



Motion Picture Press Kit

- “A stand out.”
-Jeph Scanlon, *Kansas City Star*
- “Haunting and frank...”
-Ashland Independent Film Festival
- “An ambitious, handsomely mounted and suspenseful experience.”
-Marc Mohan, *The Oregonian*
- “Bucksville is a very good film... It gives and takes on many levels; fear, hope, love, hate, friendship, and redemption.”
-Buzzworthy
- “A handsome and poised work, bringing a touch of David Lynch to the story of a young man in a small town trying to break out of a secret vigilante mob to which his family belongs.”
-Shawn Levy, *The Oregonian*

a Chel White film | 105 minutes | USA



The Brothers of The Lodge

THE MOTION PICTURE

“Chel White’s tale of a small-town militia is more emotional drama than action film, bolstered by polished performances and crisp production—thanks in part to executive producer Tom Berenger, who also delivers a cameo appearance.”

-Marjorie Skinner, The Portland Mercury

logline

In a small, wooded town, a young man struggles to leave a secret militia started by his father.

short synopsis

Abandoned by his mother at a young age, 25-year old Presley Alan French (Thomas Stroppel) has grown up in the shadow of his father and a small town, secret militia called The Lodge. Along with his cousins, he is committed for life to participate in the group’s self-appointed mission of justice and capital punishment. Over the years, more than 20 executions have been carried out in the name of community service. When The Group forms connections to a national militia with an extremist Right Wing agenda, Presley must decide whether to break all family bonds or become an accomplice in politically motivated killings.

With an eerily beautiful tone, Bucksville touches on the timely topics of ethics and the militia movement, within the context of family conflict. It is also a film about love and loss of innocence.



“Chel White’s thriller shows the dangers of feeling disenfranchised by the government and taking the law into one’s own hands. White creatively mixes the film’s reality with operatic scenes and orchestral scores to emphasize the conflict.”

-Arizona International Film Festival



“(Bucksville) is a fictional, but all too real, look at extremist militias in the United States and the extent to which some of them go to carry out their ‘missions.’”

-Jeph Scanlon, Kansas City Star

“The cast, especially Ted Rooney as Presley’s evil uncle, is solid, and Marc Greenfield’s cinematography is as crisp as autumn air.”

-Marc Mohan, The Oregonian

“Haunting and frank, (Bucksville) ponders the fine line between good and evil in a rural setting that is both beautiful and dark.”

-Ashland Independent Film Festival

long synopsis

Abandoned by his mother at a young age, 25-year old Presley Alan French (Thomas Stroppel) has grown up in the shadow of his father and a small town, secret militia called The Lodge. Along with his cousins, he is committed for life to participate in the group's self-appointed mission of justice and capital punishment.

Ignited by a deep sense of civic duty, The Lodge was initiated many years ago by Presley's father, uncle and other town leaders, when a local girl was murdered and the killer released unpunished. The group captured the man and executed him deep in the woods. Over the years, other executions have been carried out in the name of community service.

The death of Presley's father leads him to examine his ever-increasing trepidations about the group's ideology. This is compounded by the discovery that his uncle, now the new chief, is forming ties with Militia for America Now, an umbrella group with an extremist Right Wing agenda funded by a charismatic multi-millionaire (Tom Berenger). Presley must decide whether to break all bonds to family or be immersed in killings that are now politically motivated.

Eerie and beautiful, Bucksville is a genre-bending drama/thriller whose timely topics of ethics and the militia movement ring with universal relevance. It is also a film about love, loyalty, and the loss of innocence.



WELCOME TO

BUCKSVILLE



POPULATION 2560

PRESLEY FRENCH (played by Thomas Stroppel).



With Samatha (Kacie Thomas), the girl who works at the local cafe'.



