

FACELESS

A film by Marcel Sarmiento

A disoriented and frightened man awakes in a hospital room to discover he's the recipient of a full face transplant, forcing him to question everything and everyone around him, especially the motives of a beautiful woman who claims to have been his donor's former lover.





QUICK LOOK

GENRE: **ELEVATED THRILLER, HORROR**

PRODUCTION LOCATION: **CHARLESTON, SC**

PRODUCTION STATUS: **COMPLETE**

DELIVERY: **2020**

CAMERA: **RED WITH MASTER PRIME LENSES**

VFX: **450 VFX SHOTS PROVIDED BY SMI ENTERTAINMENT**

WRITERS: **MARCEL SARMIENTO, FREDDIE VILLACCI, ED DOUGHERTY**

DIRECTOR: **MARCEL SARMIENTO**

PRODUCERS: **WARREN OSTERGARD, MARCEL SARMIENTO**

EDITOR: **PHILLIP BLACKFORD**

CAST: **BRENDAN SEXTON III, ALEX ESSOE, TERRY SERPICO**

CAST

BRENDAN SEXTON III



Sexton made his film debut in [Todd Solondz's *Welcome to the Dollhouse*](#) playing the troubled bully Brandon McCarthy, for which he was nominated for an [Independent Spirit Award](#). He was the lead in [Hurricane Streets](#) and [Desert Blue](#) and also appeared in [Boys Don't Cry](#), [Black Hawk Down](#), and [Just Like the Son](#), as well as the cult films [Empire Records](#) and [Pecker](#). He also starred in AMC's [The Killing](#). Recent films also include [El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie](#) and [Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri](#) and the Netflix series [Russian Doll](#).

ALEX ESSOE



Essoe's breakout was the starring role in [Starry Eyes](#), which premiered at the SXSW festival. She recently starred in [Doctor Sleep](#) and will be seen next in Netflix's [Midnight Mass](#). She also appeared in the horror anthology movie [Tales of Halloween](#) and [The Neighbor](#). She also appeared alongside Mickey Rourke and Bill Murray in the drama [Passion Play](#) and feature films [Fashionista](#) and [The Maestro](#).

DIRECTOR

While attending NYU, Marcel collaborated on a series of Off-Broadway plays including [Birth and After Birth](#) starring Rent headliner Anthony Rapp and Robert Sean Leonard, as well as the [Impossibility of Romantic Relationships in the Final Minutes of the Twentieth Century](#) with Ethan Hawke.

During this time Marcel also was an assistant to David Lynch on his theatrical piece at the Brooklyn Academy of Music with [Twin Peaks](#) composer Angelo Badalamenti, starring Laura Dern and Nicolas Cage.

After dropping out of film school two years later when the thesis film he produced and co-wrote won a New York University First Run Festival Award, he moved to L.A., optioned a screenplay to the producer of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and was invited into the FOX SEARCHLIGHT director's lab.

There he wrote and directed [It's Better to be Wanted For Murder, Than Not to Be Wanted At All](#), starring Zooey Deschanel, Marco Leonardi, and Laura Harris. After setting up a few more screenplays, Marcel eventually raised the money to direct his first feature, [Heavy Petting](#), a funky and absurd comedy starring Malin Akerman, Brendan Hines, and Kevin Sussman.

