

AMAZON FALLS

Directed by Katrin Bowen
Written by Curry Hitchborn
Story by Katrin Bowen

(2010, Canada, 80 min.)



Producers: Darren Reiter & Katrin Bowen

MEDIA CONTACT

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AMAZON FALLS

Long Synopsis:

Amazon Falls tells the story of a faded B-movie actress **JANA** who refuses to let go of her dream of being a star. Famous for her roles in Amazon movies where she portrayed a variety of pre-Xena warrior-princesses, she desperately tries to keep her leg in the B-movie game, and pursues her career with a zealous fervor. She is on the cusp of forty and it's now or never. She will not be dispirited by her job at a sleazy nightclub nor the ceaseless grind of waiting for the big break. She creates the illusion that her big break is just around the corner and her friends and co-workers are supporting her in her dreams: **ARON**, her much younger 25-year old boy toy is in love with her; **LI-LI**, an achingly beautiful 22-year-old actress her best friend and protégé will follow in her glamorous footsteps; **DEREK**, a film producer will be the one to give Jana the big break she yearns for. But the reality is she works in a nightclub run by **TOMMY**, her sleazy boss who encourages flirtation with an array of oily characters including **CALVIN**, a particularly shady character from Jana's distant past who has resurfaced to tempt her down a dark path. Jana avoids facing the truth at all costs. Despite her best efforts to live clean and expand her skills, Jana is ultimately overcome by the burden of a dream in a business that would seem to punish more for virtue than for vice. Faced with perpetual futility and diminishing returns, when is it time to finally let the dream go?

Short Synopsis:

Amazon Falls tells the story of a faded B-movie actress, Jana, who refuses to give up her dream of being a star. But the clock is ticking. She is on the cusp of forty and it's now or never. Despite her best efforts to live clean and expand her skills, Jana is ultimately overcome by the burden of a dream in a business that would seem to punish more for virtue than for vice. Faced with perpetual futility and diminishing returns, when is it time to finally let the dream go?

Logline:

An aging B-movie actress struggles against the burden of the Hollywood dream machine to make it in a merciless and unforgiving movie industry.

CREW BIOGRAPHIES:



Katrin Bowen

Director / Co-Producer/ Story

Katrin Bowen was born in England and moved to Linden, Alberta at the age of 5. From growing up in a Mennonite community in Linden, Alberta, to acting in b-movie kickboxing films in Los Angeles to writing and directing independent films in Vancouver, director **Katrin Bowen** has led a colourful life.

Amazon Falls is Katrin's first feature and is based on her b-movie experiences in Los Angeles and loosely based on the Lana Clarkson/Phil Spector story. *Amazon Falls* features a tour de force performance by April Telek as Jana and is visually stunning. The film explores the burden of the Hollywood dream machine as Jana relentlessly pursues her fleeting b-movie career with fervor. B-movie footage from Katrin's foray as a *Troma* actress appears in the film.



Katrin's directing career began at Berkeley, for her graduation thesis she made an award-winning documentary on rap music: *Spitting Reality*. At the Vancouver Video poetry festival her short film; *Someone* won the **Audience Choice**

Award, and Katrin was honoured to receive the **Vision Award** for Best Director for *Almost Forgot My Bones* which also won the **Best International Film Award** at the **Chroma** festival in Guadajara, Mexico and the **Audience Choice award** at the Vancouver Video poetry Festival; and the Crazy 8s film: *Sandcastle* won the **diversity award** from CITY TV.

Recently, Katrin performed in and directed *Financially Strapped*; which played in rotation on the Wedge on **Much Music**, was in competition at the **2008 Zebra Video Poetry Festival**, and was at the 2008 Interfilm Film Festival in Berlin and the Kosmopolis festival in Barcelona and has just been sold to Canal Plus in France.

Katrin recently wrote the semi-autobiographical feature script *Off Course*, which she plans to direct as a co-production with Buskin Films from Italy. *Off Course* is a suspenseful road movie set in Italy about a young model's desperate journey to get home. Katrin is an Alumnae of the *University of California at Berkeley*, *The Cannes Producing Intensive*, *Women in the Director's Chair* and the *Berlinale Talent Campus*.



