

CloWn TeARs ProDUcTIoNs
pReSEntS

DEN

Life Lines:

Greg Arce (Producer/Writer/Den) When not working on cold fusion experiments that deal with Velveeta cheese and Zima, Greg has always been associated with the entertainment world. He started his young life as a professional magician then went on to become an in-house writer/producer/director at Florida International University. While there he began to write plays and found he had a “knack” for them.

His exploits into theatre, stand-up comedy, magic, and video, have taking him around the country, including an off-Broadway play and several productions of his own words. His writings have been compared this way: “It’s like Stephen King meets Woody Allen at a Neil Simon barbecue.”

DEN was a thought that finally crawled out of his brain... eating its way through, no less. When he was told his idea was “too controversial” by the Hollywood crowd, he decided to ride the new wave of digital technology by “hanging ten” and producing the movie on his own terms... his own terms usually are found in Nostradamus’ predictions, but that’s another story.

Stephanie Rettig (Lolita) I always knew that being in the movies was what I wanted to do... to make people feel happiness, or sadness, or to hate the character I was playing. Or to have them laugh at me, or leave the theater in tears because my character opened up a part of them that not everyone in their world may get to see.

In 1996, I decided to give up the only life I knew and move to California to pursue the only life I ever wanted. I worked 3 jobs, and sold everything I had to move here... alone. I started doing background work on movies and television, and still I continue to study as I go to auditions to do the best I can to perfect my acting skills.

Lee Schall (Steven) Having been born and raised in New York city, Lee Schall has been on a constant search in Los Angeles for a truly great slice of pizza.

In addition to this exhausting quest, Lee has had lead and supporting roles, in over 10 independent films and pilots during the past 2 years. Lee has also appeared in several national commercials. You would think with all these credits a good slice would finally make an appearance.

Sabrina O'Neill (Milton) She was born and raised in scenic Staten Island, NY... known for the largest garbage dump on the planet. After escaping from there in '96, with her husband Michael, she hightailed it to San Francisco, where she discovered the art of improvisation (thanks to her husband who was absolutely tired of being her only audience).

Following several performances where she made rooms full of people laugh, she opted for acting classes. It was then that her husband pushed her out of the nest and she flew to Hollywood on a one-way ticket. In L.A., she discovered that things are not what they seem, but she was determined and she persisted anyway. After making several PSAs and a slew of short and non-paying films, she landed the plum role of Milton – a wannabe nun who is really a lesbian.

Sabrina will be moving on from L.A. this month as she and her adoring, wonderful husband are relocating to beautiful, sunny London, England for a couple of years. We'll see what's next for this beautiful, rising star.

Dana J. Ryan (Cassandra) *I was very excited to play Cassandra in this film. The role has everything – it's chock full of life and fire as well as physical challenges!*

Dana completed work on several other indie films this last season; one of which also premieres this June. Plus she has skipped into a few TV spots this spring; "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and "To Tell The Truth" where her performance fooled several judges and locked the audience into 3 re-votes.

Theater kept her going whenever she wasn't here in L.A. where she was nominated for an award for her performance as yet another "Cassie" in Neil Simon's comedy "Rumors".

Right now I'm putting a project together entitled 'Dreamy' which is a comedy short. I've been really lucky to have such a positive response around me with people volunteering to help in key positions. Though I'm still in need of others. What will I do with 3 DPs? Then again, in this business, I may end up needing them all.

Tomer Almagor & Rom Lipschitz (Editors) While in New York in '97, Rom & Tomer formed the company *den of aXis*, which is dedicated to expanding boundaries, captivating story telling and visual innovation.

At first, we setup a FCP based editing suite to cut our own short films. Since winning a festival prize for best editing on "Aleta's Masquerade", we have worked as a team on numerous projects. Last year we relocated to Los Angeles, and quickly started working on various films, including the DV feature "DEN". We hope to keep on working with the same fast pace and participating in more intriguing projects in the future.

