

PRESS KIT

STAYCATION

A Feature Film Directed by Russ Emanuel

**Starring Olivia d'Abo, Sean Kenney, Tracee Cocco, Laurene Landon,
Kelli Maroney, Eileen Dietz, Catherine LaSalle, Lilly Ivring, Bailey Sorrel, Gilles Stricher**



USA: 2022: 4K Digital: Color: 5.1 Surround Sound: 103 minutes

<https://www.facebook.com/staycationthemovie/>

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STAYCATION

LOG LINE

Everyday people live through a government mandated quarantine during a global pandemic while desperate scientists race to find a cure before it's too late.

SYNOPSIS

Lead virologist Edward Bellows plays tête-a-tête with hard-hitting journalist Grace Baxter as the world collapses under the weight of a global pandemic. She holds nothing back as she fires question after question, seeking answers from the beleaguered professor. Meanwhile, Britt and Marnie, college roommates being forced to live together, must deal with their newfound realities of this global pandemic. And, a couple Matt and Cathy, stuck in lockdown and separated between continents, spend some belated quality time via webcam toasting to foreign brandy and reminiscing on the past.

STATEMENT FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Staycation" began with a prequel film called "Routine" which was a 5-minute film which was initially a camera test of our new 6K pixel resolution camera package, that we happened to get right before the COVID-19 outbreak. Along with longtime filmmaking partner Emile Haris, we expanded "Routine" into a feature film called "Staycation" as part of a pandemic horror franchise. Not only did our lead actors reprise their roles from "Routine" (Paige Laree Poucel, Bill Victor Arucan, Alan Courtright), but we also cast newcomers Gilles Stricher, Bailey Sorrel, Catherine LaSalle, Lilly Ivring, as well as name actors Olivia d'Abo (Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker, The Wonder Years, Conan the Destroyer), Sean Kenney (Star Trek: The Original Series), Tracee Cocco (Star Trek: The Next Generation, Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Star Trek: First Contact), Eileen Dietz (The Exorcist), Kelli Maroney (Fast Times At Ridgemont High), and Laurene Landon (Maniac Cop 1 and 2). Not only that, we also ran a very successful Indiegogo Campaign (202% raised) which expanded the original 23 page script to 58 pages to now a final 103 pages. We hope that people who see this film will enjoy the film, as well as the magnitude of the filmmaking process we went through from our initial filming in November 2020 to June 2022, to make this movie a reality.

-- Russ Emanuel

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CREW BIOGRAPHIES



Russ Emanuel
PRODUCER/DIRECTOR

Russ Emanuel is an award-winning American director, producer, and independent filmmaker, having directed such actors as John Heard, Robert Picardo, Vincent Pastore, Glynnis O'Connor, Hallie Kate Eisenberg, Jeremy London, Ryan Hurst, William Devane, Marina Sirtis, Sean Kenney, Armin Shimerman, and Gary Graham. He grew up in both Japan and the United States and graduated from U.S.C. to study Cinema-Television. He founded Russem Productions in 2002 to promote his films including **GIRL WITH GUN** (2005) and documentary **RESTORATION OF PARADISE** (2014). Presently, **STAYCATION** (2022) marks Emanuel's sixth foray into feature filmmaking, after directing **P.J.** (2007), **CHASING THE GREEN** (2009), **THE LEGENDS OF NETHIAH** (2012), **OCCUPANTS** (2015), and **WISPER** (2020).



Emile Haris
WRITER/DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY/EDITOR

A graduate in both Writing and Film from Long Beach State, Emile Haris, together with fellow filmmaker Yos Park, produced the sci-fi short **FRAKIE DIED** (2000). He next teamed up with University of Southern California graduate Russ Emanuel for the films **HER KNIGHT** (2003), **GIRL WITH GUN** (2005), **P.J.** (2007), **CHASING THE GREEN** (2009), **THE LEGENDS OF NETHIAH** (2012), **OCCUPANTS** (2015), **COLLAR** (2017), **THE ASSASSIN'S APPRENTICE** (2018), and now **WISPER** (2020) and **STAYCATION** (2022) where he is also the Cinematographer. His other Director of Photography credits include **WHISKEY NEAT** (2009) and **HIT LIST** (2011) starring actor Joey Lawrence.



