

HWIC FILMWORKS PRESENTS A COMMAND PICTURES PRODUCTION



THE QUIET ARRANGEMENT



OFFICIAL
SELECTION

GLOBAL
CINEMA FESTIVAL
INDORE
2009



WINNER
BEST FEATURE

FILMFEST 2380
AKRON, OHIO
2010



OFFICIAL
SELECTION

OAKLAND
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
2009



HWIC FILMWORKS PRESENTS A COMMAND PICTURES PRODUCTION

A DAVID C. SNYDER MOTION PICTURE

THE QUIET ARRANGEMENT

STARRING KYLE JASON CHRISTINA SIMKOVICH ROB STONE

JULIAN HICKS KEVIN M. HAYES AND CHUCK D

MUSIC BY CHRIS LASH & MICHAEL THOMAS AND ARMAND ARMANDOLLAR

EDITED BY STU BEETLE PHOTOGRAPHED BY CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JOHN DELSERONE

ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS MAURA DEMENO AND JOSEPH L. HOWZE

PRODUCED BY DAVID C. SNYDER AND DAVON MAGWOOD

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY DAVID C. SNYDER

The Quiet Arrangement

Prominent lawyer Walter Briggs comes home to a ringing telephone. He is told by a distorted voice on the other end of the line that his wife has been kidnapped. The only way that he can get her back is to pay a ransom of money that no one else is supposed to know about...

Mr. Parks is a professional criminal who is all about the business. He is thorough and loyal and wants to keep everything as simple as possible. However, he also has some issues in his private life that threaten to derail everything that he is working on...

Detective Jack Simons has been undercover for a long time. He needs just one more bust before he can resurface and take back his life. But, just as he and his partner set everything up for a sting operation, everything goes wrong. The two cops find themselves on the short end of an escalating situation that they have no comprehension of. And then things get interesting...

Rick Fields does odd jobs for questionable people. He is defined by a terrible incident in his past that weighs on him and everything that he does. His latest gig finds him watching over the kidnapped wife of a prominent lawyer. It was supposed to be one last job so that he could get away and start his life over, but things never go according to plan...

A dark independent thriller that follows the exploits of criminals of varying stripes who are involved in a growing web of deceit and double-crosses, *The Quiet Arrangement*'s dominant visual tone, a kind of grey wash, is not only physically ominous, but symbolically so, mirroring the foggy morality of its characters' world. Ethical ambiguity runs rampant throughout the piece, and viewers are left to their own devices when sorting-out the "bad" guys from the "good".

HWIC Filmworks is proud to announce the company's first feature-length motion picture, *The Quiet Arrangement*, which had its premier screening at The South Side Works Cinema in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, May 13, 2009. A second successful screening was held at The Cedar Lee Theatre in Cleveland Heights, Ohio on July 22, 2009.

The Quiet Arrangement was filmed entirely in Pittsburgh and surrounding areas (including Youngstown, Cleveland, and Canton, Ohio).

Based in Cleveland, Ohio, HWIC Filmworks was created by cousins John Delserone and David C. Snyder to produce low budget, independent genre films without sacrificing quality. HWIC Filmworks looks to bring attention to talent based in the regions between Cleveland and Pittsburgh, providing creative opportunities in the motion picture industry.

Written and directed by award winning short filmmaker and music video director David C. Snyder, *The Quiet Arrangement* features an impressive cast of up and coming talent including singer/actor Kyle Jason (*City Teacher*, *Dirty Shield*), Rob Stone (*End Game*), Kevin M. Hayes, Christina Simkovich, Julian Hicks, and Joseph D. Lane. The film also features a notable guest appearance by legendary Hiphop icon **Chuck D of Public Enemy**.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

With *The Quiet Arrangement*, I attempted to explore the motivations of desperate people in terrible situations. Granted, this is all done under the guise of a crime genre picture. But I was very deliberate in trying to keep the characters from becoming the caricatures that usually inhabit these types of films.

Yes, the film has some of the conventions that the film noir label carries with it: a bag of money in a locker, a precarious rendezvous in a remote location, dangerous men with pistols in their coats, and a central antagonist that sets everything in motion. It also features characters whose initial motives are not immediately clear. With the lone exception of Detective Carl Masterson, whose inexperience and naivety put him in the worst possible position, there is no clear cut "hero" in this film. Everyone that inhabits this world has an issue, a checkered past, and a host of bad decisions. No one is really innocent; they are all guilty of something.

