

X PRISONER

TIME. IS. NOTHING.

BASED ON THE NOVELLA "TRUTH" BY ROBERT REED

A FEDERGREEN ENTERTAINMENT / SIR HARRY FILMS PRODUCTION

A FILM BY GAURAV SETH

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SIR HARRY
FILMS



PRISONERX

"TWILIGHT ZONE" meets "THE USUAL SUSPECTS"

LOGLINE

As the world rages in war and civil strife, a CIA agent arrives at a secret underground prison to interrogate a time-traveling terrorist who is responsible for the unfolding catastrophe.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

As the world rages in war and civil strife, CIA agent Carmen Reese arrives at a secret underground prison to interrogate a time-traveling terrorist who is responsible for the unfolding catastrophe. Her immediate task is to investigate the mysterious death of her predecessor - a talented interrogator and former lover. Was it suicide as the evidence suggests? Or was it murder? Carmen knows that the answers to these questions are linked to bigger, more important questions: Is the prisoner who he claims to be? And what is his real agenda? It's now a race against the clock as Carmen and the prisoner engage in a battle of wills to see whose version of the future will triumph.

SYNOPSIS

On a cold January night, a young man is found unconscious at the wheel of her car not far from the Canadian border. A lump of weapons-grade Uranium is recovered from the trunk. He is soon thrown into a high-security prison and tortured relentlessly. But apart from a few vicious-sounding curses, he utters nothing.

Then one day, unprompted, the prisoner provides an alphanumeric list of upcoming Supernova explosions. The very next day the first of those celestial events occurs exactly as predicted, sending shockwaves through the security establishment. It's obvious; the man in custody is no ordinary terrorist. He is a time-traveller from the future!

Fifteen years later, Ramiro remains in 'Sandbox' prison deep underground - but much has changed in the world above. Based on his ongoing Intel, the US has waged a relentless war on terror in an attempt to neutralize the remaining 98 "temporal jihadists" he claims to have arrived with him. Still, and despite all efforts, the remaining terrorists and their enigmatic leader, 'Abraham', remain at large.

Such are the state of affairs the day CIA agent Carmen Reese arrives on site. Her immediate task is to investigate the mysterious death of her predecessor - a talented interrogator and former lover. Was it suicide as the evidence suggests? Or was it murder? Carmen knows that the answers to these questions are linked to bigger, more important questions: Is Ramiro who he claims to be? And what is his real agenda? It's now a race against the clock as Carmen and Ramiro engage in a battle of wills to see whose version of the future will triumph.

MICHELLE NOLDEN - CARMEN REESE



Michelle Nolden's resume boasts blockbuster and independent features as well as critically acclaimed television projects, all of which have earned her an international reputation. Currently she can be seen as Cardiac Surgeon Dawn Bell in her third season of the hit series SAVING HOPE.

Upcoming feature films include Copperheart's XMAS HORROR STORY. Look for her in Vincenzo Natali's HAUNTER, and Chuck Minsky's SKATING TO NEW YORK. Recent recurring roles on the small screen include the U.S. President in the hit series NIKITA as well as the Crown Attorney in the CBC's THE REPUBLIC OF DOYLE.

She garnered great reviews as the lead in the HBO Canada/Movie Network series ZONE OF SEPARATION playing a tough edged United Nations peacekeeper.

In the critically acclaimed CBC movie entitled THE RIVALS, she donned a corset and Scottish accent to play the wife of George Brown. Features include THE TIME TRAVELLER'S WIFE, RED, LUCID and SHOW ME among others. Nolden is regularly seen on the small screen with five seasons in the recurring role of U.S. attorney Robin Brooks on the Primetime CBS show NUM3ERS. Guest roles include LOST GIRL, COVERT AFFAIRS, CRACKED, THE LISTENER, THE MURDOCH MYSTERIES, and the Showcase Original CRASH AND BURN.

