

# BLACK

Written and Directed by Seth and Nathan Anderson

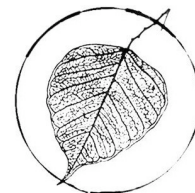
Produced by Jason Hagen

A Lullskull Ltd. Production

Jason Hagen, Producer: (612) 581-2296 / E-mail: Jason@lullskull.com

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ROBERT McATEE  
SERIINA COVARRUBIUS



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In this supernatural thriller, a psychiatrist must face his own fear of death after his psychic wife invites a frightening presence into their lives. As they are both drawn into a situation where dreams easily fuse with reality, the distanced couple must find a common understanding or risk being cut off from each other forever. Set against a misty coastal backdrop, this fast-paced examination of existential dread and the threads that bind us beyond death is a sophisticated update in the grand tradition of the *Twilight Zone* and *The Outer Limits*.

We, the filmmakers; brothers Seth and Nathan Anderson, and Jason Hagen co-founded the production company Lullskull Ltd. in 2006 upon the release of our debut western short film *The Merciful Death of Jonas Blake*. We came together through various channels; Seth and Nathan have worked creatively together since they could walk, while Jason and Nathan formed a fruitful friendship after having been drawn to each other's work in college.

From the cast and crew of *BLACK*, thank you all for your support and we hope to hear your thoughts soon.

**- The producers of *BLACK***

"... an exemplary example of independent filmmaking and a fantastic combination of craftsmanship and heart."

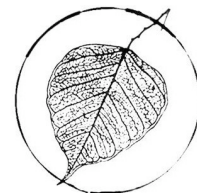
**- 2009 Fargo Film Festival, ND**

"... bizarre, engrossing and thrilling short filmmaking."

**- Shane Morton, Indie Express.com**

"...the Andersons show great maturity in both their writing and filmmaking techniques. The writing is top-notch and the directing is taut."

**- Cary Conley, RogueCinema.com**



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## **FILM INFORMATION**

**Logline:** A young psychiatrist's life begins to unravel after his psychic wife invites a dark presence into their lives.

### **Technical Specs**

**Total Running Time** 39:00

**Aspect Ratio** 1.33:1 (letterbox)

**Original Shooting Format** DV

**Screening Format** Digibeta, Beta SP, Mini DV, and DVD.

**Country Format** NTSC

### **Filming Locations**

Bandon, OR

Coos Bay, OR

Los Angeles, CA (Second Unit/Studio)

### **Exhibition History**

September 24<sup>th</sup> – Sycamore Film Festival, IL (IL PREMIERE)

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 – InConJunction SF & Fantasy Convention, IN (IN PREMIERE)

July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Action on Film International Film Festival, CA (CA PREMIERE)

April 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – NW Projections Film Festival, WA (WA PREMIERE)

April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Wisconsin Film Festival, WI (WI PREMIERE)

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – Mpls. Underground Film Festival, MN (MN PREMIERE)

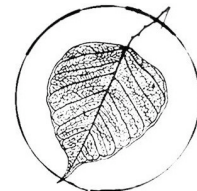
October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – Astoria International Film Festival, OR (OR PREMIERE)

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – New Filmmakers Summer Festival, NY (NY PREMIERE)

March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – Fargo Film Festival, ND (ND PREMIERE)

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – Derby City Film Festival, KY (KY/WORLD PREMIERE)