But that's not to say that we cannot empathize with any of these characters. I sincerely hope that you can be drawn into their messed up world and voyage through it, hoping to come out unscathed on the other side. This, of course, will probably not happen, as it is a noir piece and therefore, someone will have to perish. But the journey is everything, is it not?

The Quiet Arrangement

Running Time: 1 hour 38 minutes

Not Rated (R in Nature)

Color

1.85:1

English

Shot with the Panasonic AG-DVX100A, 24 frame Progressive

Edited with Sony Vegas

Contact

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www.quietarrangement.com



DAVID C. SNYDER
Writer, Producer, Director

Youngstown, Ohio born **David C. Snyder** started using film and video cameras at ten years of age. After years of making short films with his brothers and school friends, David began to direct low-budget music videos for independent artists. The video work that he did for the SLAMjamz Records group **THE IMPOSSEBULLS** (which he co-founded and produced) brought him to the attention of legendary Hiphop icon Chuck D who appointed David the head of SLAMjamz burgeoning video department.

From 2004-2008, David directed over 100 music videos and short documentaries for the SLAMjamz label, including videos and concert films for Public Enemy. He was given an Honorable Mention in the category of BEST DIRECTING for his short film *Still* at the 2008 48 Hour Film Project in Pittsburgh. *The Quiet Arrangement* is his debut feature film.



JOHN DELSERONE
Executive Producer, Actor- Mr. Parks

The cousin of director David C. Snyder, **John Delserone** had been involved in some of the short films that the Snyder Brothers had been creating in their youth. John took a cue from this and attended film school in Pittsburgh, PA before deciding to major in communications at Cleveland State University. After a brief stint in the real estate market, John started HWIC Filmworks with David in attempt to bring their own revolutionary thinking to the world of independent cinema.

After another actor unexpectedly dropped out, John reluctantly took on the part of Mr. Parks in *The Quiet Arrangement*. It proved fortuitous for the production as John brought a number of key elements to his character and helped to create one of the film's most notorious and memorable roles.



DAVON MAGWOOD
Producer, Casting Director

Davon Magwood is a film producer, actor, writer, and stand up comedian. Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Davon started his career in entertainment as a show promoter. His love for film led him to producing and he has been behind a number of short films made in the Pittsburgh area. He has won contests with his stand up comedy and uses his talents as ways to earn money to help fund future film projects.

The Quiet Arrangement is his first feature film as a producer.



KYLE JASON
Actor- Rick Fields

Kyle Jason was born and raised in Roosevelt, NY. An accomplished vocalist and live performer, Kyle released his debut CD *Generations* to critical acclaim in 1997 on the Slam Jamz/ Columbia imprint. He followed that album with *Revolution of the Cool* in 2005, which spawned the video "Why Am I So Funky?", directed by David C. Snyder. That video was featured on BET-J's Countdown show for over a year.

Kyle began acting professionally in films for director **Juney Smith** in 2002's *Snitch in New York*. Roles in *Lost Money*, *Bloom*, *Underground PD*, and *City Teacher* followed. After working together on eight music videos, David C. Snyder wrote the part of Rick Fields in *The Quiet Arrangement* specifically for Kyle as a vehicle to showcase his talent.



CHRISTINA SIMKOVICH

Actor- Sharon Briggs

Christina Simkovich majored in dance and theatre at CAPA (The Creative and Performing Arts High School) in Pittsburgh, PA and The Academy for Arts, Science, and Technology in Conway, SC. She was an extra in the film *Sorority Row* where she met producer Davon Magwood who had her audition for the role of Sharon Briggs in *The Quiet Arrangement*. She is also featured in *Last Kiss*, a short film by **Jordan Weeks**.



ROB STONE

Actor- Detective Jack Simons

Rob Stone is an independent film actor from Pittsburgh, PA. His first role was that of a zombie on a comedy web series, the only one of which was not killed off. He was featured in the short film *Kill Camp* and first worked for director David C. Snyder in the short film *Still*. Before he began work on *The Quiet Arrangement*, he played a detective in the feature film *End Game*, which also stars WWE wrestler **Kurt Angle**.

Rob is most often playing dramatic/ serious roles and will hopefully have more diverse roles of which to write a bio.



KEVIN M. HAYES

Actor- Walter Briggs

Kevin M. Hayes has been performing on stage and acting since his college years. At the suggestion of his sister, he listed with the Pittsburgh Talent Group and has done commercials for companies such as Comcast and Andrews Cycles. His most recent work has included the independent films *Revenge Sweet Revenge* by director **JP Ashe** from JPbond Productions, *Experiment 6* by director **Michael Lies** from Alcyone Pictures, and *Still*, for which he first worked with director David C. Snyder.

