



WELCOME
TO THE
BUILDING

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF

A
10T FILMS
PRESENTATION OF

A Short Film by
MATTHEW TENTE

WELCOME TO THE BUILDING

Starring
CLAIRE SCOTT
ALEX WEED

21 Minutes
Note Yet Rated
Camera: Canon 5D / To be Exhibited on Bluray Disc

10T Films
Los Angeles, CA
welcometothebuilding@gmail.com
www.welcometothebuilding.com

SHORT SYNOPSIS:

WELCOME TO THE BUILDING explores an innocent crush and online infatuation that takes a dark and dangerous turn, after *Clare* moves next door to an unassuming and unstable neighbor.

Inspired by classic thrillers, the film brings a contemporary approach to the genre, showing us just how vulnerable we are online, in our everyday lives and when those two worlds intersect. This shockingly realistic portrayal of an obsessive stalker will leave audiences fearing the digital devices that we have all come to rely on.

LONG SYNOPSIS:

A new beginning has led *Clare* to sublet a small unit in the La Vista Terrace Apartment complex. The first person she encounters upon moving in is her next-door neighbor *Henry*, a shy loner who is immediately taken with her.

Henry soon begins to take advantage of the direct line of sight he has into *Clare's* unit, gazing at her without her knowledge. His innocent crush blossoms into a zealous infatuation, stalking her on social media and using his proximity to her apartment to track her every moment of the day.

His obsession drives him to hack her computer and gain control of her webcam, spying on her during her most intimate moments. Not helping matters is *Chris*, *Clare's* boyfriend who only fuels *Henry's* jealous anger. As his delusions grow, so do his risks, breaking into her apartment where he is mere inches away from being discovered.

Noticing subtle warning signs, *Clare* takes action, seeking the help of the building manager *Paul*, who engages *Henry* under the guise of an anonymous complaint. This pushes *Henry* over the edge and he turns violent, taking *Clare* hostage in her own home.

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Q&A WITH WRITER/DIRECTOR: MATTHEW TENTE

1. What was your inspiration for making the film?

Two events helped plant the seed that grew into this short. First: Reading about the victims of Internet stalkers who use the readily available and cheap *Blackshades* malware to gain control of computers and webcams. How they acquire images and extort their victims... It has become so prevalent that the word *sextortion* is now used to describe it.

Second: Funny enough is the layout of my apartment building. My unit and my neighbors were designed in such a way that we both can see and hear into each other's units with a great deal of ease. Many of the hacking cases I researched focused on perpetrators hundreds or thousands of miles away from their victims. The only thing in that situation more frightening would be if the perpetrator lived just a few feet away, already having intimate access into your daily routine, your comings and goings and even your home itself.

2. How did you make the film?

Crowd funding sites have been great for a lot of people, myself included. For this project I used IndieGogo but ran a poor campaign and only raised a couple thousand dollars. Don't get me wrong, I am incredibly grateful and appreciative of my funders but it wasn't a Zach Braff style windfall. Most of the money for the film was put on credit cards.

3. How long did you shoot? Where did you shoot?

To save money on equipment we utilized the three-day package at our rental house and shot over a long weekend. I wrote the project for my apartment and several locations in and around the building.

4. What is your favorite scene?

I have several all for different reasons, but if I had to choose one it would be the scene where *Henry* is pleasuring himself to *Clare's* Facebook photos. To me it is a microcosm illustrating the dark side of social media. We really have no idea what people are doing with the personal information we put online and I'm sure what *Henry* is doing in this scene has been done hundreds of thousands, if not millions of times.

It was an awkward scene to shoot by design and Alex did a fantastic job exploring the uncomfortable sides of his character. He was fearless in his portrayal and made my job so much easier and enjoyable.

5. What was the most difficult scene to shoot?

The whole process was difficult since we were on such a tight schedule. The script was 31-pages on day one and shooting 10 pages a day proved to be too much. We had to cut it to 26 and the cast and crew worked tirelessly to get it done. Everyone involved was an integral part of making this film.