Darren Reiter

Co-Producer/ Executive Producer

Darren Reiter was born and raised in Vancouver, B.C. He is an alumnae of the *University of British Columbia* and *The University of Edinburgh*. Darren's film experience derives from partnerships and collaborations with award-winning producers and directors including **Braemar Court Productions** and **Bowen Arrow Productions**. He has produced several short movies including *The River Jordan* which screened at the Atlantic Film Festival in 2007 and *Amazon Falls*, his first feature length project.

Darren is chief executive officer of eMedia Networks Incorporated, a publicly traded sonic branding and out-of-home-advertising company (TSX: EMM), where he oversees business development and international music licensing. He is also a board member of *Beauty Night Society*, a registered Canadian charity that provides makeovers and wellness programs for marginalized women and youth.



Curry Hitchborn

Writer

Curry Hitchborn is a screenwriter based in the North Shore of Vancouver. An avid storyteller as a young child, he parlayed himself into a highly visualized style of writing. Having three feature length films with always more to come, Curry has recently seen one of those stories come to life with the completion of *Amazon Falls*, directed by Katrin Bowen.

“Making *Amazon Falls* has got to be the fastest concept to turn around in recorded history. It was two weeks straight of non-stop writing. I put my entire life on hold and I'm so glad I did. I dived in and look what was produced: This phenomenal film.” Curry is working again with Katrin on her autobiographical feature: *Off Course*.



Cliff Hokanson

Director of Photography

For over two decades Cliff Hokanson has had a successful career as a Camera/Steadicam operator in feature film and television. Cliff is well known for his skills with camera movement. Along with his Steadicam experience, Cliff has designed a jib arm and has acquired an arsenal of owned equipment from Hotgears Remote Heads, Lighting and a Red HD camera package; equipment that is an asset to all levels of film production.

As methods of electronic communication rapidly develop, Cliff has stayed at the forefront of his field by continuously upgrading his experience level and skills. This includes developing a live video assist twin play back system (motion control) to High Definition as a Red Camera MX Owner. He is also in development on his own 3-D camera platforms.

As a Director of Photography, Cliff has been involved in the production of feature and independent films, Mows, Documentaries, Commercials and countless Music videos. These projects have involved various locations with some as distant as Russia. Cliff lives and works out of Vancouver, B.C.

Cliff takes pride in the fact that his colleagues declare, “*Cliff is known as the man that takes a project and gives it a look ten times the budget.*”

“As the Director of Photography on *Amazon Falls*, I enjoyed the challenges of small budget filmmaking. It called for different lighting styles from sleek and sexy to a raw documentary feel. I enjoyed working with the crew and cast and wish the film much success.” – Cliff Hokanson



Step Carruthers

Composer

Step Carruthers is an eclectic music composer and producer based in Vancouver, BC, who enjoys working with sound and music in a variety of genres and roles. Step has always been involved in music, with a background including childhood piano lessons, high school band first trombone chair and percussion, playing bass in basement bands as a teenager,

and dabbling in guitar and any other instrument he could get his hands on.

Along with his passion for music, Step has always loved film. He began studying film in his undergraduate years at **McMaster University**, before attending **Simon Fraser University's** Film Production Program between 1993 and 1995 where he focused on directing and editing. On leaving SFU Step worked in Vancouver's documentary and corporate production industry for over a decade as a producer and PM, before deciding in 2008 to change course and pursue his lifelong passion for music as a career. He honed his skills in **Langara College's** Electronic Music Production Program before hanging out his shingle as an independent composer/producer in September 2009.

Fresh out of Langara, Step was thrilled when the opportunity came to score Katrin Bowen's debut feature *Amazon Falls* in early 2010. "After years of dealing with the business side of film as a producer, it was a thrill to re-engage so intimately with the creative side of film-making", says Step, "and become a film-maker again, this time working with music".

Step experimented with a variety of techniques to create a score that would capture the dark undercurrents of the central character, Jana, and her world, before settling on the e-bow, a device that creates haunting sustained tones on the electric guitar, as a signature sound. "Katrin wanted the character to have an 80's rock, never say die attitude, which clearly required lots of electric guitars! The e-bow allowed us to stay with the electric guitar as a central instrument, but take it to other worlds, sonically and emotionally."



