

Sunday Punch



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Starring:

Jessica Greco as “Anna”
Ennis Esmer as “Jason”
Brooklyn Lax as “Elisha”
Art Hindle as himself
Rod Black as himself
Maria Vaccratsis as “Nanci”
Nicole St. Martin as “Anna’s Coach”
John Tokatlidis as “Jason’s Coach”
Jim Codrington as “Referee Dwight Knight”

Writer/Director: Alan Powell
Executive Producer: AviFedergreen
Producers: Matt Code
Alex House
Director of Photography: Pasha Patriki
Production Designer: Ciara Vernon
Editor: Erin Deck
VFX Supervisor: Justin Tripp
Unit Publicist: Tanya Koivusalo tanya.koivusalo@gmail.com



Anna (Jessica Greco) and Jason (Ennis Esmer) take their positions, as the ref confers with Jason’s coach.

Logline

A couple's kitchen is transformed when their argument is broadcast to millions as a live sporting event on Domestic Fight TV, complete with a referee and real life TV sportscaster Rod Black calling the play-by-play. The gloves come off, and low blows fly as the fighters are determined to leave everything on the kitchen table!

Synopsis

Anna (Jessica Greco) and Jason's (Ennis Esmer) morning is off to rough start – their casual discussion about daughter Elisha (Brooklyn Lax) flares into a full-blown argument. Jason accuses Anna of trying to control him, while Anna shoots back that he should be more concerned with finding a job. Welcome to Domestic Fight TV, where degrading references receive a penalty of two minutes from the referee, and the distant replay drudges up past events previously believed forgotten. With Rod Black as the sportscaster and actor Art Hindle as the colour commentator drawing on his own relationship experience, the low blows fly, and the fighters seem determined to land the knock-out punch. The spectators cheer them on, hoping for one of them to crumple. But what does the champion ultimately win?

Production Notes

Sunday Punch tells a relatable story in an extraordinary way – everyone has been there, sniping at their partner as they make breakfast, but the transformation of this domestic norm into a full-fledged broadcast sporting event brings energy to the story and casts a new light on its familiar themes. Conceived of and written by Alan Powell, who also directed the short film, ***Sunday Punch*** immediately drew its producers to the project through its quirky blend of comedy and drama. “Not only was it a fun script but the setting Alan created made for exciting challenges as a producer,” explains producer Matt Code. “It was exactly the kind of project you want for a short film – a story worth telling and the opportunity to do something really creative and unusual.”

While the team was in agreement on the strength of the material, that didn't mean there weren't logistical challenges along the way in making the short film a reality. First and foremost, the issue of whether to shoot in an actual sporting arena or boxing ring, versus a studio, had to be dealt with. It came down to the hard work of the production designer, DOP and VFX supervisor in making Alan's original vision a reality. “For starters, Ciara [Vernon, production designer] built that set, which is not an easy task on a short film budget. It looked fantastic and it allowed us to do some creative things that made the environment more authentic to the story. Second, Pasha [Patriki, DOP] and Justin [Tripp, VFX supervisor] worked together to shoot all of the audience against green screen, which allowed us to make the audience look as large and visually exciting as it does without needing a lot of background or a particular set for those shots,” explains Code.

“I’m very proud of what these three accomplished.” They managed to seamlessly extend the world of the film without any major compromises or shortcuts.

The talented cast assembled by director Alan Powell inhabited the world and brought the story to life – “I wanted to cast the lead roles as real people. So, I was looking for actors that would bring authenticity and not be over the top or play it for comedy.” Both Ennis Esmer and Jessica Greco brought what Alan needed to tell the story, and more. They brought the humanity to the dramatic moments that he was looking for and a warmth to the comedy that delivers the authenticity of a real family.