Nolden has been nominated for an ACTRA award for her performance in the Canadian blockbuster MEN WITH BROOMS as well as for Gemini awards for her portrayal of Hadley Hemingway in HEMINGWAY VS CALLAHAN and a drug addicted mother in ROOKIE BLUE. She was a series regular on the critically acclaimed ShowTime series STREET TIME where she co-starred with Rob Morrow and Terrence Howard. She has had recurring roles on EVERWOOD, CROSSING JORDAN and Gene Rodenberry's EARTH FINAL CONFLICT, which earned her an international fan club. She has guest starred on GHOST WHISPER, C.S.I. MIAMI, WOULD BE KINGS, RENT-A-GOALIE, THE ELEVENTH HOUR, THE SHIELD'S STORIES, KEVIN HILL, REGENESIS" and BETTING ON LOVE. Nolden played Christyne Lategano opposite James Wood's Emmy nominated performance of Rudy Giuliani in the USA Network M.O.W., RUDY: THE RUDY GIULIANI STORY and co-starred along Cybil Sheppard in the Martha Stewart Biopic, MARTHA INC.

Nolden wrote and directed the short film LOONIE which was selected to screen at the Palm Springs, Los Angeles and Atlantic Film Festivals among others. Both lead actors were nominated for 2008 Actra Awards, as well as winning best short film for the NSI Online Film Festival. She also wrote and directed A MAN'S WORLD and the documentary "I NEED A HERO both currently in the Festival circuit. She is the Artistic Director of the Lakeshorts International Short Film Festival currently going into its fifth year. Michelle has several projects in development with husband and producer Chris Szarka.

JULIAN RICHINGS - JEFFERSON



One of Canada's most versatile and unique stage and screen performers, Julian Richings has been a familiar presence in the Canadian entertainment industry for over three decades.

Julian recently wrapped indie films PRISONER X (Dir: Gaurav Seth), REGRESSION (Alejandro Amenabar), THE WITCH (Robert Eggers) and PATCH TOWN (Craig Goodwill). He can be seen in the most recent installment of the SUPERMAN series, SUPERMAN: MAN OF STEEL directed by Zach Snyder and Jean-Pierre Jeunet's THE SELECTED WORKS OF T.S. SPIVET.

Other recent feature work includes THE COLONY (Alcina Pictures); Bruce McDonald's HARD CORE LOGO: PARTS 1 and 2; Martin Donovan's COLLABORATOR; and PERCY JACKSON: THE LIGHTNING THIEF (Fox 2000 Pictures).

Julian is featured in George A. Romero's SURVIVAL OF THE DEAD; the Serendipity feature YOU MIGHT AS WELL LIVE, TIMEKEEPER (Perfect Circle Prod.); ELEGY (MGM); SHOOT EM UP (New Line Cinema); X-MEN 3 (20th Century Fox); BEING JULIA (Serendipity Films); PERSEVERANCE (Darius Films); SILENCE (Universal Pictures); MY LIFE WITHOUT ME (Tangled Prod/Lionsgate); CUBE (Cube Libre); THE RED VIOLIN (Rhombus); and Stan Winston's WRONG TURN..

Julian's television credits include a recurring roles on the hit series ORPHAN BLACK (BBC Canada) and SUPERNATURAL (Warner Bros).. He has guest starred on THE EXPANSE (SyFy) HANNIBAL (NBC), HEMLOCK GROVE (Netflix), TRANSPORTER (HBO); MURDOCH MYSTERIES (CBC/Shaftesbury); REPUBLIC OF DOYLE (CBC); TODD AND THE BOOK OF PURE EVIL (Space); BAG OF BONES (A&E); SEA WOLF (Sea Wolf Prod.); XIII (M6 and Canal +); and TROJAN HORSE (CBC). Series regular roles include ROXY HUNTER (Nickelodeon); AT THE HOTEL (CBC); KINGDOM HOSPITAL (ABC); PETER BENCHLEY'S AMAZON (Alliance Atlantis); JOHN WOO'S ONCE A THIEF; and I WAS A SIXTH GRADE ALIEN (YTV).

