



2 K 3 F E A T U R E F I L M 8 4 M I N U T E S
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2K3

84 min. color, HD 24p, 5.1 surround sound

genre: indie sci-fi drama

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2K3_Logline

NYC Chinatown-- A young pregnant couple battle parental anxieties and quantum visions in the summer of 2003, a fever dream of Orange Alerts and SARS scares.

2K3_Synopsis

NYC Chinatown. A young pregnant couple battle parental anxieties and quantum visions in the summer of 2003, a fever dream of Orange Alerts and SARS scares.

Meg, a book editor, and Noah, a video game character designer, live their lives like perpetual undergrads. They diligently avoid the pitfalls of adulthood in a Chinatown apartment cluttered with rumpled clothes and take-out containers. But when Meg becomes pregnant, new responsibilities and worries loom large.

Hastily married and utterly confused, the couple prepare for the impending change in lifestyle. Noah's dreams of showing his video art at a local gallery slip away, while Meg is convinced that she lacks maternal instincts.

Three weeks into the pregnancy, Meg experiences a tumultuous vision that grabs her and lifts her off her feet. Noah rescues her, and just as suddenly as it began, it is over. They are shaken and flee the apartment, only to return the next morning, cautious and wary. The apartment, however, is back to normal, as if nothing happened.

Noah dismisses the vision as a stressed-out hallucination, but Meg is convinced that something real has occurred, that a message was transferred about their child. Meg's conviction is further reinforced upon a second vision she alone witnesses that evening.

Unbeknownst to them, their arguments do portend a fundamental shift in the world around them. Soon they will have to decide how much they are willing to sacrifice for their newfound parenthood, in a journey of snowballing responsibilities and ever-more radical change—



2K3 Interview with writer/director, Gray Miller

"It was spring 2003 and I'd just had to delay a film project because my lead actress became unexpectedly pregnant." explained writer-director, Gray Miller, of the genesis of his indie sci-fi film, *2K3*. "I was sitting there with nothing to shoot for at least 10 months, and everyone in NY was stressed about the run-up to the Iraq War and SARS, and I thought what a crazy time it would be to be dealing with a surprise pregnancy". The film stars Anslem Richardson (*Five Deep Breaths*) and Marin Gazzaniga (*So Close*) as a young pregnant couple in NYC's Chinatown dealing with parental anxieties and quantum sci-fi visions in the jittery first summer of the Iraq War. Miller's handheld actor-friendly intimacy intertwines with more fantastical elements to create a story that takes the viewer through truly surprising twists and turns (see the clips at www.2k3film.com/video.html).

Miller had worked on the titles for *Magnolia* while on staff at a New York design firm, and P.T. Anderson's work with an ensemble cast had been an inspiration to get back to working with actors. "Also, Wong Kar Wei was making visually lyrical but also actor-friendly work by developing the script as he shot, so I thought, I have an outline and the first half written. Let's take these cameras, take current events, and go. It was actually a similar impulse to Soderbergh's production of *K Street*, if you added this gonzo sci-fi Phillip K. Dick aspect to it". A chief co-conspirator was director of photography Jon Hokanson, who seamlessly executes the film's transition from normal lenses to anamorphic and ultimately into anamorphic HD as the world of the story twists and expands.

"I think indie sci-fi has really become it's own genre. On one level you have our story dealing with these relationship issues and transition-to-parenthood fears that people go through, but then you also have jittery post-millennial tension that just keeps growing and odd sci-fi things are happening. And that reflects those dramatic worries at this hyperbolic level".

The HD mastered *2K3* shot initially in the summer of 2003, with "many nights and weekends to follow, especially as we started working in CGI". Paul Brill (*The Devil Came on Horseback, Trials of Darryl Hunt*) composed the score and DIGIT Audio contributed amazing sound work, with sound design by Abigail Savage (*The Last Winter*). Miller's next task is getting *2K3* out to festivals and theaters, while juggling new screenplays and a web series. "We put so much time into *2K3* that I now have a backlog of script ideas that I'm anxious to get to. So now it's really invigorating, but a little crazy around here."



2K3_Production Notes

2K3 grew out of my desire to work with New York actors Marin Gazzaniga, Anslem Richardson, Antonio Macia, Stephen Nicholson and Jennifer Clark. I was working as an animator on the title sequence for *Magnolia*, watching P.T. Anderson pull striking performances from his ensemble cast, and I was simultaneously following Wong Kar Wei's process of developing a script while shooting. There seemed to be a hybrid possible somewhere between these two ways of working, using the flexibility of digital media to sculpt a script with a troupe of actors in a more spontaneous way.

Starting with 40 pages of script, we began to shape a story about a young pregnant couple who have a prophetic vision about their child. A common sci-fi premise, but we worked to develop something real and character-based from that foundation. We grounded the vision in speculative physics while playing off of messianic mythology. The film is set in the anxious opening months of the Iraq War, amidst Orange Alerts and SARS scares, and a truly terrifying time to consider bringing a new baby into the world. We burdened the couple with hopes and fears that threaten to engulf them as their control of the situation slips away. What would you sacrifice for your unborn child? Your dreams? Your life? Your very identity?

Indulging our enthusiasm for indie drama and pop culture, the film came together as an enthusiastic nod to both the pulpy sci-fi films of the 70's and the mature indies of the 90's. We worked to craft a story grounded in strong performances, about real struggles, that builds to a startlingly visual, hyperbolic conclusion. We hope that you find it both entertaining and completely unique.

