MAGNET

Magnet Releasing In Association with Drafthouse Films & Timpson Films

Presents

A Magnet Release

THE ABCs OF DEATH

FROM THE DIRECTORS OF

THE HOUSE OF THE DEVIL HOBO WITH A SHOTGUN A SERBIAN FILM TOKYO GORE POLICE YOU'RE NEXT AND MANY MORE

Official Selection:

2012 Toronto Film Festival 2012 Fantastic Fest

PRELIMINARY PRESS NOTES

129 minutes

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SYNOPSIS

Twenty-six directors. Twenty-six ways to die. The ABC's OF DEATH is perhaps the most ambitious anthology film ever conceived with productions spanning fifteen countries and featuring segments directed by over two dozen of the world's leading talents in contemporary genre film. Inspired by children's educational books, the motion picture is comprised of twenty-six individual chapters; each helmed by a different director assigned a letter of the alphabet. The directors were then given free reign in choosing a word to create a story involving death. Provocative, shocking, funny and ultimately confrontational, THE ABC's OF DEATH is the definitive vision of modern horror diversity.

ABOUT THE FILM

"The idea for this project stemmed from my curiosity as a child towards Angela Banner's somewhat surreal Ant and Bee (1950) educational series. These were beautifully illustrated books that expressed a narrative through the learning of the Roman alphabet. It's interesting to note today's various ABC books and how formalized they are in their approach to introducing the world to the minds of the innocent and unaffected.

Originally intended to teach religious instruction the books evolved into more generically illustrated mnemonic aids, where everything one needs to know about the world is handily presented under one letter and one object. The idea of subverting that format to reveal a study in how one can leave this world was appealing on multiple levels. There is a humorous irony that early forms of the ABC books used fear of punishment to 'teach' the young.

In some ways, this project is harkening back to the original intent of the earliest known examples. The ABC project would also allow a couple of up-and-coming directors to showcase (and hopefully show off) their talent alongside some more established names in the industry. The idea of a genre-driven creative omnibus on a global scale is exciting to us as producers but primarily as audience members."

- ANT and TIM

THE TEAM

ANT TIMPSON (Producer)

Ant Timpson is based in New Zealand. At age 18 he got kicked out of University but learned how to charge admission for 72-hour movie marathons. He has been involved in exhibition, producing and distributing films. In the early '90s he created the Incredibly Strange Film Festival which still runs to this day. He has curated programs for MGM Channel through to operating a devolved film fund for the New Zealand Film Commission which created The Devil Dared Me To and others. He programs for the New Zealand International Film Festival, owns and operates the 48HOURS, the largest filmmaking event in Oceania. He started collecting film prints in the late 80s and now has amassed one of the largest personal archives of exploitation cinema in the world. He cites Tod Browning, David Cronenberg and Andy Milligan as major influences. Facebook : <u>Ant.Timpson</u> Twitter : <u>Timpson</u>

TIM LEAGUE (Producer)

Tim League is based in Austin, Texas. He's the CEO of the Alamo Drafthouse chain of cinemas. His Rolling Roadshow takes movies to famous locations throughout the world, from Close Encounters at Devil's Tower in Wyoming to Sergio Leone movies in Almeria, Spain. A consummate showman, he can often be found with his shirt off drinking beer from viking helmets before film premieres. Entertainment Weekly named his theaters "The Best in the US." He also owns and operates Fantastic Fest, the largest genre festival in the United States. He recently formed Drafthouse Films to release Chris Morris' acclaimed FOUR LIONS and has more titles on the horizon. In 2011, CNN's Anderson Cooper called him a "true American hero" and said League should be given a Nobel Peace Prize for services to mankind.

