



PHIL THE ALIEN

HE'S GOING BACK TO HIS PLANET ONE DRINK AT A TIME

Written and Directed by
Rob Stefaniuk

Starring
Rob Stefaniuk
Nicole deBoer
Joe Flaherty
Graham Greene
John Kapelos
Sean Cullen

Running time: 83 minutes

Images are available for download at www.lionsgatepublicity.com

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CAST

Rob Stefaniuk	Phil
Nicole deBoer	Madame Madame
Joe Flaherty	Voice of the Beaver
Graham Greene	Wolf
John Kapelos	The General
Sean Cullen	Sammy
Brad McGinnis	Joey
Bruce Hunter	Jones
Boyd Banks	Slim
Jason Jones	Agent Orange
Dwayne Hill	Agent Blue
Paul Popowich	Rob
Noam Rosen	Brad
Brad Hart	Dave
Addison Bell	Jimmy
Mary Crosbie	Ginger
Mike Beaver	Trapper
Ingrid Veniger	Candy
Ryan Malcolm	Waiter
Claire Brosseau	Michelle
Nick Canakis	Gabriel
Robyn Palmer	Sandy
Stefanie Rodriguez	Young Madame Madame
Christopher Barry	Thomas
Frank Meschkuleit	Alien Puppetry/Autopsy Doctor
Rob Stefaniuk	Beaver Puppetry/Autopsy Doctor

KEY CREW LIST

Writer	Rob Stefaniuk
Director	Rob Stefaniuk
Executive Producer	Mihkel Harilaid
Producer	Mihkel Harilaid
Producer	Craig Fleming
Assistant Director	Mike Masters
Assistant Director	Dean Bernard
Assistant Director	Dax Lough
Cinematographer	D. Gregor Hagey
Script Supervisor	Katherine Reid
Casting Director	Michael Stevenson, C.D.C.
Art Director	Rowena O'Connor
Art Director	Jean Brophey
Costume Designer	Natalie Bronfman
Make-Up / Hair	Anne Harrison
On Set Sound	Bissa Scekcic
Editor	Rob Stefaniuk
Editor	Warren P. Sonoda
Post Supervisor	Andrew Kowalchuk
Colorist	Andrew Kowalchuk
Re-Recording Mixer	John Hazen
On Set SPFX	Ron Stefaniuk
Animation/ Compositing	Ken Reddick

SYNOPSIS

PHIL THE ALIEN a classic coming of age story, told through the bloodshot eyes of an alcoholic alien. Phil (Rob Stefaniuk) crashes into a small town in Northern Ontario, befriends a young boy, and a super-intelligent beaver (voiced by Joe Flaherty), and quickly develops a heavy drinking problem. Phil is an innocent lost in the wilderness. He learns that everyone in town (children included) drinks hard liquor and carries a gun. He's surrounded by hunters, prostitutes, an ex-CIA operative, a bartender named "Wolf" (played by Graham Greene), the house band, and other Northern misfits.

Meanwhile over at the "Top Secret American UFO Base" (located beneath Niagara Falls), "The General" (John Kapelos) has discovered Phil and ordered his fur-clad Agents to bring him in. Back up North, the beaver tells Phil that there is a ship in Niagara Falls that can take him home, but Phil has hit rock bottom and wants nothing to do with it. Instead he uses his alien powers to perform bar tricks, and falls deep into the depraved depths of alcoholism.

After a short stint in prison, Phil finds Jesus and joins the band as their singer. When the General learns that Phil is performing miracles on a touring pilgrimage to Niagara Falls he orders Quebecois assassin "Madame Madame" (Nicole deBoer) to kill the alien and his band. Phil the Alien is an original cutting edge comedy.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Rob Stefaniuk

Rob Stefaniuk has worked in numerous television shows as an actor, including the series *Kids in the Hall*, *Catwalk*, *Kung Fu*, and *Monk*. His feature-film acting credits include the *Saturday Night Live*-inspired *Superstar* (1999). At the age of 23, Rob wrote his first screenplay, *The Size of Watermelons*, which was produced as an independent feature in 1996. In 2003, he was story editor and line producer, and did additional editing, for the independent feature *Public Domain* (dir. Kris Lefcoe). Shortly thereafter he made his directorial debut with the hilarious short film *Waiting for the Man*. Rob Stefaniuk wrote, directed, stars in, and wrote some of the music for *Phil the Alien*, his feature directorial debut.