Jacky Hay (Director of Photography) He is a one-man dolly, steadicam, and crane. Every picture that comes out of his lens is a thing of beauty.

He has worked for the Miami Film Festival, shot a digital trailer & short film, photographed in Paris, studied with Helmut Newton... and soon will be in Prague for a Durban Clothing commercial. His pictures and works of art are collected worldwide. Jacky also directed and edited a documentary called *But a good cigar is a smoke*.

In his words: *My vision is my art. My art is your vision. Enjoy.*

PlaYerS

GrEg ArcE --- deN
StePhANiE RETtiG --- LoLiTA
LeE ScHaLL --- SteVEN
DaNA j RYAn --- CassAnDra
SabriNa o'NeiLL --- MILton
GoD --- HimSeLF
DoVe 2 --- DovE 8
DOVe 1 --- DOvE 5
oNe potaTo, 2 PoTato --- 3 poTAto, four

WorkErS

ExecuTIvE ProDUCeR --- GreG ARce
AssIsTAnT to prODucEr --- BurT U BanEL
SpECiaL ASSisTaNt --- bABY LOren WhO
VerY SpECial aSSisTAnt --- CriS VIDal
WriTEr --- gReG ARce
EraSer --- PiNk & whItE
DirEctOR OF PhotoGRaphy --- JaCky Hay
CaMEra ASSisTaNt --- RaNDy BookMAN
2ND UnIt CaMEra --- STEpheN WickLine
2ND unIt's pAntS --- ShOrt tHen LonG
2Nd UNit AsSisTAnT --- daVe coBERT
2 uNits oF Ab+ --- StAt
gAffeR --- StEpHen wICkLINE
KeY GriP --- DaVE CobERT
keY wArper --- RiChard MaRks
EleCtRiCian --- dAVe CoBert
eLEctRiCiTy --- bEn FraNkLin

BooM OpeRatoR --- CRis VidAL
sMooTH oPeRator --- dAVE cOBert
LoNg DisTaNce OperAator --- hOID PleaseE
LocaTiOn ManaGEr --- ValerIe TraMmeLL
maNgeR loCaTion --- beThLeHem
MagIK & FiRe aSSistanT --- raNdy BookmAn
HaIR/MakEup --- SadIe SAchiKo SuDo
RiNse & rEpEat --- gOOD iDeA
PrOPmaSTER --- crIs VidAl
RinGmAsTer --- CIYDe BeAtTy
AssisTaNt pRopmAsTer --- RandY BoOkman
GuN SpECiaLIst --- JaMIe TrammEll
EaR,NoSE & Throat specialist--- Dr. T
bLood EfFecTs --- saDiE sAchikO SudO
PLAsma effEcTs --- Most PeOpLE
pRoDucTiOn ASSistANT --- BeRnie hiLLdAle
besT Shatner --- RANdy booKMan
WorST ShATnEr --- LeE SChaLL
CrUCifIX Knives --- FaNtASio
cRucIfIx fOrKs --- To tHe Left
crUcIfIX SpoOns --- wHeN In loVe
foUNd CDs --- CoNtAcT jACkY
DoVE WraNGleR --- OliVeR CoRdoRnlu
2 bY 2 wRangLer --- NoAh
wEnDy --- GimmEe D bAt
BeST giRl --- jOrDaN tRaMMell
2nd bEsT GIrl --- RandY boOkMan
CaTERer --- VaLERiE TraMmELL
AsSiStaNt CaTeReR --- CaTHy SmItH
ReaSoN 4 Caterer --- LEe schALL
PUMpKiN ple --- mY faVoRite