A two time Dora Mavor Moore Award winner, Julian was last seen on the Toronto stage in the Art of Time Ensemble's production of I SEND YOU THIS CADMIUM RED. Other recent credits include: THE MISANTHROPE and MOLIERE (Tarragon Theatre); THE PALACE OF THE END (Canadian Stage Co.); THE SHEEP AND THE WHALE (Cahoots); and THE LAST ROMANTICS (Necessary Angel).

Born and raised in Oxford, England, Julian Richings now makes his home with his family in Toronto.

ROMANO ORZARI - RAMIRO



Romano Orzari's acting career spans nearly 30 years and with much notoriety. He started 2015 with a bang having roles in two films at the Sundance Film Festival. Guy Maddin's *THE FORBIDDEN ROOM* & *TURBO KID* by Francois Simard, Anouk and Yoann-Karl Whissell.

His leading role on the acclaimed Series *24 HOUR RENTAL* is worth noting and can be seen next as a recurring guest star in *GANGLAND UNDERCOVER* (History Channel) and starring opposite Michelle Nolden in Gaurav Seth's *PRISONER X*.

DAMON RUNYAN - FISCHER



Damon Runyan is currently playing the lead role of Charles Falco in *GANGLAND UNDERCOVER* for the History Channel. In the upcoming months Damon will also be seen in a recurring role in *HAVEN* for SyFy, and the independent thriller feature film *PRISONER X* as CIA agent Fischer.

His past television credits include the recurring role of Coach Carter in *DEGRASSI: TNG*, and guest starring roles in *NIKITA*, *COVERT AFFAIRS*, *SUPERNATURAL*, *SMALLVILLE*, *THE BRIDGE*, and Ken Finkleman's *THE NEWSROOM*, amongst others. On stage most recently he played the lead role of Tony in Mike Bartlett's Canadian premier of *BULL*, to rave reviews,. Other stage credits include Neil LaBute's *IN A FOREST DARK AND DEEP* at the Theatre Passe Muraille and John Patrick Shanley's *WHERE'S MY MONEY*.

Damon won the Best Actor Award as well as the Audience Choice Award in the 2013 National Film Challenge for his short film *CASSIDY*. Damon's first feature film *WHEN THE SHOOTING STOPS* is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2015.

GAURAV SETH - WRITER/DIRECTOR



Born in India, Gaurav moved to Russia at age 18 to study at the prestigious Russian Federation State Institute of Cinema (VGIK) founded by Sergei Eisenstein. There he studied under the strict tutelage of Vadim Yusov, the legendary cinematographer of Andrei Tarkovsky, and six years later he graduated with a Master's Degree in Cinematography & Film Direction.

His first feature film A PASSAGE TO OTTAWA won five international awards including a CRYSTAL BEAR (Special Mention) at the Berlin Film Festival. Next, Gaurav directed a

charming romantic comedy called PINK LUDOOS which premièred on City TV in Canada and was released in the UK and Germany as SWEET DESTINY.

Over the past few years, Gaurav has developed several feature film projects. Some of these include: Sci-Fi Thrillers BARDO and TIMEBOUND, a coming-of-age drama called LITTLE BROTHER, and a comedy called KARMA CHAMELEON. Besides developing his own projects, Gaurav has also worked on scripts for other Canadian filmmakers, including Carl Bessai (SALVAGE) and Academy Award-nominated Deepa Mehta (EXCLUSION).

AVI FEDERGREEN - PRODUCER



Avi Federgreen's over 20 years of experience in the Canadian film industry feature many highlights, from music videos to TV series to full-length feature films. Federgreen's current releases include THE COCKSURE LADS MOVIE directed by Murray Foster, RELATIVE HAPPINESS directed by Deanne Foley, and PORCH STORIES directed by Sarah Goodman.

Federgreen's other producing credits include STILL MINE, SCORE: A HOCKEY MUSICAL, MOON POINT, I'M YOURS, HUNGRY HILLS, ONE WEEK, HIGH LIFE, LESLIE, MY NAME IS EVIL and the documentary AS SLOW AS POSSIBLE.