ABOUT THE CAST

Nicole deBoer

"Madame Madame"

At age seventeen, she was cast as a series regular in the CBC drama *"9B"* (1986). Nicole's numerous television credits include; *Beyond Reality*, *First Resort*, *Catwalk*, *Kids in the Hall*, *The Outer Limits*, *Psi Factor*, *Maniac Mansion* and *Deepwater Black/Mission Genesis*. On film, she was featured in *Kids in The Hall "Brain Candy"* 1996 co-starred in the film *National Lampoon's Senior Trip* (1995) with Matt Frewer and Tommy Chong and was in the critically received Sci-Fi movie, *Cube* (1997). While filming the series *"Dooley Gardens"* (1999) in Newfoundland, she got the call and was cast in the 7th and final season of *"Star Trek: Deep Space Nine"* (1998), replacing Terry Farrell as the Dax symbiot host. She can currently be seen with Anthony Michael Hall on *"The Dead Zone"*

Joe Flaherty
"Voice of the Beaver"

Born in Pittsburg, raised in Toronto, Joe is best known as an alumnus of the famous Second City improvisational troupe that produced some of the best comics of the '70s and '80s. Best remembered for playing Guy Caballero, the Argentine owner of the fictional Channel 109, the home of Second City TV (1977-1981), a hilarious Toronto-based parody of all things television. Flaherty made his feature-film debut in *Alex and the Gypsy* (1976). He has subsequently gone on to play a multitude of character roles in numerous films and television appearances.

Graham Greene
"Wolf"

Academy Award® Nominated for Best Performance By an Actor in a Supporting Role 1990 : DANCES WITH WOLVES

Born: Six Nations Reserve, Ontario, Canada

Native American actor who gained fame as Kicking Bird, friend and mentor to Kevin Costner, in *DANCES WITH WOLVES* (1990). A full-blooded Oneida, Greene was born on the Six Nations Reserve in Ontario, Canada. Prior to his *DANCES WITH WOLVES* success, he appeared with Al Pacino in the Revolutionary War misfire, *REVOLUTION* (1985); co-starred with Robby Benson in *RUNNING BRAVE* (1983); and played a Vietnam vet in the comedy adventure, *POWWOW HIGHWAY* (1989).

After *DANCES* Greene began making frequent appearances on TV, generally playing quietly dignified characters on shows like "L.A. Law," "Northern Exposure" and "Murder, She Wrote." He also proved effective in less traditional fare such as "Where the Spirit Lives" (1990) for PBS' "American Playhouse" and the HBO film *THE LAST OF HIS TRIBE* (1992), in which he played the last survivor of the Yahi nation. He turned in a superb, laconic performance as a reservation cop who teaches rookie FBI man Val Kilmer a thing or two in Michael Apted's sober environmental thriller, *THUNDERHEART* (1992).

Greene remains active in the Toronto theater community, where he has appeared in over a dozen productions.

John Kapelos
"The General"

John Kapelos has been a professional working actor for twenty-five years. Canadian-born Mr. Kapelos came to prominence while performing at THE SECOND CITY, CHICAGO. John co-starred in THE STEPPENWOLF THEATER COMPANY'S dark Drama VICIOUS with the then unknown, George Clooney. A generation of filmgoers remember his Brat Pack trilogy with director John Hughes: SIXTEEN CANDLES (as the oily bohunk, Rudy Rizczyk), THE BREAKFAST CLUB (as the ever-observant Carl the janitor) and WEIRD SCIENCE (as Dino, the Greek owner of a Blues club).

