

WHAT'S EATING TODD?

PRODUCED BY BRANDI CENTENO

DIRECTED BY RENATA GREEN-GABER

IT'S THE SMALLEST THINGS THAT CAN EAT YOU UP INSIDE...

WHAT'S EATING TODD?

ADAM MICHAEL GOLD

MADISON LAWLER

PHIL BIEDRON

SCOTT ALIN



KAYLON HUTCHINS presents a HOW ENTERTAINMENT INDEPENDENT PRODUCTION
WHAT'S EATING TODD? Starring MADISON LAWLER, PHIL BIEDRON and SCOTT ALIN. WRITTEN BY TODD GOLD, DIRECTED BY RENATA GREEN-GABER. MUSIC BY DUSTY HAZZIE. COMPOSED AND EDITED BY DUSTY HAZZIE. PRODUCED BY KAYLON HUTCHINS. WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY RENATA GREEN-GABER. DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: RENATA GREEN-GABER.

**It's the smallest things
that can eat you up inside...**

Genre: Horror/Thriller



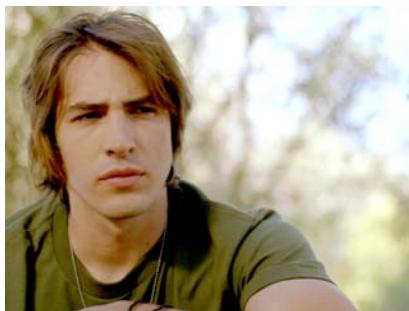
Synopsis: The only thing Todd wants for his birthday is to go camping with his city-girl girlfriend Valerie and his best friends Alex and Duane. Todd's Uncle Carl drops them off but before he leaves, he tells them a scary story about a flesh-eating maniac that prowls the grounds. The group pegs Uncle Carl as a tall-tale-spewing prankster and discounts his story as a load of bullshit. They focus instead on the beer, the pot, the cozy tent for the birthday boy and his girl and making it a memorable night. But after a full day of overindulging—and inhaling a few bugs, Todd starts to feel ill. He wanders away from camp and disappears into the night. At first, his friends think that he's partnered with his prankster uncle to scare them, but as the night wears on, they realize his disappearance is no joke. They set out to find him but find his uncle instead, dead in the cab of his truck! Valerie, Alex and Duane are understandably horrified. They know whatever killed Todd's uncle, and probably Todd too, will be after them next. They must flee for their lives but soon their worst fears are realized when Duane is snatched by a hulking figure without a sound. When they find him again, he is gasping for breath and dies in Alex's arms. They push on but face setbacks at every turn. Soon it is only Valerie that remains. This city girl, whose worst fear only hours before was getting dirty, must find the strength to defeat the hulking Freak that's taken the lives of everyone around her.

Our Cast



Madison Lawlor – Valerie

A South Dakota transplant, Madison is a fresh-faced newcomer. Barely eighteen when she was cast as Valerie, she fearlessly embraced her role as the city girl turned badass. No matter what the scene required, Madison dove in with both feet. She is a consummate professional, well trained and serious about her work.



ADAM MICHAEL GOLD – Todd

Adam graduated from the University of Arizona magna cum laude with a triple major in Psychology, Political Science, and Creative Writing intending to go to law school, but after landing a summer job at a wild west stunt show, he knew he was destined for the silver screen instead. He made the trip to Los Angeles, signed with the Polygon Group Talent Agency, and shortly after, booked his first Los Angeles feature film.



PHIL BIEDRON – Alex

Born in the south side of Chicago, Phil honed his comedy skills in a city known for sketch and improvisation. His first encounter with acting began when his parents bought him a video camera for his fifteenth birthday, inspiring him to act, write, and direct his own films. He has a flair for acting and his physical training is apparent in his performance. He's also an avid world traveler and adventure seeker.



