

Blindhouse Productions

presents

B L I N D D O L L

written and directed
by

Jérémie Damoiseau

Starring

Erica Rice
Daeg Faerch

Year: 2005

Format: mini-DV

Running Time: 8 minutes 30

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Blindhouse Productions

PRESENTS

BLIND DOLL

A JEREMIE DAMOISEAU FILM

STARRING

Erica Rice
Daeg Faerch

COMPOSER **DENNIS DREITH**

EDITOR **XAVIER HARARI**

COSTUME DESIGNER **LINDSEY NELSEN**

PRODUCTION DESIGNER **XAVIER HARARI**

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **SHAWN GRICE**

WRITTEN, PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY **JEREMIE DAMOISEAU**

CAST

Laura
Mute Child

Erica Rice
Daeg Faerch

CREW

Writer, Producer, Director J r mie Damoiseau

Director of Photography Shawn Grice

Production Designer Xavier Harari

Costume Designer Lindsey Nelsen

Editor Xavier Harari

Art Directors Carlo Garduno
Sheree Groves

Composer Dennis Dreith

1st Assistant Director Paul D. Hart

2nd Assistant Director Donald Yew

Steadicam Operator Nicolas Martin

1st Assistant Camera Paul D. Hart

Script Supervisor Ben Umstead

Production Sound Mixer Jose Chairez

Boom Operator Collin Bird
Jesse Garcia
Carlo Garduno

Dolly Grip David Etttedgui

Gaffers Shawn Grice
David Etttedgui

Grips/Electric Donald Yew
Jesse Garcia
Sarah Galletti
David Etttedgui

Sound Designer Xavier Harari

Still Photographers Ben Umstead
Carlo Garduno

BLIND DOLL

A suddenly blind woman is being haunted by the ghost of her aborted child.

SYNOPSIS

"Blind Doll" tells the story of Laura, a beautiful woman waking up into a state of hysterical blindness. With panic growing and the feeling of a menacing presence drawing ever closer, an androgenic mute child appears before her and tries to communicate with her. The child then guides her into a mysterious underground passage that leads them to a dead body and the ultimate realization...

BLIND DOLL
Directed by Jérémie Damoiseau

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Writer-director JEREMIE DAMOISEAU had the idea of "Blind Doll" in the summer of 2004, under the working title "The Blind House". It took him almost a year to go from a concept to an actual screenplay. It was originally conceived more as a high concept horror/thriller, set in a glass house. But for a French director fresh to Los Angeles, this idea would prove to be too expensive to execute for the time being.

Of his idea, Damoiseau says: "The concept first came into my mind with the idea of a blind woman who would recover her sight and would have to adapt to seeing objects, colors and watching herself in a mirror. Subsequently I asked myself about the opposite course: losing the use of its eyes and the trauma that it may cause. This idea attracted me more because of the atmosphere and climax I could create from that. The movie I had in mind was like a cousin to Vincenzo Natali's "Cube", with a touch of Takeshi Kitano's "Dolls" and "Zatoichi"."

Damoiseau continues: "I was never interested in how or why this woman has gone blind. I like the idea of not being told the reasons and accepting the situation as a fact. Like in "Cube", it's a concept that has to be acknowledged by the audience from the start. "Cube" is a good reference, because the lack of any explanation makes it more intriguing and mysterious."

As opposed as he was to constructing a convoluted plot, Jeremie Damoiseau wanted "Blind Doll" to be an unusual film visually and had a precise idea of what he wanted: "I imagined the frames as some sort of futuristic Edward Hopper paintings, like his portraits of lonely women in empty rooms. There is also a portrait by Egon Schiele of a seated woman with a bent knee that was resonant to me in apprehending and filming Laura."

"I had a very abstract space in mind for the room. I wanted to make the audience blind too. I intended to alternate dark scenes and overexposed shots, intense lighting, blue and white colors, and try to express a sense of being in a void. The pace of the film would be both meditative and chilling, smooth and violent, somehow in the way of Takeshi Kitano's movies."

"My interest in handicaps and paralysis probably comes from the haunting figure of my father's elder brother who was physically and mentally ill. Also, one of my first shorts,

called "T.V: Talking Vision", was about a teenager who couldn't speak and had to express himself through clips from films he had seen before with a TV plugged into his brain." "Blind Doll" was shot during the course of three days in Los Angeles. The underground location is a huge basement located underneath a Downtown soundstage, famous for having served the productions of "Fight Club" and numerous horror films. The blue room scenes were filmed at the John Kirby Studio, which was formerly occupied by Mike Tyson before his arrest. In addition Frank Sinatra recorded his early records there.

ABOUT THE CAST

ERICA RICE (Laura)

A native of the San Francisco valley, Erica Rice is an artist from her soul to her body: sculptress, painter, actress, dancer and horse rider. In addition to teaching art, Erica has had an intensive career in theatre that lead her to more parts in film. She also directed her first play in 2004.

"A few characters are cast dead-on, and they shine. Foremost among them is Erica Rice, properly innocent but strong as Peer's idealized, pure at heart love interest." --Backstage West, "Peer Gynt"

DAEG FAERCH (Mute Child)

Is an up and coming child actor with an angelic androgynous look, chosen by Rob Zombie to be young Michael Meyer in the upcoming 2007 "Halloween" version. At only 10 and with a career in both film and theater, he's also a writer and director (stage and film) with aspirations of acting & directing in the French cinema. Fluent in French, he can cry on cue and in character, and he has played roles ranging from 8 to 14 years old.

