



MINER'S MOUNTAIN

GO DW PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE LIGHTHOUSE FILM COMPANY A FILM BY BENNETT PELLINGTON "MINER'S MOUNTAIN"
HENRY BAZEMORE JR. ANTHONY REYNOLDS MYKE HOLMES ELI WALKER FIDIAS REYES AND JULIE IVEY
EDITED BY JESSE ANDRUS BENNETT PELLINGTON PRODUCTION DESIGNER TRIPP ALLEN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ELI WALLACE-JOHANSSON
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BOBBY SIEGWORTH WRITTEN, PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY BENNETT PELLINGTON

Miner's Mountain Directed by: Bennett Pellington

bennettpellington@gmail.com



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Short Film: 17 minutes

LOGLINE

A sheriff comes under fire when two S.B.I. agents question his involvement in an unsolved murder case that shares distinct similarities with a recent homicide.

SYNOPSIS

In 1997, outside the small town of Abeithorn, North Carolina, Roseanne Barnes was brutally killed near her mountainside home. The last person to see her alive? A rookie cop: Officer Jefferies. Twenty years later the murder remains unsolved. The once young man, now sheriff, is questioned by two S.B.I. agents about that night. As he recounts the events, the investigators grow suspicious that Jefferies is withholding details that could unravel what happened to Roseanne and how her murder may be connected to a recent homicide - less than a mile from where she was found on Miner's Mountain.



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DIRECTOR'S BIO



Bennett Pellington is an international award-winning filmmaker who got his start directing and producing commercials and music videos. He co-wrote, produced, directed and edited the short film, **The Visitor**, which won the Best Acting Award in the 2015 MyRodeReel film competition. Regarded as the largest online short film festival in the world, **The Visitor**, also placed in the top finalists for: Best Drama, Best Cinematography, Best Behind the Scenes, and Judges' Choice Best Film.

Ben's films and music videos have played in many festivals across a variety of different platforms throughout the U.S. and Europe. His film, **South By Southwest** won first place in the Hitchcock Challenge on the popular Youtube channel Film Riot.

Pellington has worked alongside award-winning filmmakers like producer Jay Van Hoy (**The Witch, The Lighthouse**), and Oscar winner, Alan Ball (**American Beauty, True Blood**), gaining insight and firsthand knowledge. He is currently writing two spec features and the pilot episode of **Miner's Mountain**.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The inspiration for **Miner's Mountain** began in summer 2011. Our family was staying at a remote cabin, and my younger sister relentlessly pestered our dad into telling a scary story. He made up the foundation of Miner's Mountain on the spot. He started by saying he didn't know any scary stories, but he came across an article on the internet earlier that worried him. A few days before we checked in, a local wildlife ranger responded to a call regarding strange screams in close proximity to our cabin. A deer carcass was found, the ranger reported hearing shrieks and rushed back to the office. The woman who originally called was later reported missing. Local law enforcement investigated and issued a warning to the mountain residents to be on alert for a rabid animal or an unwell individual.

My room had floor to ceiling windows that faced the long gravel road traveling up the ravine. It was a full moon that night, and all I could imagine while staring out those windows was a dark figure slowly creeping down the driveway.

Needless to say, I didn't sleep.

Over the years that made up story stayed with me. And as fun as it was imagining who or what made those sounds, I kept coming back to the ranger. There had to be more. If he heard something, why didn't he investigate further? Did he see something he wasn't supposed to? Did he have something to do with the missing person? This became the basis for Miner's Mountain.

I'm attracted to characters with a guilty conscience and the experience I'm most trying to relay in this film is that of identity. How we see ourselves, how others see what they want to see, and the choices we make that ultimately reveal who we really are.

CAST

SHERIFF JEFFERIES - **HENRY BAZEMORE, JR.**



Upon graduating from the University of Michigan, Henry was accepted to The University of Georgia on a full ride scholarship. He supplemented his education at the Actor's Studio in Atlanta and on the professional stage.

He's played title roles such as Henry in Henry V, Cassius in Julius Caesar, and Theseus and Oberon in A Midsummer Night's Dream. He appeared in a number of television shows such as Drop Dead Diva, Sleepy Hollow, and Homeland, while recurring in Army Wives, One Tree Hill and The Red Road.

