

TIC-TAC-TOE



SEMI-FINALIST
**SCREENCRAFT
Fellowship**

2020



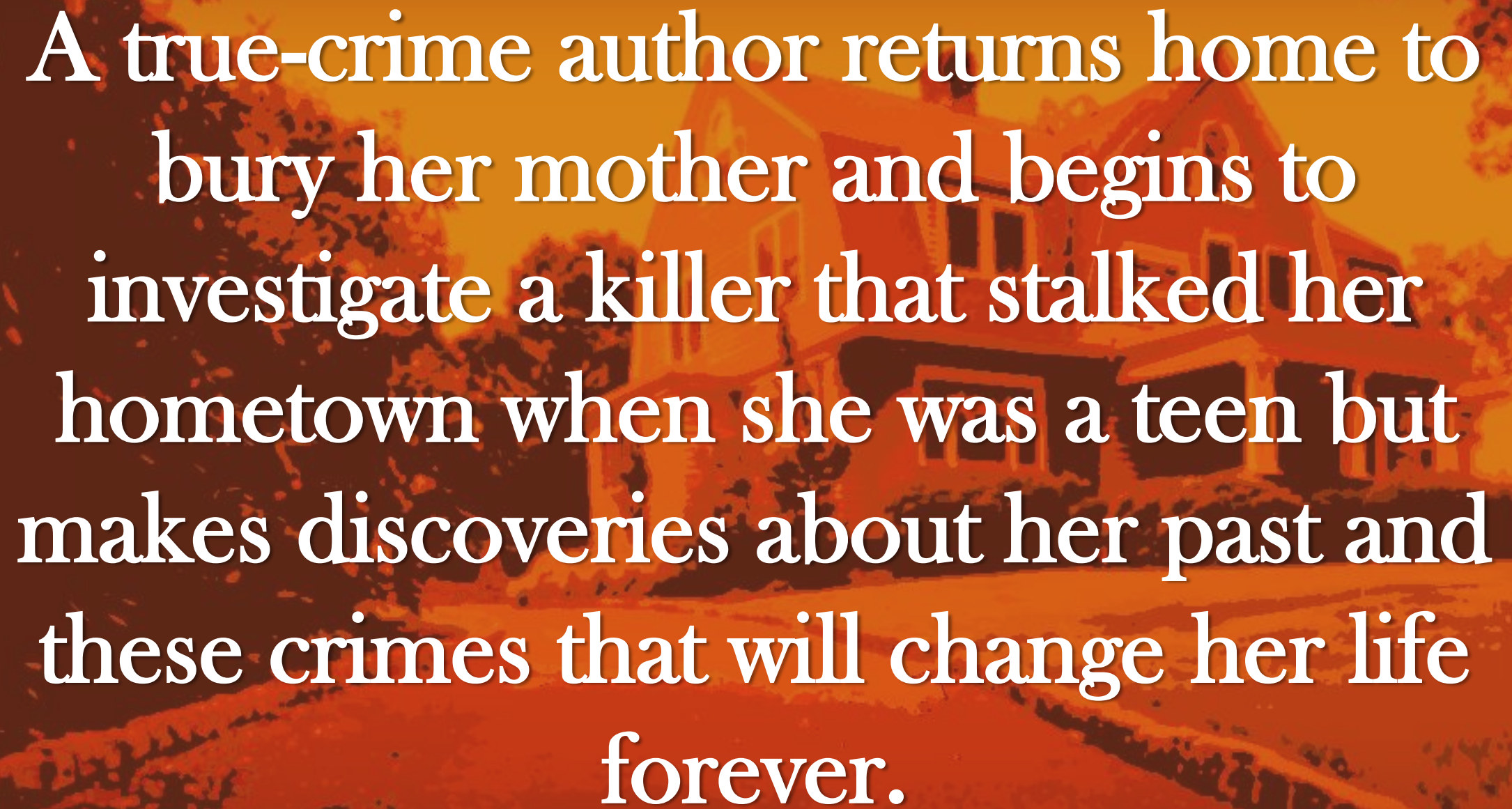
FINALIST
**Show Low Film
Festival- White
Mountains Arizona
Film Fest**

2020

Is it your turn

or

MINE?

A photograph of a two-story house with a porch, partially obscured by trees with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of orange, red, and yellow. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. A semi-transparent dark orange rectangle is overlaid on the image, containing white text.

