caesar" and "Anthony & Cleopatra", as well as acclaimed writer/directors Michael

Wilson, Terrance McNally and Edward Albee. He next landed numerous television roles, as well as roles in independent and mainstream studio films, such as "On the Borderline," "The Newton Boys," and "Angels in the Outfield."

Prior to acting, Temple had a Minor League Baseball career with the Seattle Mariners" and "Houston Astros." He worked his way through the Astros system to become Assistant Director of Minor Leagues and Scouting.

JAMES JORDAN

James Jordan was born and raised in Texas and Missouri. He graduated from Missouri Southern State with a BA in Theatre and earned a Master of Fine Arts in acting from UCLA.

Theater:

World Premieres; **Kindred** (Los Angeles Theater Ensemble.) **Money Shot** (DAFT inc. Company of Angels. Los Angeles) **HOT** (DAFT inc. Ark Theater Company. Los Angeles)

Television:

Guest Stars; **Bloodline** (upcoming season 3). **True Blood** (recurring season 5). **Veronica Mars** (recurring season 23). **Good Morning Killer** (Lead. TNT Original Movie). **Over There. CSI. CSI Miami. Without a Trace. Cold Case. The Closer. Just Legal. 24. Justified. Body of Proof. The Mentalist. Blue. Close To Home.**

Film:

Wind River (Dir. Taylor Sheridan. Sundance Film Festival. 2017.) **Certain Women** (Dir. Kelly Reichardt. IFC Films. Sundance Film Festival. 2016.) **The Endless** (Dir. Aaron Moorhead/Justin Benson. Tribeca Film Festival 2017) **Message from the King** (Dir. Fabrice Du Welz. Toronto Film Festival. 2016) **Seraphim Falls** (Dir. David Von Ancken. Samuel Goldwyn Films. Toronto Film Festival. 2006) **Best Night Ever** (Dir. Jason Friedberg/Aaron Seltzer. Magnet Releasing. 2014.)

James is a Cofounder of the nonprofit Los Angeles-based Dead Art Form Theatre, Inc. and a member of SAG-AFTRA. He lives in Los Angeles, California.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

JUSTIN BENSON & AARON MOORHEAD

Co-Directors, co-producers, co-editors, lead actors

Writer Justin Benson

Cinematographer / VFX Artist Aaron Moorhead

Justin Benson and **Aaron Moorhead**, known as Moorhead&Benson, are the co-directing team behind the 2014 Toronto International Film Festival favorite “**SPRING**” as well as the Tribeca Film Festival sleeper hit “**RESOLUTION**” that took the film festival circuit by storm in 2012. Both films have been wildly acclaimed by critics and audiences for their naturalistic performances and avant-garde approach to story structure and cinema. They each remain at 100% Fresh on Rottentomatoes.com, the world’s leading site on gathering critical movie reviews. The duo has been selected as one of **VARIETY magazine’s “Ten Directors to Watch”**.

The duo is a self-contained unit that has been defined as “quietly mythic”: unpredictable storytelling that won’t leave you after viewing, ardently character-first approach, and arresting visuals. They wear as many hats as possible on their own films: writing, directing, producing, cinematography, editing, even visual effects.

After **SPRING**’s premiere at TIFF, the film (and the filmmakers) traveled to over 20 other film festivals including the **London Film Festival, Sitges, Fantastic Fest,** and **Paris International Fantastic Film Festival**. **SPRING** took home **Best Film** in Paris, and lead actor Lou Taylor Pucci garnered **Best Actor** at Fantastic Fest. The film will be released theatrically by **Drafthouse Films** in Spring 2015.

Like **SPRING**, following its world premiere in the **Tribeca Film Festival 2012**, **RESOLUTION** and the directors globetrotted to more than 30 other film festivals, garnering such awards as **Most Innovative Film, Best Directors, Best Screenplay,**

and **Best Film**. RESOLUTION was distributed theatrically by Tribeca Film in January 2013, and can currently be viewed on every major platform (Netflix, Amazon Instant, VOD, DVD/Blu-Ray). SPRING was distributed theatrically and streaming in 2015 via a collaboration between Drafthouse Films and Filmbuff.

