



J.JOLY



DEN MOTHER CR!MSON

P R E M I E R E F E A T U R E P R O J E C T F R O M G E N R E S T U D I O B R A N D E D T O F I L M

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THREE EXPERTS ARE BROUGHT TOGETHER TO CONSULT. AS THE NATURE OF THEIR TASK IS REVEALED, THEY MUST GRAPPLE WITH THE MORAL IMPLICATIONS AND THE OUTCOME IT MAY HAVE ON THE WORLD ●

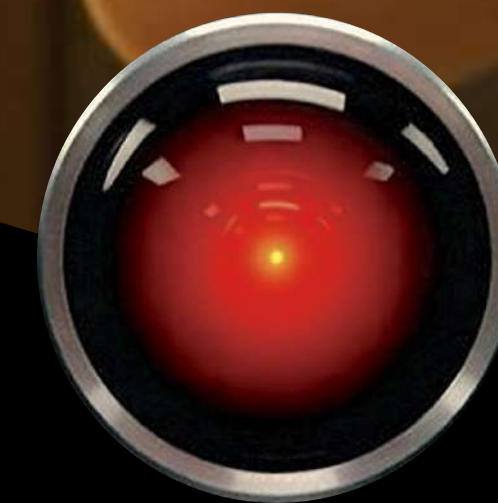
HIGH CONCEPT

THINK "EX-MACHINA" MEETS "CUBE"

"DEN MOTHER CRIMSON" (DMC) BUILDS ON THE TRADITION OF THE BRAINY POT BOILER. DRIVEN BY A TALENTED CAST, COMPELLING SCRIPT, AND A PREMISE THAT EXPLORES THE ETHICS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, DMC WILL CONNECT WITH A GLOBAL AUDIENCE.

LIKE NATALI'S "CUBE" (1997), PARKER'S "MOON" (2009), GARLAND'S "EX-MACHINA" (2014), DMC FITS INTO THIS PROVEN TRADITION OF A SINGLE LOCATION HIGH-CONCEPT THRILLER WHERE THE HEROES ARE TRAPPED AND MUST SOLVE A REAL THREAT WITH HIGH STAKES.

OUTSIDE OF THE SPECULATIVE FICTION BACKDROP, DMC LEANS INTO LARSON'S "MARGIN CALL" (2011) WHILE DELIVERING A TWIST AKIN TO KUSAMA'S "THE INVITATION" (2015) ●



SYNOPSIS

DR. LEO ABRAMS, DR. JAS HOLLAND, and DR. GWYNN FAULKNER - three scientists with backgrounds in Artificial Intelligence (AI) - are brought to a covert government facility to advise. RAFE - the sole guard introduces them to KOLBE, the AI that oversees all operations, including caring for the prisoners. It is revealed KOLBE has killed a prisoner, something that should not be possible given its zero-harm protocols.

Initially the scientists reject advising on ethical grounds, but Rafe explains that if they can't fix KOLBE, the program will be deemed a failure and the facility - including those incarcerated in it - will be purged. They learn the AI has become unstable. The overhead lights flicker as KOLBE glitches before going offline.

Leo, Gwynn and Beck want to leave, but the facility is now in lockdown. Rafe leaves to reboot the system. In her absence, Beck and Gwynn attempt to hack into the encrypted facility with no luck. Curiously, Leo gains access with little effort. This does not sit well with Beck who feels Leo is hiding something.

MONIQUE - an escaped prisoner - enters and reveals she was apprehended as she tried to blow the whistle on this AI-powered prison. She asks the scientists to destroy KOLBE as she fears it is too powerful and would wreak havoc if it ever escaped into the world. Before the scientist's can process Monique's fears, KOLBE comes back online identifies and summons Rafe to come apprehend Monique and return her to her cell.

Beck confronts Leo about his suspicious familiarity with KOLBE. Cornered, Leo explains that years before he and a colleague DR. HARRIET LINTON developed an AI to run a Mars colony. The project was mothballed by DARPA, but it is clear that their underlying source code has been resurrected to run this AI detention facility.