A true-crime author returns home to
bury her mother and begins to
investigate a killer that stalked her
hometown when she was a teen but
makes discoveries about her past and
these crimes that will change her life
forever.

What if all the
things you
believed about
your past was a
lie?

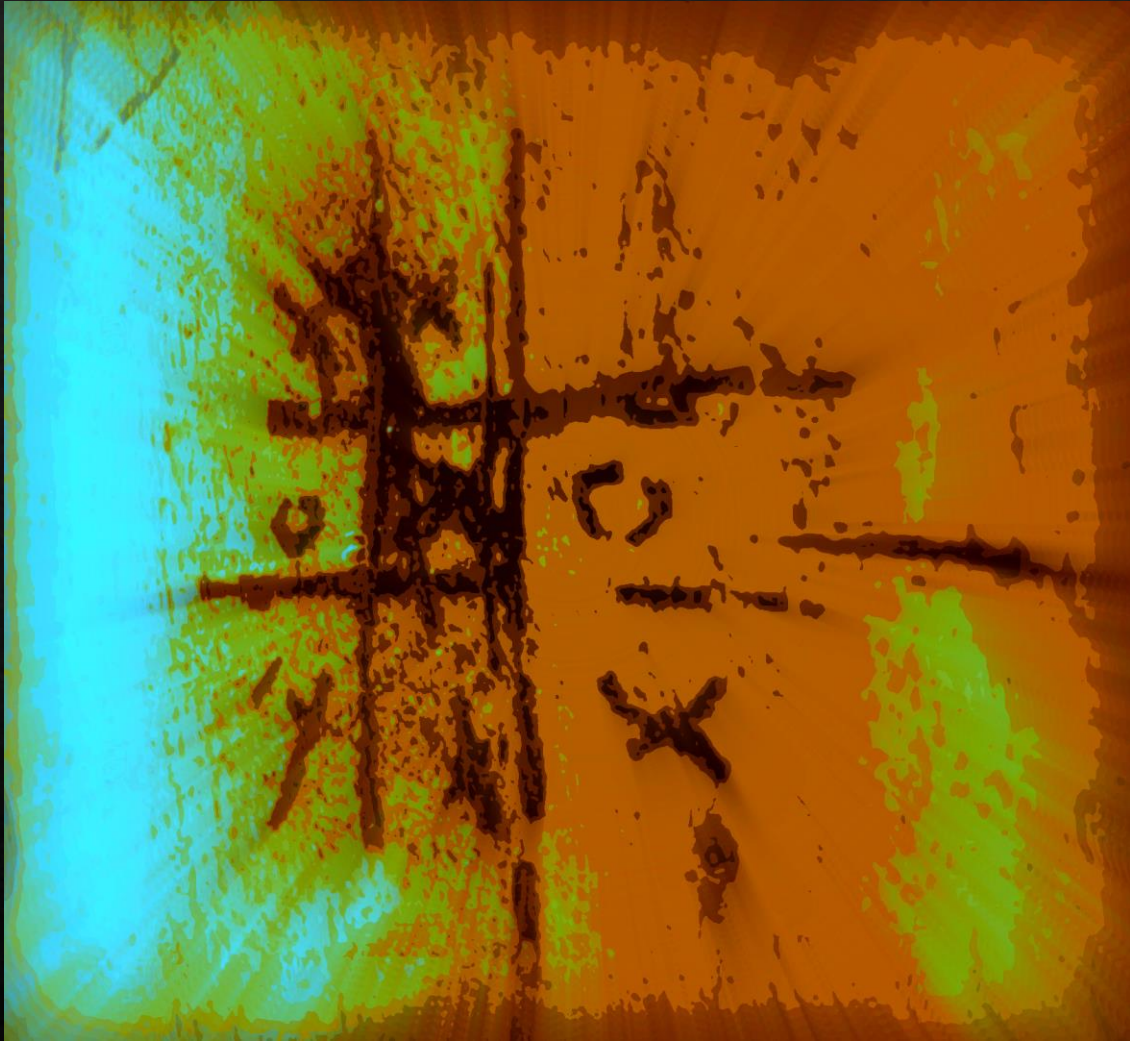




At a disastrous book signing event in L.A., her manager **MARION** pushes **TORI WRIGHT** option her first book to movie star **ANDY NESLAND**. Tori receives a phone call that her mother has died and she must return home. She convinces Andy to go with her to pose as her boyfriend. Upon her arrival in New Jersey, her aunt **CARMEL SANTANO**, a police detective, tries to convince Tori what she believes about her mother is incorrect.