Filmography:

THE ENDLESS (2017) - 111 Minutes - Feature

World Premiere at Tribeca Film Festival 2017 in U.S. Competition

SPRING (2015) - 109 minutes - Feature

Fantastic Fest: Best Male Actor Lou Taylor Pucci

Paris Int'l Fantastic Film Festival: Best Film

Sitges Int'l Fantastic Film Festival: Special Jury Mention

Ithaca Int'l Fantastic Film Festival: Best Screenplay

RESOLUTION (2012) - 93 minutes - Feature

Toronto After Dark: Most Innovative Film, Best Screenplay

Macabro Film Festival: Best Directors

Fantastic Planet Film Festival: Best Directors

Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival: Mad Movies Award

Distributed by Tribeca Film, XYZ Films N. American sales rep

V/H/S: VIRAL segment 'Bonestorm' (2014) - 80 min - Feature (anthology)

Premiere at Film 4 Fright Fest, US Premiere Fantastic Fest

WRECKED (2013) - 15 minutes - Short

Produced by TRIBECA FILMS/MAKER STUDIOS

ABOUT THE PRODUCERS

DAVID LAWSON

SNOWFORT PICTURES

David's love of film started at an early age while living in Baltimore, MD. Once he graduated high school, he enlisted in the Air Force. There he not only met many people with the same affinity for cinema, but also took to heart their core values: integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all you do. He has since brought those values to Los Angeles, where since 2005 he has been working his way up the commercial and feature film ranks. This marks David's, who is currently Head of Production at Snowfort Pictures, 3rd feature film with Moorhead&Benson (**RESOLUTION** and **SPRING**), and 6th overall (**TRASH FIRE**, **24X36: A MOVIE ABOUT MOVIE POSTERS**, and **68 KILL**).

THOMAS R. BURKE, LEAL NAIM

LOVE & DEATH PRODUCTIONS

Love & Death Productions is a feature production company that specializes in producing high-quality, micro-budget genre films. With a focus on developing and financing both comedy and horror projects, it seeks to tap into a devoted audience and bring unique, daring, and commercial projects to the screen. Furthermore, by working with talented young filmmakers, Love & Death provides opportunities to a new generation of storytellers.

PFAFF & PFAFF PRODUCTIONS LTD.

As just one more set of film industry brothers out of Cleveland, Ohio, Pfaff & Pfaff was created by Robert and Fred Pfaff with the mission of seeking out and funding select limited budget independent film projects from younger or start-up talents that otherwise would not receive the attention that they so richly deserve; a niche which is ever growing in demand.

KEY CREW

JIMMY LAVALLE (“THE ALBUM LEAF”)

Composer

The Album Leaf is the solo project of Jimmy LaValle, a San Diego-based songwriter who began recording solo material one year after forming the post-rock band Tristeza. Inspired by a number of genres -- classical, jazz, and post-rock among them -- LaValle constructed his own songs in a similarly eclectic manner, utilizing everything from ambient noise to field recordings to radio transmissions. An *Orchestrated Rise to Fall* introduced the resulting sound in 1999. An EP (*In an Off White Room*) preceded the release of LaValle's second full-length album, *One Day I'll Be on Time*, which was released by Tiger Style in March 2001. The Album Leaf's profile blossomed as a result of those recordings, and LaValle found himself opening shows for **Sigur Ros'** first American tour that fall. By the time he began recording his third album, he'd also secured the services of Sigur Ros' Iceland studios, along with the participation of several of that band's members. The resulting album, *In a Safe Place*, appeared on the Sub Pop label in June 2004.

The Seal Beach EP, originally issued in 2003 in Spain, appeared stateside in early 2005, and LaValle's next album, *Into the Blue Again*, followed in September 2006. The Album Leaf toured sporadically throughout the remainder of the decade, performing in multiple continents and opening for **Devendra Banhart** at the Hollywood Bowl in 2008. Two years later, LaValle returned with his fifth full-length album, *A Chorus of Storytellers*.

