

# MUST KILL KARL

"Everyone Has *That* Friend"

Directed by Joe Kicak

Written by Karen Moore

Story by Joe Kicak & Karen Moore

Produced by Joe Kicak, Karen Moore, Ryan West, &  
Robin Crumley

## STARRING

Mike Lobel as "Karl"  
Stacey McGunnigle as "Molly"  
Claire Stollery as "Alyson"  
Scott Cavalheiro as "Paulo"  
Sarah Power as "Charlotte"  
Peter Mooney as "Aubrey"  
Jamie Spilchuk as "Owen"

Editor & Composer  
Mike Lobel

Director of Photography  
D. Gregor Hagey, CSC

Production Designer  
Rosalie Mackintosh

## **BROKEN COMPASS FILMS**

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CANADA

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# FESTIVAL SCREENINGS/AWARDS

Anchorage International Film Festival  
Atlanta Comedy Film Festival, *BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS*  
Austin Comedy Short Film Festival, *BEST INTERNATIONAL COMEDY & BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS*  
Austin Film Festival  
Brooklyn Film Festival  
Canadian Film Fest  
Cinequest Film & VR Festival  
Dam Short Film Festival  
Depth of Field International Film Festival, *AWARD OF MERIT*  
Edmonton International Film Festival  
Hollywood Short Film Festival  
LA Comedy Fest, *BEST DIRECTOR*  
Lakeshorts International Short Film Festival, *BEST HOMEGROWN SHORT*  
Montreal World Film Festival  
NewFilmmakers Los Angeles  
Norwegian International Seagull Short Film Festival, *BEST INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FINALIST*  
Portland Comedy Film Festival  
Sioux Empire Film Festival  
SouthSide Film Festival  
Victoria Film Festival  
Willson Oakville Film Festival  
Worldfest-Houston International Film & Video Festival, *REMI WINNER: DARK COMEDY*  
Yorkton Film Festival, *GOLDEN SHEAF WINNER: BEST COMEDY*

NATIONAL BROADCAST APRIL 2018 ON CBC's *CANADIAN REFLECTIONS*  
Earned 2<sup>nd</sup> highest ratings ever for the decades-long running program

ONLINE LAUNCH COMING AUGUST 6<sup>th</sup> 2018

*SHORT OF THE WEEK PREMIERE*  
*FILM SHORTAGE WEEKLY FEATURE*  
*NSI ONLINE SHORT FILM FESTIVAL*

## LOGLINE

Karl is an asshole. Maybe his friends should kill him.

## SYNOPSIS

Everyone has *that* friend – the one who shows up uninvited, drinks all your booze, and hits on your girl/boyfriend/anyone – who we all secretly hate and wish would just go away. That friend is Karl. But one night, Karl goes too far. A few PBRs and smoked joints in, his friends decide enough is enough and there's only one way to get rid of him for good... they **MUST KILL KARL**. But while Karl somehow manages to evade each of their attempts on his life, he unwittingly teaches them what enduring friendship really means and that maybe, just maybe, we've all got a little Karl in us.

## FILMMAKERS' STATEMENT

We wanted our first project together to be a comedy - we're an IRL couple, so it seemed like we'd have better odds of not destroying our relationship if we were at least working on something fun. From there, we started talking about how we all have that one person in our lives that we despise, but can't seem to get rid of - the "Karl". In real life, you're low on options - breaking up with a friend isn't really something people do, is it? Hence the dark fantasy version of eliminating someone from your life that became the film. The short is a proof-of-concept for a feature film, which is currently in development with Broken Compass Films and the National Screen Institute (NSI).

- Joe Kicak (Director/Producer) & Karen Moore (Writer/Producer)

## PRODUCTION NOTES

- Shot over 2 nights in June 2016 (during the summer solstice... perhaps not the best time to shoot an entirely exterior night-dependent film in hindsight...) with a crew of 35.
- Shot on location in Toronto, Ontario. Our Art Department built the rotting deck on top of the existing beautiful one.
- Financed with a grant from bravo!FACT. Produced as part of the Toronto Indie Production (TIP) program with ACTRA Toronto and the Canadian Media Producers Association (CMPA).
- Short film is a proof-of-concept for a feature, currently being developed through the National Screen Institute (NSI) Features First program.