Despite its lightheartedness, the takeaway from the film is one that all couples with kids should know – “you are not alone!” stresses producer Alex House. “Everyone has had a fight like this, and for the most part, everyone can get through it if they just talk to each other and listen. Love really does conquer all, even after a few hits below the belt.” Writer/director Alan Powell hopes the film will offer parents some much-needed advice – “Choose your arguments. Choose wisely. An ugly, senseless fight could potentially linger for days, even weeks afterwards. Is it really worth upsetting the balance of a caring family unit for it?” ***Sunday Punch*** offers a forceful but important message to parents everywhere – Domestic Fight TV should not be a regularly scheduled program in our lives.



Anna’s coach cheers Anna (Jessica Greco) on as she lands a blow on Jason (Ennis Esmer).

Bios

Jessica Greco – “Anna”

Jessica Greco started acting professionally on her 16th birthday, and has been busy collecting credits ever since. After a year of commercial and episodic work, Jessica spent three seasons as a regular on the CBC soap opera *Riverdale*. She took a year off TV and film work to live and study in New York City at the legendary Neighbourhood Playhouse. She has appeared in both critically acclaimed Canadian films such as *Treed Murray* and acted alongside some of Hollywood's finest in movies like *The Recruit* and *Assault on Precinct 13*. Most recently, Jessica enjoyed roles on *Bomb Girls* and *The Listener* where she somehow missed out on screen time with her *Sunday Punch* costar Ennis Esmer. Having spent her career and half her life playing troubled dramatic characters, Jessica is looking forward to branching out into the world of comedy with projects like *Sunday Punch* and is a recent graduate of the Second City Conservatory program.

Ennis Esmer – “Jason”

Ennis Esmer recently wrapped his fourth season as Oz Bey, best friend of telepathic crime-solver Toby Logan, on the hit original series *The Listener* produced by Shaftesbury. His work on the show has earned him an ACTRA and multiple Canadian Comedy Award nominations. The series airs in Canada on CTV and in over 100 countries through Fox International Channels.

Last summer he wrapped his second season as Eddie, the cantankerous landlord of The Lux, on Epitome Pictures' *The LA Complex*, which aired on MuchMusic in Canada and The CW in the U.S.A. The show was cancelled after 19 episodes but not before receiving critical acclaim from Entertainment Weekly, The New Yorker, and The Onion AV Club.

Over the past year, Ennis shot lead roles in *Sex After Kids* (which recently premiered to huge audience response at the Santa Barbara Film Festival) and *Dirty Singles* (co-produced by Shaftesbury and premiering on the festival circuit later this year). Both movies feature groups of 20 and 30 something Torontonians getting into romantic and sexual misadventures with comedic, and often surprisingly poignant, results.

Ennis also recently returned to the stage in the lead role of Ralph, the neurotic, tortured birthday boy in *Claire From The Bus*, a new play written by Kjartan Hewitt. The play, a comedy about love and blackmail in the age of sexting, enjoyed a successful run at Toronto's Storefront Theatre, and co-starred Mayko Nguyen, David Reale and Bryn McAuley.

Before *The Listener*, Ennis starred in Thinkfilm's romantic comedy *Young People Fucking*, which became a word-of-mouth hit when it premiered at the Toronto

International Film Festival, and continued on to the Vancouver International Film Festival and Festival Du Nouveau Cinema in Montreal. It was named one of the top ten Canadian films of 2007 by TIFF, and after getting caught up in the media storm of the Bill C-10 controversy, enjoyed a wide release across Canada in summer 2008. His role earned him a Canadian Comedy Award nomination.

Ennis originally came to Toronto from Ankara, Turkey at the age of 3. He trained at Second City while attending the fine arts high school Earl Haig (where he studied theatre & improv, produced monthly variety shows and performed his first sketch comedy.) He made it through three years of theatre training at York University before getting the boot, while spending much of the 00s working on standup, sketch (with Mustered & Relished) and musical comedy (as frontman of Calcu-Lator & The Oral Presentation) at clubs in Toronto.

