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ALIEN ON STAGE

Impossible not to
fall in love with



LIVE FOR FILM

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celebration for
underdogs
everywhere



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THE HOLLYWOOD NEWS



A FOOL FOR LOVE FILMS AND DEFINITIVE FILM PRODUCTION A FILM BY DANIELLE KUMMER AND LUCY HARVEY "ALIEN ON STAGE"
PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY DANIELLE KUMMER AND LUCY HARVEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ADAM F. GOLDBERG CONSULTING PRODUCER RANDALL LOBB
FILMED BY DANIELLE KUMMER EDITED BY DANIELLE KUMMER AND EMILY BADESCU COMPOSER ALEX SRESHA
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WHY DO PANTOMIME WHEN YOU CAN DO ALIEN?

A very amateur dramatics group led by Dorset Bus Drivers, spent a year creating a serious stage adaptation of the sci-fi, horror film, Alien.

Their village-hall show is a crushing flop; it seems their hard work was for nothing but fate gives them a second chance to perform their homemade homage in a London West End theatre, for one night only!

With wobbly sets, awkward acting and special effects requiring 'more luck than judgement.' Will it be alright on the night?



Paranoid Dramatics Amateur Group
First Production of Alien, Wimborne, Dorset

FILM INFORMATION

Title: Alien On Stage

Format: Feature Documentary

Country of Production: United Kingdom

Running Time: 1 hour 23 minutes

Year of Completion: 2021

FILM FESTIVAL SCREENINGS & AWARDS

Frightfest, UK 2020 - Special Preview

SXSW, USA 2021 - Premiere

IMAGINE, Netherlands 2021 - *WINNER - Silver Scream Audience Award*

Calgary Underground FF, Canada 2021 - *WINNER - Jury Prize, Best Documentary Feature*

BIFFF, Belgium 2021

Northwest Fest, Alberta, Canada 2021

DeadCentre, Oklahoma, USA 2021

Beat Documentary Festival, Moscow 2021

San Francisco Documentary Festival, USA 2021

Nantucket Film Festival, USA 2021

Revelation Perth Film Festival, Australia 2021

Fantasia, Canada 2021

Ravenheart, Norway 2021

Chattanooga Film Festival, Tennessee USA 2021

Future Gate, Czech Republic, 2021

Sitges, Spain 2021

Sydney Underground Film Festival, Australia 2021

Melbourne Documentary Festival, Australia 2021

SLASH Fantastic Film, Austria 2021

LINKS

Trailer

Website

Full res images & more info

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

Instagram

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Carolyn, Bus Driver - Plays Lambert

SYNOPSIS

This is a documentary about a unique crew of Dorset Bus Drivers whose amateur dramatics group decide to ditch doing another pantomime and try something different.

Having never done anything like it before, they spent a year creating a serious adaptation of the sci-fi, horror film, *Alien*; finding ingenious solutions to re-create this Hollywood cult classic for the stage.

The show is a crushing flop but fate gives them a second chance to find their audience. Whilst still adjusting to the idea that their serious show is actually a comedy, the group find out they're suddenly being whisked from their village hall to a London West End theatre to perform this accidental masterpiece for one night only!

This bus driving crew are our space heroes. Their bus station is our space station. Dorset is outer-space and where is the Alien? It's behind you!

Danielle Kummer



Producer Director Editor

Danielle Kummer is a Director, Producer and Editor from London, she studied film and media at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. This is her first feature documentary.

Lucy Harvey



Producer Director

Lucy Harvey spent 17 years working as a stylist in London and as lecturer in Art Design and Visual Culture at Nottingham School of Art and Bucks New University. This is her first feature documentary.

FILMMAKERS STATEMENT

We are Lucy and Danielle, co-creators of this documentary and hard-core fans of Alien On Stage. We are two of the first few people to ever see this rare gem. If it wasn't for our excitement, we might have been the only people to see it, this documentary wouldn't exist and only a handful of people would have known this ever happened!

