

# ***Darker After Midnight***

## **Press Kit**



For more information on ***Darker After Midnight*** please contact Annmaree Bell at Azure Productions on + 61 2 402 309 124 **or** [info@azureproductions.com.au](mailto:info@azureproductions.com.au) **or visit** [www.azureproductions.com.au/dam](http://www.azureproductions.com.au/dam)

# *Darker After Midnight*

## **Synopsis**



Months after a lonely man dies horribly within his house, Monica Mortimer enters. Desperate to begin her career, she must prepare the estate for its upcoming auction. However, she soon discovers that a terrifying presence haunts her from the shadows and that her troubling past has caught up with her. The further Monica becomes ensnared within the estate's chilling mystery, the further she understands that beginning her new life means finding the strength to confront a vengeful spirit, no matter what the cost.

# *Darker After Midnight*

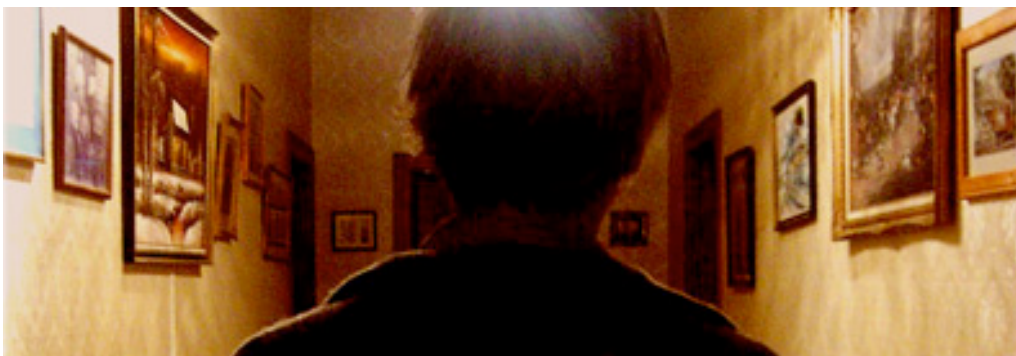
## About the Filmmakers



## Key Crew

**MICHAEL CHRISOULAKIS**  
**ANNMAREE J BELL**  
**EDMUND JORY**  
**GARETH TILLSON**  
**DEBBIE MULLER**  
**PABLO DONNAN**  
**JUSTINE SEYMOUR**  
**ADRIAN ROSTIROLLA**  
**ELIXII MUSIC**

**Co-writer / Director**  
**Producer**  
**Co-writer**  
**Cinematographer**  
**Makeup / FX Makeup**  
**Production Designer**  
**Costume Designer**  
**Editor**  
**Music / Sound Design**



### **Michael Chrisoulakis - Co-writer / Director**

Michael began making films while growing up in Hobart, Tasmania, winning the Tasmanian Television Award for his student projects in year 11. After completing a Media degree in Canberra, he worked as a Commercial Producer/Director at Channel Nine, before moving to Sydney to pursue a career in film.

To date, Michael's short suspense film, 'Interchange' has screened at many festivals worldwide and received awards including; 'Short Film Winner' at both the Telluride Indie Fest and Key West Indie Fest, 'Best Film' at the Eyescream Halloween Film Festival, 'Best Thriller' at the Int'l Festival of Cinema and Technology, 'Best Editing' at the Fearless Tales Genre Fest. Michael also received the 'Great Expectations' award at the Sour Grapes Film Festival.

Michael started employment at Metro Screen in 2003, a centre that provides training, equipment hire and production support for filmmakers. Starting at the front desk, he worked his way to Training Manager within three short years. It was here that Michael met producer Annmaree Bell, who produced three spec-commercials and has enjoyed a working relationship ever since.

Michael is currently the coordinator of Metro Screen's Members Production Group and creator of the monthly Filmmaker's Studio. He is currently developing projects with Edmund Jory and Annmaree Bell. Darker After Midnight will be Michael's feature film directorial debut

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### **Annmaree J Bell - Producer**

Annmaree began her career in film production in 2003 after studying the Certificate in Screen at Metro Screen. In 2004 Annmaree produced writer/director Michael Chrisoulakis' three spec-commercials, assisted on Craig Boreham's film 'Transient', production managed Jennifer Kent's film 'Monster' and worked with Metro Screen Indigenous Certificate II students on their location dramas. Annmaree also produced and executively produced her first short film; 'The Chess Set', a privately funded venture written and directed by Alex Murawski, in which Frank Wilson won Best Actor in a Short Film at the NYIIFVF.

In 2005, Annmaree produced the short comedy/thriller 'Elemenopee' with writer/director Natalia Amooore which has screened at national and international festivals including the 2005 Best of the Rest for Sony Tropfest and in the 2005 Palm Springs International Film Festival for Short Films. In 2005/6 Annmaree produced 'untouched' with writer/director Megan Riakos, 'a quiet spot' with writer Mark Hennessy and director Ashley Fairfield and co-produced 'Closing Stages' with writer/director Alina Gozin'a. In addition Annmaree has also produced several commercials and corporate videos.

Annmaree has also produced on several short films with John Frank; the other half of Azure Productions in 2006; 'Frail' with writer/director Alex Murawski from 'The Chess Set' as well as 'The Sound of Shadows' a short drama with writer/director Julietta Boscolo and 'Rebecca' with Writer/directors Liz Cooper and Kate Vinen.