His standup work led to a gig as host and creative consultant of *The Toronto Show*, an hour-long showcase of Canadian music and comedy. During the show's 120 episode run, Ennis performed with some of the best in Canadian comedy, including Dave Foley and Sean Cullen. Since then he has hosted events for The Gemini Awards, The ACTRA Awards, Telefilm, and TIFF, and his summer 2009 turn in *Melancholy Play* at the Factory Theatre marked his return to theatre after a 10 year "break."

You can follow Ennis on Twitter @heyennisshutup.



Elisha (Brooklyn Lax) shares her latest artwork with dad Jason (Ennis Esmer).

Brooklyn Lax – “Elisha”

Brooklyn was born and raised in Toronto, Canada. While only seven years old, she has already attained some notable roles, beginning with her role as Brooke Lee in *What's Your News*, in which she interacts with an animated character. Following this, she was the voice of Fluffy the Caterpillar in the pilot for the *Chirp* animated series. Brooklyn was then thrilled to be cast as Anna in her first prime time drama series, *Saving Hope*. Subsequently, she was possibly the only child cast in a principal role on the hit USA Network program *Suits* as Olivia in an adorable scene with Gabriel Macht and Jacinda Barrett. Recently, she was cast as a principal in a new CBC live-action / animation program, *The Adventures of Napkin Man*, as Mary and Jane.

Art Hindleas himself

Born in Halifax to a Canadian Navy father, Art's mother soon had him back in their home town of Toronto, Ontario. He grew up in the "Beaches" neighbourhood of Toronto a big fan of Elvis Presley and rock n' roll. Although shy as a child, he grew to be a rebellious and independent teenager. This led him to much traveling, mostly by hitch-hiking, picking up odd jobs, meeting all sorts of people from red-necks to freedom marchers to surfers and everyone in between. By the time he was 21, he was a father, a stockbroker and an amateur photographer. A much-admired uncle of Art's was Michael Caine, a talented and successful actor. This had piqued Art's interest in acting during his teens. Although fairly successful himself, as a broker, he basically felt unfulfilled and eventually, after being inspired and touched by a Toronto Workshop Productions play, he made the commitment to leave the stock market for theatre. Although he worked, basically, as an unglorified gofer for a few months with TWP, eventually he got an acting agent, mostly with a false resume, and started auditioning mostly for commercials.

It was at this time that Art credits a discovery that changed his future. Someone, he can't remember who, directed him to the Eli Rill Workshop. Eli had moved to Toronto from New York, where he taught at the Actor's Studio. Kind, gentle and articulate, Eli lucidly communicated techniques and explorations of the Method. Art thrived in this environment and soon started applying his knowledge to getting acting jobs. His first big role was in a biker movie, *The Proud Rider* (1971), spawned by the popularity of *Easy Rider* (1969). Art actually worked with a real motorcycle gang, the Satan's Choice. It was during the making of this rather bad movie that Art almost changed his professional name to Jeremy Kane. The producers thought that Art should have a more "show biz" name and took his photo to a girls school and asked the students to suggest first names and last names. They then took these names to Art and asked him to pick one of each. He liked the name Jeremy and chose Caine in honor of his uncle. The first person he called was his uncle Michael. Michael told him in no uncertain terms to stick to his own name. Art did so, but the other name is still connected to the film.

The other anecdote was when the producers asked Art if he could ride a "bike," he took them "literally" and said he could, but that when it came to motorcycles his brother Lang Hindle was much better, being a champion road racer. Cast for the part late on a Thursday, Art had to learn to ride a motorcycle by Monday morning. The next big step was being cast as Billy Duke, the best hockey player in the world, drafted by the Maple Leafs to lead them back to the playoffs in the film *Face-Off*(1971), Canada's first million-dollar movie.

