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FLAT EARTHER

SYNOPSIS

Martin and Cassandra's promising second date takes an unexpected turn when their conversation challenges personal beliefs and their assumptions about each other. By the end of the night both will find they are living in a world much different than what they believed it to be.

THE MAKING OF "FLAT EARTHER"

In January of 2018, when director Brian Crewe drove to the Little Fish Theater in San Pedro, CA. it was to support his University of Southern California Cinema School friend, Mario Rivas. Mario's new one act play had won a coveted slot in theater's annual "Pick of the Vine" competition. As Brian watched the well-crafted dissection of the ludicrous notions spread on the internet that ends with a shocking twist, he knew there was a movie to be made, it was just a question of when.

A former editor with the G4 Video Game network, Brian had maintained a good friendship with X-PLAY series producer Matt Keil, who in mid-2019 was looking to shift to producing films. Brian, director of the award-winning shorts UNE LIBÉRATION, and FAR pitched Matt an ambitious plan: produce two short films in a five consecutive day production period. 1. CABECEO an Argentine Tango dance fantasy and 2. an adaptation of Mario Rivas' stage play FLAT EARTHER.

To replicate the feeling and energy of a stage play, Brian immediately set the goal to photograph FLAT EARTHER in a single, uninterrupted, nine-and-a-half-minute take, a challenge that would only work if the right actors were cast. Brian reached out to the talented Joe Holt to play Martin, having previously collaborated him on the politically charged comedy short ELECTORAL EMISSIONS. For the role of Cassandra, Joe suggested Amy Sloan, whose work includes a recurring role on the series GILMORE GIRLS and a memorable turn in Martin Scorsese's THE AVIATOR.

Brian, Amy, Joe, and Matt joined together for a series of rehearsals in January 2020. Through a combination of conversations and guided improv the quartet worked to update and build on the now two-year old stage play as they adapted it into a film script. The final result is a unique screenplay combining diverse points of view, delivering a story that begins as a light romantic comedy, but takes a chilling turn.

Meanwhile, the challenging task to find a single physical location to stage the production of both FLAT EARTHER and CABECEO fell to co-producer Regis Terencio. The solution was the bar

Fuego in Pomona. Open to Salsa dancers on Friday and Saturday evenings, the club was closed Sunday-Thursday. It had the dance floor needed for CABECEO's elaborate dance sequences but could also stand in for the small restaurant required for FLAT EARTHER.

On Sunday February 16, 2020, 30 crew members, along with another 30 extras, gathered to film FLAT EARTHER. Photographing the nine-minute single was a difficult for cinematographer George Feucht (Brian's former USC roommate), who had to illuminate the inside of the location with no visible production lights, as the camera would be moving 360 degrees inside after following the actors outside, at night, across a city street with a moving car.

The marathon production evening saw six different takes filmed, meaning six different versions of the film were shot that evening. Excited to have finally captured the story, Director Brian Crewe called it a wrap so the crew and extras could rest before returning the next day to start the four-day production of CABECEO.

Post-production of FLAT EARTHER started in March 2020 as the world came to a grinding halt. With minimal editing work required, post-production sound was tackled by Sound Rebels in Burbank, under the supervision of Emmy winning re-Recording mixer D.J. Lynch. VFX work was tackled by Brazilian based Up Studio, who crafted the striking visual of an actual flat Earth floating in space for the film's opening title sequence.

Throughout the pandemic, Brian and Matt were determined to hold their film for the return of in-person film festivals, knowing that the full impact of story and Joe and Amy's fantastic performances could only be felt when seen on a big screen with an audience. After a four-year journey from stage to screen, the team is excited to finally share FLAT EARTHER with film festival audiences.

CAST BIOS

Amy Sloan, Actor - Co-Writer

Amy Sloan grew up in the remote Yukon Territory of Canada. She is a graduate of the prestigious National Theater School of Canada and has worked extensively in American and Canadian theater, film, and television. Selected film/television credits include Martin Scorsese's THE AVIATOR, THE HEARTBREAK KID, THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW, A SINGLE SHOT, CHICAGO PD, GILMORE GIRLS, CSI, GREY'S ANATOMY, MAD MEN, BIG LOVE, NCIS, CALL ME FITZ. Amy now splits her time between Chicago and Los Angeles and can next be seen in the upcoming season of AppleTV's TRUTH BE TOLD.

JOE HOLT, Actor - Co-Writer

Military kid by birth, New Yorker by trade, Joe Holt has carved out an impressive resume since arriving in New York in 1993 with nothing but a dream and a work ethic. Recently seen as Series Regular Dr. Leo Bennett on THE WALKING DEAD: WORLD BEYOND. Holt has spent the last two years recurring on Peacock's BEL-AIR, DELILAH on OWN, and ALL-AMERICAN: HOMECOMING (premiering 2022).

A working actor for over 20 years, Holt has also recurred on MARVEL'S THE PUNISHER, and had Guest Starring roles on THE GOOD WIFE, GREY'S ANATOMY, SCANDAL, STATION 19 (bless you Shonda), SUPERNATURAL, and all 4 LAW AND ORDER franchises (a true feather in his New York cap.)

Holt takes great pride in his craft and, when not working, is always looking to hone his skills with theatre. A frequent collaborator with The Antaeus Classical Theatre, Holt has studied with Steppenwolf West, The Labyrinth Theatre, and Wynn Handman among others.

Holt can currently be seen in BLUES FOR AN ALABAMA SKY at The Mark Taper Forum being directed by Phylicia Rashad.

CREW BIOS

BRIAN JAMES CREWE - Director, Producer, Co-Writer

Brian has directed numerous projects including the award-winning short films CABECE, UNE LIBÉRATION, and FAR as well as commercials for Princess Cruises.