SCOTT ALIN – Duane

Scott Alin moved to LA from Chicago to contribute his odd dash of creativity to the entertainment industry. He originally aspired to be the lead singer of a rock band, but without any real talent except looking the part, Scott's parents forced him to apply to college. Completing his undergrad in business and his Master's in journalism, he has a diverse background on paper and an even more eccentric laundry list of stories that came about from his failure in choosing a career he loved, until now. That is why he moved to LA. He thanks his parents every day, for being his heroes and inspiration, for supporting him at all times and giving him the discipline to stay out of jail.

RENATA GREEN-
GABER

WHAT'S EATING TODD? **Our** **Director**

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm1411179/>

With an eye towards directing, Renata committed herself to a four year acting program at the renowned Playhouse West School & Repertory Theatre in Los Angeles under the tutelage of veteran actor Jeff Goldblum, believing that in order to get a great performance a director should understand the actor's journey and speak their language. Upon completing her studies and armed with some notable celebrity donations, Renata was able to write, executive produce, direct, and star in her first short film project *Mistaken Identity*.

She has since directed eight short films including *Abigail* which has been nominated for six awards, including Best Director and garnered a win for Best Actress. She recently wrapped post production on an eight part Film-Noir-Style web series which she directed. *What's Eating Todd?* is her feature film directorial debut.

Director's Statement

I met Brandi Centeno at a producing intensive in 2012 and we connected over our love for independent filmmaking. The following year, she emailed me some video taken at a remote area in central California saying she was planning to write a script based on that location.

Five months later, I found myself at that precise location directing Brandi's teen thriller *What's Eating Todd?* Why the rush to shoot so quickly? To protect our cast and crew we had to shoot before tick season. We learned that if we waited any longer our remote location would be infested with blood sucking insects and our horror film would become a little more real than we would like.

In my opinion this was a "friends" film before it was a "horror" film. I really felt like the relationships should be more important than the blood and guts. Brandi wrote such a clever script we didn't need to focus on the gore. It was more interesting to me to hint at it and cut away quickly. I felt it was vitally important that our cast mesh well and feel like they really knew each other so the audience would be swept along with them. We held a chemistry read for our leads and we could not have asked for a better foursome. Before the shoot was over I had dubbed them "the new brat pack". I got what I wanted. Their camaraderie was infectious.

From the get-go, I wanted to make sure we had enough light to capture our actors while still feeling the night engulf them. Since we were shooting the bulk of the film overnight and our locations were fairly remote, we knew we needed to tackle lighting in as minimal a way as possible. I had seen major films that were shot too dark for my taste and we were filming in many different terrains and needed to see the different vegetation and backdrops or the entire film would look like it was shot against black. Luckily the latest craze were low wattage LED panel lights that could run off a car battery. We could run the bulk of our lights from a generator and still be mobile when we needed to be.

To tackle some of the storyline, I knew we would be using some special effects. It was unavoidable but I was determined to keep it to a minimum and really push for realism. I never wanted the audience to feel a shift in reality. I wanted to play it as real as possible. There is nothing worse than being taken out of a film by bad special effects. We got really lucky with our effects artist Alex Hsu, who had just come off *Life Of Pi*. Timing really is everything.

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Then Brandi came up with a really fun end scene to set up a sequel. We immediately shot it and brought it into the edit. It wasn't playing right for me in its entirety. I really liked ending the film with our heroine. I didn't want to take that away from the audience. I suggested we break it up between the closing credits and that really worked some magic.

What I loved most about this script was that it wasn't your typical teen slasher film. It was actually a really good story and had valid reasons for things going wrong. That plus the dialogue. I grew up quoting movies. My daughter and I still do it to this day. I knew we had a good, fun, kick in the pants film when I started quoting the movie before we ever shot a frame. It was my goal for the audience to feel the same.

—Renata Green-Gaber

Our Director of Photography

TOMOAKI IWAKURA



<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm3537685/>

www.itomoaki.com

Iwakura's main goal is to work with the director to bring their vision of the story to wholehearted fruition. Having worked professionally in Japan as well as America, his experience with the diverse cultures has nurtured a uniquely creative eye. He is committed to his craft and once involved in a project, he stops at nothing to get the shot. He has a well-rounded education, studying film at the prestigious Tokyo University of the Arts (Tokyo Geijutsu Daigaku) as well as receiving dual degrees from Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) where he earned a Master of Arts along with a Master of Fine Arts/Film and Television program.

