



WHAT HAVE YOU DONE



CONTACT

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LOGLINE

A powerful man with a dead body in his trunk confronts his fixer about what to do.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Congressman James Robson is pursuing the highest office in the land, and has made a terrible mistake. In desperate need of assistance disposing a body, he engages a fixer for help – someone he doesn't know. In the course of coming up with a plan, the identity of the body is revealed, and all hell breaks loose.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Format: Short Narrative Film

Language: English

Country: United States

Runtime: 6 minutes

PRESS RELEASE

Black Oil Films' Short Horror/Thriller Film WHAT HAVE YOU DONE Debuts Online This Week

Jersey City, NJ - October 19, 2020 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE is a new short film from writer/director Mike Pelak. It is a horror/thriller film with a political bend, shot in Brooklyn, NY, and stars actors Jay Potter and Smitty Chai. The film is about what happens when a powerful man with a body in his trunk confronts his fixer about what to do. When the identity of the body is revealed, all hell breaks loose. The film examines the dark sides of powerful people in society, and the lengths they'll go to keep those things secret; a timely piece in the shadow of a controversial election.

Jay Potter is an actor who starred as Roger Mills on Season 1 of FX's RESCUE ME, and has appeared in feature films THE BIG SHORT, THE CALL, among many others. Smitty Chai is an actor who has appeared on CBS' MADAM SECRETARY and NBC's BLINDSPOT.

To date, the film has screened in a number of film festivals, including the Big Apple Film Festival and the Jersey Shore Film Festival.

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE will be released, for free, online on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 on Youtube and at www.blackoilfilms.com.

WRITER/DIRECTOR/PRODUCER



Mike Pelak

Mike Pelak is a screenwriter and filmmaker who wrote, directed, and produced *WHAT HAVE YOU DONE*, and is the founder of Black Oil Films. Mike's first short film, *THE DELIVERYMAN* also screened in film festivals and had several award nominations.

Mike is a passionate storyteller, an *X-FILES* fanatic, and often incorporates themes of people and characters not always being what they seem.

Whether they are wolves in sheeps' clothing, or simply hiding in plain sight, his characters always have many layers, and often surprising backstories.

Mike is also an Army veteran and alumnus of the Veterans Writing Project mentorship program with the Writers Guild of America.

Mike's original one-hour drama pilot *TOP OF THE HILL* was recently recognized as an Austin Film Festival Second Round selection, and a quarter-finalist in the Shore Scripts Pilot Contest.

CAST



Jay Potter

Congressman James Robson

Jay is a NYC-based actor who starred as Roger Mills on Season 1 of RESCUE ME, and has also appeared in THE BIG SHORT, THE CALL, BEIRUT, and GOD FRIENDED ME, among many other studio films and network television shows.

Smitty Chai

Chris Moon

Smitty is a NYC-based actor who has appeared in MADAM SECRETARY, BLINDSPOT, and IRON FIST.



FAQ

1. Where did the inspiration for this project come from?

I've worked on a couple political campaigns in various capacities. I've witnessed some things that weren't totally above board, and always wanted to make something that had some political undertones. In this film I took our political character, made him as evil as possible, and showed him doing anything he could to maintain his facade.

2. What was your favorite part of production?

The opportunity to direct some fantastic actors was a wonderful experience. The cast came to set prepared and ready to go. I'm a huge fan of their work in this film and their other projects.

3. How long did it take to make the film?

I initially wrote the film in the Spring of 2019, and then cast the film and planned the logistics through that summer. We shot in September of 2019, and the post-production was complete by the end of December 2019.

4. Where did you shoot the film?

We shot on a block in the East Williamsburg/Bushwick section of Brooklyn, NY. We worked hard to make a very busy block look abandoned and desolate.

5. What do you hope the film will accomplish?

In addition to getting as many eyeballs on this film as possible, I want it to push people to really consider who they are dealing with in different aspects of your life. Nothing is always what it seems, and it's important to be able to identify that.

6. What's next?

I am working on the pitch for a feature version of this film, alongside some other screenwriting projects that are on my plate.

CREDITS

Congressman James Robson

Jay Potter

Chris Moon

Smitty Chai

Azumi Tsutsui

Melissa Moon

Director of Photography

Christian Lesperance

Co-Producer

April Atherton

Location Sound

Dave Flores

Location Sound

Marissa Boccio

Camera Assistant

Matt Hilliard