Realizing KOLBE is becoming increasingly unstable and dangerous, Leo identifies the need to find the mainframe that holds the original AI source code. Gwynn asks Leo what happened to Harriet and he reveals that sadly she could not cope with the Mars project being terminated and had a personal breakdown.

Rafe returns - bruised and bloodied - revealing all of the prisoners are all roaming free. She provides Leo access to the mainframe and then leaves to stand guard outside. Rafe gives Gwynn her gun in the event she fails. Given his familiarity with the system, Leo quickly gains access. He confirms Monique's fears that if the AI were to ever connect to the world's systems it would negatively impact civilization as it became sentient.

As Leo works to identify the corrupted code, they learn Monique has taken Rafe hostage and is prepared to harm her unless KOLBE is destroyed. Leo devises a clever plan to both save Rafe and render the AI inert. He reveals that his necklace holds a unique key that allows him to access the encrypted source code.

Monique manages to breach the door. Leo tries to hold her off, but discovers the gun is not loaded.

Suddenly federal agents flood into the room - Leo has been double-crossed. Rafe, Monique, Beck and Gwynn are also agents and this elaborate setup was an operation to trick Leo into exposing KOLBE's source code.

Gwynn reveals that she is Harriet's daughter and after her mother's breakdown, became obsessed with finding KOLBE. She joined the agency and worked her way up the ranks to someday find Harriet's creation. Leo is ushered away by Beck and the agents as Gwynn packs up the mainframe and takes it back to HQ.

Back at HQ, Beck and Gwynn try wade through KOLBE's dense code, but have limited access. Searching through her mother's belongings, Gwynn discovers a matching key to Leo's and inserts it into the mainframe. Suddenly the lights flicker overhead like they did in the prison when KOLBE was glitching... Leo's worst fears have been realized - the AI has now connected to Earth's global systems... *Welcome to the new dark age.*





DEN MOTHER CRIMSON • THE CAST



SILUCK SAYSANASY
DIRECTOR

Siluck's parents and eight siblings fled Laos when the government changed, and lived in a refugee camp before immigrating to Canada. He was raised in Toronto and started acting at 11, on the Canadian feature film "The Peanut Butter Solution" (1985), but is best known for playing Yick Yu on the iconic hit series "Degrassi Junior High/Degrassi High" (1986-1991). Moving behind the camera in 2002, as an Assistant Director on "Degrassi: The Next Generation" (2002-2004), over the last two decades Saysanasy has build his career on major films, including: "Hairspray" (2007), "Resident Evil: Afterlife" (2010), "Red" (2010), "The Thing" (2011) and "Pacific Rim" (2013). His TV series as a 1st AD, include: "The Strain" (2015-17), "Designated Survivor" (2019) and "Shadowhunters" (2016-2019) where he also directed two episodes. "Den Mother Crimson" is Siluck's first directed feature.



ENUKA OKUMA
(Dr. Gwynn Faulkner)

Euka began acting in her teens on the series "Fifteen" (1991), "Northwood" (1993-94) and "Madison" (1993-97). She also is an accomplished voice actor from Manga "Mobile Suit Gundam Wing" (1995-98) "Shadow Raiders" (1998-1999) and "Dragon Ball Z" (2000-2003), to video games "Star Wars - The Old Republic" (1919/2022). She made her feature film debut in "Double Jeopardy" (1999) and co-starred in the American crime drama series "Sue Thomas: F.B.Eye" (2002-2005). She guested on various hit TV series, including "Da Vinci's Inquest" (1998), "Odyssey 5" (2002), "Grey's Anatomy" (2007), "24" (2009) "NCIS: Los Angeles" (2012), "How to Get Away with Murder" (2015), "Slasher" (2016) and "The Sleepover" (2020). Recent series lead roles include "Rookie Blue" (2010-2015), "The Red Line" (2016), "Impulse" (2018-2019) and "Working Moms" (2021-2023).