Since then, Iwakura has shot over thirty films, television, music videos and commercials in the United States. He shot *What's Eating Todd?* on the Arri Alexa, using his expert knowledge of lighting, editing and camera angles to capture compelling and powerful images that cut together to make equally impressive scenes.

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Our Composer

ANDY GEORGES

www.andygeorges.com

A multi-instrumentalist and vocalist, Georges has worked with notable artists such as Sheryl Crow, Jewel, Maia Sharp, Jay Oliver and film composer Alex Wurman. He has contributed to the scores of several motion pictures, including *Play It to the Bone*, *Eat Your Heart Out*, and *Sleep Easy Hutch Rimes*. For the soundtrack of the latter film, he also wrote and performed an original song, "Follow Me Home".

More recently, Andy placed one of his songs in *Letters to Juliet* starring Vanessa Redgrave and Amanda Seyfried. In David Schwimmer's *Run Fatboy Run* starring Simon Peg, you can hear a very romantic Georges tune called "Be My Love". But 2015 was Andy's busiest year to date. He completed the scores to three feature films! With strains of world music, jazz, rock, and blues in his work, Georges has established himself as a distinctive voice in the Los Angeles music scene.

Our Editor

RYAN STEVENS HARRIS

www.rstevesharris.com

Ryan is an award-winning filmmaker and exhibited artist. He grew up in North Carolina and Ohio, never far from the red glow of his mother's dark room, sketching on his drawing board and inventing stories. He followed his passion for images and story by pursuing filmmaking, both in London and at USC. From there, he founded Fire Trial Films with fellow writer-director and collaborator John Elfers, and lensed an award-winning supernatural horror film, *Finale*, utilizing various film stocks and an eclectic fleet of cameras to achieve a grungy film-found-in-an-attic aesthetic. Harris' directorial debut, *Virus X*, a claustrophobic tech-noir, was released by Lionsgate in 2011. As far as editing goes, Harris has an intrinsic sense for scene pacing and performance which brings out the most in the raw footage he cuts. He's not only knowledgeable about every nuance of the programs he's mastered, he's a creative force with the skills and insight to manifest miracles.

Our Makeup

Artist

MEGAN AREFORD

www.meganarefordfx.com

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With an affinity for horror, Megan has some serious skills with latex, blood and prosthetics. She has worked on major motion pictures such as *Iron Man 2*, *Thor*, *Sharknado* and the *VHS* series. Her efforts made our Freaks both terrifying and impressive.

Our Writer/Pro- ducer

BRANDI CENTENO



http://www.imdb.com/name/nm2271022/?ref_=fn_al_nm_1

After graduating from Cal State Fullerton with a degree in Graphic Design, Brandi decided on a career in publishing. Through the years, she helmed the art departments of more than a dozen magazines, which took her to many interesting locations and events around the country. During this time, Brandi also performed Middle Eastern dance at local restaurants. Her love of the dance led her to travel to Turkey, Egypt and Morocco. Her travels in Turkey inspired her to pen her first screenplay *The Diary of an Odalisque* which was optioned. Several other scripts she's written have been optioned as well.

Brandi also collaborated with local LA celebrity Pleasant Gehman to write and produce the play "Common Threads" that was staged at three separate venues to sold out audiences. She recently won the Golden Quill Award (first place) at the Annual Tehachapi Playwright's Festival for her short format play "Whatever Works." But anxious to see her work up on the big screen, she wrote, directed and produced two short films, *Blind Date* and *Dystopia*, both screening at various film festivals. She wrote *What's Eating Todd?* with the intention of making it her feature film producing debut. The adventure turned into an exercise in endurance. Shooting in a remote location with no running water or electricity had its challenges, but Brandi's determination paid off. The final film turned out to be a scary-fun romp, with a super attractive young cast.

The Making of *What's Eating Todd?*

From MaxIt! Magazine

WHAT'S EATING TODD?