Fate and curiosity took us from London to their small show at the Allendale Centre in Wimborne, Dorset. We were so convinced by the genius of what we saw, we knew that everyone should see it. Somehow our enthusiasm miraculously saved this amateur show from the unknown obscurity of a Dorset village hall and landed it in the heart of London's famous theatre district.

Their fearlessness and creativity inspired us to make this documentary. Like them we had never attempted to do something on this scale before and like them we just said yes! Let's do it! We borrowed all the equipment and started filming.

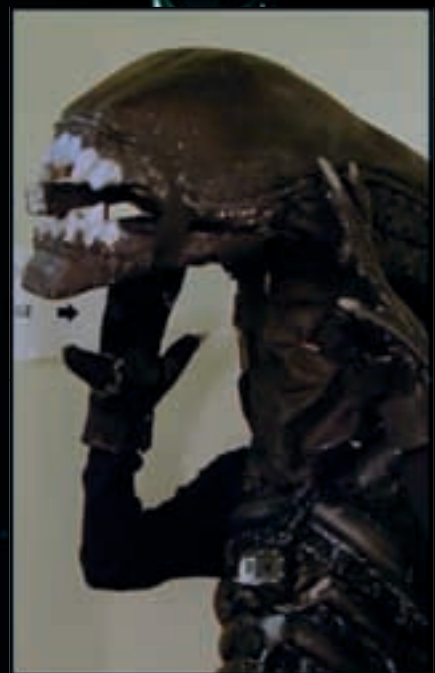
We wanted to know everything about this group who all said yes to Alien and document their experience of being launched into the limelight. We capture the dedication of this beautifully eccentric, tenacious community, driven by humour and passion.

The story centres around a family spanning three generations, seriously obsessed with the film Alien. They convinced their amateur dramatic group, of co-workers and friends mainly composed of employees from the Wilts and Dorset Bus Company, to ditch doing another pantomime like Sleeping Beauty or Robin Hood and try something new.

Collectively they agreed to do whatever it took to faithfully recreate the greatest Hollywood, sci-fi, horror in space! We had the privilege of entering their homes and workplace and seeing how each of their lives are consumed by achieving this incredible feat.

We delight in exploring the playful parallels and juxtapositions of a Dorset bus station with the Nostromo spaceship and the many humorous contrasts of handmade and Hollywood, totally amateur and actually brilliant, disbelief and determination, how they really feel about their seriously intended re-creation being received as comedy.

We capture the general bemusement over the twist of fate that brings this truly amateur production to the big stage, the build-up to the West End show and what happens once they finally get the opportunity to perform in front of a large expectant audience!



PRESS QUOTES

Revealing amazing feats of technical ingenuity... 'Alien on Stage' captures lighting in a bottle. Like a real-life 'Waiting for Guffman' with a fairytale ending...it's one of the funniest documentaries in years.

INDIEWIRE



Alien On Stage is impossible not to fall in love with, it is like The Full Monty with a papier-mâché xenomorph and absolutely full to (chest) bursting with magic and joy.

LIVE FOR FILM



An uplifting documentary that will leave you grinning from ear to ear... A glorious beacon of light in the current darkness of the world.

THE HOLLYWOOD NEWS



Alien On Stage is an exuberant celebration for underdogs everywhere... there's something undeniably euphoric about witnessing it come together.

HORROR CULT FILMS



Structurally, Alien On Stage is paced to perfection...it is among the most invigorating documentaries of the year.

THE PEOPLE'S MOVIES



ALIEN ON STAGE

CHARACTER PROFILES



The central relationships of the film are the Mitchell/Hayward family, Lydia, mum who plays Ripley, stepdad Dave the show Director and son Luc, scriptwriter. They're the linchpin of the whole operation and it's reason for being. They have a historical and personal relationship with the film Alien which is revealed early on in the documentary.