AGENT WYTHE - **ANTHONY REYNOLDS**



Anthony began his career at the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute in 1995 and later continued his studies at the Beverly Hills Playhouse. Since then he has worked on a vast amount of films and TV shows playing titular characters opposite the likes of Edward Norton, Bruce Dern and friend, Billy Bob Thornton.

He has won numerous awards and accolades not only for acting, but his writing and producing work has proven successful. He co-wrote, starred in, and produced the award winning short film **Times Like Dying** and produced the SXSW audience award winner, **That Evening Sun**.

AGENT HOLDEN - **MYKE HOLMES**



Myke earned his BA in Theatre from the University of North Carolina Wilmington. He then went on to earn his MFA from Northern Illinois University where he studied under master acting teacher Kathryn Gately. After graduating he continued his studies at the world-famous Moscow Art Theatre in Russia.

As a professional actor, Myke has worked in theatres in Russia, Romania, New York, Los Angeles, and all across the southeastern United States. He can be seen in various films and television shows like **The Walking Dead**, **House of Cards**, **The Longest Ride**, and **Mile 22** starring opposite John Malkovich.



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LINKS

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/349103243>

Website: <https://www.bennettpellington.com/>

IMDB: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10701072/reference>

The New Yorker Online:

<https://www.newyorker.com/culture/photo-booth/finding-truth-and-fiction-on-film-sets-in-the-south>



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FAQ

Q: How long did it take to make this film?

I wrote the script in early 2014 and we shot for 3 nights in July that same year. On paper, we all felt like we had a good story. But after finishing the cut, I could tell we were missing something and I couldn't let it go. The story was there but the arc wasn't. It was more of a few scenes compiled together as a set-up and the original ending was way too vague. For 2 ½ years I revisited the edit every once in a while, trying to *will* some sort of arc out of it. Then one day I was jogging and had a eureka moment. Use what we shot as flashbacks and write new content with the main character set in present day. That was interesting because, not only did it add more conflict and complete the story arc, but it answered the questions I originally daydreamed about. *If he heard something, what prevented him from investigating further? And if he **saw** or **did something** he didn't want people to know about, how did he get away with it and why?* It gave the story a whole new outlook for me. So, using the original script as a roadmap to weave truth and fiction, I wrote the present day scenes. In August 2017 we shot for 3 more days. This time it felt right and we were proud of the story we told. Only problem was, we ran out of money for post production.

For almost 2 years I worked and saved what I could to fund our post budget. We met our goal and completed the film on July 1st, 2019 - over 5 years since I wrote the first draft.

Q: Where did you shoot?

In 2014 we shot in Boone, North Carolina at a cabin in the Blue Ridge Parkway. And in 2017 we shot at various locations around Wilmington, North Carolina.

Q: How will the film be seen?

Currently we are doing a festival run and possibly a museum screening. Alex Harris, an accomplished photographer, reached out to me before principal photography in 2017 and explained he had been commissioned by the High Museum of Art in Atlanta to create an exhibition depicting independent cinema in the south. He asked to be a part of Miner's Mountain and I said absolutely. For 2 years he traveled up and down the southeast, capturing beautiful behind the scenes photos. I'm proud to have our film featured and consider myself lucky to have him play a role in the making of.

The exhibit, *Our Strange New Land*, launched November 29th and runs through May 3, 2020.

<https://high.org/exhibition/our-strange-new-land-photographs-by-alex-harris/>

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PRODUCTION STILLS



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CREDITS

WRITTEN, PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY
BENNETT PELLINGTON

PRODUCED BY
BOBBY SIEGWORTH

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
ELI WALLACE-JOHANSSON

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
TRIPP ALLEN

EDITED BY
JESSE ANDRUS
BENNETT PELLINGTON

SHERIFF JEFFERIES	HENRY BAZEMORE, JR.
AGENT WYTHE	ANTHONY REYNOLDS
AGENT HOLDEN	MYKE HOLMES
YOUNG JEFFERIES	ELI WALKER
ROSEANNE BARNES	JULIE IVEY
VIVICA	FIDIAS REYES
FEMALE MINER	TATUM OSBORNE
MALE MINER	ZACH JONES
ROSEANNE DOUBLE	RACHEL KLEITCHES
“LUCY” THE DOG	COSM