It all started with an innocent comment. Screenwriter Brandi Centeno's brother had just bought a large piece of property in Central California that spanned acres. "We should shoot a movie here," he'd said. "Write something." He had no idea what shooting a movie entailed, but Centeno took the challenge to heart. She'd written dozens of screenplays, had a short foray into television and produced several short films, but producing a feature would be a new experience. She wrote the script around the location, which begged for a horror film, and blindly moved forward.

When she began putting together her team, the first two people she knew she had to contact were award-winning shorts director Renata Green-Gaber and director of photography Tomoaki Iwakura. If she could get these two behind the camera, the quality of the film was all but guaranteed. Green-Gaber knew how to coax brilliant performances from her actors, while Iwakura's attention to detail and keen dramatic eye would make them the perfect team. Luckily, they were excited about working on the project and both agreed to come on board.

They began pulling in the rest of the crew and put out a breakdown to cast actors for the lead roles. Within a few days, they had hundreds of submissions—over 600 for the one female role alone! Weeding through the candidates was a daunting task but the old adage "cream rises to the top" proved true. Centeno and Green-Gaber narrowed the choices down to a manageable few and began auditioning actors. Finding the right guy for the title role proved the most difficult. Centeno and Green-Gaber were beginning to think they may have to put out another casting notice when Adam Gold came in to read. The minute he flashed his easy smile and began speaking, the two knew that they had found their Todd. Casting the female lead was almost as clear. Fresh-faced, girl-next-door Madison Lawlor nailed her audition but there was just one problem: She wasn't yet 18. Since the film was to be shot on location, Centeno insisted that everyone be of legal age. When they learned that Madison would have her eighteenth birthday just days before the onset of principal photography, the choice was made to offer her the role. Scott Alin and Phil Biedron were cast in supporting roles. With Alin's talent for brilliant ad-libs and Biedron's athletic feats, the main characters felt solid. The actors embodied their characters so completely that in the end, the foursome felt like lifelong friends.

The short pre-production schedule and remote location that had no power or water, created some challenges (learning experiences to say the least) for Centeno and Green-Gaber's first foray into feature film production. But the two seemed to work together like tag-team wrestlers. Their determination to do whatever it took to make it happen had drawn in an exceptional group of hard working, dedicated crew members who were also willing to go the extra mile. Top it off with their group of young, balls-to-the-wall actors and the game was on.

The story is set around Todd's birthday and the overnight camping trip that he and three friends go on to celebrate. Uncle Carl drops them off and proceeds to tell them a terrifying story of a

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gory massacre that happened at the nearby factory many years ago. They dismiss the story as just another of Uncle Carl's tall tales but when the birthday boy goes missing, they're not sure if he's playing a prank or really in trouble. Todd's girlfriend Valerie insists they mount a search, resulting in horrifying events that put a grisly damper on their fun night.

The remote location did force the cast and crew to contend with several real-life frights as well. They were buzzed by bats and insects and put on edge by the howls of coyotes, not to mention the skunks, rats, snakes and wild boars. But fortunately, there were no anxiety attacks or incidents. The film is now in post production, offering even more learning experiences for the first-time feature producer. "Getting the footage shot was the easy part," claims Centeno. "Now comes the real work!" Getting the edit just right, combined with sound, score and visual effects is brand new territory. A whole new team is required to put the polish on the finished product, but it's coming together well. Centeno looks forward to releasing the film some time in 2016.

Production Information

Produced by Here & Now Entertainment

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ph: 310-429-9193

email: brandicenteno@yahoo.com

Distributed by Indican Pictures

1041 North Formosa Avenue * West Hollywood, CA 90046

ph: 323-850-2667

email: contact@indicanpictures.com

Credits

DIRECTOR RENATA GREEN-GABER

WRITTEN BY BRANDI CENTENO

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BRANDI CENTENO

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER MARK MYERS

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY TOMOAKI IWAKURA

EDITOR RYAN STEVENS HARRIS

SOUND DESIGNER BRYAN WATKINS

WHAT'S EATING TODD?

COMPOSER ANDY GEORGES

VISUAL EFFECTS ALEX HSU

MAKEUP EFFECTS MEGAN AREFORD

CAST

MADISON LAWLOR as Valerie

PHIL BIEDRON as Alex

SCOTT ALIN as Duane

and

ADAM MICHAEL GOLD as Todd

End Credits

WHAT'S EATING TODD?