Vasilis Milesis
COMPOSER

Vasilis Milesis is a multi-awarded film composer and orchestrator. He was accepted with a Scholarship and Assistantship at Berklee College of Music in the "Music for Film, TV and Games" Master Program, where he graduated with Summa cum Laude. He has worked as a music composer for many advertisements and theatrical plays. He has participated in several international film festivals and composing competitions, where he received many awards and distinctions. He is currently working closely with director Russell Emanuel, composing music for two of three of his feature films, **OCCUPANTS** (2015), **WISPER** (2020), and now **STAYCATION** (2022), as well as two additional shorts including **ROUTINE** (2020), while he is also preparing a project named "Year of Humanity", his first CD with his compositions that were inspired by important facts that occurred from the previous century until now.

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CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Olivia d'Abo
"GRACE BAXTER"

Olivia Jane d'Abo is a British actress and singer. She is known for her role as Karen Arnold, Kevin Arnold's rebellious teenaged hippie sister in the ABC comedy-drama series **THE WONDER YEARS** (1988–1993), female serial killer Nicole Wallace in **LAW & ORDER: CRIMINAL INTENT**, Marie Blake on **THE SINGLE GUY** (1995–1997), and Jane Porter in **THE LEGEND OF TARZAN** (2001–2003). In 1992, she guest starred in the **STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION** episode titled "True Q" as Amanda Rogers, as well as starring as Jedi Master Luminara Unduli in **STAR WARS: THE CLONE WARS** (2008). Her film appearances include roles in **CONAN THE DESTROYER** (1984), **BANK ROBBER** (1993), and **STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER** (2019).



Sean Kenney
"PROFESSOR EDWARD BELLOWS"

Sean David Kenney is an American actor best known for his role in **STAR TREK: THE ORIGINAL SERIES** as the physically disabled Christopher Pike in "The Menagerie" (the healthy Pike was played by Jeffrey Hunter), and as Lieutenant DePaul in "Arena" and "A Taste of Armageddon." After his roles on **STAR TREK** and a few other small parts, including his first bit part in **THE IMPOSSIBLE YEARS** (1968), Kenney had leading roles in **HOW'S YOUR LOVE LIFE?** (1971), the cult horror film **THE CORPSE GRINDERS** (1971), **SLUMBER PARTY '57** (1976), and most recently, Russ Emanuel's **THE ASSASSIN'S APPRENTICE: SILBADORES OF THE CANARY ISLANDS** (2021). In 1980, Kenney also became a professional photographer.



Bailey Sorrel
"CATHY"

Originally from Denver, Bailey attended the University of Northern Colorado where she studied Theatre Arts, English, and Secondary Education. Bailey Sorrel is a Los Angeles based actor, writer, and producer. A performer with strong theatrical roots, Bailey established herself in Los Angeles as Jenny in **THE YELLOW WALLPAPER** at the Hollywood Fringe Festival. Following this theatrical debut, Bailey originated the role of Takhooi in the world premiere production, **WILLIAM SAROYAN: THE UNPUBLISHED WORKS IN PERFORMANCE**, featuring the words of the Pulitzer-winning playwright.

On screen, Bailey often plays feisty, upbeat, vulnerable characters. Most recently, she played the girlfriend with a will to survive in the apocalyptic thriller, **STAYCATION**. Prior to the pandemic she could be seen performing live around town with the indie improv team, The Demerritts.



Gilles Stricher
"MATT"

Gilles Stricher is a French-American actor who was raised internationally and also in California. Having lived a bit everywhere, he finally made his way to UCLA to study International Politics and make his parents happy, but soon discovered acting instead! Marvelous life choices! And the rest, as they say, c'est l'histoire. His acting roles include **CHECK, PLEASE** (2017), **THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT** (2018), **INK** (2018), **UNDER PRESSURE** (2019), **AN ILL WIND** (2020), and most recently, Russ Emanuel's **STAYCATION** (2022).

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CAST BIOGRAPHIES (CONTINUED)



Catherine LaSalle

"BRITT"

Currently based in Los Angeles, California, Catherine LaSalle is a graduate of the Tyler School of Art (2019) with a BFA in Painting and Drawing and a minor in Art History. She received the Dean's scholarship for her high school portfolio, and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Temple University. Her work **AFTERLIFE** appeared in the Beacon Art Shortwave Gallery of Stone Harbor, New Jersey, where she spent three seasons as a gallery apprentice to sculptor Gary Jacketti. Her first solo BFA exhibition, titled **WICKED REFLECTIONS** opened November 2019 at the Stella Elkins Tyler Gallery at the Tyler School of Art. In addition to her artistic pursuits, LaSalle is also an actress known for her

role as Padme Amidala in YouTube's **VADER FAN SERIES, EPISODE 1: SHARDS OF THE PAST** directed by Danny Ramirez and produced by the channel Star Wars Theory. She has also done voiceover work in the same channel's production, **ONCE UPON A THEORY**.