This film led to offers from Hollywood, which he resisted until work dried up and Art, who had four children by this time, finally moved to Los Angeles. Art credits much of his success in California to luck. He felt he was lucky having Patricia McQueeney as his manager and a dynamic pair of agents in Arnold Rifkin and Nichole David. Over the years Art has come to be known as a "working actor" involved as a leading actor in some "classic" films and numerous pilots and series. His work in *ENG*, one Canada's most successful series, won him a Acting Gemini and his Pete Braga in *Paradise Falls* (2001) has been described as a "classic performance" although Art credits brilliant writing for all the plaudits. Also, in the early 1990s, Art added the credit Director to his impressive resume. He and his beautiful wife, Brooke now split time between California, Florida and Canada spending time with their much beloved children, all eight of them, and their six grandchildren. Lucky? Indeed!

Rod Black as himself

Rod Black's knowledge, versatility and enthusiasm have earned him a reputation as one of the Canada's most recognized and distinguished sportscasters.

In his 30 years as a sports journalist, Rod has been involved with a variety of different events and competitions, fitting into each role with ease. Black's extensive sports resume includes play-by-play commentating on TSN for CFL football, Blue Jays Baseball, NHL hockey, PGA Tour golf, World Championship boxing, ATP and WTA tennis, International figure skating as well as hosting duties on TSN for the Toronto Raptors, the NBA Finals, the CFL Draft, the Masters, the World Hockey Championship, the Canadian Open, the Queen's Plate, and of course the Summer and Winter Olympics.

Rod called Canada's lone gold medal at the London 2012 Summer Olympics and pulled double duty at the Vancouver Games in 2010 by calling both figure skating and short track speed skating where Canada won a number of medals. He's also covered the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, the 1996 Summer Games in Atlanta and was CTV's prime time host for the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona and the 1994 Winter Games in Lillehammer, Norway.

A consummate professional who displays passion and excitement in all that he does, Rod received the 2005 Sports Media Canada award for Most Outstanding Broadcaster.

Rod also hosts a weekly radio show “Live from Gretzky’s” – syndicated on a number of sports radio stations around North America including XM Satellite Radio.

Inducted into the media wing of the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame, Rod’s broadcasting abilities aren’t limited to the sports world. The adaptable broadcaster is the former co-host of Canada AM – Canada’s most-watched national morning show. The six-time Gemini Award nominee for Canada’s Best Sportscaster is also the host/narrator of a variety of prime time specials and the honorary spokesperson for Plan Canada for which he received the Queen’s medallion and the Diamond Jubilee medal for volunteerism.

Rod also hosts an annual celebrity slo-pitch game and golf tournament in his native Winnipeg, which through the years has raised thousands of dollars in bursaries for high school students pursuing post secondary education. He also donates his time to help a number of other Canadian charities – the Special Olympics, Kids Help Phone, Sick Kids Hospital, Children’s Aid Society, the Cancer Society, United Way, Ronald McDonald House, and the Heart and Stroke Association.

A highly acclaimed guest speaker, Rod has a unique ability to connect with any audience through experience, inspiration and humor. He has been an emcee at charity functions in every part of Canada including the Bell Celebrity Gala in Toronto – the biggest event of it’s kind in the country.

Still an avid golfer, baseball and hockey player, Rod tours annually with the NHL legends raising money for a variety of local charities across Canada.

Rod and his wife Nancy live in Unionville Ontario along with their four young active children Tyler, Brody, Jesse and Sienna.

“I’m the luckiest guy in the world”, says Rod. “I live, work and play in the toy department of life. Best of all, I understand that even though sport is only about games – sport is also about life lessons.

Learning to win, learning to fail but mostly learning about yourself and realizing that *anything* is truly possible.”