In the rest of the group we see a wide range of friendships, family and romantic relationships, centred around the Wilts and Dorset Bus Company, in Dorset, England where some of them work as bus drivers and supervisors.

Within the documentary we see a contrast with the personalities of the youngsters and their professionalism, with the silliness and generally relaxed attitude and of the older generation of bus drivers.

The older group love to laugh, drink, smoke, tell smutty jokes and not take themselves too seriously. The younger ones are more self conscious and serious about what they're doing but still join in with the humour.

They always show each other support, love and affection and treat each other with maximum respect. We witness very little bitchiness or back biting, even when they're most stressed. The story celebrates this and demonstrates what a fine example they are of a community that just gets on with it.

Dave, Show Director

Bus Driver

Lydia's partner, Luc's stepdad, Karl's Dad



Dave works as Day shift manager at the Wilts & Dorset bus company. Their flat is covered in clues as to how much they love Alien.

Dave is the glue that holds everything together. He does everything. Everyone relies on him. This wears him down but he braves it out. He rarely shows emotion but when he does it's warm and genuine and vulnerable.

We notice his military training means he is exceptional at organising. His military training comes through in his directing style too, which is very funny. Although he gets frustrated and disappointed with the stage actors, we see time and time again how kind, loving, inclusive, patient and enthusiastic he is.

Lydia, Plays Ripley

Former Bus Driver

Dave's Partner, Luc's Mum



Lydia is a true Alien fan, it's her favorite film, she let her son, scriptwriter Luc watch it at 9 years-old. She's modest, but is clearly enjoying every minute of this.

Dave the director is her partner; she takes direction from him well. They're the handsome, capable, power couple of the group. Her dad built the set. She is very invested and a central character in the documentary.

Pete, Props & Special Effects

A Night shift

bus station supervisor

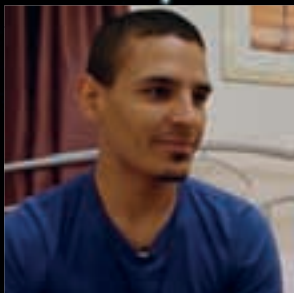


A night shift worker who has given everything he's got to learn how to recreate all the Alien life forms and how to bring them to life on stage. He's done his research and he respects the original film.

He's a problem solver, some of his solutions are genius and hilarious. Full of heart, enthusiasm and humility, overwhelmed with disbelief but very excited about going to London. He's very prepared and totally reliable. He's an excited boy at heart and you really see this at the after show party.

Luc, Scriptwriter

Lydia's Son

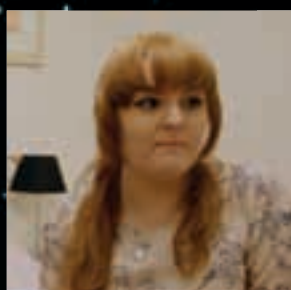


Luc is reserved and thoughtful. He has a genuine passion for film and script writing. He is totally supported 100% by his Mum Lydia and Stepdad Dave.

He never intended for his efforts to become a comedy. He deals with this gracefully but it's not what he envisioned. His earnest approach contrasts with the horseplay of the rest of the group.

Amy, Costumes

Luc's Girlfriend

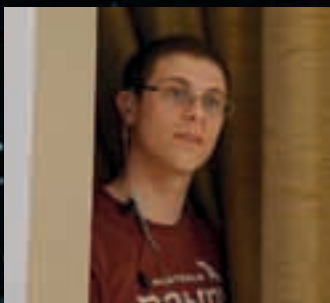


Amy has gone to great lengths to support Luc and get the costumes exactly right. It's this attention to detail that adds to the brilliance of the show.

She takes this role seriously and does a great job.