Franco Pante

Editor

Franco Pante is an editor with a keen sense of story, who has worked in numerous genres, including drama, comedy and documentary. His recent credits include the television series *Robson Arms*, as well as the feature-length films *Playing for Keeps*, *Elijah*, and *Guido Superstar*. Franco's background includes script development and production, as well as his many years of post-production experience.

About *Amazon Falls*, Franco says: "My job was made easy by a standout performance from April Telek and some great camera work by Cliff Hokansen. But best of all was working in the edit room with Katrin, who's vision for the film was rock-solid but whose style was extremely collaborative. I can't wait to explore the world of *Off Course*, Katrin's next feature; which is set in Italy, viewed through a Canadian's eyes - something I'm acutely aware of."

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE:

April Telek	<i>Jana</i>
Zak Santiago.....	<i>Aron</i>
Anna Mae Routledge.....	<i>Li</i>
Gabrielle Rose.....	<i>Margaret Deschamps</i>
Ben Ratner.....	<i>Derek Crayson</i>
Matty Finochio.....	<i>Clifton</i>
Tom Braidwood.....	<i>Tommy Leonard</i>
Alexandra Staseson.....	<i>Tawny</i>
William B. Davis.....	<i>Calvin</i>

AWARDS AND FESTIVALS:



Katrin Bowen– Women In Film and Television
16th Annual Artistic Achievement Award, for
stunning vision and compelling direction.

April Telek – VIFF Artistic Merit Award, for her pitch perfect
performance as Jana.

Toronto International Film Festival, official Selection 2010
Vancouver International Film Festival, official Selection 2010



Female Eye Film Festival,

Gala Presentation 2011 and winner of Best Debut Feature.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



April Telek *Jana*

April Telek was born and raised in North Vancouver, British Columbia. After landing her first modeling gig at the age of ten, April quickly realized her love for the camera.

While growing up as a child actor and international model, April was enrolled in a "Super Achievers" program designed specifically for kids with professional careers in school. Upon graduation, she decided to commit herself

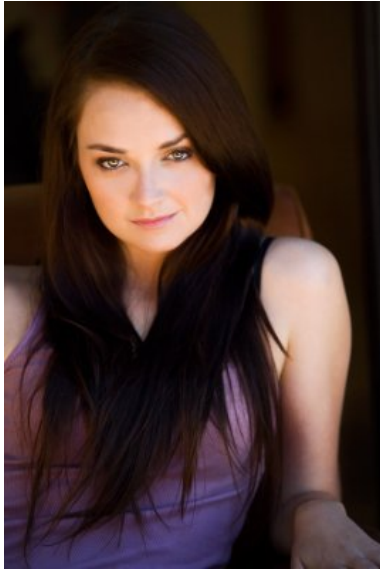
full time to "the craft" and hasn't stopped working since.

In 1994, April went on to win the title of "Miss Canada", which took her to 17 international competitions, including "Miss Asia Pacific" in the Philippines, and "Miss Top Model of the World" in Istanbul, Turkey. She has also had the honour of being titled "Hottest Canadian Talent" on the web and was voted "First Wave Babe of the Month" on more than one occasion.

Jana in "Amazon Falls" is the role April is most proud of and she's thrilled to be a part of this amazing movie. Working with actor's director Katrin Bowen was a dream come true. Past roles include A&E's Emmy Award-winning MOW *Flight 93* where she played "Liz Glyk", the wife of one of the heroes/passengers on the ill-fated United Flight 93 that met its demise on September 11th, Cathy Evelyn Smith (the last person to see John Belushi alive) in "*The Mork & Mindy Story*" for NBC.

Despite her hectic schedule between acting and being a mom, April is on the board of directors for the Lions Gate Hospice Society. She became passionate about the Hospice Society when her aunt was diagnosed with a terminal illness and passed away at St. James Cottage Hospice in Vancouver. April is very involved in the capital campaign to raise funds for the first free-standing hospice on the North Shore. April is also involved with her church's outreach program for the Downtown Eastside and supports The Canadian National Institute for the Blind and Canuck Place charities.

Currently, April resides on the North Shore in her recently designed and renovated home with her husband and three year old daughter Ava Marie.