6. The film starts off as *Clare's* story and become more of *Henry's* as it progresses. Why is that?

Clare's character is really a representation of us - men and women, young and old, anyone who uses social media, cell phones, computers etc... The idea is for the audience to see a bit of themselves in her early on in the story. We didn't want her to appear as the naïve *damsel in distress*, but to portray her in an honest way where the plot doesn't feel contrived.

From there, *Henry's* motivations take over. Reading about so many of these hackers, I wanted to explore their experience and motivations, *Henry's* reasons, whether we understand them or not, whether they are justifiable or not... I wanted to show just how easy it is to do what his is doing and the best way to show that is to tell the story from his perspective.

7. How did you cast the film?

The only role I pre-cast was *Paul*, who is actually the manager of my building and lives right down the hall from me. He is an actor, so I walked into his office, explained I'd written a role for him and asked if he would consider it. Fortunately for me he accepted.

I can't stress enough the importance of talented actors, especially for a young director. I reached out to a talent manger friend of mine and he referred me to Michelle Levy and Elisha Gruer, who were kind enough to take me on and made the process easy. Their reputation gave me credibility with actors, when I really didn't have any to speak of.

8. What did you shoot on?

For financial and creative reasons, we chose to shoot on a Canon 5D. Working with no money, made digital the only option. With that said, it was the right choice for this story creatively. It is about the digital world, so shooting on that format serves the film in an authentic way.

Tyler Henderson, our DP is a friend and talented photographer. We discussed how we wanted to shoot the film, framing a great deal with practical lighting and his idea to use prime lenses. We wanted the space to feel authentic and small, claustrophobic at times, like it is in real life.

9. What is the film about?

In my mind, duality and unintended consequences. I used a quote from Steve Jobs at the top of the script:

I think it's brought the world a lot closer together, and will continue to do that. There are downsides to everything; there are unintended consequences to everything...

It explores the benefits and dangers of our reliance on technology. I don't think the film is a public service announcement, but it does explore the vulnerabilities that come with our dependence on technology in our everyday lives.

10. How many hats did you wear on this project?

I wrote, produced, co-financed, directed and edited the film. I have an aversion to seeing someone's name over and over in the credits, so I took a page out of the Coen Bros. book and used pseudonyms.

Shooting a film in this way has pros and cons but filmmakers have been doing it for years. Robert Rodriguez did it on EL MARIACHI and wrote a book about the experience. It certainly can be overwhelming, but it is a great learning experience. Spending your own money, having to be the bad guy holding the purse strings and the creative guy begging for more money and more time and figuring out creative solutions is like a film school unto itself.

ABOUT THE CAST:

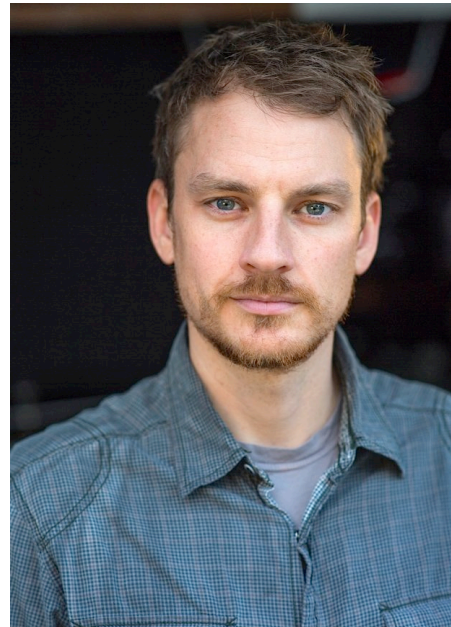


CLAIRE SCOTT / *CLARE DANIELS*

Claire is an actress and producer, known for LOVE AND DATING IN LA (2013), 33 POSTCARDS (2011), MIDNIGHT DAISY (2013) and THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD (2014). Claire is a graduate of Screenwise Film & TV School For Actors in Sydney, Australia.

