



Sometimes nostalgia can take you down the wrong road.



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2016 / USA / 102min / Color
1:2.35 / DCP or Quicktime 5.1 or 2.0 ch / English



LOOKING FOR THE JACKALOPE

JACKALOPE PICTURES presents A KARL SHEFELMAN FILM starring MICHAEL LEYDON CAMPBELL with LARRY CLARKE and MEISSA HAMPTON featuring MARY TESTA and the voice of STEPHEN ROOT director of photography DAN PARSONS executive producer TODD RUPPERT producer MATT STARR producer ELLEN GOLDFADER written and directed by KARL SHEFELMAN

www.lookingforthejackalope.com



SYNOPSIS

After Jordan Sterling, a disenchanted New York writer, receives an unexpected phone call from his old college girlfriend, he embarks on a comically ill-fated odyssey from New York to Ohio, longing to reunite with her at their 20th class reunion. When he misses his plane he plunges into a harrowing hitchhiking journey. Sleep deprived and exhausted from trekking all night, Jordan finally arrives in Columbus to meet up with his college buddy, Dr. Jim, so they can drive to the reunion together. Once on campus Jordan attempts to rekindle a romance with his old flame only to learn a powerful lesson about living in the past.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

If you have ever yearned for the more romantic adventures of your past then this film is for you. However, nostalgia can be dangerous. When we try to relive our past, be it an adventure or relationship, things often go wrong. Never the less, some of us need a cathartic experience to remind ourselves to live in the present.

Looking for the Jackalope is a story based in part on two hitchhiking experiences I had, one with a girlfriend immediately after graduating from a college in Ohio, and then ten years later traveling back for my college reunion. Of course, the story has been greatly fictionalized and embellished to protect the innocent.

The idea of a talking Jackalope came to me in a dream. It has been said that the Jackalope is a mischievous animal that can imitate the human voice, often giving people misinformation or bad advice. I thought it would be a great metaphor as the demon Jordan must confront during his cathartic moment when he realizes he must let go of the past now just a memory, a memory that has taken on mythical proportions much like a Jackalope.

WRITER / DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Karl Shefelman is a NY based filmmaker who has worked in the industry for many years. His short film "Bill's Seat" won Best Live Action Short at the 2003 St. Louis International Film Festival. It was also screened at the SlamDunk showcase at the 2002 Cannes Film Festival. Another short film, "Elysian Fields", won Karl a Mobil Prize for excellence in filmmaking at the NYU First-Run Film Festival, a grant from the New York Academy of Film and Television Arts and Sciences, and a Gold Prize at the Worldfest Houston. It was distributed by Tapestry International and sold to several foreign outlets including BBC-2. In addition to directing, Karl has extensive experience as a professional storyboard artist, working with such renowned directors as Francis Ford Coppola, Martin Scorsese, Ridley Scott, and Jonathan Demme. This experience has given Karl a deep understanding of visualization from script from script to screen, shot by shot. Karl also directed a one-act play for the Atlantic Theater Company, participated in directing and script analysis workshops with The Barrow Theater Group in New York, and studied acting with Fred Kareman. Karl received an MFA from the NYU Graduate Film Program and a BA in studio art from Kenyon College. Currently, Karl is writing and developing several other feature films including "The Hunters", a semifinalist in the Nicholl Fellowships for screenwriting. Karl is originally from Austin, TX.