DIRECTED BY

RENATA GREEN-GABER

WRITTEN BY

BRANDI CENTENO

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

BRANDI CENTENO

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

MARK MYERS

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

TOMOAKI IWAKURA

EDITOR

RYAN STEVENS HARRIS

SOUND DESIGNER

BRYAN WATKINS

COMPOSER

ANDY GEORGES

VISUAL EFFECTS

ALEX HSU

MADISON LAWLOR AS VALERIE

PHIL BIEDRON AS ALEX

SCOTT ALIN AS DUANE

ADAM MICHAEL GOLD AS TODD

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CAST

Valerie	Madison Lawlor
Alex	Phil Biedron
Duane	Scott Alin
Todd	Adam Michael Gold
Eddie	Carlos Antonio
Uncle Carl	Danny Rio
Todd's Mom	Ronnie Green
Todd's Dad	John Vogelsanger
Charlotte	Kristina Stiffler
Sal(Flashback Freak)	Jacob Peacock
Joe	Jeremiah Benjamin
Fred	Michael Crisostomo
Worker	Daniel Leon Jr.
High School Boy	Dillan Quigley
Medical Examiner	Laura Williams

PARTY-GOERS

Cynthia Olivas-Vogelsanger
Elisa A. Ponce
Fred Quigley
Vickie Ponce
Megan Areford
Connie Quigley
Sylvia Centeno
Jorge Rivera
John Centeno
Joe Centeno
Elizabeth Nosse
Mark Rasmussen
Paolo Arriola
Denice Labastida

THE FREIGHT TRAIN BAND:

Bobby Labastida	Bass Guitar
Ronnie Labastida	Drums
Phil "Tweetie" Alvarado	Harmonica & Vocals
John Vogelsanger	Guitar

CREW

First Assistant Director	Jorge Rivera
Second Assistant Director	Elizabeth Nosse
First Assistant Camera	Jeanna Kim
Second Assistant Camera	Paolo Arriola
Digital Imaging Technician	Paolo Arriola
2nd Unit Second Assistant Camera	Kong Feng
Gaffer	Massimo Bordonaro
Key Grip	Nick Jackson
Sound Mixer	Jason Moran
Re-Recording Mixer	Bryan Watkins
Sound Editor	Bryan Watkins
Foley Artist	Amy L. Ver Wey
Dialogue Editor	Jason Freeman

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Makeup Megan Areford
Script Supervisor Mark Rasmussen
Fight Choreographer John Kreng
Set Construction Joe Centeno
Trini Ybarra
2nd Unit Sound Recording Tim Forrest
Additional Dialogue Recording Carl Wawrina
Colorist Brodie Alexander
Ryan Stevens Harris
Additional Visual Effects Michael Martinez
Props I.S.S. Props
Transportation Zio Studio Rentals
Catering Sylvia Mullings

“No Control”
Written by: Charlie Sehres and Cole Gann
Performed by: Forty Feet Tall

“Crash and Burn”
Written by: Cole Gann
Performed by: Forty Feet Tall
Www.Fortyfeettallband.com

“Le Sexe” (Ring Tone)
Composed by: Phil Biedron
Performed by: Pierre Featuring VIP

SPECIAL THANKS
Joseph Centeno
Sylvia Centeno
Bill Clark
Dr. Joseph Dean Centeno
Robert Ponce AKA “Mr. Guts”
The Freight Train Band
Fred Quigley
Trini Ybarra
Jane Henriksen
Rosemary Higgins-Schreiber
Ben Cooper
Quentin Tarantino
Melissa Berger Brennan
Dr. Cynthia Matthews
Rachel Matthews
Judith Smiley
Sally Russo
Michelle Devine
Jamison Reeves
Pioneer High School
Colonial Hotel
Hollywood Casting and Film
Different By Design

Filmed on Location in Central California

WHAT'S EATING TODD?

In Loving Memory of
Rosemary Keith and Sal Centeno

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