The friendly face of Dr. White (Ayanna Berkshire)



With his estranged sister, Isabelle (Erin McGarry)



With June Gilbert (Katy Beckemyer)

With fellow Lodge brother, Jim Sampson (Paul Glazier)

THE CAFE

Where the locals go.

photos by Tatiana Willis



Brian Wright (played by Ryan Findley)



Junior French (Nathan Dunkin)



Samantha Gilbert (Kacie Thomas)



Beverly Gilbert (Betty Moyer)



Mayor Rob Gilbert (Allen Nause)



Billy (Robert Briggs)



Dr. Don French (Ted Rooney)



Sheriff Fussnecker (Alexander MacKenzie)



Jim Sampson (Paul Glazier)

THE MILITIA

Beyond the sleepy, small town facade... a secret agenda of ethics and violence.



Jim Sampson (Paul Glazier)



Brian Wright (Ryan Findley)



The Patron of Justice (Tom Berenger)



Chief David French (David Bodin)



Judge Depler (Duffy Epstein)



Lt. Col. Frank Gartner (Robert Blanche)

photos by David Hume Kennerly

CAST



Thomas Stroppel
as Presley Alan French



David Bodin
as Chief David French



Storm Large
as Eva



Tom Berenger
as The Patron of Justice



Ryan Findley
as Deputy Brian Wright



Katy Beckemeyer
as June Gilbert



Ted Rooney
as Dr. Donald French



Alexander MacKenzie
as Sheriff Dennis Fussnecker



Kacie Thomas
as Samantha Gilbert



Allen Nause
as Mayor Rob Gilbert



Erin McGarry
as Isabelle French



Betty Moyer
as Beverly Gilbert



Nathan Dunkin
as Junior French



Robert Blanche
as Lt. Col. Frank Gartner



Elijah Nelson
as young Presley Alan French



Paul Glazier
as Jim Sampson



Gretchen Corbett
as Kathleen French

CREW



Chel White
Director / Writer / Composer



Laura McGie
Producer / Writer



Darren Demetre
Producer



Marc Greenfield
Director of Photography



Louanne Moldovan
Casting Director



Tom Brosseau
Composer / Musician



Tom Berenger
David Kennerly
Charles Jennings
Executive Producers



Victoria Inez Mesenbrink
Costume Designer



Dennis Fitzgerald
Ben Blankenship (not pictured)
Editors



Solomon Burbridge
Production Designer
Greg Arden
Art Director

BUCKSVILLE behind the scenes



PRINCIPLE BIOGRAPHIES



Chel White
Director / Writer
Composer

Chel White has been making films for 25 years. His films paint indelible pictures of the human experience. He is the recipient of a Rockefeller / Ford Foundation Media Arts Fellowship. His work has screened at the Museum of Modern Art, the Smithsonian Museum, the Brooklyn Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and a recent 20 year retrospective at the Portland Art Museum.

White's official festival screenings include Berlin, Tribeca, SXSW, Hong Kong, Annecy, Cannes, and three films in the Sundance Film Festival. His awards include Best Short Film from the Stockholm International Film Festival, Best Animated Short from the Florida Film Festival, Feature Film Silver Award from the Lucerne International Film Festival, and the EMPA Work Life Award from the Ann Arbor Film Festival.

In addition to films, Chel White is a world-renowned director of commissioned work. In 2007, he created *Wind*, a short film on the topic of global climate, which premiered opening night at the 2007 Tribeca Film Festival, introduced by Al Gore. *Harrowdown Hill*, White's groundbreaking music video for Radiohead's Thom Yorke, won Best Music Video at the 2007 SXSW Festival. IndieWire called it "a visually compelling bird's eye view of some of the biggest challenges facing our society today, including global warming and petroleum consumption." In 2012, White completed *Bird of Flames*, a video for filmmaker David Lynch and Chrysta Bell.

White has directed two comedy shorts for NBC's *Saturday Night Live*. As a commercial director, White's clients include Starbucks, Nike, Coca-Cola, Reebok, and anti-smoking ads for the Washington Dept. of Health.

Chel White is the director and co-writer of *Bucksville*. Winner of the grand prize for Best Narrative Feature from the Kansas City Film Festival, *Bucksville* is his feature film debut. Chel lives in Portland, Oregon, where he is a co-founding partner of the film studio Bent Image Lab.



Tom Brosseau
Composer / Musician

Tom Brosseau, a Los Angeles-based progressive folk artist and Grand Forks North Dakota native, has a voice that has been called "totally earthbound and at the same time sorta out there in the ether." (NPR's *All Things Considered*).