In November 2011, Federgreen opened his own film distribution company INDIECAN ENTERTAINMENT. The company services not just up-and-coming Canadian filmmakers, but also those indies making films in a lower budget bracket who have otherwise no chance to shine in a market of big studios, distributors and exhibitors.

ROBYN BIGUÉ - PRODUCER



With three spoken languages, and 15+ years of experience writing and producing for film and television, Robyn Bigué has cultivated a well-deserved reputation for exacting an intelligent and resourceful craft.

She has produced and written for many of today's most iconic factual shows, including her most recent role as Producer for THE AMAZING RACE CANADA, which has claimed top spot in the rating for two years running. As well, Bigué has co-written and produced a number of critically acclaimed documentaries, such as SPECTACLE: ELVIS COSTELLO

PRESENTS... INSIDE NOTES (CTV), which provided diehard music fans with a peek into some of the greatest minds of music.

Robyn currently has several promising feature film projects in development and pre-production. Additionally, she has optioned a number of original works under her own Sir Harry Films Inc. umbrella.

SAM PRYSE-PHILLIPS - DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY



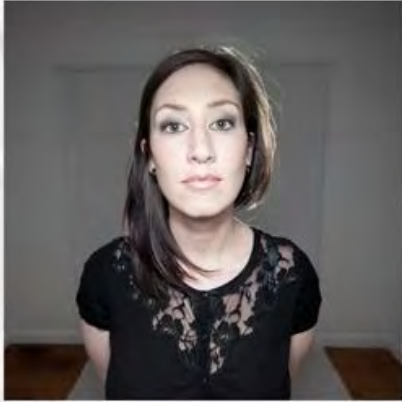
Hailing from St. John's, Newfoundland, multi-faceted cinematographer Sam Pryse-Phillips developed an interest in image and light at a young age through still photography. Matched with a love of film and animation, this led him to pursue the craft of cinematography.

After graduating with a specialization in Cinematography from the Trebas Institute in Toronto, Sam Pryse-Phillips has had the pleasure of working on many projects at home and abroad, creating visuals for documentaries, short films, music videos, and television. Many of these projects have been in

collaboration with Jordan Canning, who is a constant source of inspiration and someone with whom he loves to share the simultaneous discovery that is inherent in filmmaking.

With every project he takes on, he commits to finding the heart of the story, and working with cocreators to develop the project further. His work has been shown at festivals around the world, including Tribeca, Interfilm Berlin and the Toronto International Film Festival. In 2013, Sam helmed the camera on two feature films back to back – HOW TO BE DEADLY and WE WERE WOLVES.

ANGELA JEKUMS - EDITOR



Angela is a film editor based in Toronto, Canada whose work has been screened at Hot Docs, NXNE, and Toronto After Dark. Her passion for all things sci-fi and horror has led her to cut a host of killer projects - most recently Gaurav Seth's sci-fi psychological thriller PRISONER X.

She's also worked on David Ayer's SUICIDE SQUAD, cult horror director Darren Lynn Bousman's THE BARRENS, and History's award winning series VIKINGS.

DANIELLE SAHOTA - PRODUCTION DESIGNER



Danielle Sahota is an English-Canadian production designer for films, commercials, music videos and installations. Her work focuses on experimenting with immersive, original and concept-driven environments.

Danielle has designed an array of awardwinning shorts and features, as well as content for clients such as Toys R Us, Salvation Army, Wisers, and Stoli.

She has a BFA in Film from Ryerson University and is currently based in Toronto.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

PRISONER X belongs to a rare breed of science fiction; it is a perfect blend of high-concept and solid character drama. At the core of the story is a fascinating premise that serves as an ideal launch pad for a gripping, heart-racing thriller that speaks directly to today's savvy and film literate audience. It's the kind of science fiction that has proven exceptionally successful in recent years. Films like INCEPTION and SOURCE CODE come to mind. That's why I'm confident PRISONER X will be a sure winner. It has the mystery and enigma of TWILIGHT ZONE and the riveting, suspenseful plot of THE USUAL SUSPECTS.