26 DIRECTORS | 26 WAYS TO DIE

Apocalypse by Nacho Vigalondo Bigfoot by Adrián García Bogliano Cycle by Ernesto Díaz Espinoza **Dogfight** by Marcel Sarmiento Exterminate by Angela Bettis Fart by Noburo Iguchi Gravity by Andrew Traucki Hydro-Electric Diffusion by Thomas Cappelen Malling **Ingrown** by Jorge Michel Grau Jidai-Geki by Yûdai Yamaguchi Klutz by Anders Morgenthaler Libido by Timo Tjahjanto Miscarriage by Ti West Nuptials by Banjong Pisanthanakun Orgasm by Bruno Forzani & Hélène Cattet **Pressure** by Simon Rumley Quack by Adam Wingard and Simon Barrett **Removed** by Srdjan Spasojevic Speed by Jake West Toilet by Lee Hardcastle Unearthed by Ben Wheatley Vagitus by Kaare Andrews WTF! by Jon Schnepp XXL by Xavier Gens Youngbuck by Jason Eisener Zetsumetsu by Yoshihiro Nishimura

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Nacho Vigalondo

Ignacio "Nacho" Vigalondo (born 6 April 1977 in Cabezón de la Sal, Cantabria, Spain) is a Spanish filmmaker. In addition to receiving an Academy Award nomination and a Best Short Film Award nomination at the European Film Awards, Vigalondo's 2003 short film "7:35 de la Mañana" received the Bronze Moon of Valencia at the Cinema Jove – Valencia International Film Festival and the Prix UIP Drama at the Drama Short Film Festival. He finished his first full length feature film, "Los Cronocrímenes" (TimeCrimes), in 2007. Vigalondo revealed on his official blog that his next film would be a Spanish-language alien invasion horror entitled "Extraterrestre".

Adrian Garcia Bogliano

Adrian Garcia Bogliano was born in Spain but raised in Argentina. He began his career at 19 with his film "Habitaciones para turistas" (Room for Tourists, 2004), a critical smash which made it to a limited theatrical release in the United States. He has since directed "36 pasos" (2006), "No moriré sola" (I'll Never Die Alone, 2008), "Donde duerme el horror" (The Accursed, 2010) and "Penumbra" (2011), currently in post-production. His upcoming movie "Vagabundo en la lluvia" (Drifter in the Rain), a remake of the 1968 cult classic directed by Carlos Enrique Taboada.

Ernesto Diaz Espinoza

Ernesto Díaz Espinoza is a film director, screenwriter and editor of his own films. Known for being one of the pioneers of action cinema in Chile, he has twice been elected best director Wikén Chilean magazine of "El Mercurio".

Marcel Sarmiento

Marcel is an American screenwriter and director who's second feature was the controversial DEADGIRL, which premiered at the Toronto Film Festival in 2008. Film Threat said, "It will remind you of the best of Cronenberg. Cleverly written, stylishly directed and morbidly fascinating. It isn't your average cookie-cutter horror film." His previous film was HEAVY PETTING (2006) starring Malin Akerman, a comedy. Marcel is currently adapting a comic book for producer Steven Schneider.

Angela Bettis

Angela Marie Bettis was born in Austin. She is an American actress, film producer and director best known for her lead roles in the 2002 TV remake of the Stephen King film "Carrie," the title character in "May" (2002), and in "Girl, Interrupted" as the anorexic girl Janet Webber. Bettis is most famous for her work in independent horror films, and especially her working relationship with writer/director Lucky McKee. Her title role in McKee's 2002 film "May" won her something of a cult following. Since then, she has appeared in McKee's Masters of Horror episode, "Sick Girl", and provided a voice-over for his film "The Woods". In 2006, their May roles reversed, when McKee acted for Bettis in her directorial debut, "Roman," based on a McKee script. She recently starred in Lucky McKee's disturbing film "The Woman".

Noboru Iguchi

A Japanese film director, screenwriter and actor. He has worked as a director in adult video as well as in the horror and gore genres. In an interview he said he was influenced in his work by the ghost houses and freak shows he went to as a child in Japanese play lands and that his aim in his films is to both entertain and surprise.