Lilly Ivring

"MARNIE"

Born in Alabama and raised in Tennessee, Lilly Ivring ("EYE-vreeng") knew she was an actor after seeing the movie **SNOW WHITE** at age four. She internalized the character of Snow White with such devotion that for weeks, she refused to be kissed by anyone; instead, they had to allow their heads to be turned down by their ears and accept a kiss on top of the head, à la Snow White. Lilly is known by her teachers and peers for her reckless pursuit of knowledge, range, and capability. She has been described as a young Nicole Kidman with a dash of Lucille Ball. She has ravenously studied on-camera acting, acting technique, auditioning, set strategy, improv, comedy, script analysis, and

dialect. She models, works as a barista, and sells her hand-painted artwork in order to afford her training and forge her way forward into the life of her dreams. Lilly's dream role is Poison Ivy in the DC Universe. She is happily based in Los Angeles (2022).



Kelli Maroney

"CYNTHIA OXFORD"

Kelli Maroney began her career acting and studying at the Guthrie Theater in her native Minneapolis, MN. Two weeks after she arrived in Manhattan, Kelli was cast as evil adolescent "Kimberly Harris" on the daytime soap opera, **RYAN'S HOPE** (1975). Maroney went on to play the vengeful "Tina Clayton Lord Roberts" on **ONE LIFE TO LIVE** (1968). She made her film debut as the 'Spirit Bunny' "Cindy Carr" in the teen comedy classic, **FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH** (1982). Kelli achieved her greatest enduring cult popularity with her delightful turn as the endearingly spunky "Samantha" in the science-fiction end-of-the-world film, **NIGHT OF THE COMET** (1984). Kelli most recently was seen as homemaker "Grace" in the web series, **ROCK & ROLL INC.**, and a

tipsy stage mom-from-hell in Pop Star, and psychic Ezmerelda in **HELL'S KITTY**.

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CAST BIOGRAPHIES (CONTINUED)



Laurene Landon

"TABITHA MUSGRAVES"

Laurene Landon Coughlin (born March 17, 1957) is a Canadian film and television actress. Born in Toronto, Ontario, she attended California State University and began training in their police academy program, but decided that law enforcement was not for her when she came to the realization that she might someday have to use a gun. So she decided to try her hand at acting and began her career as an extra in films. She first began appearing in movies in the 1980s. She is best known for her roles in **MANIAC COP** and **MANIAC COP 2**, **I, THE JURY**, **HUNDRA**, **AIRPLANE II: THE SEQUEL**, and **...ALL THE MARBLES**. More recently, she starred in **NATION'S FIRE**, **AGRAMONS**

GATE, and **SORROW'S WAY**.



Tracee Cocco

"DIANDRA WALSH"

Tracee Lee Cocco was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and moved to California with her family at the age of 2. She grew up in Santa Ana, California and graduated from the Santa Ana High School in 1979. Throughout the following years, Cocco started to work as model and was featured as model for Alberto Mousse in several magazines. She is also a **STAR TREK** veteran, having worked on **THE NEXT GENERATION**, **DEEP SPACE NINE**, and **VOYAGER**. She was most visibly seen as Lieutenant Jae, a regular background character on **THE NEXT GENERATION**, between the fourth and seventh seasons. She was one of the background performers who also appeared in the three

NEXT GENERATION feature films **STAR TREK: GENERATIONS**, **STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT**, and **STAR TREK: INSURRECTION**.



Eileen Dietz

"GRISELDA E. NECROMANCER"

Eileen Dietz was born in New York City along with a twin sister, named Marianne. Eileen has been lucky to be involved with many award-winning projects. She was in the original Tony-winning **STEAMBATH** with Tony Perkins and went on to portray the Demon who possesses Regan in **THE EXORCIST**, following that was the Emmy-winning **GENERAL HOSPITAL** where she portrayed Sarah a patient in a mental hospital in **PORT CHARLES** and also the Emmy-winning **HELTER SKELTER** where she was one of the Manson Gang. Eileen has been blessed to continue working on many other projects including **CONSTANTINE** (2005), **HALLOWEEN II** (2009), **ALIEN DANGER! WITH RAVEN VAN SLENDER** (2021), and **CLOWN MOTEL 2** (2022).