Maria Vaccratsis – “Nanci”

Film/Television Credits: Recurring roles in *Rent-A-Goalie*, *Degrassi: The Next Generation*, *Riverdale*, *Go Girl*, *Ready or Not*, *The Mighty Jungle*, *The Dan Redican Comedy Hour*, *Mosquito Lake* and *The Frantics: Four on the Floor*. Multiple appearances on *The Line*, *Slings and Arrows*, *Made in Canada*, *History Bites*, *Puppets Who Kill*, *The Kids in the Hall* and *Goosebumps*. Single

appearances on *This is Wonderland*, *Lost Girl*, *Living in Your Car*, *Skins* and *Being Erica*. Numerous movies-of-the-week and mini-series including CBC's *Major Crime*. Films include *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, *Tommy Boy* and *Shoot-Em-Up*, *Saturday* directed by Alan Powell.

Theatre Credits: *You Can't Take It With You*, *Home*, *The Crucible*, *Endgame*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Twelfth Night*, *A Flea in Her Ear* (Soulpepper), *The Happy Woman* (Nightwood Theatre), *Through The Leaves* (Company Theatre), *Such Creatures* (Nightswimming/PasseMuraille), *The Way of The World* (National Arts Centre/Soulpepper), *Pericles*, *A Winter's Tale*, *The Boys From Syracuse*, *Agamemnon*, *Electra*, *The Flies*, *Elephant Song*, *The Swanne* (Stratford Festival), *The Old Ladies*, *The Old Lady Shows Her Medals* (Shaw Festival), *Tout Comme Elle*, *The Piper*, *Hysterica Passio*, *Mariage Blanc*, *King Lear*, *Beating Heart Cadaver* (Necessary Angel), *Counter Service*, *Slavs* (Tarragon Theatre), *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Saturday Sunday Monday*, *Glorious* (Canstage), *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Fire Raisers*, *We Can't Pay We Won't Pay*, *Communicating Doors*, *Noises Off*, *Papers*, *Children of a Lesser God* (Persephone Theatre)

Awards: Dora nomination for The Company Theatre's *Through The Leaves*. Two Dora Awards for Videocaberet's *2nd Nature*, Brooks/Maclvor's *The Lorca Play*. Three Gemini nominations for *Rent-A-Goalie*. One National Radio Award nomination for *Those People Across The Street*.

Nicole St. Martin – “Anna’s Coach”

Nicole's passion for the craft of acting has lead her to work and train in Bogota Colombia, London, UK, Moscow Russia and across Canada. Her insatiable curiosity, desire to explore and commitment to excellence has resulted in directors that she has worked with bringing her onto their next projects. From her performance as the dark comedic Betty in Mark Rasso's film *The Engagement Party* to her courageous portrayal of Smerdyakov in the Dora Award nominated production of *The Brothers Karamazov*, Nicole delves into the characters that she is asked to portray and reveals them with clarity, precision and vulnerability. Classically trained, she brings the discipline, skill and experience of working on the Classical cannon to modern and contemporary work with apparent ease. Audiences and fellow artists have hailed her work for its “real” quality even when playing outrageous, heightened and absurd characters. She strives to serve the characters, the stories, the artistic team and the audience by approaching her work with integrity, a sense of play and courage.

Film and TV credits include: *The Engagement Party*, *True Crime Scene*, *Murdoch Mysteries*, *Played* and *The Smart Woman Survival Guide*.

John Tokatlidis – Jason’s Coach”

John started his acting career shortly after graduating from McMaster University with a Masters Degree in Canadian Politics. He completed extensive training at both The Professional Actors Lab and The Second City in Toronto and New York's famed Neighborhood Playhouse. Highlights of his theatrical work include Tony'n'Tina's Wedding (2002/03), the musical Greased Too! (2004) and the role of "Jimmy" in the critically acclaimed dark comedy Jimmy & Vito (2003/04), a piece he both co-wrote and co-produced. After shifting his focus to film and television John showed his wide range of skills with roles such as "Eddie" in The End of Silence (2006) a hosting spot on the late night poker program Poker Night Live (2006) and a starring role as "Domenic Racco", in Mob Stories II: Unto the Son (2007).