Anna Mae Routledge

LiLi

Anna Mae Routledge's recent works include a recurring role on CBS *Harpers Island*, and a lead role on the Disney Channel original movie *16 Wishes*. She loves to play on stage and screen as a chameleon of character. Her past experiences of working in an outdoor Shakespeare company and singing her heart out in her local competitions have brought her to a place of humbleness and gratitude for every moment she shares with fellow artists. Working on *Amazon Falls* has been a turning point in her career and an impetus for motivation and commitment to ethical acting. She believes definitive stories deserve their time in the spotlight and gives this drama about B movies an A plus!



Zak Santiago

Aron

A modern day Renaissance man, Zak is a Golden Gloves winning boxer, popular nightclub DJ, classically trained musician, ballet and flamenco dancer, and an actor. Zak is truly excited to have worked on *Amazon Falls* with the talented Katrin Bowen - someone he's wanted to work with for a long time.

Among his credits are as series lead in the N Network comedy *The Assistants*, series regular in the PAX/NBC series *Young Blades*, series regular on the popular Canadian series *Robson Arms* and many recurring and Guest Starring roles in episodic television. He most recently finished shooting opposite Kathy Bates in the mini-series *Alice*.

Zak won a Leo Award in 1994 for best supporting actor in the lauded *Human Cargo*, and was appraised for his supporting lead work as one of the terrorists in A&E's ratings blockbuster *Flight 93*. In 2006 Zak was nominated for another acting Leo for his work on *Young Blades*. Among Zak Santiago's credits are the feature films *Shooter* with Mark Wahlberg, *The Eye* with Jessica Alba, *Underclassmen* with Nick Cannon, *Josie and the Pussy Cats* with Tara Reid, *Trixie* produced by Robert Altman and a supporting role in *Turbulence 3: Heavy Metal* with Rutger Hauer.

Zak has studied classical ballet and flamenco extensively for many years. In 1998, Zak ended his amateur boxing career to focus exclusively on dance. In 2000 he was accepted to Madrid's world-renowned Amor de Dios Academy where he studied under several legends of flamenco.



Ben Ratner
Derek

Ben Ratner is widely regarded as one of the most versatile and dynamic actors in the thriving Canadian independent film scene. In 2010 he will be seen co-starring in *Fathers and Sons*, directed by Carl Bessai, and *Amazon Falls*, directed by Katrin Bowen.

Ben co-starred as Sam Berger, Chief of Staff to Nicholas Campbell's Mayor Dominic Da Vinci, on the critically acclaimed *Da Vinci's City Hall*. Evolved from the CBC hit drama *Da Vinci's Inquest*, which was hailed in the Globe and Mail as "one of the finest TV dramas ever made, in Canada or anywhere," *Da Vinci's City Hall* returned to CBC, co-starring Ben, as a television movie in 2008.

Having worked extensively in both Canada and The United States, Ben's past film work includes the lead role in director Bruce Sweeney's *Last Wedding*, which premiered as the opening gala presentation at the prestigious 2001 Toronto International Film Festival. For his work in *Last Wedding*, Ben was awarded the 2001 Film Can "Best Actor" Award, was nominated for a Leo Award, a Canadian Comedy Award, and was named "Best Canadian Actor" by The Vancouver Film Critics' Circle. For his work in 2002s Looking for Leonard, Benjamin was named "Best Supporting Actor" by the Vancouver Film Critics' Circle.

Other film highlights include leading roles in film festival hits *Dirty*, also by Bruce Sweeney, and *Zachariah*, directed by Michael Rohl. *Dirty* premiered at The Sundance Film Festival in 1998, and garnered critical and audience raves at The Berlin and Toronto Film Festivals that same year. For his work in *Dirty*, Ben was nominated for a 1998 Leo Award for "Best Actor in a Feature Film." *Zachariah* was shown at 1998 Vancouver, Telluride, and AFI Film Festivals, and won the Audience Award at the 1999 Palm Springs Film Festival.