Brian co-produced the zombie cult classic DANCE OF THE DEAD, which was released by Sam Raimi's Ghost House Underground through Lionsgate Films. He produced and edited the feature films FATHER VS. SON, a Christmas comedy which won the Houston Critics Society's Award for Best Premiere at Houston WorldFest and the thriller GOLDEN EARRINGS, winner of the Audience Award for Best Feature at ShockerFest and IndieSpirit Film Festivals.

Brian is originally from Minneapolis MN, and is a graduate of the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts.

MATT KEIL – Producer, Co-Writer

Matt has written and produced countless videogame-related video segments, shows, and specials over the last 20 years. In his twelve years at the cable networks TechTV and G4, he produced over 1300 episodes of the popular review show X-PLAY, which he also co-created. He has been a producer and editorial consultant for many other videogame productions, including pioneering live coverage of the Electronic Entertainment Expo (E3) for many years.

A lifelong movie fan, Matt has now taken the opportunity to move into film production with CABECE and FLAT EARTHER. He's excited to see where this new path leads him. Matt is originally from San Francisco, CA, and is currently based in Los Angeles.

MARIO RIVAS, Author Original Stage Play

Originally from Mexico City, Mario Rivas is a graduate of the USC School of Cinematic Arts. As a writer, his screenplays have placed in the Nicholl Fellowship (twice), the Austin Film Festival, WeScreenplay, the Filmmatic Awards, Shore Scripts, American Zoetrope, and Stage 32's Happy Writers contests. His short plays have been produced in Los Angeles, CA and Durango, CO. Mario has also written, produced and edited trailers, promos, and programs, including CINENEWS for Starz-Encore; THE SCREENWRITERS, an hour-long pilot for the AFI; and has covered dozens of film events, including the Golden Globes and the Academy Awards. He works as an editor at NBCUniversal.

GEORGE FEUCHT, Director of Photography

George has been looking through camera viewfinders for as long as he can remember. After making short films and working as a photojournalist as a teen, he found himself in the production program at the USC School of Cinematic Arts. George hit the ground running out of film school by serving as director of photography on numerous films and television shows. George was Cinematographer on Lions Gate's DANCE OF THE DEAD, Magnolia Pictures' V/H/S VIRAL, Artist View Entertainment's FATHER VS. SON, and 77 Entertainment's WAKING. His television credits include JIMMY KIMMEL LIVE, AN AMERICAN HAUNTING, as well as many other shows. George has been honored with the prestigious International Cinematographers Guild 2014 Emerging Cinematographer Award for the film UNE LIBÉRATION, a Telly Award for his cinematography on 2012's THE BIRDS OF ANGER for G4-TV, the Best Cinematography Award from the Wild Rose Film Festival for the film FAR, as well as being tapped for membership in The Society of Camera Operators. George is based in Los Angeles. Watch his reel at www.GeorgeFeucht.com

REGIS TERCICIO, Co-Producer

Regis is an award-winning actor and film producer. He was awarded Microsoft 'Case of Success' and met with Bill Gates to present the educational show he created in 2008. His international experience has led him to work in a diversity of projects in several countries around the world. Among his most recent work are the sci-fi feature THE ABANDON and the show WHOLE HEARTED.

D.J. LYNCH, Re-Recording Mixer

Emmy and three-time Golden Reel Award Winner D.J. Lynch is originally from suburban Chicago. He moved to L.A. to attend USC's School of Cinematic Arts. His breakthrough in post audio came when he landed the job as post sound mixer on FOX's TV show COPS. His work can regularly be heard on FAST & FURIOUS: SPY RACERS, JURASSIC WORLD: CAMP CRETACEOUS, SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS, and BABY SHARK'S BIG SHOW! Other credits include BOB'S BURGERS for FOX, BEN10: OMNIVERSE for Cartoon Network, and JAKE AND THE NEVERLAND PIRATES for Disney. Lynch made his directing debut with the superhero feature MISSY AND THE MAXINATOR and is the co-owner of the post-production audio facility Sound Rebels in Burbank, California.

SCREENING HISTORY

<u>FEST DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>AWARDS/PREMIERES</u>
05/10/22	Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival	World Premiere
07/23/22	Snake Alley Festival of Film	
07/27/22	L.A. Shorts International Film Festival	
08/26/22	Theatrical Release	
09/17/22	Knoxville Film Festival	
09/22/22	Boston Film Festival	
09/30/22	North Hollywood CineFest	
10/06/22	San Francisco Short Film Festival	Winner Best Single Take Film
10/13/22	Chicago Southland International Film Festival	Winner Best Drama
10/16/22	FirstGlance Film Festival – Philadelphia	Nominated Best Actor
10/28/22	Richard Harris Film Festival (Ireland)	
10/28/22	Orlando Film Festival	
11/04/22	Shanghai Short Film Festival	
11/05/22	Chicago International Indie Film Festival	Winner Special Achievement Award
11/05/22	Studio City Film Festival	
11/05/22	Sunscreen Film Festival	
11/09/22	Fort Lauderdale Film Festival	
11/09/22	International Association of Self-Proclaimed Artists	
11/11/22	Coronado Film Festival	
12/06/22	Culver City Film Festival	
12/11/22	Vienna Film International Awards	Winner Best Actress Nominated Best Drama, Best Actor
12/11/22	Santa Clarita International Film Festival	
02/04/22	Bestlov Film Festival	Finalist – Best Film, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Cinematography
03/18/23	First Glance Film Festival – Los Angeles	
03/24/23	Phoenix Film Festival	
03/24/23	Underexposed Film Festival YC	