Pi --- 3.14 oR ²²/7
ComPuTeR SpeCiAlIsT --- Jamle TRammell
cOMpuTeR iLLitErate --- mE
EditOrs --- TOmeR AlmagOr
RoM LipSchitz
DaT SoUNd --- Not gOOD
dIS sOUNd --- mUch bEtTeR
SoUNd EngInEeR --- rON AdLeR
CoLOR coRrection --- KapPa stUdios

sPeCial ThAnkS
PaBlo pAgAn
SaSha LeE
CiNemA MaKeUp sChooL
THE WooD nYmpHs
faNtAsIo & MoniCa
tHE wEstCoTT faMily
RiChArd PAboN
TheraLD ToDD
tO aLL tHat diDn'T bElieVe
F.I.u. ThEAtre dePaRTmEnt
To the 1ST mAgICian I sAw At a PaRty
gArBAge BaGS
The NeW yORk aRcEs
thE tRaMmELL fAmily
WEndY "YoU'Ve mAde me voMit" wilkins
CoTTonwoOd pOliCe
ThE bAT
cRiS ViDaL's dRiViNg iNstRucTOR
THE dArK LoRd

**“LeT’s GO AWAY Somewhere”
Wayne Bolton**

No animals were mistreated... the same cannot be said for the cast and crew... but some were used in various dishes served at lunch... animals, not cast or crew... although?

“Den” Review

By Gene Mazza II

Thanks to the illustrious Ms Eve Black, I was afforded the opportunity to view Greg Arce’s recent independent effort, “Den”. After telling me of controversy surrounding the film and opposition from a drooling, overzealous, religious-right wing group, Eve swore up & down that this film was straight up my alley & as usual, she was right. Now, where to begin?

I know Eve conducted an extensive double interview with writer/director/star Greg Arce & female lead Dana Ryan that will no doubt appear in these pages in which a lot of behind-the-scenes ground was covered & I’d like to avoid being repetitive & don’t want to give any major plot twists away (the film has quite a few of them). I refuse to blow any surprises for anyone, so please bear with me as I try to make some points using broad strokes. Honestly, I’m doing this for your benefit.

The film’s premise is a refreshing break from standard slasher/zombie/demon yarns, but if I had to categorize it, I’d say it’s a psychological thriller, and a rather depraved one at that. It’s not very gory at all, no splattering geysers of blood or flying guts aplenty, but it does have its graphic moments, which, despite the restrained grue, are incredibly brutal & effective. Psychological violence & mental anguish are Den’s prime attributes. The psycho-thriller schtick might not be a boldly original one, but there are too many films that tried to use it & fell flat on their faces. Happily, “Den” succeeds where others have failed.

Arce deftly twists his themes to maintain a unique, fresh atmosphere, and though some of the twists & revelations are clearly telegraphed, it’s completely forgivable courtesy of smart dialogue & some stellar performances, most notable being Miss Ryan’s cynical, no-use-for-bullshit female lead, Cassandra. The woman is quick-witted, speaks with a barbed tongue, is full of attitude & I wish I could find myself woman just like her. She simply rocks & sincerely belongs in the big league. She emotes more feeling in one line than Neve Campbell did throughout the entire Scream epidemic. The cast as a whole turned in fine performances, despite occasional lapses into character clichés, which can also be forgiven because there’s a realism to each individual, no matter how stereotypical they may initially seem. Transcending that which has destroyed lesser films is one of Den’s greatest achievements. It’s also intelligent, suspenseful, violent & mean-hearted, so go check this intelligently malevolent bauble of a flick out.

SCREENING HISTORY:

June 15, 2001 – DEN screens at the Culver City Studios in their INCE Theater. The crowd loves it and we receive the first of many praises for DEN's overall film look... this praise comes from the professional staff at the theater.

July 12, 2001 – DEN plays at the LAEMMLE SUNSET 5, in the heart of Hollywood. We get our first brush with controversy when, during the Q & A, one man has an angry debate that almost causes a fistfight... all because of the film's content.

September 9, 2001 – DEN plays at the NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL INDEPENDENT FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL... at the Sutton Theater. Groups of protestors show up to try to stop the film from being screened. Some shouting matches cause the police to be sent out.