Other films roles include *Moving Malcolm*, opposite Elizabeth Berkley and John Neville, The Canadian Film Centre's *19 Months*, directed by Randall Cole, for which Ben was named 2003's VFCC Best Canadian Actor – Runner Up, as well as *A Problem With Fear*, *Long Life Happiness and Prosperity*, *See Grace Fly*, and *Expiration Date*, to name a few.

In 2006 he was nominated for "Best Canadian Actor" by The Vancouver Film Critics' Circle, and won the 2006 Leo Award, for his role in Ross Weber's feature film *Mount Pleasant*.



William B. Davis

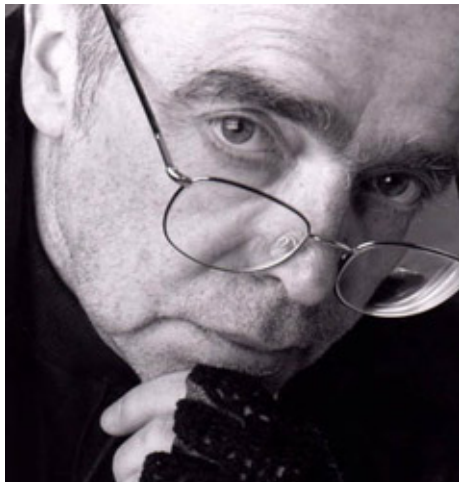
Calvin

William B. Davis is best known as “Cancerman” from *The X-Files* and was proudly voted Television’s Favorite Villain (as voted by the readers of US TV Guide) and called “TV-land’s hottest and hippest villain” by Saturday Night Magazine.

His extensive acting and directing career began in Toronto when he was just 11 years old and he later trained in England at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts and worked as a freelance director in British repertory theatres as well as running the Dundee Repertory Theatre in Scotland. From there he went to The National Theatre of Great Britain, working with Maggie Smith and Laurence Olivier, among others.

In 1965, Davis returned to Canada where he became Artistic Director of The English Acting Program at Canada’s National Theatre School and later the founder of Vancouver’s, The William Davis Centre. Davis has also appeared in a succession of films opposite stars including Penelope Ann Miller, Martin Sheen, Anne Archer, Margot Kidder, Matthew Perry and Brian Dennehy.

On the small screen his recent credits include guest appearances on hit shows including *Human Target*, *Caprica* and *Supernatural*. “I’m having great fun playing Calvin because he’s a mysterious character and we don’t know exactly who he is. I seem to play a lot of those. He has some kind of hots for the lead character and he just pursues her through the film.”



Tom Braidwood

Tommy

Tom Braidwood had a great time playing Tommy and working with Katrin Bowen on *Amazon Falls*. He’s most well known for the role of Frohike in *The X-Files* (1993) and later *The Lone Gunmen* (2001), and his being cast in *Amazon Falls* was completely serendipitous. The producers had already seen several actors for the part but found casting it difficult. They were discussing the matter outside of a bathroom when Braidwood, who was already working as first assistant director on *The X-Files* (1993), emerged, and they realized he was right for the role.



Gabrielle Rose

Margaret

Gabrielle Rose's critically acclaimed work includes an extensive list of credits in film, television and theatre. Her impressive list of film credits include: *The Sweet Hereafter*, *The Rhino Brothers*, *Delicate Art of Parking*, *The Adjuster*, *Speaking Parts*, *On The Other Hand Death*, *Family Viewing*, *The Five Senses*, *Sisters*, *Mothers & Daughters*, *Grace*, *Excite*, George Ryga's *Hungry Hills*, and most recently *Amazon Falls* the first feature by director: Katrin Bowen

In the past year, Gabrielle has been busier than ever working on numerous film, television, and theatre productions, which has continued to earn her first-rate reviews, awards and nominations. Her most recent film work includes her supporting lead roles at the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival, including the world premiere of Bruce Sweeney's romantic comedy *Excited* and George Ryga's *Hungry Hills*. Gabrielle won 'Best Performance by a Supporting Actress in a Canadian Film' at the Vancouver Film and Critic Circle Awards (VFCC Awards) for her comedic role as Claire - an overbearing mother - in writer-director Bruce Sweeney's romantic comedy *Excited*. She Won the Best Actress Leo Award for that same performance. In April 2010 she attended the Genies where she was nominated for her performance as Brenda In Carl Bessai's *Mothers and Daughters*, a collective work entirely improvised of which she is very proud. Last year she received a Jury prize for Brenda at the Calgary Film festival.