The enigmatic character of Ramiro is the driving force behind this thriller. Charming, mysterious, intelligent and exceptionally dangerous, he is the perfect antagonist. There's so little about him that we know, and the things that we do discover during the course of the story only raise new, even more frightening, questions. Already hooked by Ramiro's compelling defiance of the norms of human endurance, our interest is further peaked by the second pillar of the story - Carmen. Tough, smart and driven, Carmen proves to be a formidable opponent in the psychological tug-of-war that forms the heart of this story. But the thing that makes her even more compelling and sympathetic is the personal resonance that this struggle takes on for her. Carmen's back story will be developed further, giving the audience an insight into her inner world - her hidden motivations and emotional vulnerabilities, vulnerabilities that Ramiro will exploit. This will make the climax, in which Carmen tricks Ramiro into revealing the truth and killing himself, even more satisfying.

Another exciting aspect of PRISONER X is its setting. The secret underground prison feels like a living character, an active participant in the unfolding events, and the visual treatment of the film will further enhance its impact on the story. The dark, snaking tunnels and fortified bunker-like cells will serve as an effective metaphor for Ramiro's mysterious and treacherous mind, which Carmen has to penetrate in order to expose his secret. A fiercely-guarded secret, much like Ramiro himself is.

As a good thriller does, PRISONER X holds our attention by withholding information, by revealing crucial details bit by bit, gradually raising the stakes in the process. And it often gives us reason to doubt what has been revealed, giving rise to unease that heightens the tension even more. The visual narrative of PRISONER X will help actualize this. The drama will flow seamlessly from the brooding tension of the underground prison, established by dramatic lighting and textural production design, and the cataclysmic events unfolding on the surface above.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

An image system of distorted perspectives will be weaved throughout the film - deformed reflections in glass and metal surfaces, ever-present shadows, unconventional points of view - these images, unconsciously seeping into the minds of the viewers, will create a persistent sense of fear and keep them riveted to the edge of their seats. Creeping camera movements will build towards chilling moments of suspense. Hand-held portraits will breathe with tension. Floating steadicam will follow characters down dark, snaking tunnels. A skillful use of mis-en-scene with dynamic camera movements and editing within the take will complement the briskly developing plot. And a deliciously chilling soundtrack will further ratchet up the tension as we watch the fate of the world play out on screen.

All movies strive to entertain, but ones that provide the audience with a meaningful emotional experience as well, an experience that tends to linger in their memories, are the rare ones. My goal is make PRISONER X the best of those. Nothing less.

HIGH CONCEPT, LOW BUDGET

When a script involves Time Machines and Nuclear Holocausts, one understandably assumes that considerable resources will be required to take it to screen. After all, we live in an age of CGI-dominated movies with obscenely high budgets. But the genius of PRISONER X, to put it immodestly, lies in the fact that it is a high concept sci-fi thriller which was produced for an astonishingly low budget. Much like Vincenzo Natali's CUBE and Darren Aronofsky's PI - two tremendously successful movies of the same genre.

To begin with, about eighty percent of PRISONER X takes place in one location - the secret underground prison sandbox. And with the heart of the drama limited to four main characters, budgetary demands were greatly reduced. But more importantly, the elements in the movie that have the greatest psychological impact - namely, the futuristic time travel technology and the unfolding global catastrophe - will require only a fraction of the resources than one might usually expect. For PRISONER X will be a unique film. It will tell a science fiction story without special effects; it will portray nuclear war without a single explosion. But in no way will this dilute the impact of its storytelling. On the contrary, these cinematic devices will enhance its effectiveness.

After all, the suggestion of a monster lurking in the shadows is often more frightening than the sight of the monster itself.