DANIEL KASH
(Dr. Leo Abrams)

Daniel has built a 40-year career in major film and TV series. He began his acting career as Private Spunkmeyer in James Cameron's "Aliens" (1986) and would go on to guest on series, including: "War of the Worlds" (1989), "Forever Night" (1992), "Robocop" (1994), "Total Recall 2070" (1999), "Copper" (2012), "Hannibal" (2014) "12 Monkeys" (2016), "Clarice" (2021), "Jupiter's Legacy" (2021), "Star Trek: Discovery" (2020-2022). Daniel was a series lead in "Due South" (1994-1996), "The Line" (2009), "Against the Wall" (2021) and "Bad Blood" (2018). He was also a series regular on "Bitten" (2015-16), "The Strain" (2014-2015) "The Expanse" (2016-2017), "Orphan Black" (2013-2017) and "Tiny Pretty Things" (2020). Notable film work includes: "Nightbreed" (1990), "Exit Wounds" (2001), "The Shipping News" (2001), "Robocop" (2014), "Mama" (2013) "The Man From Toronto" (2022).



SARA MITICH
(Rafe Cassel)

Sara's first love was ballet, and began at the National Ballet School of Canada at age 9. Her first acting break was on "Joyride 3: Road Kill" followed by a recurring role as Lillian Moss on the hit series "Murdoch Mysteries" (2014-2015). This was followed by a guest spot in "The Expanse" (2015-2016) and "Frankie Drake Mysteries" (2019). In 2017 she received multiple nominations and awards for her performance in the indie feature "Ashes". Other feature work includes the Netflix feature "Anon" (2018), "Bunker Burger" (2019) and recently "Control" (2022). Sarah is best known for playing two different roles – Lt. Commander Nilsson and cyborg Airiam – on "Star Trek: Discovery" (2017-2022). Her most recent work was in horror-comedy "Astonishing Tales of Terror:Rocktopussy!". Off the screen, Sara is a horseback western rider and an acting teacher in Toronto.



SAAD SIDDIQUI
(Dr. Jasper Holland)

Born in Pakistan, Saad turned to Performing Arts and Martial Arts at 12 years when living in Baltimore. He holds a 4th degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do and is a Maryland State champ, a silver medalist (Junior Olympics) and twice qualified for the World Championships. Saad often performs his own stunts and speaks several languages. His acting break came in 2009 on "The Border", since then he has guested on series including "Nikita" (2012), "Saving Hope" (2015), "Orphan Black" (2016), "Hawaii Five-O" (2016), "Taken" (2017), "Slasher" (2019), "The Handmaid's Tale" (2019), "DC's Legends of Tomorrow" (2019), "Guillermo Del Toro's Cabinet of Curiosities" (2022) and "Eli Roth's Be Mine" (2023). Along with his long running role as Dr. Neil Sharma on the series "Coroner" (2019-2021) , Saad is also a voice actor for video games including "Far Cry" (2014/2016) and "Assassin's Creed" (2017)

DEN MOTHER CRIMSON • THE CREW



J. JOLY

(Writer/Executive Producer)

Having worked at every level of film and TV in 2014, Joly produced the cult hit "WOLFCOP", followed by "ANOTHER WOLFCOP" (2017). Outside of film he is a media technologist that developed *STORYHIVE* and *Stories For Caregivers* with TELUS, that has funded over 350 short film projects. Other productions include "Humantown" (2016), "Hellmington" (2018) and the doc "BOTERO" (2018). He sat on the board of VIFF and was an advisor for the Academy of Canadian Film and TV. In 2019, he co-founded *LIQUOR DONUTS* a vinyl record press that recently raised over \$40K for Ontario Musicians via the 33dot3. In 2020 he co-founded *Karbon Brewing* - a carbon-negative beer company and in 2022 launched *BRANDED TO FILM (B2F)* with George and Brian Wideen. Based in Kingston, ON "Den Mother Crimson" is the first picture from their planned genre slate that will also serve to train local workers.



