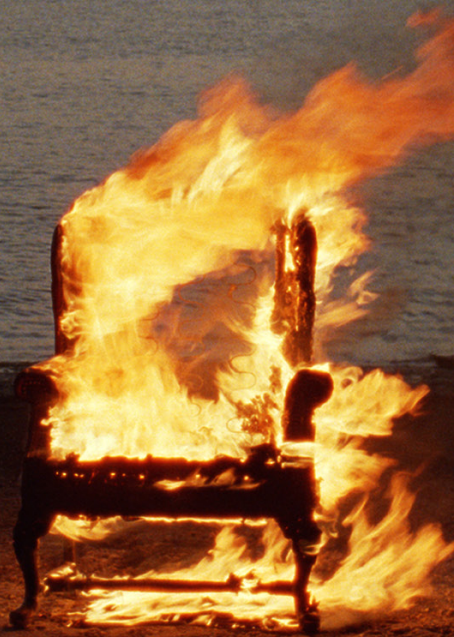




SHORT FILM
competition
FESTIVAL DE CANNES

THE CHAIR



A SHORT FILM BY GRAINGER DAVID

MARKER 96 FILMS

presents

THE CHAIR

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY **GRAINGER DAVID**
PRODUCED BY **SPENCER KIERNAN & CAROLINE OLIVEIRA**
CINEMATOGRAPHY BY **JIMMY LEE PHELAN**

Synopsis

The Chair is the story of a mysterious outbreak of poisonous mold in a small town and one boy's attempt to understand his mother's death, his grandmother's obsession with their discarded recliner, and the roots of this short-lived, strange, and inexplicable plague.

Technical Information

TITLE	THE CHAIR
YEAR OF PRODUCTION	2012
DURATION	12:19
COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION	USA
GENRE	DRAMA
PRODUCTION FORMAT	35MM
SCREENING FORMAT	DCP
RATIO	1:1.85
LANGUAGE	ENGLISH

Publicity

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Principal Cast

THE BOY	KHARI LUCAS
NARRATOR	KING HOEY
GRANDMOTHER	MARTHA F. BROWN
BROTHER	JA'KYE WILLIAMS
SISTER 1	JADIN WILLIAMS
SISTER 2	AMYA WILLIAMS

Principal Crew

DIRECTOR / WRITER	GRAINGER DAVID
PRODUCERS	SPENCER KIERNAN & CAROLINE OLIVEIRA
CINEMATOGRAPHER	JIMMY LEE PHELAN
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	KATE RANCE
EDITOR	JARRAH GURRIE
RE-RECORDING MIXER	SCOTT HIRSCH
COMPOSER	SASHA GORDON



THE CHAIR



Director's Statement

I have a memory from childhood of my mother standing on a ladder, scraping and washing mold off of the ceiling of my bedroom. As I remember it, there was a large, dark stain looming and growing above me. But did it really happen that way? Was that my house, my mother, or a picture I saw in the paper? I don't remember exactly. I was just a kid.

I have always been interested in the way our childhood memories are distorted and exaggerated over time, particularly when they stem from tragic events or collide with our own dark fascinations. I grew up in coastal South Carolina, where the landscape can seem laced with a feeling of mystery and menace. The natural world

seems particularly alive in certain parts of the rural South - humid, hungry, ever-encroaching. It seems aware of our history, our problems. It seems to remind us of them at every turn.

I wrote this short film in the same room where my mother scraped the mold from the ceiling many years ago. It was late, and dark, and deadly quiet. The idea of an outbreak of poisonous mold in a small town seemed particularly alive to me, and the concept took hold of my imagination and would not let go. My goal with this film is to tell a gripping story that explores timeless human questions, while immersing the audience in what I hope will feel like a strange and haunting dream.