THE NEAR-FUTURE

THE STATE OF THE WORLD IN 2017

Science Fiction is a genre of endless possibilities. Stories can be set in alien worlds and fantastical times, depicting extraordinary characters and incredible situations. Anything and everything can be made possible to capture the audience's imagination. However, science fiction doesn't necessarily have to be overly fantastical in order to be successful. A fictional premise grounded in reality and unfolding in a familiar setting can be equally thrilling and entertaining. PRISONER X takes this approach.

The story begins with Ramiro's capture a few months after the attacks of September 11, 2001, after which we fast-forward fifteen years to the year 2017 and find ourselves in a world that's familiar, yet tragically different. Giving real events of the past decade a fantastical twist, PRISONER X cleverly suggests that the US war on terror was actually motivated by the information Ramiro provided during his interrogations. It had nothing to do with Al Qaeda and WMDs. The US was in fact engaged in a desperate hunt for a group of ninety-eight timetraveling jihadists who Ramiro claims arrived with him. That was the real reason behind the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq and the sudden eruption of popular revolutions in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria - the so-called Arab Spring- which the movie suggests were actually orchestrated by the CIA.

Developing this alternate history further, PRISONER X reveals that the US didn't stop there. In 2015 it invaded the remaining countries in the Middle-East and essentially wiped Pakistan off the map. But the terrorists led by their enigmatic leader Abraham have continued to evade capture. So when a strange, futuristic device is found in rubble of a massive explosion in Mumbai, raising the possibility of Abraham's presence there, a paranoid US President orders his military to prepare for a full-scale invasion of India.

Not surprisingly, the impact of the numerous wars overseas is also being felt at home. A major terrorist attack on a nuclear power plant near New York City has taken thousands of lives. Millions have been left homeless and a large swath of the North-East has been rendered uninhabitable for decades. Power shortages have crippled the economy and civil unrest has broken out in several states. For the first time in history tanks and armored vehicles roam the streets of US cities.

Such are the state of affairs the day CIA agent Carmen Reece arrives at the secret underground prison codenamed Sandbox. Her immediate task is to investigate the death of her predecessor. But she is also determined to solve the mystery of Ramiro, who she believes is responsible for the catastrophe unfolding on the surface above.

CAST

Carmen MICHELLE NOLDEN	Border Patrol Officer STEVEN PUCHALSKI
Ramiro ROMANO ORZARI	Interrogator SHAWN ORR
Fischer DAMON RUNYAN	CIA Officer BRANDON COFFEY
Jefferson JULIAN RICHINGS	Medic #1 ANDREW LEE
President NIGEL BENNETT	Homeland Security Official VLADIMIR CUBRT
Director of National Intelligence STEWART ARNOTT	Snider DAVID TOMPA
Jim GIANPAOLO VENUTA	Prison Guard DRU VIERGEVER
Williams JIM CODRINGTON	Dr. Ellis STEPHEN BOGAERT
Anna JESSICA GRECO	Female Newscaster TARA SPENCER NAIRN
Sandra KEIRA MCNEICE	Commissioner of Border Patrol ANDREW JACKSON
Jordan ALEX HARROUCH	Border Guard JAMES GANGL

INDIECAN ENTERTAINMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH **FEDERGREEN ENTERTAINMENT**
AND **SIR HARRY FILMS** PRESENT **"PRISONER X"**

SOUND SUPERVISOR **GEORGE FLORES** MAKE-UP ARTIST **KAT CRISP** COSTUME
DESIGNER **ROBIN CARELESS** PRODUCTION DESIGNER **DANIELLE SAHOTA**
EDITOR **ANGELA JEKUMS** MUSIC **PATRIC CAIRD** DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **SAM
PRYSE-PHILLIPS** BASED ON THE NOVELLA "TRUTH" BY **ROBERT REED**
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS **MICHELLE NOLDEN ROMANO ORZARI RASHMI REKHA
MARVIN WAXMAN** PRODUCED BY **AVI FEDERGREEN ROBYN BIGUÉ**
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY **GAURAV SETH**

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