# FILMMAKER BIOS

## Joe Kicak, Director & Producer

JOE KICAK is a Toronto-born Director and Content Creator currently in development on a digital original family series entitled, **Detention Adventure** (CBC). His most recent film, financed by bravoFACT!, the award-winning dark comedy short **Must Kill Karl** has screened at over 25 festivals and won numerous awards, including: Best International Short (Austin Comedy Film Festival), Best Director (LA Comedy Fest), and Best Comedy (Yorkton Film Festival). **Must Kill Karl** is currently being developed as a feature film through the National Screen Institute's Features First program.

Shaftesbury Films recently optioned Joe's family TV adventure series, **Magical Geographic**. His previous credits include the award-winning short film **Frigid** (Calgary Film Festival, NewFilmmakers LA) created with the generous participation of the Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, and Toronto Arts Council, and the award-winning short film **Distilled Love** (Newport Beach Film Festival, Edmonton International Film Festival), which received the National Screen Institute's Drama Prize. His feature film **Two Days Till Tomorrow** screened at festivals across North America and won a limited Canadian theatrical release with AMC Theatres.

## Karen Moore, Writer & Producer

KAREN MOORE is an award-winning Toronto-based writer and producer of narrative television and films. Currently, she is developing her feature film **Must Kill Karl** as part of the 2018 NSI Features First program and in development with CBC Kids with the Digital Original series **Detention Adventure**.

Her television writing and story editing credits include: **Mary Kills People** for Lifetime/Global, **Workin' Moms** for CBC, **Rookie Blue** for ABC/Global, and the CraveTV Original, **What Would Sal Do?**. She has written for **Rookie Blue's** digital series "Stakeout", **Rookie Blue's** "In Session", and **Saving Hope's** "Last Call". Both "In Session" and "Last Call" were nominated for 2013 Digi Awards.

Karen is the writer and co-producer of the award-winning bravo!FACT proof-of-concept short film, **Must Kill Karl**, which has been an official selection at numerous Oscar and CSA-qualifying festivals including the Austin Film Festival, Cinequest Film Festival, and the Brooklyn Film Festival. The film recently took home the Golden Sheaf for Best Comedy at the historic Yorkton Film Festival. Karen wrote and co-produced the bravo!FACT drama, **Your Place or Mine**, and the award-winning short, **Frozen Marbles**. She is a graduate of Ryerson University's Radio and Television Arts program (BA).

## Ryan West, Producer

RYAN WEST is a Toronto-based producer of film and television and founder of Broken Compass Films. He is presently developing the science-adventure youth web series **Detention Adventure** alongside CBC Kids, and developing his award-winning dark comedy short film **Must Kill Karl** into a feature version through the National Screen Institute's Features First program. The short version was an official selection at the Austin Film Festival and Canadian Film Festival, and is currently screening as part of CBC's Canadian Reflections series.

A graduate of Vancouver's Simon Fraser University, his experience in television production includes HGTV's home renovation series **Masters of Flip**, CBC's game show **Canada's Smartest Person**, and YTV's adventure challenge series **Cache Craze**. He has produced numerous short films, including Nathan Fielder's **Way Up There** and dramedy **Mann**, which was featured as part of a cultural study by Kitchener Museum.

Ryan's feature film **A Sunday Kind of Love** was selected from applicants across the country to participate in the inaugural IndieCan10K Film Challenge, and has since gone on to screen at festivals from Montreal to Shanghai. It is presently available on iTunes.

## Robin Crumley, Producer

ROBIN CRUMLEY is an established Toronto-based Producer. His credits include feature films **After The Ball** starring Lauren Holly and Chris Noth, **The Entitled** starring Ray Liotta and Kevin Zegers, and the Rock'n'Roll vampire film **Suck** starring Malcolm McDowell, Jessica Paré, Iggy Pop, and Alice Cooper.

Other producing credits include the feature length documentaries: **Marion Woodman: Dancing in the Flames**, based on the life of Jungian analyst Marion Woodman; and **Global Groove Network**, which examines the history and culture of EDM (Electronic Dance Music). He Produced the Genie nominated short film, **The Answer Key**, and the acclaimed web-series for Sphinx Productions and Apple Canada, **This Week On Movies** hosted by film critic Richard Crouse. Crumley was Vice President of Toronto-based Capri Vision since 2006, a division of Capri Films dedicated to fostering young and emerging Canadian talent.

## FILM INFO

Country: Canada

Year: 2017

Runtime: 12 min. 13 sec.

Colour: Colour

Shot on: Sony A7s II

Aspect Ratio: 1.78 (16x9 Video)

Shooting Format: 2K

Screener Format: Vimeo Link

Exhibition Format(s): DCP, ProRes, .h264

# STILLS



# POSTER