Gabrielle looks forward to working with Katrin Bowen again. She would have starred in B-movies if the shoes fit her!

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

On the Genesis ...

I was ready to shoot my first feature, a bigger-budget romantic comedy. When the financing for that project fell through, we had been in prep and we were cast and were all ready to go, and I just felt heartbroken. And so I thought; I need to get another script! I've got cast, I've got crew, I've got to do something! I contacted Darren Reiter and asked him to come on as a producer. He said yes. He took a chance on me, a first feature director, and committed 100% to the project.

Once he was on board, I contacted my friend Curry and I said "I need you to write a script based on my B-movie life in Los Angeles. Can you do it in two weeks?" He said yes. And he did it!

We made Amazon Falls on a shoestring budget with all volunteer crew in 12 days. A lot of people came onboard with this film, on faith alone, and gave 100 % of themselves to the project. I will never forget that!

Amazon Falls is dedicated to the memory of Lana Clarkson.

The Overall Look ...

Amazon Falls will lure you in visually with inviting, warm and comforting lighting establishing the glory of the "dream". This gorgeous warm lighting accentuates Jana's beauty. The Camera movements are languid. Sweeping images of "The Dream" Studios, back lots and images of Hollywood will appear emphasizing the glory of Hollywood. As Jana's dream starts to fade and reality kicks in we see the grit behind the glamour. The camera helps expose the reality with creeping dolly shots and steadicam movements hovering above Jana almost like a nervous mother. Harsher lighting, close-ups the camera will expose the reality of the world. I wanted to pay a special emphasis on the reality behind the beauty. Close up shots of Jana getting ready, exercising, putting on spanks makeup and her multitude of wigs that cover her thinning hair.

On Co-Producing ...

I could not have made this film without my producing partner Darren Reiter. He took a huge chance on me as a director and the film and has worked tirelessly on the film since day one. Darren and I were introduced 6 months previously by a mutual friend who said: "You two should work together". We did and the collaboration has been great! We've never looked back. We are a good team. Darren is calm, cool, and has a great business sense - solving problems diplomatically. Our strengths complement each other and I feel fortunate to have found a producing partner I can work with and look forward to working together on future projects.

On Casting ...

The role of Jana was a difficult one to cast I had to find an ex beauty queen who was willing to expose her dark underbelly and also be able to hold a show. I contacted casting director Lynne Carrow who suggested April Telek. I had heard of April, she had done a few sci-fi roles and was Miss Canada 1994 - but could she act? The moment April walked in the door and started reading I knew we had found our Jana. At the end of the audition April said "I will work so hard for you." She did. We rehearsed for a couple of weeks and April was there 100% and was willing to go to the dark places she had to go to. She was a consummate professional and I feel blessed to have worked with her.

Li was equally challenging, I had to find a young actress who could be Jana's friend and confident and also be genuinely encouraging to Jana. She had to believe in the dream with Jana and then as the film progresses she realizes that Jana that the dream Jana's been working for is just that a dream nothing else. She has to have equal parts street smarts and compassion . I called casting director Sue Browse who sent over 20 actresses. Anna Mae had the qualities needed for Li and this is a real breakout performance for her.

I had been working with Zak Santiago for the romantic comedy I was going to direct and knew what a solid actor he was. I created the character Aron for Zak.

William B Davis and I just finished working together on a short film. He is an incredible actor. I jumped for joy when he said yes to playing Calvin. He suggested his friend and colleague Tom Braidwood for Tommy and the rest is history.

I met Ben Ratner at a party two weeks before I was about to shoot and asked him, "Ben would you like to play a somewhat slimy director in my film. There's no money but it's a different role for you and I think you'd be great." Right then and there Ben said sure. Later he mentioned that he wasn't even thinking of going to a party that night but decided to go at the last minute and was glad he did!



The Edit...

We created an edited series of shots that shows the work it takes for Jana to create Jana the actress. Shots of putting on makeup, wigs, and spunks squeezing into clothes combined with corresponding amplified sounds each sequence getting more and more frenetic as Jana starts to lose control. This edited sequence plays at key points throughout the film, analogous to the series of shots in the film "Requiem for a Dream". This adds to the intensity/desperation of her break with reality.