Daeg's career highlights include: Daeg's own pirate screenplay 'Duel' currently in production. A sequel has been written for his character in "10 Places". He is also excited about appearing in a Zombie short film and the "Whiz Kids" industrial videos sold at Zany Brainy stores. Upcoming roles include a creepy hillbilly in a horror feature film, and the lead in a "True Life" episode on MTV.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

JEREMIE DAMOISEAU (Writer, Producer, Director) was born and grew up in Evry, a "ville nouvelle" [new city] in the suburbs of Paris, France. At the age of 9 he discovered his

life commitment and passion for the cinema.

After graduating from high school, Jérémie entered the University of Panthéon-Sorbonne in Paris where he was selected for the film studies program. He discovered new approaches to the arts and a new interest for experimental films that resulted in him shooting and cutting his own Super 8 films, sometimes without a script ("Broken Time" 1998)

It's while he was completing his master's degree, that Jérémie finally got his foot in the door, by entering the distribution company Metropolitan Filmexport. At the time it was becoming the strongest independent in the French industry, having produced "Brotherhood of the Wolf" and acquiring the distribution rights for "The Lord of The Rings".

Being around "the French Weinstein brothers" Samuel and Victor Hadida, Jérémie was paid to attend what was like an intensive three-year film program, and learnt a great deal about production and distribution, all being in house at Metropolitan and its Davis Films venture.

But Jeremie still felt his training incomplete, and that he needed more experience because his real calling was on set, in the making of films. So having always wanted to experience life abroad, he set himself to attend the one-year Immersion filmmaking program at the Los Angeles Film School during which he worked on dozens of productions including "The Hit Show", and "86 Manners", where he held the positions of script supervisor and first assistant director. For the needs of his thesis film "Blind Doll", Jeremie was not only the writer/director but also the producer, production designer and editor.

In addition to "Blind Doll", Jeremie recently worked on the "Frankenstein"/ "Raging Bull"-inspired period film "The Champ". He also has several feature film projects in the works including "Seppuku", an action drama set in Japan, as well as a film book about his all time favorite, Swedish action star Dolph Lundgren.

SHAWN GRICE (Director of Photography) has an innovative eye and brings passion and professionalism to each and every project he works on. With experience shooting on and lighting for 16, Super 16 and 35mm film and 24p MiniDV and HD (with and without prime lens adapters) he can attain any look desired. He has shot just about every genre imaginable and, in addition, possesses an uncanny sense for aesthetics and detail. Most importantly, Shawn carries an easy-to-get-along-with persona and works effectively regardless of budget.

Originally hailing from the Detroit, Michigan area, Shawn currently resides in Los Angeles, CA, where he has been since attending The Los Angeles Film School in early 2004.

DENNIS DREITH (Composer) Dennis Dreith, an accomplished film composer, arranger, and conductor is also known in the motion picture industry as one of the hardest working advocates for musician's rights.

Born in Glendale, California, Dreith showed a remarkable talent for music at an early age. He learned to play a variety of keyboard and reed instruments and while still in his teens. He formed a jazz combo in the late 1960s, and was so good, the late music promoter Ray Bowman scheduled them for a number of Monday night concerts at the legendary Ice House in Pasadena.

Dreith grew to work as a musician in the film music industry and eventually worked with the International President of the Recording Musicians' Association (RMA), becoming it's president... a post he held for over 15 years.

Dennis was also a member and consultant for the American Federation of Musicians (AFM) Negotiating Sub-committee for every major electronic media agreement negotiated by them. During that time, he was also AFM liaison to both the Theatrical and Television Motion Picture Special Payments Fund (MPSPF), and the Phonograph Record Manufacturers' Special Payments Fund, even addressing the House Subcommittee on Intellectual Properties in support of Digital Performers Rights legislation in Washington D.C. that was signed into law by President Clinton in November of 1995.

In 1996, he traveled to Japan where he negotiated and executed a "Friendship Agreement" between the Musicians Rights Commission of Japan and the RMA, which in turn has resulted in the substantial distribution of Japanese royalties to U.S. recording musicians.

Dreith is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Film Musicians Secondary Markets Fund as well as the Independent Administrator of the AFM & AFTRA Intellectual Property Rights Distribution Fund, overseeing the Japanese Record Rental Royalty Fund, the AHRA Fund (Audio Home Recording Act), and Digital Performance Royalties on behalf of the American Federation of Musicians (AFM) and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA).

For several years, Dreith has headed his own publishing company "Magic Closet Music" and is a partner in "Maverick Music", a production company scoring for both films and

commercials (his credits include "The Punisher" starring Dolph Lundgren). In addition to his career as an active film, television and advertising jingle composer, he has orchestrated and/or conducted scores for such motion pictures as "Misery", "Addams Family", "Heart and Souls", "A League of Their Own" and many others, providing services to composers John Williams, Lalo Schifrin, Dominick Frontiere, Marc Shaiman, Hans Zimmer, Elliott Goldenthal, Mark Isham and Cliff Eidelman.

He was Music Supervisor on several major motion pictures as well as Music Consultant for the legendary Barbra Streisand "New Year's Las Vegas Concert".

Dennis Dreith is a frequent and distinguished panelist for music industry seminars and has often been a guest lecturer at a number of universities. He has been a speaker at a variety of music education and related conferences in the United States and recently at the Cannes during the famed film festival there. He is a former member of the faculty at UCLA Extension as well as a past member of the UCLA Advisory Board to the Department of Entertainment Studies and Performing Arts.

He lives in Studio City with his wife Leslieanne and daughter Marcella. He enjoys sailing, flying and travel. He is a recognized authority on the history of film music and has composed several classical pieces for orchestra and soloists.