MICHAEL FELKER

Editor

Michael Felker is a freelance editor based out of Los Angeles, CA. While obtaining his BFA at the Florida State University Film School as well as studying at New York University's Tisch Filmmaker Workshop, Michael became well versed in all the facets of post production, especially learning the ins and outs of Final Cut, Avid, and Premiere. Michael continues to edit a wide array of projects, ranging from feature films and web series to music videos, commercials, and event coverage. He's always ready to tackle new and exciting projects all the while studying the ebb and flow of visual storytelling. Starting as a production assistant on Moorhead & Benson's RESOLUTION, he quickly became their co-editor with their V/H/S: VIRAL segment "BONESTORM", and continued their permanent partnership with SPRING and THE ENDLESS.

INTERVIEW WITH THE FILMMAKERS

What influenced this work? (It can be cinematic, personal, anything!)

We were in a unique position where our first two films (RESOLUTION and SPRING, two films we had total creative control over) had given us rare opportunities for larger-budget things which were still ours, but came with strings attached and much longer timelines. And we realized that there's no reason to wait to make a movie -- we're filmmakers, let's pick up a camera and go make a film! We planned to duct-tape the film together and promised to make sure that no matter what, we'd tell whatever story we felt like telling. What started as a bootstrap motivation to make something surprised us by turning into this story about that process in itself: history will only repeat itself unless you take bold, risky action to break the cycle. So the influence was, in a phrase, the fact that no moss gathers on a rolling stone.

Storytelling brings people together. How does your film accomplish this?

The movie is ultimately, thematically about family, and to a broader extent healthy resistance to conformity. These things with some good jokes and heartstring-pulling moments provides that profound communal experience of watching movies together.

Why does this story need to be told now?

Interpersonally, the two of us being the lead actors, we needed this film in order to exorcise our filmmaking demons. You'll see what we mean when you see it. Thematically, the film deals with how history has this weirdly malevolent tendency to repeat itself, and here we are in these dark and stormy times. But it's not a political movie, it's something that seems to happen nonstop in real life, and the best thing you can do is to grab the ones you love and fight the seeming comforts of conformity.

What would you say was the most difficult part about making this film?

Shortly before filming, Justin's mother took her own life. It absolutely devastated us. THE ENDLESS deals directly with suicide, and suddenly these themes became extremely real and there wasn't a moment when we were making this film that wasn't colored and contextualized by it. In many ways the film was a saving grace and a big part of the grieving process -- Justin's father was able to be on set doing the crew meals, and since we were living on location, they were together as a family and constantly around a tight-knit group people that cared about them. The film also has much to do with bigger life and spiritual questions, which provided much meditation while performing in the roles and directing the scenes that focus on the metaphysical.

What was the most unexpected experience that arose on set while you were filming?

It's an indie film, so we were pulling insanely long days and nights for weeks on end. After we wrapped our final location and everyone was sent home, the sun was threatening to come up as we threw everything into our cars to leave. We hadn't slept in a couple days, but we had one more shot to get -- in the Borrego Desert a couple hours away. So the two of us and Shane Brady pounded some Red Bulls and drove even further into the middle of nowhere. And halfway through the drive, we turned a corner, and the sun came up over a foggy mountain amid strange metal desert sculptures of horses and giant turtles. It looked like Lord of the Rings as painted by Monet, and it was so absurdly cheesily beautiful, in our extreme exhaustion we all just burst out laughing.

Tell us an anecdote about casting or working with your lead actor(s).

A major part of our process is rehearsal. We rehearse for weeks and weeks. During one of them, we were doing a loud scene while pretending to push-start a car in a second-floor apartment in Los Angeles, and the cops paid us a visit to find out why we wouldn't stop screaming at each other and banging on the walls.

What is something that all filmmakers should keep in mind in order to become better cinematic storytellers?

Learn when to listen and when not to listen. You need notes and feedback to make an excellent film, but if you don't learn when to stand your ground you can often end up with something that lacks voice or is too middle of the road. Know the rules, but also always remember there's great reward for the audience in breaking them, as this is often what makes material fresh and unexpected.