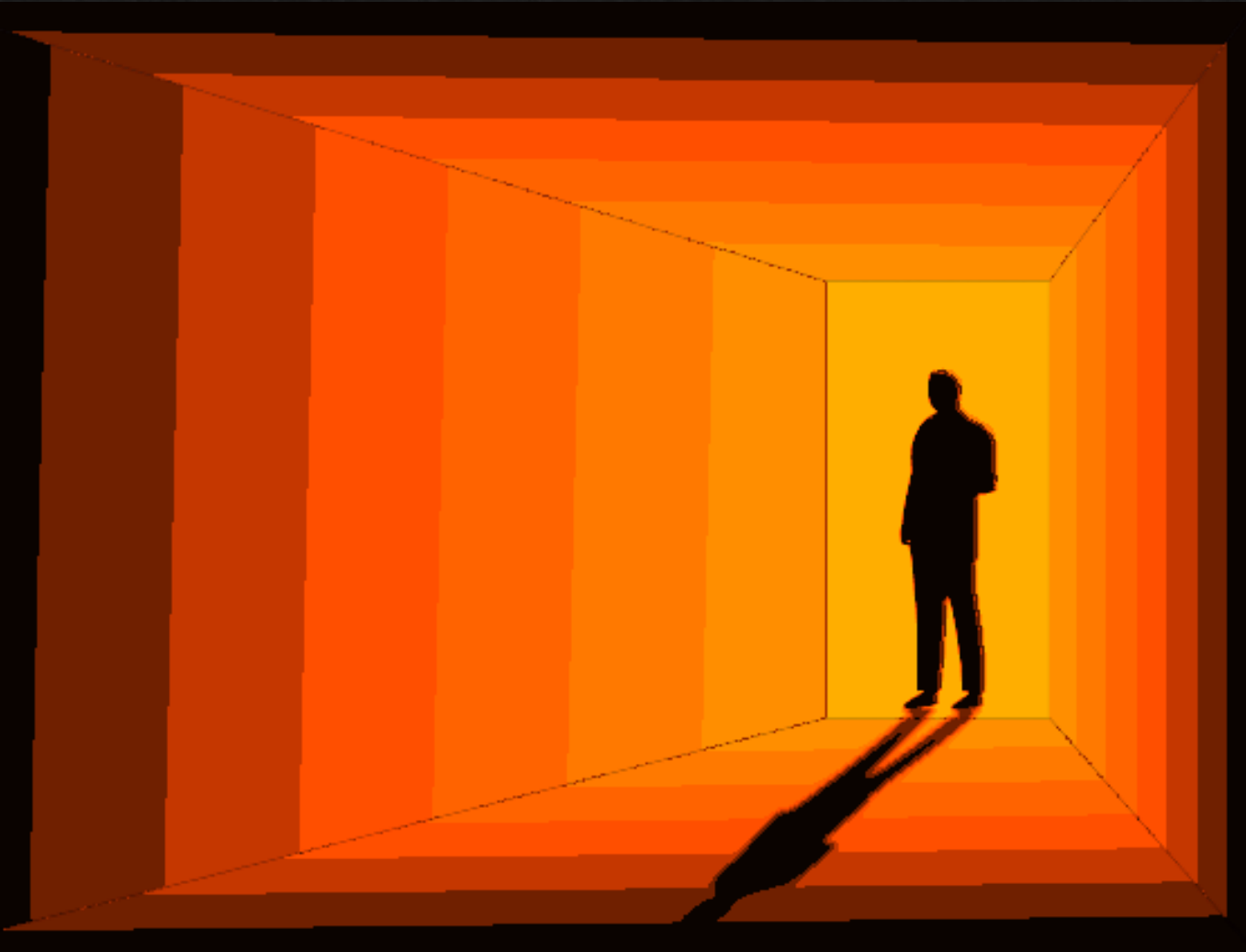
Tori does not remember her father
WINSTON WRIGHT as the
founder of Ocean Front Therapeutic
Well-Being Center who died there in
a fire after being investigated for the
Tic-Tac-Toe murders. Now a cold
case, Tic-Tac-Toe's killing signature
was carving the tic-tac-toe board into
the male victims' chests. At night,
Andy discovers Tori both
sleepwalking to the shed and
speaking in Latin.