As Los Angeles is the setting for, and plays an important role in the film, we acquired stock footage of Los Angeles and images of iconic Hollywood symbols to show the tone and mood of the place where movie dreams are created and broken. In addition to stock footage we shot our own footage of Los Angeles including recreating and capturing the advertisements posted on Sunset Boulevard that add an ambiance suggesting the idea that Los Angeles is the land of 12 step self-help and quick fix thinking. In addition to the iconic images of Los Angeles, we shot footage driving the freeways and streets of Los Angeles to provide material to provide breath and a barometer for Jana's emotional state as well as further placing her in the world that is Hollywood.

Soundscape and Music ...

An original soundtrack for the film was created for "Amazon Falls" working with composer, Step Carruthers. The soundscape of the film ranges from 80's rock and roll beats (Jana's music) to modern DJ funk and grind (Aron's music); to a composition whose vibrant beats flowing with a pulse of sounds, correspond with the character's mood. Reflective ambiguous music-the pause that refreshes- extends the story behind these characters. We created a "Call of the Amazons" beat that encourages Jana.

Sound is a way of showing the sub-conscious stream of the characters. As Jana hides her true feelings and emotions by putting on a brave face, the sound reveals her true unsettled state. Car driving sequences, in particular, give us a private musical set where we can show how Jana is really feeling. The car is where she is protected, can be herself, and let her true feelings show. We have the music she listens to reflect her emotional state when she drives. The music changes from up-tempo beats to slightly more desperate tracks showing that Jana will not go down without a fight. When Jana meets Calvin in the club we play against the emotional context of the scenes by having romantic jazz standards play in the background of the scenes.

On Production Challenges ...



Considering, we made a first feature with an entire volunteer crew, shot in 12 days with no budget I'm surprised there weren't more challenges!

Day 1 we lost our production designer to a paying gig so we appointed some keen volunteers with an eye design and we were off to the races. They worked tirelessly and we got through.

We lost our main bar location the day before we were supposed to shoot there and had to scramble to find a new locations ASAP.

Thanks to my Bowen Arrow Face Book page on which I sent a shout out for locations and our extremely resourceful location manager, we had a new location that afternoon and it was great larger and more versatile!

A crew member shut off the power right before William B's close up we had reached the 12 hour mark and he wanted to go home. William B had to shoot an additional day. He was an amazing gentleman about it and I have even more respect for him.

I find filmmaking is a lot like being a firefighter; you have to put out a lot of fires! I was so thrilled to actually be in production that these things meant nothing to me at the end of the day!

Canadian Distributor Indiecan Entertainment...

Stories are central to our lives. They keep us going, from children's bedtime stories to legendary family tales, stories intrigue, inspire, and inform. A passion for stories compelled Avi Federgreen to take his lifelong commitment as a producer of Canadian films and throw it behind Indiecan Entertainment. His goal is to give as many people as possible the chance to experience those stories and the work that so painstakingly and passionately brings them to life. The founder of Federgreen Entertainment Inc. and Avi Ronn Productions Inc. is dedicated to developing and distributing projects of the highest quality and substance that maintain market appeal in the ever-changing and expanding world of film and television.

The focus of Indiecan Entertainment is Canadian, independent, low-budget films. As a distributor Federgreen plans to follow the same principle that drives him as a filmmaker; to bring to Canadians films that they want to watch. "Stories that affect people, that they talk about, that they recommend to their friends; those are the ones I want to bring to audiences across Canada."

But Avi knows very well that while making films is one challenge, getting them seen is quite another. "There are more than 200 indie films made in Canada each year, less than 10% of which are distributed," he says. "Many of them deserve an audience. First-time feature filmmakers are trying to establish a career, and if their work can't be seen then it's tough to get money for the next project."

Federgreen has been making films for almost 20 years: **Still, One Week, Score: A Hockey Musical, I'm Yours, Moon Point, High Life**, and many more. His projects have received widespread recognition at national film festivals, including the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival, and with nominations for a Gemini and the Directors Guild of Canada awards.

