

# COVERAGE

...an mbd production



USA - 2008 - 29 minutes - HD:720pn - Color - 16:9



CONTACT:

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Writer / Director / Co-Producer

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## LOGLINE

The events and subsequent media coverage of September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 create a sexual obsession that threatens to destroy a relationship.

## SUMMARY

David and Lynn are in the midst of a relationship crisis—he's lost his job, and his self-esteem and libido are at a nadir—on the morning of September 11, 2001. When news of the terrorist attacks reaches their home, David becomes fixated on the twenty-four hour television coverage with an intensity that makes Lynn uneasy, despite their relationship's new, if unclear, vitality.

A raw and uncompromising human drama, "COVERAGE" shines a critical light on the media's exploitation of the events of 9/11, while also exploring the blurry boundaries of human sexuality and powerlessness in the technological age.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The idea for this film was born several years ago while watching a videotape of news from September 11th, 2001. Separated from the immediacy of the attacks, I was struck not only by the sheer number of times the same events were replayed, but also by the fetishistic way in which the footage was handled. The media's orgiastic repetition of images surpassed necessity, and it reduced the events to simple and sublime images of destruction.

"COVERAGE" explores the media's fetishization of images as it affects an average couple. In doing so, it also raises issues of addiction, technology, and – surprisingly – the shifting boundaries of love and sex in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In the end, "COVERAGE" also becomes an unsettling example of the very fetishization that it sets out to explore.



## JEF TAYLOR

writer/director/co-producer/editor

Jef Taylor grew up on stage in Cleveland and went on to earn a B.A. in English at Ohio University. Since then, he has led an eclectic life - editing greeting cards for American Greetings, writing and improvising with The Second City, and living and working abroad in both South Korea and the United Kingdom - among other things. Recently, he found himself in coastal Georgia, where he received his M.A. in Film & Television from the Savannah College of Art and Design. His three screen experimental piece - "분실 - 발견하는" - received wide acclaim as part of the "LOST/FOUND" installation exhibition, and his acting talents were on-display at last year's Sundance Film Festival in "The Execution of Solomon Harris." Also an ardent and experienced editor, Jef's work has been screened at the Oxford Film Festival, Student Films Across America, the Detroit/Windsor International Film Festival, and the FEMINA Film Festival - among others. He currently resides in New York City where he is pursuing a career in filmmaking and the arts.

## RYAN DICKIE

director of photography

Ryan Dickie is a Brooklyn-based cinematographer, editor, and director of video and film. He has worked on a wide variety of narrative and experimental shorts, music videos, commercials, documentaries, as well as two feature films. He currently works with Gulfstream Aerospace and Body Holographic.

## PATRICK GRIFFIN

co-producer

Patrick T. Griffin was born in Long Island, New York and received his B.A. in Communications from Elon University in 2004. In 2008 Patrick received his M.F.A. in Film and Television from the Savannah College of Art and Design. During his time at SCAD he produced a number of films including The Bottom, which was an official selection at the Sarasota Film Festival and the Rhode Island International Film Festival - among others. In addition, Patrick co-produced the Savannah College of Art and Design's 2007 entry for the Coca-Cola Refreshing Filmmaker's Award and was named one of MTVu's Top 25 Filmmakers on Campus. His most recent work includes "Le Paradis de L'Imbecile," a short film he co-wrote and directed, and "The Self Conspiracy," an experimental psycho-western he co-produced and edited.



## MICHAEL TISDALE

### David

Michael Tisdale is a professional writer and actor, who has been active in the creation of theatre and film in New York, Los Angeles, and throughout the country for over a decade. Originally from Lakewood, Ohio, Michael moved to New York to attend The Juilliard Drama Division. Over the years, he has collaborated with artists such as Sidney Lumet, Dianne Wiest, Sir Peter Hall, Stephen Wadsworth, Michael Mayer, Tom Hulce, Christopher Durang, Doug Wright, and Vanessa Redgrave - to name a few. Michael's stageplays have been developed and/or produced by The Atlantic Theatre Company, The Hartford Stage Company, HotINK, The Players Club, Rising Phoenix, NYU's Tisch School for the Arts, The Juilliard School, The Tectonic Theater Project, and Lincoln Center. In October of 2008, his play "Goldstar, Ohio" received its world premiere production at the Cleveland Public Theatre.

Laura Heisler made her film debut starring in Matthew Harrison's short, "Wrist," which screened at both Slamdance and The NY Underground Film Festival. In addition to "COVERAGE," Laura has also appeared in the feature films "Cold Souls" (Sundance, 2009) and the upcoming "Coach". She made her Broadway debut in "Coram Boy," and has co-starred in numerous plays off-Broadway, with such acclaimed companies as Naked Angels ("The Mistakes Madeline Made"), Playwrights Horizons ("Doris to Darlene" and "People Be Heard"), Soho Rep ("Everything Will Be Different"), Studio Dante ("The Given," directed by Michael Imperoli), among many others. Laura has also acted at many of the country's top regional theatres, including Williamstown Theatre Festival ("Top Girls" and "Bus Stop"), McCarter, The Old Globe, Berkshire Theatre Festival, and the New York Stage & Film. She was recently one of a dozen actors cited by the theatre reviewers of Time Out NY for their work, and one of six up-and-coming actors cited by The Village Voice in their annual Obies issue.

## LAURA HEISLER

### Lynn



Written and Directed by  
JEF TAYLOR

Director of Photography  
RYAN DICKIE

Produced by  
JEF TAYLOR & PATRICK GRIFFIN

Associate Producers  
JOSEPH AND SUSAN BORK  
DEAN PACKIS  
ROBERT AND JUDITH TAYLOR

Assistant Director  
ADAM DUNLAP

Production Design  
DEJON GEE

Location Sound  
TRAVIS GROVES

Assistant Camera  
JASON OSTERDAY

Gaffer  
ANDREW RIGGS

Best Boy  
THOMAS WOHLFORD

Grips  
SAM EIDSON  
ED QUINN  
DAN REED  
CLINT SHAW  
CHRIS SWAFFORD

Editor  
JEF TAYLOR

Sound Design  
COLIN ALEXANDER



For more information, including trailer and production stills, visit:  
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