Andrew Traucki

"The Reef" marks Andrew Traucki's second stint in the director's chair. Despite working within the restrictive 'shark movie' genre, Traucki has delivered a genuinely innovative and tense thriller. "The Reef" tells the true story of four holidaymakers who – after becoming stranded in the ocean – find themselves stalked by a great white shark. The film bears a striking resemblance to Traucki's previous movie, "Black Water," which tells the similar true story of holidaymakers hunted by a giant crocodile. -Hollywood News

Thomas Cappelen Malling

Marking the cinematic debut of author Thomas Cappelen Malling, "Norwegian Ninja", is every bit as unclassifiable and creative as it sounds, mixing politics, action, comedy and mystic philosophy with an inspired, documentary style approach. Produced by the same team responsible for other recent Norwegian cult success "Død snø" (Dead Snow, 2009).

Jorge Michel Grau

Jorge Michel Grau obtains a B.A. in Communication from the National Autonomous University of Mexico from 1994-1998 and then graduates with honors in Film Direction from the Centro de Capacitacion Cinematografica (CCC); in his professional career he has started as a producer of documentaries and cultural and educational television programs.

Yûdai Yamaguchi

Yudai Yamaguchi was born in 1971 and attended the Japan Academy of Moving Images, winning a number of awards at international film festivals after graduation. In 2000, he co-wrote Ryuhei Kitamura's action-horror film "Versus," and also served as second-unit director. Following this up with more creatively gruesome comedies, Yamaguchi has established a name for himself as Japan's most popular comedy / action / horror filmmaker. In 2009, he served as writer, editor and creative director for comedian Itsuji Itao's King of Jail Breakers, and co-directed the TV series Soil with Takashi Shimizu, in addition to preparing two films for The Sushi Typhoon.

Anders Morgenthaler

Born in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1972. From early age he communicated through drawing. It can be said to have been his means of survival through the public school system. After graduating high school in 1992, he worked as a self-taught animator/designer at ITE (Interactive Television Entertainment), making Hugo the Troll, the world's first interactive television cartoon game. In 2001 and 2002, Anders wrote and directed his exam movie; not following the rules of doing a seven minute movie, he made a feature film together with producer David Østerbøg with a budget of \$11,700. The Danish Film School accepted that the film be finalized.

Timo Tjahjanto

One half of Indonesia's premier horror duo 'The Mo Brothers' whose feature Macabre put them on the international genre map. Recently he joined forces with Gareth Huw Evans and begun work on a new collaborative project titled The Night Comes For Us.

Ti West

Ti West is an American film director, best known for his work in horror films. One of the most exciting and original filmmakers on the independent scene today. Recently West directed an original screenplay, "The Innkeepers", a follow up to his 2008 critically acclaimed, "The House of the Devil". The film premiered at SXSW 2011 and was released by Magnolia Pictures in 2012.

Banjong Pisanthanakun

Thai filmmaker and screenwriter. With Parkpoom Wongpoom, he co-directed and cowrote the hit 2004 Thai horror film, Shutter, and the 2007 horror film, "Alone."

Bruno Forzani & Hélène Cattet

Bruno Forzani and Hélène Cattet work as one filmmaking machine. Helene studied Biology. Bruno studied accountancy. We met in Brussels and started to work together in 2000 with self-produced short films that we made with four or five friends (the same friends we are still working with today). Their debut feature "Amer" dazzled audiences with its giallo motifs and homages. "A pastiche tour de force plays out a delirious, enigmatic, almost wordless death-dance of fear and desire. Its three movements, each in a different style, correspond to the childhood, adolescence, and adulthood of its female protagonist—and that's all you need to know. Drawing its stylized, hyperbolic gestures from the playbooks of Bava, Leone, Argento, and De Palma and taking them into a realm of near-abstraction, Amer has genre in the blood." –Indiewire

Simon Rumley

Simon Rumley is an English writer, producer and director. He has written and directed four features. His last released feature was "Red White & Blue" shot on location in and around Austin, Texas over the summer. Starring Noah Taylor, Marc Senter and Amanda Fuller, the film returned to London for post-production. He has already completed "Little Deaths" an anthology film shot in the UK.

Adam Wingard

At 19 Adam got his start in feature film making early with his directorial debut "Home Sick," a slasher horror film starring Bill Moseley and Tom Toweles. However it was his second effort at 24 years old with the film "Pop Skull" that garnered him a talent to watch. Made for a budget of around 2000 dollars he managed to capture the attention of French Distribution company The Wild Bunch. The film went on to premiere at the prestigious Rome Film Festival and the American Film Institute Film Festival. His dark and sometimes abrasive directing/editing style has been compared to directors such as David Lynch, Darren Aronofsky, and Shinya Tsukamoto.