ALEX WEED / *HENRY CLARK*

Alex currently lives in Los Angeles. Notable television credits include CRIMINAL MINDS, CSI:NY, PRETTY LITTLE LIARS, HOUSE, etc. More information can be found at his website www.alexweed.com





ADAM HAGENBUCH / *CHRIS*

Adam is an actor known for THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER (2012), HELL'S FURY: WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE (2009) and A MATTER OF TIME (2013). He has also appeared in MODERN FAMILY (ABC), MAJOR CRIMES (TNT) and his car has been featured on national television as well. Adam attended Trinity Christian Academy in Addison Texas and is a graduate of the Carnegie Mellon School of Drama. As a senior at Carnegie Mellon, he played Romeo in the drama departments production of ROMEO AND JULIET.

PAUL SARNOFF / *PAUL*

Paul is an actor known for THE LUNCH DATE, WHERE THE TRUTH LIES and KNIGHT CLUB.
Paul currently resides in Los Angeles.



ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS:



MATT TENTE – *WRITER / DIRECTOR / EDITOR / PRODUCER*

Matt is a graduate of Rhode Island College with degrees in film and communications. He has worked for several distinguished companies in the entertainment industry including Scott Rudin Productions, The Gotham Group and Landscape Entertainment. In addition, he has had the privilege of working for writer/director Scott Cooper (*CRAZY HEART, OUT OF THE FURNACE*).

TYLER MARK HENDERSON – DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Tyler has worked behind the camera for more than half of his life bringing his idea of imagery to the world through photography, cinematography, and directing. Tyler's extensive experience working in the fast-paced world of television gives him the ability to quickly capture the moment, which in turn overflows into his still photography and cinematography. He specializes in docu-style photography and his talents in this field have quickly made him a commodity in the marketing and commercial sphere.



CREDITS

A 10T FILMS PRESENTATION OF

A Short Film by
MATTHEW TENTE

Directed by
MATTHEW TENTE

Starring
CLAIRE SCOTT & ALEX WEED

Written by	MATTHEW TENTE
Produced by	JOSEPH DOLAN
Executive Producers	JO-ANN TENTE DENNIS TENTE
Cinematographer	TYLER MARK HENDERSON
Edited by	ADAM ALFONSO
Casting by	ELISHA GRUER MICHELLE LEVY
Assistant Director	ROMULO MENA
Assistant Camera	ALEX JONES
Grip/Swing	MICHAEL ARMOUR
Grip/Swing	CHAD GREY
Grip/Swing	ALEX STOUT
Sound Mixer	JON GERDEMANN
Boom Operator	JOANNE WU
Production Assistant	RILEY DAVIDSON
Clare Daniels	CLAIRE SCOTT
Henry Clark	ALEX WEED
Chris	ADAM HAGENBUCH
Paul	PAUL SARNOFF
Detective	MANDY JUNE TURPIN
Building Manager	ALI CHEN

SPECIAL THANKS

JO-ANN TENTE
JEFFREY TENTE
SEAN BARTEMES
MICHELLE DUNN
BRETT GLATMAN
HAYDEN ROUSH
VANESSA JOYCE
LIZ HARTLEY
AMANDA LOVETT

DENNIS TENTE
JENNA DOOLITTLE
BECKY SANDERMAN
JENNIFER HATTON
MAXWELL SCHULZ
MALLORY JAFFE
MALCOLM GREY
NITA PARSNANI
BRANDON MEYER
MEREDITH WIEK

JILLIAN TENTE
MARY DOLAN
SHARON MERTENS
ABBY MORRIS
MATT SHICHTMAN
MARCUS POON
KATY POTTER
LAURA LEONARD
TIMOTHY GOESSLING