

KOMBUCHA!: EPK

v1.3 December 2023

Format: Short / Color / 4K Arri / 16:9 Aspect Ratio

Total Running Time: 00:07:01

Genre: Horror / Comedy / WTF / Midnight

Tagline: Something terrible is brewing in this office.

Logline: A disillusioned office drone reluctantly tries the kombucha that gives his coworkers superhuman focus, but he quickly discovers some grotesque side effects.

Concept: Cronenberg's version of *Office Space*.

Synopsis:

Kombucha! is a story about a musician trapped in an office job he couldn't care less about. Luke dreams of being on stage while doing B2B marketing work that feels completely meaningless. His coworkers all sip a red kombucha beverage and seem to have found purpose in this place.

When his boss catches him daydreaming and calls out his poor productivity, Luke decides to give the free kombucha a try. A feeling of commitment, focus, and belonging washes over Luke as he churns through creating a pitch deck for an upcoming client meeting. Unfortunately, the kombucha has a series of nasty side effects that grow and writhe inside of Luke. *Kombucha!* is a short film that gives new meaning to being consumed by your work.

Director's Statement:

Kombucha! is about Luke, who is caught between his creative pursuits and making money. We do all sorts of things to cope with this internal struggle and function in a world where we are seldom compensated well for doing what we love. *Kombucha!* is a grotesque depiction of these coping mechanisms wreaking havoc within.

—Jake Myers

Director Biography:

Jake Myers is a filmmaker and creative director based in Chicago. His films have been featured on FOX's A-Studio-Digital, Blumhouse's CryptTV, and Alamo Drafthouse's PUP. Jake also creates Motion Graphics for films like Kartemquin's *Dilemma of Desire*, Vera Drew's *The People's Joker*, and Kris Jenner's Masterclass.

Festival Tour (Starting November 2023):

- World Premiere / Yucca Valley Film Festival (In Person) / November 10 - 12, 2023
<https://yuccavalleyfilmfestival.com/program-2023/>
- Indie Short Fest / Los Angeles / TBD
<https://indieshortfest.com/nominations-december-2023/>
- IndieX Film Fest / Los Angeles / TBD
<https://indixfest.com/2023/12/11/kombucha/>

Awards:

- Best Director // Yucca Valley Film Festival (Nov 2023)
- Best Dark Comedy // Indie Short Fest (Dec 2023)

Nominations:

- Best Poster, Jake Myers // Yucca Valley Film Festival (Nov 2023)
- Best Special Effects & Makeup, Sam C Locke // Indie Short Fest (Dec 2023)
- Best Horror // Chicago Indie Film Awards (Dec 2023)

Teaser Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/871868030>

Images (Stills, Poster):

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12DOdYhjOynAq-Km7kHEprBBKQSOL8D-R?usp=sharing>

Images (BTS, if used please credit Henry VanZytveld / @henryvanzytveld):

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1YUvEQt_oSWcLg6GsnOP5JOIRQ0ZjBnq2?usp=sharing

Social Media (Filmmaker):

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/johnjacobmyers>

Website: www.johnjacobmyers.com

IMDb: <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm6167715/>

Social Media (Project):

IMDb: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt29344136/>

FilmFreeway (accessible to festivals only): <https://filmfreeway.com/Kombucha>

Credits (Crew):

Director, Co-writer: Jake Myers

Previous Credits: *Dad Budz*, *Dilemma of Desire*, *The People's Joker*

Producer: John Condne

Previous Credits: *America to Me*

Co-writer, Executive Producer: Geoff Bakken

Executive Producer: Jim Vendiola

Previous Credits: *Pretty Pickle*, *Argus*

Executive Producer: Kris Rey-Talley

Previous Credits: *Love. Blood. Kryptonite.*

Cinematographer: Matt Brown

Previous Credits: *Easy*, *Chicago Med*, *Sense8*

Editor: Liz Kaar

Previous Credits: *Body Parts*, *Dilemma of Desire*, *'63 Boycott*

Associate Producer: Lola Reech

Special Effects Makeup: Sam C. Locke

Credits (Cast):

"Luke" - Terrence Carey / Lead

The Chi, *Southside*

"Kelsey" - Claire McFadden / Lead

Second City MainStage

"Adam" - Andy Rowell / Supporting

America's Got Talent, *Hotline*

"Busker" - Lili Galluzzo / Supporting

(film debut)

Featured Music:

OPENING SONG / "Daisy Bell" - Written by Harry Dacre and Performed by Lili Galluzzo.

All other music is licensed through Envato Elements.

News & Reviews

"...a tasty delight of a short film..."

--Andrew Delgado

Film Threat

<https://filmthreat.com/reviews/kombucha/>

“Ohhhhh, *Kombucha* is the kind of film we watch at the Halloween Midnite Show at the Unlyrical Theater in Toontown!!! Well-acted, well crafted, and spooky good. This film team is definitely headed for greater and longer things. Two thumbs up from me. Two ears up from Roger Rabbit. And two.....well let's just say that Jessica likes it a whole lot, too.”

--Gary K. Wolf

Creator of Roger Rabbit