After some time away from theatre John reconnected with his passion for stage playing the lead role in the heartfelt staged adaptation of Kazantzakis' He Who Must Die (2013).

Other television and film credits include roles in Breakout Kings (2010), The Border (2009) and soon to be released Compulsion (2013)

Jim Codrington – “Referee Dwight Knight”

Jim Codrington is a Canadian actor best known for his role as Acting Inspector Darnell Williams in the television drama series The Border, from 2008-2010.

Codrington began his acting career at the age of 13 in a Black Theatre Canada production of The Malfini. Since that time, Jim has worked primarily in film and television (notable exceptions include playing Mufasa in the Toronto production of The Lion King, and playing the title role in a Saskatchewan regional theatre production of Othello).

Jim's first major foray into television was as co-host of the multiple-award winning Canadian children's series The Polka Dot Door. Since then, Jim's dramatic roles have been many and varied.

Highlights include: a series regular role in the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation series Liberty Street; a supporting role in the NBC drama Vanished Without A Trace; and a guest-starring role on Gene Rodenberry's Earth: Final Conflict.



Art Hindle (left) and Rod Black (right) with director Alan Powell.

Alan Powell – Writer/Director

Alan Powell started producing and directing audio production in 1991 when he founded PNA, a voice talent agency that produced for clients throughout North America. After ten years he sold the agency and started into film production. Within 18 months he had completed a slate of five short films and became an international multiple award-winning director.

Although his short films have screened at various festivals in North America, it was *Across the Hall* that garnered awards and nominations internationally. Funded by the National Film Board of Canada and the Ontario Arts Council, the film has screened worldwide picking up Best Foreign Film in Australia, Best Canadian Film in New York, and Best Short Film in Los Angeles. It was also nominated for two Golden Sheafs (Best Film, Best Direction) at the Yorkton Film Festival and placed 3rd in the Indie Producers Short Film Contest in Los Angeles.

Powell works in various disciplines and genres including: producing and directing commissioned documentaries for his own client base, writing for the Nelvana anime series *Z-Squad*, directing for the factual entertainment series *Urban Legends* for History Television, Biography Channel, and FX, and directing season II of *Fraud Squad* for Investigation Discovery. In 2009 he wrote, produced and directed the 65- minute ACTRA co-op drama *Saturday*.

Among his current projects in development is *Teen Experience*, an online interactive documentary; *A Role Play*, a feature comedy that takes a unique approach to life coaching; *ALIVE*, a dramatic web series on teen depression; and *Divided Highway*, a dramatic feature starring Andrew Walker.

AviFedergreen – Executive Producer

AviFedergreen's nearly twenty years of experience in the Canadian film industry features many highlights, from music videos to TV series to full-length feature films. Starting in the locations department, he moved quickly into production management, line producing, post supervision, and producing.

Federgreen's current projects in release as Executive Producer include the first ever Canadian fully financed 3D feature titled *Dead Before Dawn* produced by April Mullen and Tim Dorion of Wango Films and directed by April Mullen; the Vancouver based feature film *Random Acts of Romance* produced by Darren Reiter and Katrin Bowen and directed by Katrin Bowen; the documentary *30 Ghosts* produced and directed by Sean Cisterna and the feature *Running Wolf* produced by Jennifer Podemski and directed by Peter Stebbings.

As producer, Federgreen's current releases include his next feature film with acclaimed director Mike McGowan entitled *Still Mine* As Producer.

Federgreen's past projects include the 2010 TIFF Opening Night Film, *Score: A Hockey Musical*, written and directed by Michael McGowan captures the fervour of Canada's two favourite pastimes in a story big on humour and heart; *George Ryga's Hungry Hills*, directed by Rob King, premiered at TIFF 2009, and *Moon Point* produced by Sean Cisterna and Christian Potenza, directed by Sean Cisterna.