BOONE UNIT

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
EAMON FAY

CAMERA OPERATOR	ELI WALLACE-JOHANSSON
FIRST ASSISTANT CAMERA	ALAN “SHORTY” SWANSON
SECOND ASSISTANT CAMERA	BEN SCHMIDT
DIGITAL IMAGING TECHNICIAN	MARK EATON

SCRIPT SUPERVISOR **EMMA VARNER**

SOUND MIXER **EAMON FAY**

GAFFER **JON LADD**
BEST BOY ELECTRIC **JACK TEMPLER**

KEY GRIP **DANIEL WILLIAMS**
DOLLY GRIP **LANE OLIVER**
GRIP **NICK KEPPLER**
G&E SWING **SCOTT PHARR**
 ANDREW IANNUCCI

SPECIAL EFFECTS MAKEUP ARTIST **MATT BARRETT**
PROP DEER EFFECTS **TONY ROSEN**

CATERING AND CRAFT SERVICE **ROBERT SIEGWORTH**

KEY SET PRODUCTION ASSISTANT **CODY MARK HANNA**
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT **ALEX AMICK**

WILMINGTON UNIT

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
HANNAH LEYVA

FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ERIKA EDWARDS

SECOND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
JORDYN KENNEDY

CAMERA OPERATOR **ELI WALLACE-JOHANSSON**
FIRST ASSISTANT CAMERA **ALAN "SHORTY" SWANSON**
SECOND ASSISTANT CAMERA **NICK COCUZZA**
D.I.T. / CAMERA P.A. **BEN SCHMIDT**

SCRIPT SUPERVISOR **HANNAH LEYVA**

SOUND MIXER	TAYLOR O'STEEN
BOOM OP	TRISTAN HENNING
GAFFER	JACK TEMPLER
BEST BOY ELECTRIC	JOSH BERO
KEY GRIP	ZACHARY BENNETT
BEST BOY GRIP	DANIEL WILLIAMS
SPECIAL EFFECTS MAKEUP ARTIST	MATT BARRETT
ADDITIONAL EFFECTS MAKEUP	DELANIE GALISS
	COLBY COLLINS-PETERSON
SET DECORATOR	SARAH MOLINA
WARDROBE PROPS	CHARLEY COLEMAN
DOG WRANGLER	LOGAN JAMES
SOUND DESIGN AND COLOR	JESSE ANDRUS
VISUAL EFFECTS	DERRICK CHILDRESS
	JESSE BOND
DRONE PILOTS	KEVIN KLEITCHES (WILMINGTON)
	WILKIN HANAWAY (ASHEVILLE)
CRIME SCENE PHOTOGRAPHERS	KEVIN KLEITCHES
	BEN WOODS
STILL PHOTOGRAPHERS	ALEX HARRIS
	KEVIN KLEITCHES
BTS PHOTOGRAPHERS	STEPHEN PATEL
	HANNAH LEYVA
KEY SET P.A.	CODY MARK HANNA
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT	JACOB INGLE
A.D. UTILITY	ADAM FERGUSON

CATERING PROVIDED BY

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FIREHOUSE SUBS - LOUIS & JAN TABOR
BUFFALO WILD WINGS
T'BEAUX BOYS FOOD TRUCK
LUNA CAFE - WILL CHACON
KRISPY KREME**

THE PRODUCERS WISH TO THANK
**MICHAEL AND VIRGINIA PELLINGTON
THE SIEGWORTH FAMILY
THE LEYVA FAMILY
CHARLEY COLEMAN
TONY AND MARY FRANKS
CHARLIE BALL
CHUCK AND LESLIE BALL
LIGHTHOUSE FILMS
BRAD AND ANDREA WALKER
EUE / SCREEN GEMS STUDIOS
BILL VASSAR
CHRIS CROWDER
SIMON CAREY
LAWSON SITTERDING
NICK WESTFALL
TERRY O'DEAN
SUNSET LIGHTING AND GRIP
ALEX HOELSCHER
WALLABY MEDIA
WHITE BARN STUDIO
HERTZ EQUIPMENT RENTALS
LISA REYNOLDS
EDWARD "MCFLY" HOLT
EAMON FAY
BEN WOODS
CHRISTOPHER MCKEE
JOEY CONNOLLEY
ANDY HUTNIK
ZACK SVOBODA
OUR HARDWORKING CAST AND CREW**