At her mother's repast, Tori is put into a hypnotic trance by a man from the institution named **FRANK KITT**. She goes out and seduces a local man at pub. Tori wakes up the next morning covered in blood. Tori sends Andy back to L.A. and she runs into **JAKE KITT**, a man plotting revenge against her late father's institution. Jake reveals a diabolical plot of the Therapeutic Center for planting other people's memories into you.



Tic-Tac-Toe was a proof of concept for mind control to be bought and sold to the highest bidder. Andy unable to leave without Tori returns to the Wright home and watches a videotape from Tori's mother **GLORIA WRIGHT**, who reveals that she tried to protect her from the Center and their diabolical plot. Andy tries to find Tori. Tori sets out to find who the mastermind is.



Tori is met with open arms by the Center, including her former writing teacher, **MRS. ABBOTT**, when she goes to confront the head doctor **DR. JARED BOOTH**. She finds something more sinister and darker than what she could have imagined about her past, Tic-Tac-Toe and Joyous Rapture.

Will Tori and Andy be able to
stop Dr. Booth's plot?

Will they be able to return to
L.A. to their normal lives?

Or is there something even
darker and dangerous that awaits
them?





(Ideal cast)
Maggie Q.
as Tori Wright

(Ideal cast)
Logan Marshall
Green
as Andy Nesland





(Ideal cast)
Kelly Hu
as Carmel Santano

(Ideal cast)
Rosie Perez
as Gloria Wright





(Ideal cast)
Mark Ruffalo
as Winston Wright



(Ideal cast)
Tony Todd as
Jake Kitt

(Ideal cast)
Heather Lagenkamp
as Mrs. Abbott

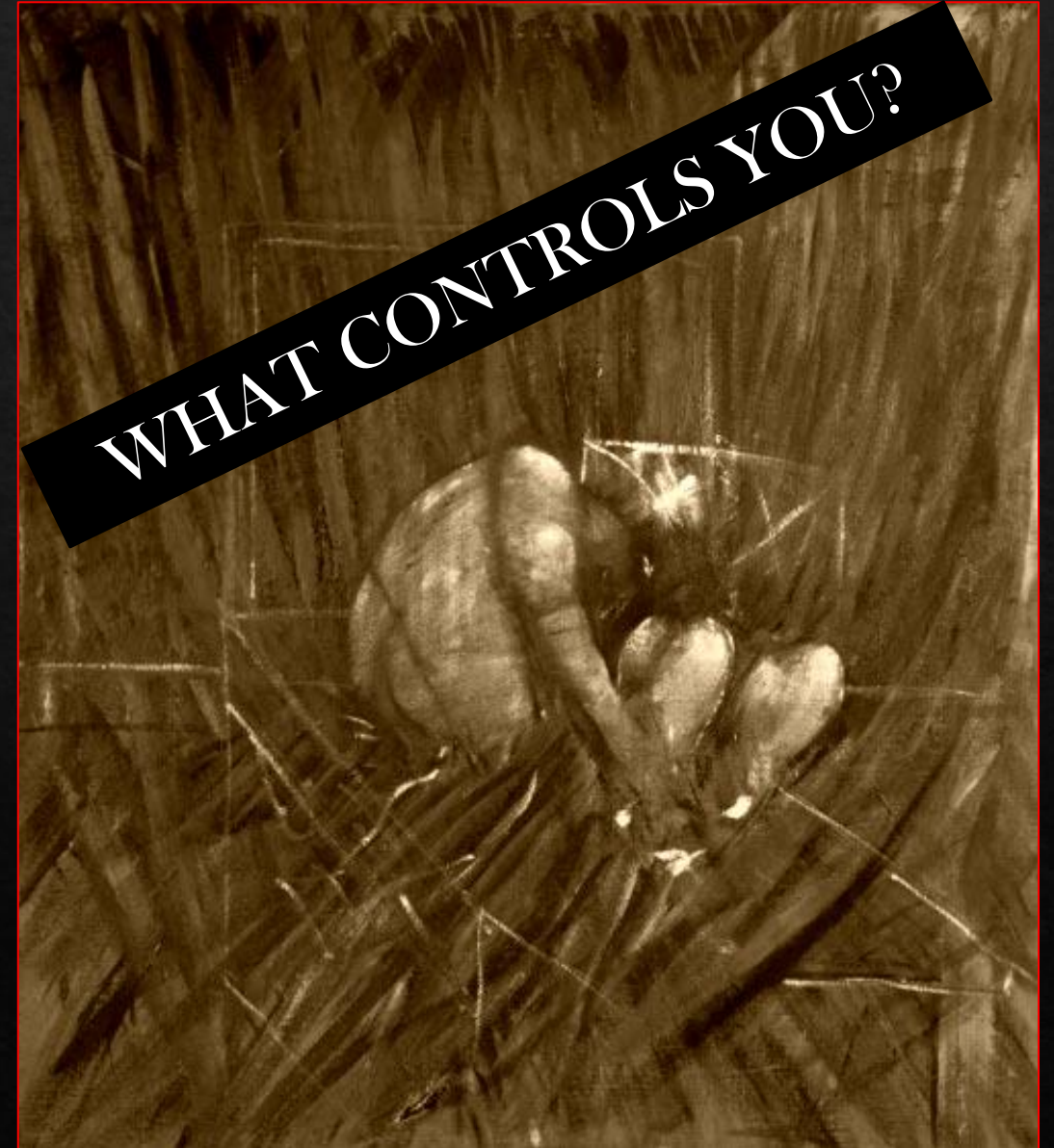


(Ideal cast)
Ben Mendelsohn
as Dr. Jared Booth



(Ideal cast)
Tyrel Jackson Williams as
Frank Kitt

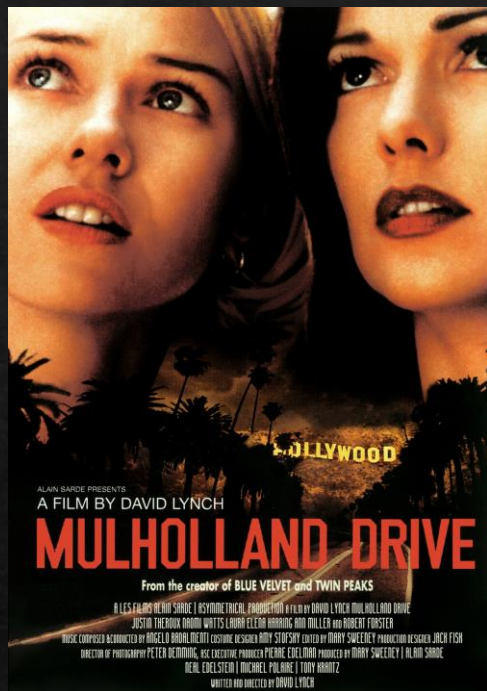
THEMES



COMP FILMS

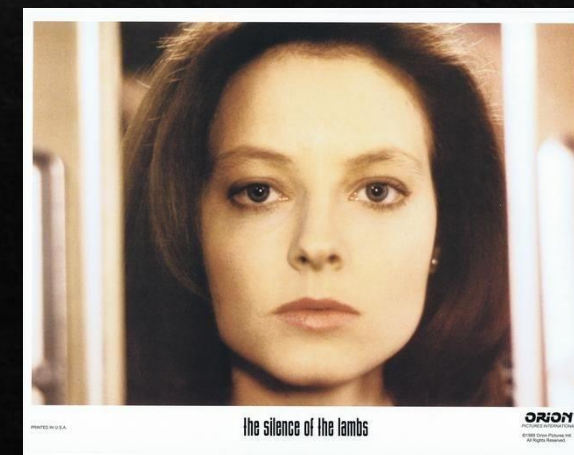
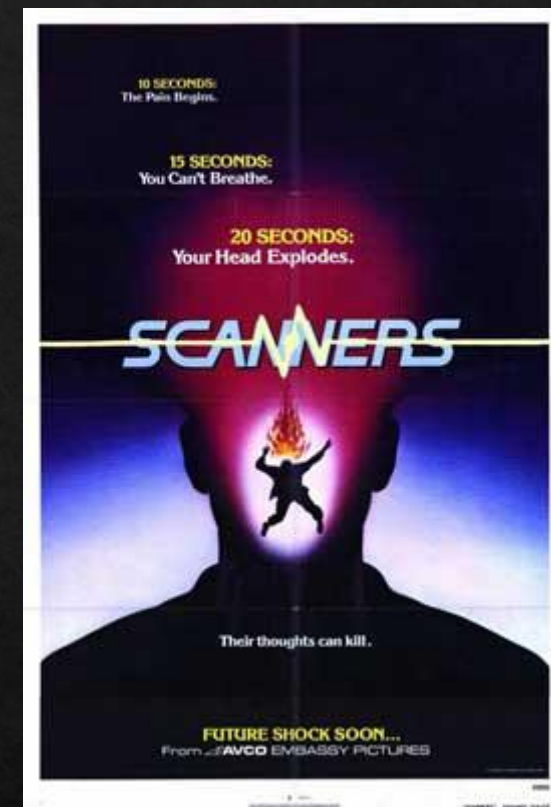
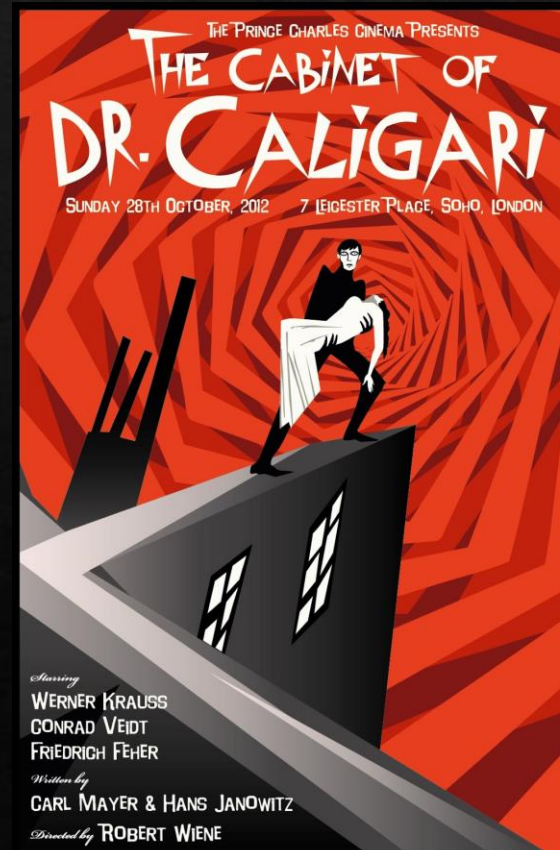


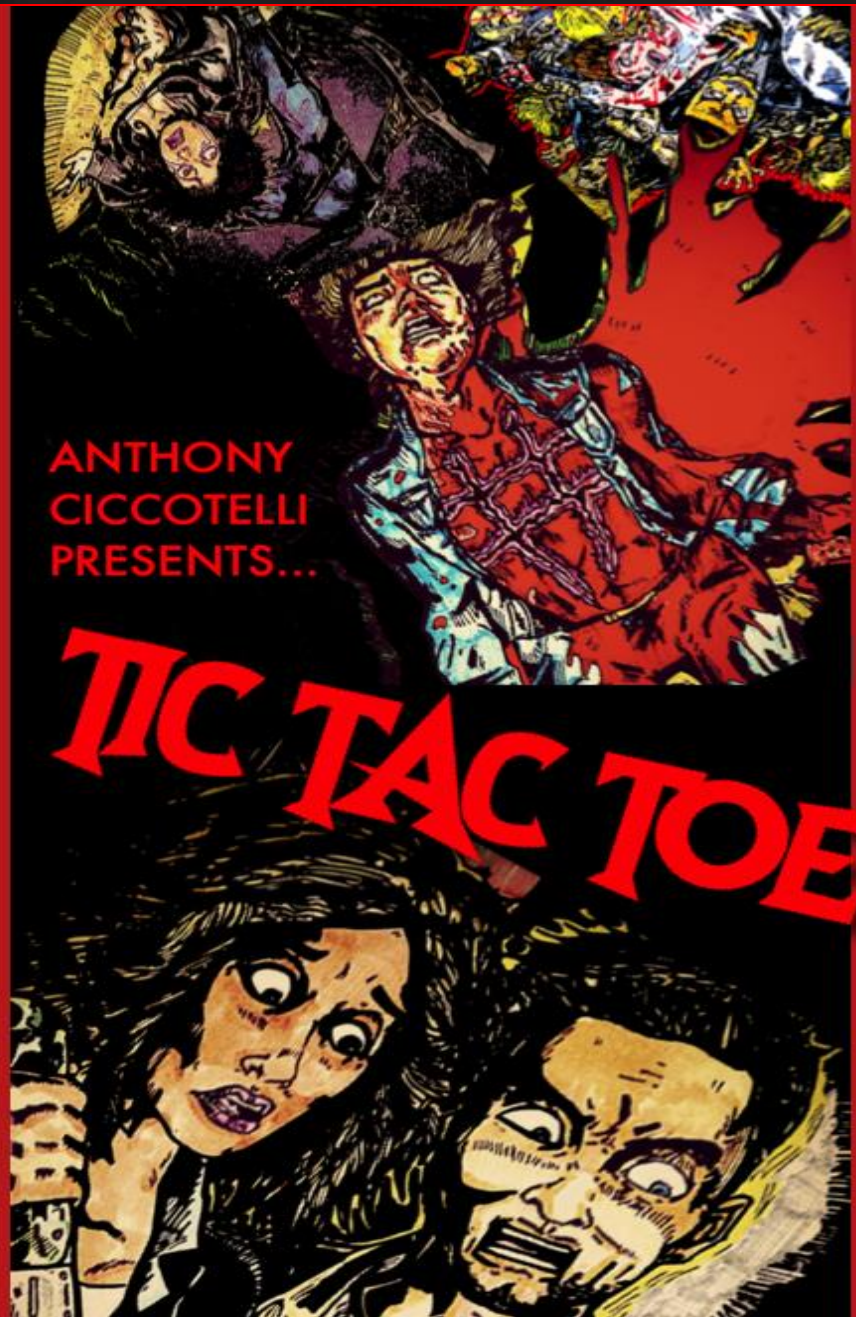
COMP FILMS (Continued)



