



THE BIG FIVE

Written and directed by Kate Sheffield



PRESS KIT

All press queries contact:

Kate Sheffield | katejsheffield@gmail.com

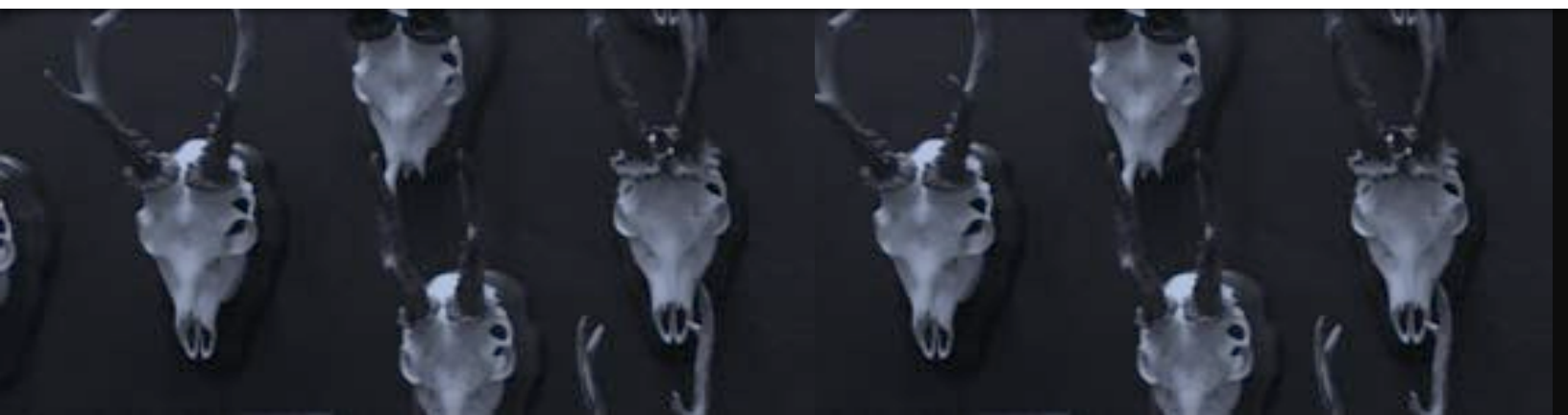
or

Joachim Gautier | joachimgautier@icloud.com

Stills available here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/QFbeiyqjF1EJws618>

Poster available here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bDz-MSfYUHL9b0TbEH22PnfSugJn4iuD/view?usp=sharing>



LOGLINE

A woman finds herself stuck in the home of a reclusive trophy hunter in remote Alaska after stepping in a trap. In time, they learn the dark truth about why each is there.

SYNOPSIS

While on a hunt in remote Alaska, MEL (32), accidentally steps in an animal trap. She wakes up in the cabin of a recluse named TEDDY (55), surrounded by taxidermy and hunting paraphernalia. Wary at first, the two forge a bond over hunting and travel stories - both have been to the same remote African village where Teddy bagged the "Big Five" game animals (the holy grail of trophy hunting). The more they get to know each other, the more things take a startling turn.





DIRECTOR BIO

Kate's love of film began at the local multiplex while growing up in the wilds of South Florida. She double majored in politics and theatre at Mount Holyoke College, where she acted in productions and at Amherst College, Smith College, and UMass-Amherst. She then took a hard left and pursued a career in urban planning, which has given her writing an environmental bent. After ten years in city planning, Kate moved to Los Angeles and studied screenwriting at the AFI Conservatory. Since then, she has worked in film development and distribution at Pretty Pictures, Blue Fox Entertainment, and Level 33 Entertainment.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

When Cecil the lion was killed in 2015 it struck a nerve that sent shock waves across the globe. Millions mourned the senseless killing of an animal they'd never met but also something more - the degradation of our shared environment. In that moment, much of the world was united in heartbreak, with a collective voice amplified by social media. And without formal retribution, this global community made sure the trophy hunter felt as hunted as Cecil, but by its own means. The goal of this film is to explore the murky ethics of trophy hunting and the glaring contradictions used to justify it as conservation. The more one delves into the world of trophy hunting, the more questions arise about the human propensity for violence, classism, and animal rights. It's a subject that demands attention as the Trump administration continues its assault on the Endangered Species Act and many other environmental rollbacks. While fictional, *The Big Five* was borne of a very real hunger for environmental justice.

KEY CREW

Joachim Gautier, *Producer*

Joachim Gautier was born in Paris and graduated with a Master's degree from the Normandy Business School. Thereafter, he moved to Los Angeles to study producing at the American Film Institute, where he earned his MFA in 2017. His thesis film, "White River Tales," received the Best Student Film Award at the San Jose International Short Film Festival and the Best Writing Award at ITVFest.

Brian Wessel, *Editor*

Brian has edited popular shows for HBO Max, Warner Brothers, and Hulu, including *Doom Patrol*, *Titans*, *The Vampire Diaries* and *Freakish*. He was an additional editor for the Sundance film, *What They Had*, starring Michael Shannon and for *Marshall*, starring Chadwick Bozeman. He served as assistant editor on TV shows such as *The Newsroom*, *The Killing*, *Animal Practice*, and *Children's Hospital*. In addition to The Big Five, Brian has edited an array of shorts, music videos and independent films. He also holds an MFA from the American Film Institute.