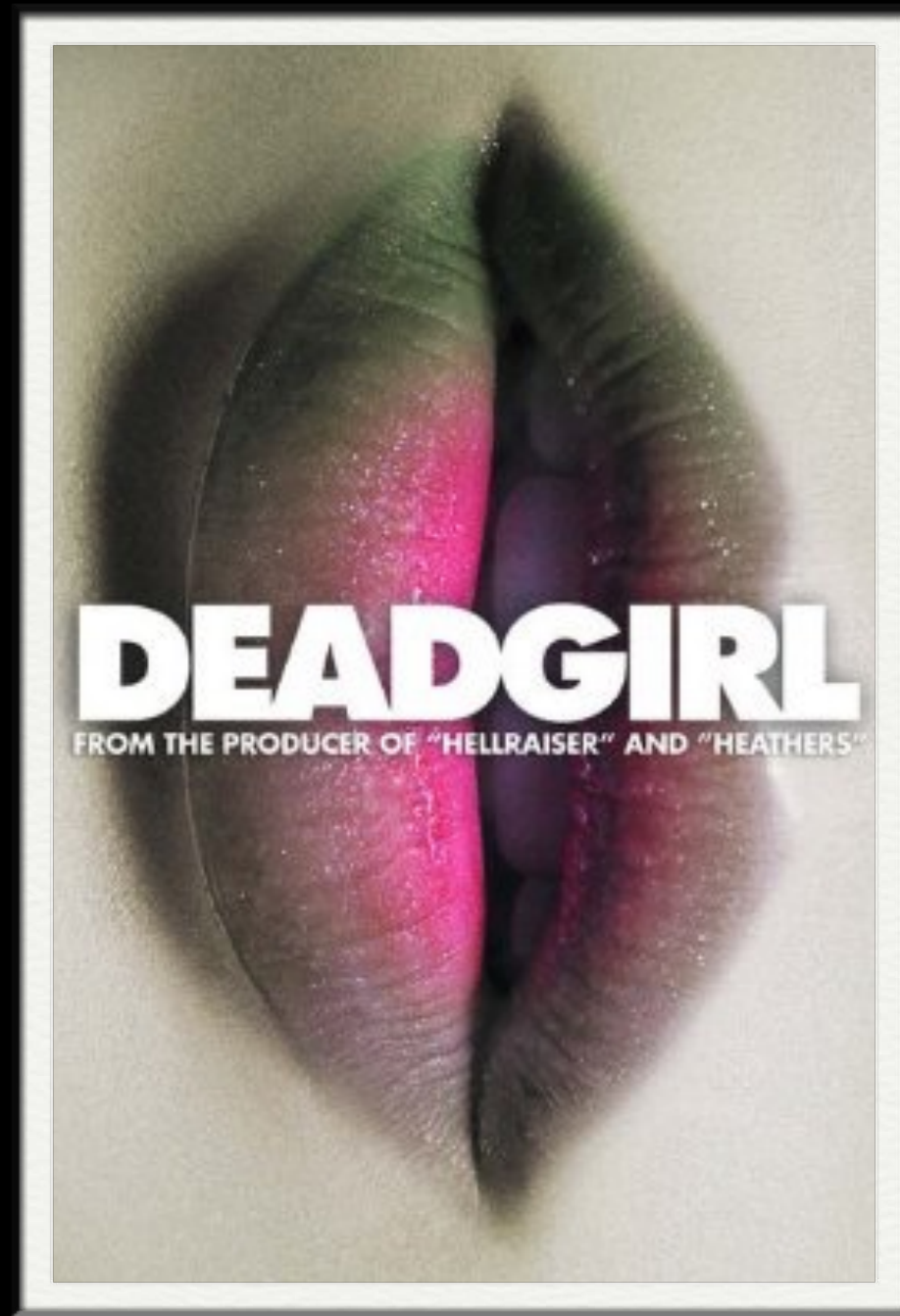
Next Marcel co-produced & directed the coming-of-age horror feature, [Deadgirl](#), which premiered at the 2008 Toronto Film Festival. A ten-city limited theatrical run electrified audiences, with many calling it "the worst film dared to be made", but others like *The Boston Globe* calling it "one of the Top 10 zombie movies of all time". *Ain't it Cool News* added, "The thing's pretty much fucking brilliant."

His segment for the ABC's *Of Death*, [D is Dogfight](#), brought him back to Toronto's acclaimed *Midnight Madness* section in 2012, where the *New York Times* praised, "None linger quite like [D Is for Dogfight](#), a mesmeric, slow-motion ballet of brutality," while the *Village Voice* added, "A marvel of suggestion that's the movie's visual high point."

Marcel was also one of the directors featured on a forthcoming third installment of the popular horror anthology, [V/H/S](#).

Marcel's most recent feature was [Totem](#), produced by BLUMHOUSE and acquired by HBO. Coming next in 2021 is [The Royal](#).





The Washington Post

"A dark, violent satire. Supremely disturbing."

Indiewire

"One of the smartest teen horrors I've watched in some time...A new face at Toronto who shows more artistic verve and bravery than many of the festival's masters are the filmmakers behind the clever, scary, unsettlingly sexual teenage bondage thriller..."

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Unsettling. Audacious. This adolescent fantasy gone wrong proves difficult to dismiss."



The New York Times

"None linger more than "D Is for Dogfight," a mesmeric, slow-motion ballet of brutality so distressingly realistic that you may never be able to name a dog Buddy again."

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

"D is Dogfight, from Deadgirl director Marcel Sarmiento. Brutal, slathering, foam-flecked fury in a backwoods no-incisors-barred grudge match between man and canine. Sarmiento's film is a gorgeous piece of ultraviolence that sports some of the best cinematography of the entire Festival, never mind this particular anthology."

the village VOICE

"Marcel Sarmiento's "D is for Dogfight," is a marvel of suggestion that's the movie's visual high point."

His new face doesn't move a lot. Does it move at all? He might be smiling, or it might just be the will of the room. His eyes, the one part of his original face still intact, dart like anyone's eyes, and I find myself chasing them, the only reliable clue as to what might really be going on in there.

What's it feel like - You're chewing with another man's teeth?