Srdjan Spasojevic

Srdjan Spasojevic is a film writer, director and producer. His debut shook the world, "A Serbian Film" became the most controversial film on the planet since "Salò" was released. It is one of the first true midnight films for the new century. An angry scream in cinematic form the film is not for the sensitive or faint of heart. It has divided audiences and caused people to flee cinemas in terror. It is perhaps the most dangerouns film on the planet at the moment.

Jake West

Jake West is an English horror film director born in 1972. His films are known for mixing outrageous humor amongst the bloody fun. His last directorial release was a documentary on the moral panic over Video Nasties in the UK early 80s.

Ben Wheatley

Ben Wheatley is an animator, director of internet viral ads, TV idents, TV adverts TV comedy shows and feature films. Initially a short film maker and animator, Wheatley moved his work to the internet instantly gaining a wider audience. His viral clip "cunning stunt" which shows his friend Rob Hill jumping over a car has had over 10 million plays and continues to hit inboxes around the globe. Between 2007 and 2009 Wheatley directed series 2 of "Modern Toss", "The Wrong Door" and "Ideal" series 5 for BBC3. In May 2009 he directed a feature film called "Down Terrace" which won the Next Wave prize at Fantastic Fest in Austin and Best UK Feature at Raindance in London. He has also directed adverts for Blink Productions. He is the founder of Mr. and Mrs. Wheatley. Wheatley has recently completed shooting his second feature, "Kill List" for Warp X.

Kaare Andrews

A comic book writer and artist and filmmaker known for his cover work on Incredible Hulk and Canada's first national recognized award, "The Shuster," for his work on Spider-Man: Doctor Octopus.

Jon Schnepp

Jon Schnepp is an American producer, director, actor, editor, writer and cinematographer. He is a writer/producer/director at Titmouse, and has been a creative force in all 4 seasons of the hit Adult Swim animated series "Metalocalypse", from creating and designing the Dethklok Band Characters to directing the bulk of the television series and the majority of the music videos when Dethklok plays live in concert. He has made over a dozen episodes of the classic "Space Ghost: Coast to Coast", and has voiced characters on Aqua Teen Hunger Force (The Wisdom Cube) and directed shows like "Upright Citizens Brigade" and "The Venture Bros." Jon Schnepp is currently directing and producing the 4th season of "Metalocalypse".

Xavier Gens No Info

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Jason Eisner

In 2007, Jason Eisener was making amateur movies in his hometown of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Then, along came "Grindhouse", a tribute to 70's exploitation films, directed by Hollywood giants Quentin Tarintino and Robert Rodriguez. To promote the movie, Rodriguez held a competition asking fans to create their own fake movie trailer. Jason got to work, and in just two weeks, he made "Hobo with a Shotgun", a mini-masterpiece about a homeless vigilante. Within weeks, the trailer had thousands of views on YouTube, and Jason went on to win the competition. Now, that could have been the end of the story, but this Hobo refused to die. Soon after, Jason and his producer flew to Toronto, where they got the chance to turn "Hobo" into a full-length film. Plus, Jason got to work with one of his all-time heroes, Dutch actor Rutger Hauer, who signed on to play the Hobo. –CBC

Yoshihiro Nishimura

Yoshihiro Nishimura is a Japanese film director, special effects and makeup effects artist, and a screenwriter who has worked predominantly in the horror genre. Nishimura has been described as a legendary director and effects artist and the Tom Savini of Japan with talent to burn. He has been credited with establishing a new type of visual film presentation, the gore effect.

CREDITS

MAGNET RELEASING IN ASSOCIATION WITH DRAFTHOUSE FILMS & TIMPSON FILMS PRESENTS **"THE ABCs OF DEATH"**

Produced by ANT TIMPSON & TIM LEAGUE

Executive Producer TOM QUINN

Associate Producers TODD BROWN MARC WALKOW

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