Alan J. Torres, *Cinematographer*

Alan is a graduate of AFI's cinematography MFA program. Prior to that he was accepted into Film Independent's Project Involve, providing him the opportunity to lens "Counter," which earned him Best Cinematography at the Idyllwild Film Festival. His documentary work has taken him to Cuba and he also shot for the Oscar shortlisted film, "The Hunting Ground." Alan is a co-owner of Five Towers, a camera rental and production and is a frequent collaborator with Jaden Smith and his record label, MSFTS.



CAST

David Preston - *Teddy*

David earned his first TV gig as series regular Murph the Surf on *The New Gidget* (1986) and worked in films including the cult-favorite *Max Headroom* (1987) and Harold Becker's *The Boost* (1988). Recently he played Carlson in Steinbeck's *Of Mice And Men* and Bob Ewell in *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Other theatre productions include the Los Angeles Premier of Dennis Lehane's *Coronado* and Dr. Adam Stanton in *All The King's Men*. On television, David most recently appeared on *Hawaii Five-0* (2010) as Jack Teague, as Agent Wilson on Syfy's *Stormageddon* (2015) and as Jeremy on *Higher Power* (2018) from producer Lorenzo di Bonaventura.



Alexandra Hensley - *Mel*

Alex trained at Elon University, achieving her BFA in Musical Theatre, which accompanies her degree from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Drama. After years of dramatic schooling at Michael Chekhov's studio in NY and Stuart Rogers scene study in LA, Alex refined her comedic skills by studying with the UCB Comedy, completing each course in their improv curriculum. In addition to acting in film and TV, Alex also writes, directs, and performs monthly shows in The Folks Next Door comedy troupe.





CREW

Associate Producer
Production Designer
1st AD
1st AC
Gaffer
Key Grip
PA
Catering
Art PA
Production Assistant
Costume Designer
Makeup
Sound Mixer/Boomer
Script Supervisor
Crafty
Still photographer
Sound Designer
Storyboard Illustrator

Steven Crawford
Codee Hutchins
Jianna Maarten
Will Randall
AJ Mester
Alex Kennison
Scott Sheffield
Andy Sheffield
Caroline Johnson
Eric Colasante
Ghislaine Harding
Ashley Stansbury
Richard Trejo
Dayna Smith
Kathleen Cummings
Eric Sheffield
Kai Paquin
Dan Hale

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Genre: Thriller

Production Date: April, 2019

Completion Date: September, 2019

Duration: 23 minutes

Country of Origin: Unites States

Aspect Ratio: 2.39 (Scope)

Sound: Stereo

Color

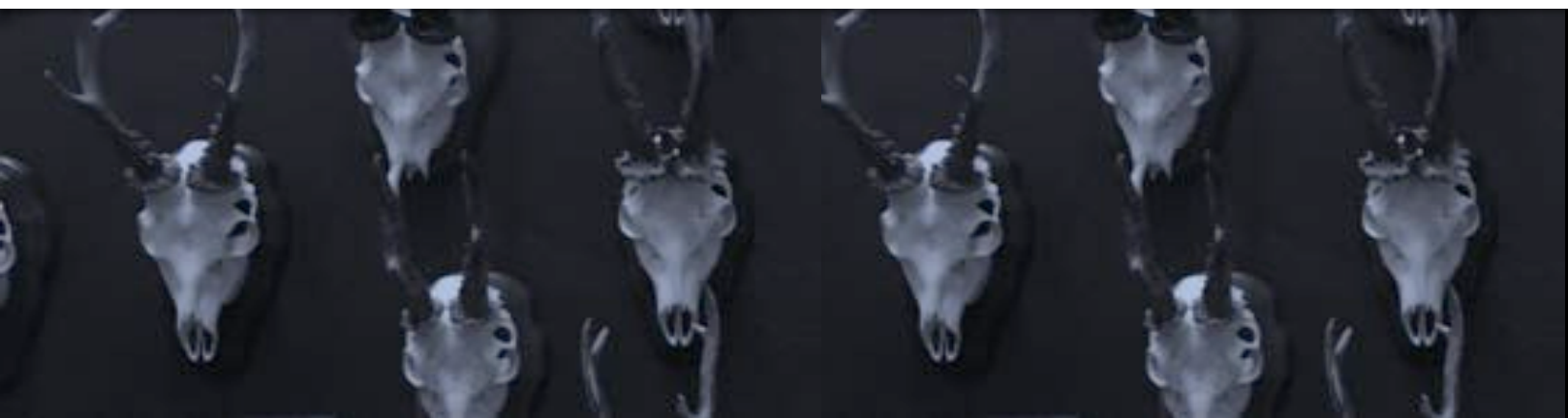
Language: English

Screening Format: DCP, mp4

Stills available here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/QFbeiyqjF1EJws618>

Poster available here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bDz-MSfYUHL9b0TbEH22PnfSugJn4iuD/view?usp=sharing>





THANK YOU!