The Quiet Arrangement marks the next step in Kevin's career.



CHUCK D

Actor- Captain Ambergrombie

As the founder of **Public Enemy**, **Chuck D** is one of the most colossal figures in the history of Hip hop, not to mention its most respected intellectual. He redefined Hip hop as music with a message, and his strident radicalism ushered in an era when rap was closely scrutinized for its content. Public Enemy's sophomore album, *It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back*, is widely regarded as the greatest Hip hop album of all time and, more recently, their song "Fight the Power" from the soundtrack of Spike Lee's legendary film *Do the Right Thing*, was voted #1 on VH1's list of Greatest Hip hop Songs of All Time.

As well as recording and touring with Public Enemy, Chuck is the host of his own show on **Air America** radio and frequently lectures on the college circuit. He has appeared in such films as *Burn Hollywood Burn: An Alan Smithee Film*, *Wake Up, Ron Burgundy: The Lost Movie* with Will Ferrell, and on the television show *News Radio*.

Chuck completed his role as Captain Ambergrombie in *The Quiet Arrangement* in just under two hours.

Reel Cleveland: Fargo Plus Memento?

by Jeff Niesel

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/reel-cleveland-fargo-plus-memento/Content?oid=1600352>

Having spent the past five years working for SLAMjamz, Chuck D.'s record label/production company, Youngstown-born filmmaker David C. Snyder has made plenty of short films and music videos. Now the Pittsburgh-based director has made his first feature-length film. He wrote a screenplay that, much like *Fargo*, involved a kidnapping and ransom, but he gave it a twist. The narrative is told out of sequence, so you have to piece together what happened and when.

"I thought if I tell this story from beginning to end, it's not that interesting to me," says Snyder, who shot the resulting film, *The Quiet Arrangement*, in Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Youngstown. "I thought I could do it in sections, so that you see the same events from different people's perspectives over a certain period of time and reveal information gradually."

There are so many crossings and double-crossings in the film, you almost need an outline just to keep things straight. But the movie's narrative is intriguing, and it's so meticulously made it hardly looks like an independent production.

The film shows at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, July 22, at the Cedar Lee Theatre (2163 Lee Rd., 216.321.5411, clevelandcinemas.com). Snyder, along with cast and crew members, will be on hand to introduce it and answer questions afterward.

Sonic Cinema Film Reviews: The Quiet Arrangement (2009) A-

by Brian Skutle

http://www.sonic-cinema.com/film_reviews_individual/639/the-quiet-arrangement

The setup is simple- the wife of prominent lawyer Walter Briggs (Kevin M. Hayes) is kidnapped. They want a million dollars, or she's gonna die. Where have we seen this (or something like it) before?

It's not quite as simple as that, though. Briggs is a mob lawyer, and the million dollars was, well, not ill-gotten, but certainly not on the up and up. The next thing we see is the transaction, which leaves Briggs and another man dead.

All of this is seen in the first 10 minutes of the film. For the next 97 minutes of David C. Snyder's twisty and moody thriller (shot in Pittsburgh), we see all of the different pieces that go into going from one scene to another. From all angles. Cops, criminals, and in-between men, all of whom have a different piece of the puzzle.

This is Snyder's first film. Visually, it looks like the work of a seasoned pro, as he uses evocative lighting, interesting angles, and a constantly moving camera that keeps the suspense and

story in overdrive. Add to that a touch of mood-affecting underscore and you have a compelling and consistently watchable film.

In terms of performance, however, some of that “first-timer” syndrome does come through. More in individual line readings than in the film as a whole- and it’s not limited to one actor but a few of them- but there are moments when it’s hard to believe the actors are playing real people rather than line readers.

Still, such moments are the only real issues I can have with a movie that always brims with confidence and originality. We’ve seen the individual elements before, but rarely put together so inventively. Nothing is really as it seems with any of these characters and their lives. Their motivations sometimes go against what we expect. Their reactions to changing circumstances are what drive the narrative, and never feel contrived. There’s not a lot out there, even on the indie circuit, that plays with our expectations of how things will work out better. Some might call it beginner’s luck. I say it’s lucky just to be able to do things your way, even if you don’t have big budgets and big stars as safety nets. I’d rather be able to work without one. Hopefully it works out as well as this does.