FROM JENNIFER KENT THE WRITER & DIRECTOR OF THE BABADOOK
"A BREATHTAKING MASTERPIECE"

TIME OUT	LITTLE WHITE LIES	HEYUGUYS
TOTAL FILM	RADIO TIMES	THE GUARDIAN
MOVIE MARKER	THE UPCOMING	FEELGOOD
		SHADOWS ON THE WALL
		NERDLY





Concept Poster #1

Concept Posters and
Artwork by Jesse Valencia
jessevalencia@gmail.com

Concept Poster #2



ANTHONY CICCOTELLI'S

TIC TAC TOE



Concept Art

TORI and ANDY find the
box cutter and switch blade
of Tic-Tic-Toe. It's this
discovery that leads to a
more diabolical turn of
events.





The opening: AUDREY
is being attacked by
THE MECHANIC.
They will reverse roles
and she will become the
attacker and he will
become the victim.

Tic-Tac-Toe Victim
CRAIG BENJO
with the signature carving on
his chest and torso.





Willing volunteer and
Center Worker
SHERILYNN sacrifice
herself in front of a
group of the Centers
workers. The next
morning they wont
know what happened!



Want

to

Play?

Director's Statement

Since I was a child, I was obsessed with horror movies and thrillers. I remember watching the 70s TV movie *Don't Be Afraid of the Dark*. I remembered the creatures in the basement calling out to the lead character in a creepy, "Sally! Sally! Sally!" kept me up at night. Also, I remembered the bleeding eyes from the Telly Savalas movie *Horror Express*. I was horrified, but I couldn't stop watching it.

Tic-Tac-Toe owes much to my love for the horror genre as it does to stories with strong characters. *Tic-Tac-Toe* is very much about realizing that sometimes what you think is real is an illusion. It's these central ideas that compel our protagonist Tori into the mystery of who killed these men when she was a teenager and who her parents were?

Imagine an early David Cronenberg film, put in a blender with the dreamlike images of David Lynch's films, and served with a side *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, and you will get *Tic-Tac-Toe*. This, coupled with two horrific reoccurring nightmares I had as a young man that helped create *Tic-Tac-Toe*. In one dream, I saw myself killing someone, and when I woke up, I thought the dream was real. In the other, my house had secret doors with chambers and back staircases that lead to more portals. Both of these nightmares found its way into the narrative of the story.

As a director, I am interested in building tension, creating horror through reveals, and, most of all, through the actor's performances and visual images. *Tic-Tac-Toe* is ultimately about a person who is stuck in anger but realizes that what she feared about her past was so much worse than what she initially thought. It's also about learning to trust again, and ultimately, it is about family and their healing from the destructive forces in their lives.

Through this tale of suspense, thrills, and horror, meet Tori Wright, the *Tic-Tac-Toe* murders, and one scary diabolical plot to control people's minds.





TIC-TAC-TOE

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For a full bio and
roster of previous films

please visit: www.ajciccotelli.com