Karl, Stage Manager

Dave's Son, Bus Driver

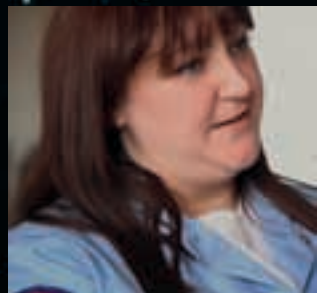


Luc, Scriptwriter
Lydia's Son

Karl is young but behaves like he's a man in the know. He jokes about being the boss and having authority but is actually very sweet and respectful of his Dad.

He is very reliable and capable; he loves law and order. He likes to sit back from the madness, ready on hand to fix any problem.

Jacqui, Plays Ash



She is actually very confident on stage, she has loved doing drama all her life. She has stories of failed attempts trying to make it. Going to the West End is a dream come true.

It's tied up with strong emotions relating to her past and being told she'll never be good at anything at school. She loves being part of the community but there is a knowing, a longing and a fear about her rightful place on the stage.

John, Plays Brett

Bus Driver



John's almost inaudible delivery when he speaks is very funny. He is terrible at acting especially dying which is hilarious.

He is very likeable and he is totally in love with Carolyn. His delivery is charming.

Carolyn, Plays Lambert

Bus Driver



Funny as f**k and couldn't give a f**k, loves to drink and can't stop laughing.

Carolyn is very sweet natured but always a bit cold to her boyfriend John's romantic advances, which is very entertaining. The most glamorous bus driver you will ever meet.

Mike, Plays Parker

Bus Driver



Old school slapstick comedian, you will never hear him say or do anything seriously. He is the only one who attempts an American accent during the show.

He's got a magical stage presence; he cannot help but do little comedic movements/gestures during the play, which gets huge laughs. He is never out of 'panto mode'.

Jason, Plays Captain Dallas

Bus Driver



Jason is totally over committed with the rest of his life. Which means he has a real problem remembering his lines, causing director Dave no end of stress. The casting choice of Jason for Dallas seems totally wrong for the part of the dynamic hero, as his delivery is always so weak and flat, but somehow this makes it all the more perfect.

When we reach the Leicester Square Theatre we see Jason come into his own when the audience react to his version of Captain Dallas.

Sue, Ash's Stunt Double

Bus Driver



Dry humored tomboy, seems totally indifferent and un-phased by everything. She was picked as a stunt double because she is so short.

She seems sweet and meek but she's a total badass (with a filthy mind) who rides a Harley motorbike. "I don't do much, I just get my head knocked off"

Scott, Plays Kane and Xenomorph

Gen's Brother



Scott is a budding actor and he knows he is good. He's poetic and sensitive. He has quirks and mannerisms that show he is more focused than the others, setting him apart.

It's fun to draw parallels with him and John Hurt (original Kane) to show Scott as a serious Actor. He brings a camp, dramatic flair to the Xenomorph, which is brilliant.

Gen, Stage Lighting

Scott's Sister



Gen is completely unphased by the situation, until she feels the pressure on the big day.

She is very capable and super smart. She likes to think of herself as a professional. Her ability to adapt to using the lighting desk at the Leicester Square Theatre is very impressive.

Penny, Voice of Mother
Friend of Neil



Penny is diamond cameo character full of kindness and open heartedness, lots of gentle humor with her, she is genuinely funny without trying to be.

It's her delivery.

Neil, Show Producer
Bus Driver



Although he rarely has anything useful to say Neil is well loved and respected in group. Despite not being a very productive Producer, Dave is left to do most of the show production. Dave is always at the bar and skillfully shirking all responsibilities.

Neil's theatre production group Blur Moon, staged the Robin Hood Pantomime we see clips of in the film.

Ray, Set Builder
Lydia's Dad, Luc's Grandad



Ray is quiet, retiring and retired. It's his first time doing such a thing. The humor is he knows very little about the film Alien but he makes everything with care and love.

His solutions are genius. He has worked very hard on this but prefers to stay in the background.

