

WEAK SPECIES

a film by **DAN FALTZ** based on writings by **DENNIS COOPER** music by **NO-MAN**

WINNER, BEST SHORT Honolulu Rainbow Festival
WINNER, BEST NARRATIVE SHORT FilmOut San Diego

OFFICIAL SELECTION: FRAMELINE 33, OUTFEST 2009,
RHODE ISLAND International Film Festival, Inside/Out
Toronto, **OutTakes** New Zealand, **REELING** Chicago

"An equally disturbing and darkly comic experience." **-FILM THREAT**

"A thoughtful, yet brutal, glimpse into two troubled teen lives."
-HomoPop

"An intriguing and disturbing short film about the nature of pain..." **-EDGE**

"Weak Species is an uncompromising look at troubled youth."
-Camp KC

LONG SYNOPSIS

Classmates Steve and George are part of a frightening food chain, and feel themselves to be apart from their classmates -- their own separate species.

For Steve, high school is a game. Seducing his classmates gives him his sense of purpose and fuels his art and poetry. When Steve sets his sights on the school's star athlete, he starts a cat and mouse chase, which could ruin him and his idol.

George, the school recluse, copes with the stress of his mother's cancer and a strained relationship with his father by cutting class and using drugs. Hooking up with strangers in an effort to lose himself, George finds himself in a life or death situation.

Though at odds with each other, George and Steve have more in common than they realize. As their lives spiral downward, they could continue on their separate paths to self-destruction -- or save each other, their endurance proving that the 'species' they belong to is anything but weak.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Steve and George are part of a frightening food chain. High school rivals, each gravitates toward sex and violence in an attempt to feel. Their downward spirals could lead them to self-destruction, or to each other.

ONE LINE

Two alienated high school rivals gravitate toward increasingly risky sex and violence in an attempt to feel.

Film Title: WEAK SPECIES

Category: Drama

Running Time: 34 minutes

Shooting Format: Color (RedCam HD)

Language: English

Exhibition Format: HDSR, HDCAM (1.85) or Digibeta (1.85)

Sound: Stereo

Director: Dan Faltz (*Lucky Man, The Real Life*)

Writers: Dennis Cooper (novel *Closer* and poems), Dan Faltz (adaptation)

Producers: Lotti Pharriss Knowles (*Because They Have No Words, ShadowNet*), Vito Trabucco (*Night Demons, Hooligans Alley*)

Cast:

Brendan Bradley as Steve (*Friends with Benefits, September 12*)

Erik Scott Smith as George (*Garden Party, A Home at the End of the World*)

James Eckhouse as Dad (*Beverly Hills 90210, Half Life, Crossing the Line*)

Paul Tigue as Philip (*Titans, The Young and the Restless, Roswell*)

Hugo Armstrong as Tom (*Nanking, Political Disasters, Meridien*)

Michael Shepperd as Chuck (*ER, Criminal Minds, Monk, Arrested Development*)

Joseph Gilbert as Mr. McGough (*Criminal Minds, Eyes of Samir, I.O.U.*)

Lyn Alicia Henderson as Counselor (*ER, Ghost Whisperer, Dexter, The L Word*)

PRODUCTION

DAN FALTZ DIRECTOR

Dan Faltz studied film at the University of California, Berkeley, where he was selected for the Haas Scholars Program. His first USC film, *Lucky Man*, was a finalist in the 2007 PlanetOut Short Movie Awards, finalist for Best Gay Short at the 2007 Great Lakes Film Festival, and has played in festivals worldwide including Frameline, NewFest, Image+Nation Montreal and FilmOut San Diego. It will be available on home video shortly. He is currently studying writing and directing at USC, where he co-wrote and co-directed *The Real Life*, winner of the 2007 Accolade Award of Excellence for Best Unaired Pilot. Dan was awarded the 2007 Don Thompson Memorial Scholarship for contributing to LGBT cinema, and was a semifinalist for the 2008 Nicholl Fellowship in Screenwriting. He is currently developing a feature version of WEAK SPECIES that will feature music by No-Man.

DENNIS COOPER STORY

Dennis Cooper is the founder of the Little Caesar Magazine and Press, which he ran until 1982, and the author of The George Miles Cycle, an interconnected sequence of five novels that includes *Closer, Frisk, Try, Guide,* and *Period*. His post-George Miles Cycle novels include *My Loose Thread, The Sluts* and his most recent novel, the highly acclaimed *God, Jr.* Other works include the short story collection *Wrong*, the poetry collection *The Dream Police*, and *All Ears: Cultural Criticism, Essays and Obituaries*. A limited edition new collection of poems, *The Weaklings*, is forthcoming from Fanzine Press.

NO-MAN MUSIC

No-Man are Tim Bowness and Steven Wilson (the latter best known as the leader of Porcupine Tree). No-Man combine traditional values of songcraft and emotional commitment with an ongoing desire to play with the creative

possibilities of modern music. Bridging the gaps between art-rock, electronica, experimental pop, jazz and contemporary classical music. The band has released six studio albums over the last fifteen years.

No-Man has also forged collaborations with musicians as diverse as King Crimson's Robert Fripp, Pat Mastellotto and Mel Collins; electronica legends MuslimGauze and Scanner, pedal steel wizard Bruce Kaphan (American Music Club), British jazz players Ian Carr and Theo Travis, ambient/left-field composer Roger Eno and art-rock trio Jansen Barbieri and Karn (ex-Japan/Rain Tree Crow). Their new album, *Wherever There is Light*, was released on K Scope this May.