He grew up with music, listening to Marty Robbins, Bob Dylan, Pablo Casals, and Leadbelly, with a bluegrass-playing grandmother who taught him the guitar and a grandfather who had a band and a large record collection. After graduating from the University of North Dakota, Brosseau enrolled in music school but dropped out after only a few weeks, feeling that music theory classes took the fun out of playing. Instead, he started performing at open mic nights around Grand Forks, and eventually moved to San Diego, CA, where he was introduced to musician Gregory Page, who ended up recording and producing much of Brosseau's early material. Brosseau's first album, *North Dakota*, came out in 2002, followed by 2004's *Late Night at Largo*, recorded after-hours at a club in Los Angeles (to where he had moved) at which he frequently played.

Tom has performed in the UK and Europe with PJ Harvey and John Parish and in Japan with Mice Parade. He tours the US as a headliner and with Müm, Nickel Creek, Mice Parade and Amiina. In addition to his solo work, Brosseau is part of a duo called Les Shelleys with LA-based Shelley Angela Correa.

In 2008, Tom was invited by the Los Angeles Times to be a guest contributor to the Times new music blog, *Soundboard*, to record his SXSW 2008 experiences. His 2007 album *Cavalier* was produced by John Parish & recorded in one week in Bristol England. *Sunday Times* (UK) gives *Cavalier* 4 stars and Pop CD of the Week honors.

You can see Tom Brosseau, along with many other amazing performers, in the documentary about the famed LA club Largo. *Bucksville* is Tom Brosseau's first foray into feature film scoring.



David Kennerly
Executive Producer

Photographer David Kennerly has been shooting on the front lines of history for more than 40 years. He has photographed eight wars, as many U.S. presidents, and he has traveled to dozens of countries along the way.

At 25, the Roseburg, Oregon native won the 1972 Pulitzer Prize for his photos of the Vietnam War, and two years later was appointed President Gerald R. Ford's personal photographer. He has been presented with numerous other honors, among them the Overseas Press Club's Olivier Rebbot Award for "Best Photographic Reporting from Abroad," for his coverage of Reagan and Gorbachev's historic first summit meeting in Geneva. He was named, "One of the Most 100 Most Important People in Photography" by *American Photo Magazine*.

Kennerly was nominated for a Primetime Emmy as executive producer of NBC's, "The Taking of Flight 847," and was writer and Executive Producer of a two-hour NBC pilot, "Shooter," starring Helen Hunt, based on his Vietnam experiences. "Shooter" won the Emmy for "Outstanding Cinematography." He is executive producer of the recent documentary, "Portraits of a Lady," starring former Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, which made the short list of films eligible for the 2008 Academy Award nominations.

David Kennerly has published several books of his work, *Shooter*, *Photo Op*, *Seinoff: The Final Days of Seinfeld*, *Photo du Jour*, and *Extraordinary Circumstances: The Presidency of Gerald R. Ford*. Most recently he produced *Barack Obama: The Official Barack Obama Inaugural Book*, with Bob McNeely, who was President Clinton's official White House photographer. He also provided some exclusive behind-the-scenes photographs of President Obama for the project. A major exhibition of photographs from the book was mounted in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., earlier this summer, and more than a million visitors saw it. David is one of *Bucksville*'s executive producers.



PRINCIPLE BIOGRAPHIES



Tom Berenger
Executive Producer
Actor

With over 100 films, television and theater credits to his name, Hollywood veteran Tom Berenger is known largely for his tough guy roles and unique performances.

Berenger starred in several significant films in the 1980s, including *The Big Chill* (1983), *Someone to Watch Over Me* (1987), and *Major League* (1989). In 1986, he received an Academy Award nomination for his portrayal of SSG Barnes in *Platoon* (this performance won him a Golden Globe Award for "Best Supporting Actor"). In the mid-1990s he was most recognizable in his role from the movie *Sniper* (which would later be followed by two sequels). Another notable role from this period is Berenger's portrayal of General James Longstreet in the critically acclaimed *Gettysburg*.