As exec producer, Federgreen worked on the dramatic short film *Hidden Driveway*, produced by Sarah Zammit and Sarah Goodman, directed by Sarah Goodman and which premiered at TIFF 2011; and *Little Larry* produced and directed by Jill Carter. Also produced by Federgreen *She Said Lenny* (produced with Mallery Davenport), and directed by Jim Donovan premiered at WSFF 2011; *Tight Space*, *Scout*, and *The Chair*, all written and directed by Cory Kinney and which achieved a Bronze Award at the Worldfest Houston International Film Festival in 2001, and the Canadian Film Centre short *Pudge*, directed by Annie Bradley which premiered at TIFF 2008.

More successes for Federgreen as producer include the Shaftesbury TV series *Good Dog*, written and directed by Ken Finkelman; documentary *As Slow as Possible*, directed by Scott Smith, an official selection of Hot Docs 2008.

Federgreen's co-production credits are impressive and varied. They include *I'm Yours* produced with Jennifer Jonas and Mallery Davenport of New Real Films, directed by Leonard Farlinger, the feature film *One Week*, written and directed by

Michael McGowan, was named Best Canadian Film in the 2008 Calgary and Edmonton film fests, and was an official gala screening at TIFF that year. The film also surpassed the \$1.2 million Canadian box office mark, *High Life*, produced by Triptych Media and directed by Gary Yates, premiered at the Berlin Film Festival and was featured at TIFF 2009. *Leslie, My Name Is Evil*, directed by Reginald Harkema, produced by New Real Films also screened at TIFF 2009, and lastly the nationally acclaimed TV mini-series *It's Me...Gerald*, (Showcase).

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

Federgreen is currently producing and directing the documentary *Letters to God* and is in development on a number of narrative features and documentaries which can be found on his website at www.federgreenentertainment.com

Matt Code – Producer

Matt Code is a film, television and media professional with diverse skills across a variety of platforms. Most recently, he has worked as associate producer and post-production supervisor on *Still Life: A Three Pines Mystery*, which will premiere on CBC in 2013.

In addition, Code has worked on business affairs for a range of television programming from primetime drama to cable documentary series, including the CSA-nominated *Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town*. He has also served in the writing room on the VIVA/W Network series *Ghostly Encounters*.

In 2013, he produced two dramatic short films, *Sunday Punch* and *Dan Invited Hannah Over for Dinner*, currently in consideration by festivals across Canada and internationally. Previously, Code has had short documentaries programmed by the Kingston Canadian Film Festival, and several niche festivals in the United States.

In addition to his production credits, Code has served as programmer for the Reel Awareness Human Rights Film Festival in Toronto, Canada. He has also produced videos for a number of non-governmental organizations and charities, including creating video content for Amnesty International's 2008 *Small Places* campaign.

Currently, Code is associate producer for CBC's upcoming mini-series *The Best Laid Plans* (6 x 60 minutes), based on the popular Canadian novel.

Alex House – Producer

Alex House is one of the producers of *Sunday Punch*, and currently works as the Coordinator of Production Affairs at Shaftesbury, known for popular dramatic series *The Listener* on CTV and Fox International Channels, and *Murdoch Mysteries* on CBC and UKTV. She developed her interest in the film and television industry at a young age, as her parents were heavily involved in the Canadian arts scene – her father Bill House was the Co-Founder and Executive Coordinator at OFDC (now the OMDC), Director of Operations at Telefilm Canada for over a decade, and the Executive Vice President of Motion Picture Productions at Alliance Atlantis in the early 2000s; while her mother Kay Armatage was a Professor of Cinema Studies and Women's Studies at the University of Toronto for forty years, and a Programmer at the Toronto International Film Festival for over 20 years. Prior to her work at Shaftesbury, Alex House acted as Producer's Assistant and Casting Coordinator, Business Affairs, for producer Brian Dennis, working on series including *The Border* and *Ghostly Encounters*. She has also worked for Fortissimo Films Sales and Celluloid Dreams World Sales.