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CREW LIST

Russ Emanuel	Producer/Director
Emile Haris	Director of Photography/Writer/Editor
Mark Brenes, Angela Joseph, Charles Mesa	Producers
Bill Victor Arucan, John Harlan Brady, Q Fortier, Hans Hernke, Paul Hickman, Jenny Ho, Eric Kask, Drew Martyn, Ed Mower, Kyosuke Mukai, Oscar Pereida, Suda Suebsang Janeen Berryman, Timothy Lee Conley, Kelli Maroney	Executive Producers
Gladys Rodriguez	Co-Producers
Robert Poe	Production Designer
Alisha L. Baijounas	Art Director
Christopher Osorio	Key Makeup Artist
Clayton Turnage	Special Makeup Effects Artist
Jorge Hernandez	First Assistant Director
Alexandria Sanders	Key Gaffer
Vasilis Milesis	Script Supervisor
Sean Fahimian	Composer
Emile Haris, Trevor Mayes	Sound Designer
	Visual Effects Supervisors

CAST LIST

Olivia d'Abo	Grace Baxter
Kelli Maroney	Cynthia Oxford
Laurene Landon	Tabitha Musgraves
Tracee Cocco	Diandra Walsh
Sean Kenney	Professor Edward Bellows
Eileen Dietz	Griselda E. Necromancer
Catherine LaSalle	Britt
Lilly Ivring	Marnie
Bailey Sorrel	Cathy
Gilles Stricher	Matt
Paige Laree Poucel	Cassie
Alan Courtright	News Anchor
Bill Victor Arucan	Rob Peterson
Ed Mower	Nathan Grimes
Shawn C. Phillips	Rudy Ledbetter
Dustin Clingan	Dexter Riley
Crystal J. Huang	Suying Li
Scoops & Mischief	Clown Duo
Mercedes Peterson	Laurie Vandemar
Justin Terry-Smith	Mayor Jared Brooks
Hans Hernke	Walt Oxford
G. Larry Butler	Solomon Hayden
Scott St. Blaze	Trew Skye
Sephdok Ramone	Professor Sohrab Sepehri
Diane McClure-Repetto	Anngelica
Dyanne Mercante	Vanessa the Contessa
Kyosuke Mukai	Professor Kyohei Serizawa
Erick Holloway	Dan Winters
The Fin	Cat

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PRODUCTION NOTES & ANECDOTES

"PETERSON NAME"

The 'Peterson' name is a trademark in Russ Emanuel's films including **GIRL WITH GUN** (a casually mentioned coworker), **P.J.** (a mentioned doctor), **CHASING THE GREEN** (a field reporter), **THE LEGENDS OF NETHIAH** (a mentioned school kid), **RESTORATION OF PARADISE** (an elementary school), **OCCUPANTS** (actor Robert Picardo's character), **COLLAR** (a mentioned kid), **THE ASSASSIN'S APPRENTICE** (a street name), and **WISPER** (another field reporter). In **ROUTINE** and **STAYCATION**, the tradition continues with Bill Victor Arucan's character 'Rob Peterson' (a radio personality in the films).

"INDIEGOGO CAMPAIGN"

Although we raised money through private investment for the original 23-page **STAYCATION** script, we decided to do an Indiegogo Campaign to expand the story. We ended up with an extremely successful campaign, raising 202% of what we wanted, thereby allowing us to film multiple additional actors as per the original plan to turn the script into a feature film. The 23-page script was therefore expanded to a whopping 58 pages!

"GIRL WITH GUN TIE-IN & PANDEMIC FRANCHISE"

One of Russ Emanuel's very first films **GIRL WITH GUN** (2005) has a very concrete tie-in to **STAYCATION** (2022), with the casting of Erick Holloway, who played a major role in both films as the very same character 'Dan Winters'. This therefore makes **GIRL WITH GUN** a direct prequel to **STAYCATION**! This also means that **STAYCATION** is now the 'third film' in the pandemic franchise, after **GIRL WITH GUN** and **ROUTINE**.

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PRODUCTION STILLS



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