THE CHAIR



Cast

The film was performed entirely by a cast of non-professionals from Wadmalaw Island, John's Island, and James Island, South Carolina. Khari Lucas, who plays the Boy, is a student at local arts high school, and has acted in several other short films; Reverend Martha Florence Brown, who plays the Grandmother, is a pastor at Salem Baptist Church, on Wadmalaw Island, where

we filmed one of our church scenes. Ja'kye, Jadin and Amya Williams are family friends, and Tracey Frazier was cast during auditions held at Mt. Zion Elementary, where we filmed our classroom scenes. The film is narrated by King Hoey, a young actor and football player from the Charlotte, NC area.

THE CHAIR

Bios

GRAINGER DAVID DIRECTOR/WRITER

Grainger David is a director and screenwriter from Wadmalaw Island, South Carolina. He is a graduate of Princeton University and holds an MFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Film program, where he was the WTC Johnson Fellow. He has been awarded grants from the Tribeca Film Institute, the Sloan Foundation, and the National Board of Review, as well as a MacDowell Colony residency. His short film THE CHAIR won the Short Film Jury Prize at the 2012 South by Southwest Film Festival and is an official selection in the Short Films Competition at the 65th Festival de Cannes. Grainger is currently in post-production on a new short, THE EDGE OF THE WOODS, starring Kiernan Shipka (MAD MEN), and featuring visual effects by Framestore (HARRY POTTER, THE DARK NIGHT).



SPENCER KIERNAN PRODUCER

Spencer Kiernan is a Minnesota-born filmmaker. He received his MFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts Graduate Film program, where he was a Graduate Teaching Fellow in Cinematography. He has produced award-winning short films including THE CHAIR, DOUBLES WITH SLIGHT PEPPER [Winner, Best Narrative Short - 2012 Prix Genie (Canadian Academy Award)], along with the feature films STUCK BETWEEN STATIONS [World Premiere, 2011 Tribeca Film Festival] and HAPPY LIFE [Executive Producer: Abel Ferrara]. He's also worked extensively as a DP, on the feature documentary DISPLACED [2010 Tribeca All Access], and the short DOUBLES WITH SLIGHT PEPPER [Winner, Best Canadian Short Film - 2011 Toronto International Film Festival]. He is currently producing the independent feature film HELLAWARE, shooting in New York.

CAROLINE OLIVEIRA PRODUCER

Caroline Oliveira is a Brazilian Producer & Director based in New York City. She was born in Sao Paulo where she received a Bachelors degree in Advertising and Marketing. Soon after graduation, Caroline worked as an assistant director and producer for commercials. Caroline holds a Master's Degree in Film from Tisch, NYU, where she had a departmental fellowship. She has produced several shorts and a feature film, obtaining grants from Kodak, Panavision and Warner Bros. Caroline is now developing her first feature film in Brazil.

JIMMY LEE PHELAN CINEMATOGRAPHER

Jimmy Lee Phelan has photographed over 20 shorts and feature films and his work has been screened at dozens of film festivals and has won awards in both the United States and Europe. Lee holds an MFA in Cinematography from NYU, and his last feature film, Five Time Champion, had its world premiere at South by Southwest Film Festival in 2011.

JARRAH GURRIE EDITOR

Jarrah Gurrie was born and raised on the Australian surfcoast. He is an Art School Graduate of Melbourne University and has an MFA in Film & TV from Tisch, NYU. Jarrah collaborated on several award winning Australian shorts with co-director Genevieve Bailey, before moving to the US. His first solo films 'Cabalerno', 'Center of the Universe' and 'The Companionist' have all enjoyed numerous screenings internationally and on television. Jarrah has previously sat as a Jury Member of the San Sebastian International Film Festival, Spain and is an Iris Prize Nominee. His work has screened in such diverse locations as the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte (Reina Sofia) Madrid and on a parade float at the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras. His editing work includes the features PETE SMALLS IS DEAD and FIVE DANCES as well as numerous multi-lingual Narrative Shorts, Documentaries and Fashion/Music Videos.