LOTTI PHARRISS KNOWLES PRODUCER

Lotti Pharriss Knowles grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area and attended high school with Dan Faltz. She earned her degree in Performance Studies from Northwestern University and an M.A. in Theatre from University of Illinois at Chicago. She served for two years as the managing director of Live Bait Theater in Chicago, where she helped produce such world premiere plays as *Love Child* and *Death On a Pink Carpet*. Her solo performance work was produced in Chicago by Tellin' Tales Theatre, Field Trips, Estrogenfest, and Live Bait's Fillet of Solo Festival. Now based in Los Angeles, Lotti founded Weirdsmobile Productions in 2005 with her filmmaker husband, John V. Knowles. In 2006 they produced the world premiere of Lotti's play *Because They Have No Words*, which was nominated for two LA Stage Alliance Ovation Awards for Best Ensemble and World Premiere Play. In 2007 Lotti produced the short film *ShadowNet*, and is currently developing her first feature project, her original screenplay *Chastity Bites*. Lotti also volunteers as an adult artist/mentor with the Virginia Avenue Project in Santa Monica.

VITO TRABUCCO PRODUCER

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Vito Trabucco has been making films since 2001. He began as a cameraman in the state of Florida, expanding into directing, acting, special effects, editing and even stunt work. In 2004 Vito's film *Night Demons* won best short film at the Independence Film Festival and won him best director at the Florida Motion Picture & Television Association Awards. After moving to Hollywood in 2005, Vito's film *Hooligan's Valley* was picked up on the DVD compilation *Visions of Horror*, now in video stores across the country. This is his third film as producer.

JEREMY GUY DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Jeremy Guy studied film at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Jeremy worked with Dan as the cinematographer and editor of *Lucky Man*. He is the director of the award-winning documentary *Perspectives*, which screened at

the Santa Barbara International Film Festival, the producer of the documentary *Trashed*, and the cinematographer for *Union Station*. Recent USC projects Jeremy directed include *Survived by the Future of Mankind* and *American Patriot*.

JASON KENNEDY & ALLEN HOOPER CASTING DIRECTORS

Jason Kennedy & Allen Hooper have been casting film and television in Los Angeles since 2001. Jason is currently casting the CBS series NCIS with Susan Bluestein. Other projects between the two include numerous pilots and series, such as *Out of Practice*, *The Dresden Files*, *Stacked*, *Reba*, *Dawson's Creek*, *Jake in Progress*, *Miss Match*, *According to Jim*, *Abby*, *A Minute with Stan Hooper*, *Living With Fran* and *Run of the House*. Features include J.J. Abrams' *Star Trek*, *Cursed*, *PU-239*, *A Little Thing Called Murder*, *Elizabethtown* and *Nine Lives*. Additionally, Jason and Allen have cast a number of shorts and indies, many of which have received critical acclaim and awards at various film festivals, including Sundance.

MERCEDED BLACKHEART PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Mercedes Blackehart is a graduate of Art Center College Design and comes from the world of indie filmmaking. She started her career production designing a Willie Wisley music video starring Jenna Fischer (*The Office*), which took the internet by storm. She is currently working on projects for notables such as writer/director James Gunn (*Dawn of the Dead*, *Slither*), actor Mark Taylor (*Boston Legal*, *Saving Grace*) and producer Elliot Shoenman (*Home Improvement*, *The Cosby Show*), and for Xbox Live.

MICHAEL TOSHIYUKI UNO USC FACULTY MENTOR

Michael Toshiyuki Uno is the Head of Directing at the School of Cinematic Arts at the University of Southern California. A member of the Directors Guild of America since 1984, he has directed 15 movies for cable and television, one theatrical release, and 12 episodes, shorts and specials. He has received [three] CableACE Awards, two Emmy Awards, a Golden Globe Award, an NAACP Image Award, and a Best Television Feature at the San Francisco International Film Festival. Nominations include an Academy Award for Live Action Short in 1982, and Independent Feature Project West (now Film Independent), a DGA Award nomination, and a SAG Award nomination. Michael is a founding member of the Independent Directors Committee of the Directors Guild of America, and holds an MFA in Directing from the American Film Institute.

POWER UP FISCAL SPONSOR

Realizing the need for a professional educational organization for women to unite, create, share, grow, learn, give and belong, POWER UP, the Professional Organization of Women in Entertainment Reaching UP, was created and announced on National Coming Out Day, October 11, 2000, to promote the visibility and integration of gay women in entertainment, the arts, and all forms of media. POWER UP is the only 501(c)(3) non-profit film production company and educational organization for GLBT women. POWER UP is volunteer-run and operates exclusively on individual donations.

POWER UP's members are women and men, gay and straight, who share a singular purpose – to promote diversity by supporting their mission. POWER UP films include the feature *The Itty Bitty Titty Committee*, and shorts *Little Black Boot*, *Starcrossed* and *D.E.B.S.*

WEBSITE WEAKSPECIES.COM

WEB DESIGN **ERIC HANDEL / LMNOP**
www.lmnopplanet.com

WEBSITE POWERED BY **FWD:LABS**
www.fwdlabs.com

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