PRODUCER

WARREN OSTERGARD

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WARREN OSTERGARD IS AN EXPERIENCED PRODUCTION EXECUTIVE, HAS A STRONG BACKGROUND IN CREATIVE FILM FINANCE STRUCTURES, AND A TESTED KNOWLEDGE IN STATE TAX INCENTIVES FOR FILM. THESE INVALUABLE QUALITIES HAVE PROPELLED HIM TO BEING AN ESTABLISHED D.G.A UNIT PRODUCTION MANAGER, AND ONE OF THE MORE PROLIFIC INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS IN THE BUSINESS TODAY.

UPCOMING FILMS IN POST PRODUCTION THAT HE HAS EXECUTIVE PRODUCED INCLUDE THE UPCOMING FEATURE FILMS [THE JOURNEY IS THE DESTINATION](#), [VOICE FROM THE STONE](#) STARRING EMILIA CLARKE, AND THE WATER THRILLER [EXTORTION](#). HE IS ACTIVELY COMPLETING POST PRODUCTION ON THE CHARLIE SHEEN STARRER [NINE ELEVEN](#), MARCEL SARMIENTO'S ELEVATED THRILLER [FACELESS](#) AND THE CREATURE FEATURE [ARBOR DEMON](#) OF WHICH HE PRODUCED.

OSTERGARD EXECUTIVE PRODUCED THE 2015 CRIME THRILLER [CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES](#) STARRING JOHN TRAVOLTA, DAN STEVENS, AND MICHAEL PITT.

IN 2014, OSTERGARD PRODUCED THE UNIVERSAL PICTURES' NOIR ACTION THRILLER [THE BAG MAN](#) STARRING JOHN CUSACK AND ROBERT DE NIRO. OTHER PRODUCER AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCER CREDITS INCLUDE ANCHOR BAY'S HORROR FILM [FEAR CLINIC](#), THE DRAMA [THE WORLD MADE STRAIGHT](#) BASED OFF THE RON RASH NOVEL OF THE SAME NAME STARRING NOAH WYLE, JEREMY IRVINE, MINKA KELLEY, AND THE INDEPENDENT DRAMA [THE SUBLIME AND BEAUTIFUL](#) FROM WRITER/DIRECTOR BLAKE ROBBINS.

PRIOR TO THAT, WARREN PRODUCED THE SUSPENSE THRILLER, [BREAKING AT THE EDGE](#), STARRING MILO VENTIMIGLIA, GABRIEL MACHT, JONATHAN SCHAECH, ANDIE MACDOWELL AND LOU GOSSETT, JR., THE THRILLER [SEVEN BELOW](#) STARRING VAL KILMER AND VING RHAMES, THE PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER [MINE GAMES](#) AND CO-PRODUCED THE SOUTHERN PERIOD FILM [SAVANNAH](#) STARRING JIM CAVIEZAL, CHIWETEL EJIOFOR ([12 YEARS A SLAVE](#)), JAIMIE ALEXANDER, SAM SHEPARD AND HAL HOLBROOK THAT WAS THEATRICALY RELEASED IN THE FALL OF 2013. IN 2010, WARREN PRODUCED THE INDEPENDENT PARKOUR ACTION FILM, [FREERUNNER](#), STARRING SEAN FARIS ([NEVER BACK DOWN](#)), TAMER HASSAN, AND DANNY DYER AND THE ELEVATED GENRE THRILLER [L.A., I HATE YOU](#) STARRING MALCOLM MCDOWELL, WILLIAM FORSYTHE, AND DEDEE PFEIFFER.

OTHER PRODUCER CREDITS INCLUDE [AT THE SINATRA CLUB](#) (WARNER BROS.), [STILETTO](#) (FIRST LOOK STUDIOS), [THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER](#) (SONY), AND THE AWARD WINING SHORT FILM, [BOTTLED UP](#) (2008).

PRIOR TO THE FORMATION OF PRODUCER CAPITAL FUND, BLACK BEAR STUDIOS AND THE PRODUCTION COMPANY VITAMIN A FILMS, OSTERGARD WAS AN IN-HOUSE PRODUCER AND ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE HOLLYWOOD BASED BLUE COW CREATIVE, THE PRODUCTION SHINGLE OF PLASTERCITY DIGITAL POST. OSTERGARD RECEIVED HIS B.S. FROM THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY AND IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE DIRECTOR'S GUILD OF AMERICA (UPM) AND THE SCREEN ACTORS GUILD. HIS COMPANY, VITAMIN A FILMS, HOLDS A NATIONAL SIGNATORY DEAL WITH I.A.T.S.E. OSTERGARD HAS A FANTASTIC WIFE, KATE, A SON, TRIP, AND FAMILY DOG NAMED BELLA.