FULL CREDITS LIST

CAST	
Aaron	Aaron Moorhead
Justin	Justin Benson
Anna	Callie Hernandez
Hal	Tate Ellington
Shane	Shane Brady
Tim	Lew Temple
Lizzy	Kira Powell
Dave	David Lawson
"Shitty" Carl	James Jordan
Jennifer Danube	Emily Montague
Mike Danube	Peter Cilella
Chris Daniels	Vinny Curran
Early 1900's Man	Rick Sarabia
Exit Counselor	Catherine Lawson
Beer Distro Ted	Josh Higgins
Beer Distro Dale	Billy Ray Brewton
Woods	Glen Roberts
CREW	
Directed by	Justin Benson & Aaron Moorhead
Written by	Justin Benson
Produced by	David Lawson Jr, Justin Benson, Aaron Moorhead
Produced By	Thomas R. Burke, Leal Naim
Executive Producers	Robert E. Pfaff, Frederick A. Pfaff
Director of Photography	Aaron Moorhead
Editors	Michael Felker, Justin Benson, Aaron Moorhead
Camera Operator	William Tanner Sampson
Production Designer	Ariel Vida

Casting Director	Mark Bennett
Original Music By	Jimmy LaValle
1st AD	David Lawson
Production Manager	Ryan Leonard
Production Coordinator	Alexandrina Andre
Art Director	Kati Simon
Graphic Designer	Kim Berens
Steadicam / Drone Operator	William Tanner Sampson
Script Supervisor	L'Tisha Vaughn
1st Asst. Camera	Erica Chan
2nd Asst. Camera	Lexa Payne
2nd Asst. Camera	Andrew Penczner
Gaffer	Bob Low
B Camera Operator	Paul Tackett
B Camera Operator	Steven Martinez
Key Grip	Joseph Marcotte
G&E Vendor	Special Purpose Lighting
Camera & Lens Vendor	Nienhuis Camera Services, Inc.
Sound Mixer	Bryn Hubbard
Craft Services	Nils Benson
Dialogue Editor	Michael Huang
Sound Effects Editor	Duncan Mathieson
Sound Effects Editor	Jon Schell
Sound Design	Yahel Dooley
Additional Sound Design	Jon Schell
Re-recording Mixer	Yahel Dooley
Sound Special Thanks	Trailer Park, Inc.
Mixed at	Anarchy Post
Original Music Written & Performed by	Jimmy LaValle
Modular Synthesizer	David Lebleu
Violin	Matt Resovich
Vocals	Emily Zuzik

Additional Vocals	Scott Mercado
Colorist	Brian Barrow
Visual Effects	Aaron Moorhead
Visual Effects Artist/Monster Design	Michael Matzur
Additional Compositing	Erica Chan
Title Design	Michael Matzur
Production Attorney	Jon Van Schaik
Spiritual Adviser	Nils Benson
Special Thanks	
Jay Baker	Ricky Bates
Nils Benson	Nate Bolotin
Trista Brant	Todd Brown
Guillermo del Toro	The City of Descanso, CA
Michael Dunker	Eric Ekman
Kevin Escobar	Josh Ethier
Tribeca Film	Ciaran Foy
Jeremy Gardner	David Gorsline
Drew Hamilton	Julian Higgins
Matthias Hoene	Ye Rustic Inn
Daniel Kagle	Evan Katz
Rob Kenneally	Angela Liu
Shauna Mahoney	Greg Marcks
Ben Mekler	Justin Micklish
Scott Moorhead	Karen Moorhead
Camp Oliver	Ryan Orenstein
Praveen Pandian	Trailer Park
Jamie Parslow	Jori Richman
Dean Schnider	Amy Sewart
Power House Creative Space	Ryan Spindell
Christian Stella	Christian Stella

Travis Stevens	Jesse Summoner
Kate Trumbull-LaValle	Alexandra Trustman
Timo Vuorensola	David Burke
Richard Denmon	Nathalie Curtis
Ori Samuel	Simon Rosenberg
In Loving Memory of Randalyn Benson	