

# TO THE MOUNTAIN



## IT'S ABOUT THE JOURNEY

INDIECAN ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS A FILM BY ERIC PAULS "TO THE MOUNTAIN" STARRING DANIEL BRAUN

PETER MORTON JOAN MILES ALYSA VANHAASTERT TANYA STONE CINEMATOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL JANKE

ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK BY YOUNG NEIGHBOURS PRODUCED BY ERIC PAULS PAIGE K BOUDREAU

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ERIC PAULS [tothemountainthefilm.com](http://tothemountainthefilm.com)

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# TO THE MOUNTAIN

**A FILM BY ERIC PAULS**

**[tothemountainthefilm.com](http://tothemountainthefilm.com)**



Running time: 75 minutes

**North American Distributor**

Avi Federgreen/ IndieCan Entertainment inc. / [info@indiecanent.com](mailto:info@indiecanent.com) /1.416.898.3456



## Log Line

The story of five hikers who find meaning in their lives after the beautiful yet harsh surroundings force them to connect with one another.

## Synopsis

*To the Mountain* is an ensemble piece about three sets of hikers: a father and son as they mourn the one-year anniversary of their mother/wife's tragic passing, a retired professor in search of a new meaning to her life, and a pair of young women on their year abroad. All of these stories collide and when the Rocky Mountains finally reveal their darker side these individuals are forced to consider what is truly important to them.

Featuring a truly independent approach to filmmaking, beautiful cinematography, and an original score by Canadian artist Young Neighbours, *To the Mountain* is an emotional exploration of the journey of longing.

*"for a film that deals so much with letting go of the past, it's one that I've been thinking about days after watching"* - Jonathan Lawrence, Beatroute Magazine



## Director's Statement

I attended film school with the intention to learn how to tell a story, however we learned everything but. Since I left there I've dedicated myself to writing screenplays with the intention of learning how to tell a story in a feature length format. Feature films have always been the art form that spoke to me the most; short films were too short, novels were too wordy. Feature films have both forward momentum and time to breathe and they were all I have ever wanted to do. So when the story of *To the Mountain* came to me, I knew I had to take that leap into the feature film world. With \$7500 and the help of some close friends that's exactly what I did.

This script was originally inspired by the Rocky Mountains located just an hour from my home, but it became a story I had to make when the theme of longing revealed itself on the page. I had written the script as a collection of characters I found interesting but subconsciously the major through line I had created was longing. When I started writing this script I had just become a father and the realization that life as I knew it was over and that life ahead of me is very uncertain was very real. My struggle with that found its way into the lives of my characters and connected them to one another and to the audience.

As a director, the script left so much space to work with. It never forced a view point and allowed me to take the audience in directions they were not expecting. We were in the mountains, a place I find beautiful but also very intimidating, and I wanted the film to have that dichotomy of tension. At any moment out there you can have your breath taken away or tragedy could strike, and I wanted the audience to be aware of that fact at every moment.

This film was shot for nearly nothing and required a lot of people to sacrifice a lot to make it happen. As we wrapped production and began to see an assembly of the cut come together, there was a collective sense that the stars aligned for us on this project in a way that may never happen again. The film has made conscious what was my sub-conscious and has reaffirmed my belief in the magic of film.



## Director's Biography

Eric Pauls (1985) is a writer/director/composer based in Calgary AB, Canada. He has created both narrative and documentary shorts which have played in several festivals including North West Fest, Canada Independent Film Festival and the Newtown Film Festival. To the Mountain is his debut feature film.

## Filmography

To the Mountain (2017), Wealth and Status (Short, 2014), Leave them Laughing (Short, 2012), Kilimanjaro and the Wedding (Short Doc, 2011), The Bike Courier (Short, 2010), Finding Courage (Short, 2008)



# Credits

Written and Directed by  
Eric Pauls

- Produced by -  
Paige K Boudreau  
Michael Janke  
Eric Pauls

- Cast -  
Daniel Braun...Jon  
Peter Morton...Chris  
Joan Miles...Julie  
Alysa vanHaastert...Cate  
Tanya Stone...Ashley  
James Avramenko...Tyler  
Tyler Reinhold...Cam  
Meri Kieksi...Rescuer 1  
Carl Severson...Rescuer 2  
Joel Bestward...Rescuer 3  
Owen McCulloch...Rescuer 4  
Carmen Pederson...Mom (voice)  
Maire Muncaster...Jon's Mom

- Director of Photography -  
Michael Janke

- Location Sound -  
Erik Sirke

- Edited by -  
Eric Pauls  
Paige K Boudreau  
Michael Janke

- Sound Mix -  
Jesse Luce

- Visual Effects -  
Brock Roberts

- Soundtrack by -  
Young Neighbours

- Soundtrack Mixed by -  
Noah Michael

- Soundtrack Mastered by -  
Levi Seitz

- Craft Services -  
Amber Pauls

- Camera Assistant -  
Nathan Rogers

- Production Assistant -  
Evan Loudon

- Props Provided by -  
Tyler Ellis  
Jonathan Dornian  
Shaun Cowan

-Thank you -  
Dave Pauls  
Jane Pauls  
Wayne Pederson  
Carmen Pederson  
Avi Federgreen  
Matt Code  
Eric Boudreau  
Josés Martin  
Jordan Cameron  
Sarah Cameron

Deadman's Flats Huskyhouse  
Crossroads  
Town of Exshaw

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Shot on location in Calgary and Exshaw , Alberta.  
No animals were harmed in the making of this film.

Eric Pauls  
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Country of First Publication: Canada.

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Dedicated to  
Roman and Nico