### **Edmund Jory – Co-writer**

While studying finance, Edmund began as a satirical writer for Australian National University student paper. His professional life in stock broking contrasted with a broad range of roles in short independent films such as acting, storyboarding and pitching for funding grants.

After writing several screenplays, his first collaboration with Michael Chrisoulakis - Note of Absence – won a production grant from Metro Screen, Sydney. This team's first co-written feature, Darker After Midnight, is currently in pre-production.

He is currently writing his next feature project: Imago.

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### **Gareth Tillson - Cinematographer**

Gareth graduated from AFTRS in 2004 winning the Award for High Achievement in Cinematography for his work on the short film Blue Poles. Since then he has completed a number of short dramas, notably The Chess Set (2004) and Composure (2006). His work in documentary includes the Dendy Award nominated Change of Heart (2004) as well as the SBS series Heat In the Kitchen (2005).

Gareth is currently attached to a number of features, short drama and documentary projects scheduled for production in 2006 and into 2007. He is crossing his fingers and staying in focus!

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### **Debbie Muller - Makeup / FX makeup**

This South African born makeup artist has been on a creative journey from a very young age. Arriving in Australia at a tender young age of 10 in 1979, Debbie Muller was overwhelmed at how many TV stations and cinemas existed in Australia. "I told my parents that i wanted to be a part of this industry, just like my Grandfather who was a Film Projectionist in South Africa."

Inspired by the legendary makeup artist Dick Smith, Debbie traveled to LA and studied the craft under the guidance of Paramount Studios in house makeup academics and SPFX trainers. She then developed her skills by turning up on the Paramount movie sets.

In 2001 Debbie founded Finalchecks with a vision to provide makeup services specialising in Film, TV, Theatre, Fashion, concept design and 3D Special effects. In 2005 Debbie created Final Checks makeup academy to provide aspiring makeup artists with expert training and industry experience to ensure the best possible start to their career as a professional makeup artist.

Debbie has worked as a makeup supervisor on many film productions both in Australia and overseas. Her experience has taken her to fashion shows in LA with Christian Lacroix and most recently on TV commercials for the UK. Currently she is focused on her makeup academy in Sydney and assisting her brilliant and creative team of students and makeup artist on working in the film industry. Debbie feels that her journey has only just begun looks forward to being a part of the Australian Film industry and working with

her peers for many years to come. Visit [www.finalchecks.com.au](http://www.finalchecks.com.au) to find out more.

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### **Pablo Donnan - Production Designer**

Pablo is interested in the interplay of art and reality. Coming from a fine art – printmaking, painting – background, he gained a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the College of Fine Arts in 1996. He became involved in the film industry shortly after this, discovering a professional need for his skills and qualifications within the Art Department.

Graduating from the Australian Film Radio and Television School (AFTRS) in Design (2003) gave Pablo the confidence and ability to successfully communicate rich and unique visual concepts and styles. He will forever enjoy the creative fulfillment, the collaborative nature, the problem solving and the stories of filmmaking.

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### **Justine Seymour - Costume Design**

A passion for textures and fabric started Justine Seymour on a career path of costume design in the mid eighties, seeing her undertake projects for theatre, television, performance art, video clips, dance and film.

Consolidating her experience and education by attaining a Master of Arts in Design from the Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) in 2001.

Justine has designed 4 feature length films and 24 short films and most recently joined forces with the Sydney Dance Company for their latest project “The Director’s Cut” performed at the Sydney Opera House.

Having worked on “The Eye Inside” with Cordelia Beresford, Justine can now proudly add a Dendy award 2006 to the awards received by numerous films for which she has designed the costumes.

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### **Adrian Rostirolla - Editor**

Adrian’s recent credits include editor on the newly released feature film Kokoda. Adrian is an editing graduate from the Australian Film, TV and Radio school. Over the past 10 years, he has edited over 20 short films, 19 music videos, documentaries and corporate videos.

A short animated film (Birthday Boy) he edited went on to win many awards and was nominated for an academy award. In 2005 he edited a 50 minute TV drama and has recently completed two feature films back to back – Kokoda and Gabriel.

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### **Elixii - Music / Sound Design**

Elixii is a new sound post production company specialising in sound design and music for film.

It is an umbrella company for emerging composers and sound artists, and combines the talents of core members Murray Nance, Angus O'Sullivan, Geri Green and Claire Deak.

The four met while studying at the School of Contemporary Arts at the University of Western Sydney in 1999 and have collaborated on numerous projects since, including feature films, television, short films, documentaries, TVC's, theatre and dance.

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# ***Darker After Midnight***

## **Production Notes**



Azure Productions are producing a teaser/trailer designed to assist in marketing the screenplay, showcase the director's vision and exhibit the talents of the key crew.

Which section of the feature script to produce was based on several key elements, all found in the prologue, which powerfully sets up the tone, visual style and atmosphere that underlies the film. Also, the teaser will have the audience begging for more!

In early 2006, director Michael Chrisoulakis, producer Annmaree J Bell of Azure Productions and a talented crew of industry professionals dedicated their time and energy over four days, two locations and a green screen shoot for visual effects to shoot the 5 minute teaser for the feature film 'Darker After Midnight'.

Shot on HD, the production involved the coordination of over 20 crew members, two actors, special effects makeup, and a physically grueling stunt involving a character violently falling down a set of stairs.

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