-Gray Miller, writer/director, *2K3*



Jon Hokanson and Gray Miller on set, Marin Gazzaniga and Gray Miller on location



2K3_Cast Biographies

Anslem RICHARDSON, "Noah"

Anslem RICHARDSON has appeared on stage, television and film. He starred in the short film *Choked*, which played at Sundance and took the Best Actor Award at the First Run Festival. He was also featured in the short films *Five Deep Breaths* and *Whoa*. His television credits include *Law & Order: Criminal Intent*, *As the World Turns*, *Law & Order: Trial by Jury*, and *Third Watch*. He was in both the stage and film versions of *The Exonerated*.

His screenplay, *The Subway Story* received the Gordon Parks Award for Emerging African American Screenwriting at the 27th Annual IFP Market in New York.

www.imdb.com/name/nm1099663

Marin GAZZANIGA, "Meg"

Marin GAZZANIGA wrote, produced and performed in the film version of her play *So Close*, directed by Michael Sexton and Rob Fruchtmann, which recently screened at CinewomenNY and New Filmmakers. The play, which premiered at Soho Rep in NYC, was the recipient of a Pilgrim Project grant, and was named a "Don't Miss" critic's pick in Time Out New York. Other film roles include: Gray Miller's forthcoming *2K3*, (IFP Rough Cut Lab selection) Julie Talen's *Pretend* (Best Fiction Film at Festivalito, MoMA Mediascope series, Lincoln Center's Video Festival, the Hamptons, Mill Valley, etc.), *Uncertainty* (Scott McGehee and David Siegel), *Soldier's Heart* and two short films by Lauren Timmons (SenArt).

Marin has her BA from Columbia College and her MA in creative writing from CUNY. She has written several books, numerous magazine and online articles, and screen and teleplays (most recently for *As the World Turns*) and is currently a writer-producer for HBO.com.

She co-founded This Thing Films with Anslem Richardson; they are in post-production on a new web series, *Sunrise* (which Marin co-wrote and co-stars in).

www.maringazzaniga.com



2K3_Crew Biographies

Gray MILLER, writer/director/producer

Gray MILLER has been a DIY film geek since picking up a Super-8 camera at the age of 9. He was invited into USC's Filmic Writing program and graduated from UT Austin's film school. Moving to New York, he taught himself After Effects and Maya, and designed and animated film titles in the late 90's for Spike Lee, Jim Jarmusch, the Coen Brothers and Paul Thomas Anderson while on staff at a New York design firm.

Inspired by the work of Wong Kar Wei and Paul Thomas Anderson, he embarked on the ensemble indie sci-fi feature *2K3*, a story of a young pregnant couple dealing with startling visions in NYC's Chinatown in the summer of 2003. Working nights and weekends, he wrote, directed, produced and edited the 84-minute film, his first feature. *2K3* was selected for the IFP Narrative Rough Cut Labs.

www.graymiller.com

Jon HOKANSON, director of photography

Jon HOKANSON has shot features, commercials, music videos, and documentaries in the U.S. and abroad. Recent DP work: *2K3*, and *El Cielo* (a Colombian feature shot in Cartagena). He has shot commercials for VH1, Verizon, and RSI bank, a music video for electronic dance group Wellenrausch, the Mexican group Pistoleros, and several short films, including Garret Savage's *The List*. Prior to becoming a DP, he worked extensively as a gaffer on independent films including *Trick* and *Roger Dodger*, and music videos for Lauren Hill, The Yeah Yeah Yeahs and others. He also worked as an electrician on Larry Clark's *Kids* and Jim Jarmusch's *Dead Man*.

www.jonhokansondp.com

John KARIAN, visual effects

John KARIAN is a graduate of the Academy of Art University. He has done design and animation work in After Effects and Maya for UVPH, Nick at Night, Stardust, Charlex, and Trollback in NY. His visual effects studio is Junglinc.

www.junglinc.com



2K3_Crew Biographies

Jonathan LEONG, visual effects

Jonathan LEONG is a graduate of New York University. His company, 5050Motion, has executed design & direction for HBO & SciFi Channel. 5050 won a Promax Gold in 2007 for their work on HBO Late Night.

www.5050motion.com

Paul BRILL, composer

Paul BRILL has composed music for film, radio, and television. Paul's original score for the award-winning HBO feature documentary, *The Trials of Darryl Hunt*, was hailed by Variety as "memorably chilling, sounding notes of purest dread." New films scored by Paul Brill include: *The Devil Came on Horseback*, *Pindemonium*, and *Kaleidoscope*.

He recently released *Harpooner*, his latest CD of adventurous songwriting. The record is a thoroughly dismantled pop statement, on which Brill collages found sounds, jigsaw beats, and damaged vocals.

www.paulbrill.com

Emily KRILL, producer/web designer

Emily KRILL and Gray MILLER have been producing partners for the last five years, and were married in 2006. Emily's training is in art and design, and she was one of the first artists represented by the gallery Mixed Greens. Her paintings can be seen in the film *High Art* and she is currently working as an editor on the web series *Feed Me*. Emily and Gray are expecting their first baby in the Fall of 2008. Happily, they have not experienced any quantum mechanical visions about the child... yet.

www.2k3film.com



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