September 14, 2001 – DEN screens at the TEMECULA VALLEY INTERNATIONAL FILM & MUSIC FESTIVAL. Once again we are praised for DEN's film quality... even though it is still in the digital stage. We develop a small fan base.

November 30, 2001 – Due to its success in New York, DEN is invited to play at the Hollywood venue of the NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL INDEPENDENT FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL. We play to a sold out crowd as protestors march on Hollywood Boulevard to stop our screening. After the screening, one filmmaker says, "Your film just kicked me in the balls! You got the sickest, most demented film in the festival!" We feel that's a compliment.

February 20, 2002 – DEN is one of only seven films featured by IFP/WEST at the AMERICAN FILM MARKET. We develop more of a fan base due to DEN's content, controversial history, and its superior technical quality.

OSCAR WEEKEND, 2002 – DEN is the only independent film featured on CNN. Clips were shown on the show NEXT that talks about modern technology and the entertainment world.

May 10, 2002 – DEN screens at the HOLLYWOOD UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL. It was a packed house, but several viewers left to protest the festival staff for allowing such a sick movie to play. Meanwhile, a group of protestors showed outside the complex to try and prevent people from going in to view DEN. A few shouting matches started, but police were not needed. DEN wins festival for BEST DRAMATIC FEATURE.

July 11-21, 2002 – DEN screens at the MELBOURNE UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL in Australia. Our lead actress, DANA J RYAN, wins for BEST ACTRESS for her role of CASSANDRA in DEN.

October 5, 2002 – DEN plays at the VANCOUVER ISLAND FESTIVAL.

October 26, 2002 – DEN plays at the HAUNTED NEWPORT FESTIVAL and receives the following reviews: "Amazing!" "A very nasty piece that deals with a wide array of subjects with a wide degree of success."

October 26, 2002 – DEN plays at the NEW YORK CITY HORROR FILM FESTIVAL to a packed crowd that includes Wes Craven. The audience raves over the film and, once again, DANA J RYAN wins for BEST ACTOR at the festival.

October 27, 2002 – DEN screens at the SAN FRANCISCO UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL. This time hate email is sent out to the film producer, festival producer and most of the media. DEN has a developed a cult following within the festival circuit. DEN wins BEST FEATURE for the festival.

The month of February, in 2003, brought us several reviews. DEN was reviewed in VideoScope Magazine where they said of it: "In a more earnestly disturbing vein, Greg Arce's DEN mixes gleeful sadism with a thought-provoking examination of human nature at its basest..."

Then in the same month, Film Festival Today, which was given out to thousands of attendees at Sundance, said, "DEN was a showcase of the depraved..."

Mid-February found us in The Hacker's Source, an underground magazine that deals in the horror, sci-fi and fantasy genre, in which we were given a five-page interview and an extensive review. In the review, it was said, "DEN is also intelligent, suspenseful, violent & mean-spirited, so go check this intelligently malevolent bauble of a flick out."

Greg Arce was the sole guest of B+ Movies, an independent radio show on the internet that is featured on the website: www.AdrenalineRadio.com.

A new review of DEN can be seen at <http://www.pulpmovies.com/d/den.php>

On April 21, 2003, DEN played again at the new Hollywood Underground Film Festival. We were grandfathered in due to the response it got in their last festival.

On August 1, 2003, another interview with Greg Arce about DEN came out at www.rockhardplace.com. It can be accessed here: www.rockhardplace.com/main.htm

The September issue of FEMME FATALE magazine carried an article on Dana Ryan about her acting career and her role in DEN.

Due to that article, Dana J. Ryan & Greg Arce were asked to discuss DEN at FEMME FATALE's recent mini-convention in Burbank.

And, as of the end of the summer of 2004, we have a couple of lawyers looking at the film SAW, which has many similarities to DEN and there's a possibility that the makers of SAW attended a viewing of DEN in Melbourne.