In more recent years, Berenger has continued to have an active acting career in film and television. His most notable television appearance was on *Cheers* in its last season as Rebecca Howe's blue collar-plumber love interest, for which he was nominated for an Emmy Award for "Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series". He also began a career as a producer in the 1990s.

Berenger co-produced the 1997 Spanish-American War miniseries *Rough Riders*, also starring as Theodore Roosevelt. It scored high with viewers and became the highest rated mini-series in cable TV history.

Berenger recently appeared in the sci-fi thriller and a major box office hit *Inception* with Leonardo DiCaprio and Cillian Murphy.

Tom's role in *Bucksville*, as The Patron of Justice, broadens his acting repertoire to include a wealthy leader and financier of a radical Right Wing militia with a violent and pointedly political agenda. He is also one of the film's executive producers.



Charles Jennings
Executive Producer

A successful Internet entrepreneur, author and speaker on technology and government, Charles Jennings founded the companies Swan Island Networks (where he is currently CEO); GeoTrust (acquired by Verisign); and Preview Systems (2000 IPO).

Jennings is also co-founded the Internet privacy assurance leader, TRUSTe, whose privacy assurance mark consistently is one of the Internet's most recognizable symbols.

Jennings is the author of six books, including *The Hundredth Window: Protecting Your Privacy and Security in the Age of the Internet* (Simon & Schuster, 2000), which has been translated into four languages and distributed world-wide. Jennings' work with Swan Island Networks was the focus of a major feature story in *WIRED Magazine's* December 2005 issue.

Prior to his work in the Internet industry, Jennings was a film/TV producer. His films include the Emmy-winning *Shooter*, produced for Paramount Pictures and NBC productions; *Tai Pan*, the first full-length American studio film shot in China; and the 1982 ACE-winner for drama, *Christmas at the Juniper Tavern*.



Thomas Stroppel
Lead Actor

Thomas Stroppel is a M.F.A. graduate of the Professional Actor Training Program at the University of Washington. He was a participant in the 2008 Guthrie experience for actors in training, is the recipient of the Jeff Lee acting award, and both the Weigand and Caitlin Long awards for excellence. He holds two B.F.A.s from the University of Wyoming in Acting and Scenic Design and is a proud member of Actors Equity.

He has appeared recently as the lead role in the feature film *Bucksville* directed by Chel White and as the voice of an animated character in *Jingle All The Way* for Hallmark Channel. His recent theater work includes the lead role in *Lieutenant of Inishmore* and *All My Sons* at Artists Repertory Theatre in Portland Oregon. His work has been seen at the Guthrie Theatre, the Sundance Film Festival, The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, VH1, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Rocky Mountain PBS, and ACT Theatre. He is a founding member of the Seattle and Portland Drop-in Suzuki/Viewpoints Artists ensemble, and has taught movement for actors since 2002. He has a passion for creating new works, and ensemble based training. Thomas is focused on pushing the limits of traditional theatre and film production while rooted solidly in classical work.

When not working Thomas can usually be found in his kitchen.



THOMAS STROPPEL TED ROONEY NATHAN DUNKIN "BUCKSVILLE" DAVID BODIN ALLEN NAUSE PAUL GLAZIER ALEXANDER MACKENZIE RYAN FINDLEY TOM BERENGER
 ERIN MCGARRY KATY BECKEMEYER KACIE THOMAS STORM LARGE ROBERT BLANCHE BETTY MOYER GRETCHEN CORBETT A RUNNING DEER FILMS PRODUCTION
 CASTING BY LOUANNE MOLDOVAN MUSIC BY TOM BROSSEAU AND CHEL WHITE COSTUME DESIGNER VICTORIA INEZ MESENBRINK PRODUCTION DESIGNER SOLOMON BURBRIDGE
 EDITORS DENNIS FITZGERALD BEN BLANKENSHIP DIRECTOR'S CONSULTANT SAM HULL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TOM BERENGER DAVID HUME KENNERLY CHARLES JENNINGS
 DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MARC GREENFIELD PRODUCED BY LAURA MCGIE DARREN DEMETRE WRITTEN BY LAURA MCGIE AND CHEL WHITE DIRECTED BY CHEL WHITE





RUNNING DEER FILMS

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