John's improvisational flair and comic timing were showcased in Fred Schepisi's classic ROXANNE, (as the silly skirt-chasing fireman Chuck), and in Garry Marshall's NOTHING IN COMMON (as Tom Hanks' best friend, Roger St. John).

In stark contrast, John displayed a dramatic intensity as James Woods' destructive associate in THE BOOST and as the patricidal Stephen Arrocas, who hires hit man Richard Gere, in INTERNAL AFFAIRS. In HBO's highly acclaimed film, THE LATE SHIFT (directed by fellow Second City Alum Betty Thomas) John employed both his comic and dramatic talents as David Letterman's producer Robert Morton. John has been killed in such films as THE RELIC, THE SHADOW, and THE CRAFT.

John's favorite onscreen death came as the ill-fated blackmailer in JOHNNY SKIDMARKS, a film noir starring Frances McDormand, John Lithgow and Peter Gallagher. Alongside Michele Pfeiffer, Whoopi Goldberg and Treat Williams, John showed subtle range in THE DEEP END OF THE OCEAN. He portrayed tormented father, George Karras; forced to give up the son he discovers is not rightfully his. Both Roger Ebert and The New York Times lauded this performance. John's sitcom appearances include co-starring in five pilots, as well as guest-star roles on SEINFELD and HOME IMPROVEMENT.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I first met Mihkel Harilaid (the Executive Producer) when I rented some office space at BLACKWALK for a film that I was Line Producing. The film was called "*Public Domain*" (Dir. Kris Lefcoe) and was part of the Telefilm low budget feature film fund. Mihkel suggested we come up with a script for the same program. He gave me an office and I tried to come up with an idea. I knew the budget restrictions and tried to think of a film that would capitalize on what we had available. My brother does special effects, and I knew he had an alien and a beaver etc. These two items gave me the idea for an alien in Canada...then it hit me. We would make an alcoholic alien movie. Mihkel said "It's perfect!", so I wrote the script.

Before we could apply, I needed to make a short film. I borrowed a couple of my brother's puppets and made "*Waiting for the Man*" (Official selection Sundance 2005). Once we got accepted by Telefilm we were on our way. We began casting using the ACTRA TIP program. This program allowed us to pay the actors less than scale (due to the low budget). Nicole deBoer (an old friend) was the first actor to say she'd do it. Graham Greene was an actor who I had never met (and saw as a long shot) but I was thrilled when he accepted the part. Casting became easier with a couple of recognizable names. The biggest hurdle was pursuing a "name" actor to play the title role of Phil.

We had cast just about everyone in the film and still didn't have a Phil. It was at this point (very close to principle photography) that Mihkel said, "This is stupid, you should do it". I actually auditioned myself (I was terrible, but I slept with myself and decided to give me the part). I had never met Greggory Hagey (DP), but was impressed by the amount of features and shorts under his belt (not commercials and videos). We assembled a crew of people who cared more about film than money (a prerequisite of our production) and shot the film in seventeen days. I hired my friend John Kastner to compose a rock score for the film and began cutting. At a certain point (after writing directing, acting, and editing) I lost perspective in the edit suite. At this point we brought my friend and fellow filmmaker Warren Sonoda to finish the edit. We mixed the film at Theatre D with John Hazen and blew up to 35mm at Soho. Phil the Alien premiered at the Toronto International Film festival on Sept. 11 2004.

Rob Stefaniuk, January 2005

BLACK WALK

Founded more than 10 years ago by Mihkel Harilaid, David Fowler, and Stephen Scott, BLACK WALK became the leader in Canadian music video production. Black Walk produced more than 500 music videos and won more than two dozen Muchmusic awards. The success was not limited to Canada with international artists like Shaggy, Hootie and the Blowfish, and Creed coming to Black Walk for their videos. Black Walk's integrated production methods and success are now the standard by which other companies measure their position.

In 2002, Executive Producer Mihkel Harilaid abandoned representing directors for music videos to focus on movie and television production. Four films are now in the can with more to come.

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