G. ASSIMAKOPOULOS

(Executive Producer)

In 1994, George graduated from *Carleton University* with a double major in English Literature and Film Theory and finished off at *Ryerson* for post-secondary studies in Editing and Publishing. From there he built a career from PA to 1st Assistant Directing fuelled by the desire to produce. In the past 15 years he has led over 50 major projects, ranging from features "The Entitled" (2011) and "Lavender" (2016) to series, including "Hannibal" (2015), "American Gods" (2017), "Murdoch Mysteries" (2012-2015), "Orphan Black" (2013-2017) "Condor" (2018) and "Star Trek - Strange New Worlds" (2022). George has worked alongside the industry's finest writers, actors, producers and directors and has deep connections in both Canada and the US. "Den Mother Crimson" is the first feature George has produced in partnership with Joly and Wideen, his other co-founders their genre banner *B2F*.



KATALINA KOVACS

(Producer)

Katalina came to Canada in 1986 with her Hungarian parents under refugee status. She attended *York University* earning a BFA in Theatre studies, and Fine arts, where she became interested in filmmaking and soon attended *Humber College's* Film and TV program. Her first production job was as a PA on "Once Upon a Time" (2015-2016). Since then, Katalina has worked on film and TV series for *Netflix, ABC, CBS, Sony* and *20th Century Fox*; while moving up the ranks of Toronto's busy film industry. Katalina's debut short as a director was "Blind Text" (2019) that won best short at the *Vegas Movie Awards*, and a recently a win as producer on the short "Ingredients" (2021) at the DGC awards. She met George will working on "Star Trek - Strange New Worlds" in 2022. "Den Mother Crimson" is her first time producing a feature under the mentorship of Joly, Assimakopoulos and Wideen and their banner *B2F*.



MICHAEL JARRI-DAVIDSON

(Cinematographer)

Michael met J. Joly while operating on "ANOTHER WOLFCOP" (2017) and would go on to DOP the director's (Lowell Dean) next feature film project "Supergrid" (2018) that would go on to win best Cinematography at the *Blood In The Snow Film Festival*. His first feature as DOP was "Bershire County" (2014) that won the *Grand Jury Prize at Shriekfest*. Outside of film work, he has shot music videos for *Alice in Chains* and *Buck 65* to name a few. Credits as 2nd Unit DOP include "Cybergeddon" (2012), "The Void" (2016) and "Birdland" (2019). He has operated camera on major features and series including "Pacific Rim" (2013), "American Gods" (2017) and "Fahrenheit 451" (2018). Michael has been interviewed in *Canadian Cinematographer* magazine, *Kodak's InCamera* magazine, and *Sangria*. He currently sits on the *Canadian Society of Cinematographers* President's Committee.



MELISSA EAPEN-BELL

(Production Designer)

Melissa Eapen-Bell is a creative entrepreneur and business owner, that has won awards for her innovative escape room business *Improbable Escapes*. With two successful locations in Kingston, Ontario, the creative team behind these high-end escape experiences realized their skillset could be expanded into set and prop design and recently launched a new division called *Visual Menace Creative (VMC)* and have executed design concepts for various projects across multiple sectors, including museums, commercials - and more recently - screen-based content. Collaborating with *Outpost 12 Studios*, *VMC* recently won the best music video award at the *Kingston Canadian Film Festival* for *Kasador's* "Lock On". "Den Mother Crimson" is the second feature film that the team oversaw not only the the set, prop and practical visual effect design, construction, but also the on-set execution.



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DEN MOTHER CRIMSON

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DANIEL KASH SARA MITTICH ENUKA OKUMA SAAD SIDDIQUI TOM SINCLAIR ESTHER VLESSING
MUSIC BY JAMES MULVALE COSTUME DESIGNER RACHEL VANDENBERG EDITOR STEVE CROSS PRODUCTION DESIGNER MELISSA EAPEN-BELL DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL JARI DAVIDSON
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS J JOLY BRIAN WIDEEN GEORGE ASSIMAKOPOULOS PAUL VELLA PRODUCED BY KATALINA KOVECSES ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS ROLAND GOSSAGE JASON TAYLOR RICHARD STURSBURG
STORY BY JEFFREY HIRSCHFIELD SCREENPLAY BY J JOLY DIRECTED BY SILLUCK SAYSANASY