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## **CAST**

### **Emile**

ROBERT MCATEE

### **Dana (Dee Dee)**

SERIINA COVARRUBIAS

### **Michael**

KEVIN DAHLGREN

### **Julie**

JENNY MCGRIFF

## **PRODUCTION UNIT**

### **Written & Directed by**

SETH ANDERSON

NATHAN ANDERSON

### **Produced by**

JASON HAGEN

### **Executive Producers**

MARIE ANDERSON

DAVID ANDERSON

STESHA MCCUE

JASON MCCUE

DIANA ZELTNER

RICHARD ZELTNER

### **Associate Producers**

LETTY AVILA

DAVID BISCHKE

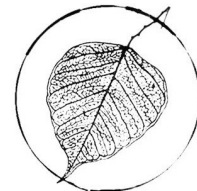
YVONNE BUBLITZ

JAMES BUBLITZ

SARA DAGMAWI

SUZANNE DAVIS

AUDREY ERICKSON



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## **Associate Producers**

SCOTT HOLOWINSKI

ALEXIS SIEGEL

RANDALL WEEGE

SUSAN WEIDE

MAGGIE ZELTNER

THOMAS ZENI

## **Director of Photography**

NATHAN ANDERSON

## **Gaffer**

JASON HAGEN

## **Production Design by**

NATHAN ANDERSON

## **Art Direction by**

NATHAN ANDERSON

## **Costume Design by**

SETH ANDERSON

## **Make-Up by**

NATHAN ANDERSON

## **Casting by**

SETH ANDERSON

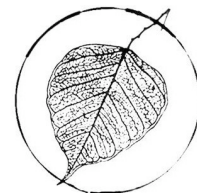
JASON HAGEN

## **Key Grip/Electric**

JERED HRITZ

## **Production Assistant**

KATHY TRINH



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## **Stunt Coordinator**

ROBERT MCATEE

## **POST-PRODUCTION**

### **Edited by**

SETH ANDERSON

### **Online Editor**

STEVE LABORICO

### **Sound Design by**

ANDREW BURNS

### **Re-recording Mixer**

BARRY LAWSON

### **Original Music by**

ROBERT MCATEE

### **Voice-Over Talent**

ANTONIA BATH

DAN KLASS

### **Titles by**

SETH ANDERSON

### **Post-Production Supervisor**

JASON HAGEN

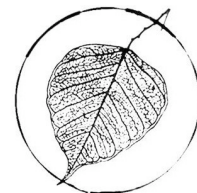
## **PRODUCTION ASSISTANCE**

KELLI FEIGLEY

KELLEY MAHER

SAMSUNG MOBILE FRESH FILMS

WWW.FRESH-FILMS.COM



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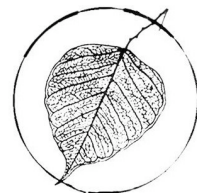
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**The producers gratefully thank the following for their generous contributions:**

HILLARY ASKEW  
ANGINEH BABAKHANIAN  
BANDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
BAY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CITY OF IRON MOUNTAN, MICHIGAN  
SHAWN AND MIKE BIGGERS  
JONATHAN BISCHKE  
JOY CARLSON  
CINDY CLARK  
IRENE CLARK  
DUART FILM & VIDEO  
PAUL ESSLING  
ARIEL FUJITA  
MICHAEL S. HALL  
FONTAINE B. HEBB  
SHANNON HILLSETH  
CHRIS JONES & ASSOCIATES  
DAN LABORICO  
ELIZABETH AND DAVE LARSON  
KE' ALOHI LEE  
DOUG NATHAN  
NATHAN ROTMENSZ  
JOSHUA H. RUBIN  
SCREENING SERVICES GROUP

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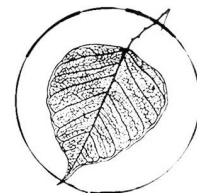
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## **Directors Biography**

Raised in Iron Mountain, Michigan, brothers **Seth and Nathan Anderson** have been working creatively together since they could walk, with Nathan displaying talent as a visual artist, and Seth developing as a writer and editor. After going separate ways to earn art degrees, the duo gravitated back together and moved to Los Angeles in 2004 to continue where they left off. With Producer Jason Hagen, a native of Minnesota who formed a friendship with Nathan during college, the brothers co-formed Lullskull Ltd. in 2006 and have since created two short character-driven genre films. Their latest film, the long-form short **BLACK (2008)** confronts the fear of death through the prism of a paranormal thriller. Seth says, "I love genre films, but I'm often disappointed when I'm not given characters that deliver the emotional goods. The three of us will always strive to explore every nook and cranny of given concept, no matter how fantastic, and that examination will always be grounded in the nuance of human nature."



*Co-Writers/Directors Nathan and Seth Anderson on the set of **BLACK**, Bandon, Oregon, 2007.*



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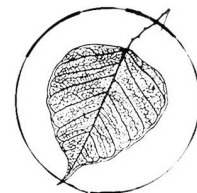
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## Producer Biography

**Jason Hagen** is a Minnesota native, but was raised in Arizona. Developing a fascination with writing and cameras while in high school, he returned to Minnesota to pursue a degree in Film. He met Nathan Anderson while at the Minneapolis College of Art & Design, and graduated in 2002. Since college, Jason has worked on various television series and films in LA/NY. Jason is currently expanding the East Coast division of Lullskull Ltd., and continues to produce challenging work with Nathan and Seth Anderson. He currently resides in New York City, NY.



*Producer Jason Hagen at the 2006 LA Shorts Festival, CA.*



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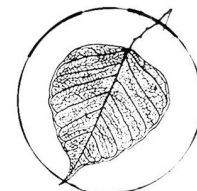
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## Press

“Making of” BLACK article, written by producer Jason Hagen, featured in Reel Life section of Indie Slate magazine, issue #61, 2011:

The image shows the cover of Indie Slate magazine, issue #61, dated 2011. The main title "INDIE SLATE" is prominently displayed at the top. Below it, the subtitle "Producing and Distributing Independent Film & Video" is visible. The cover features a black and white photograph of a woman in a white dress standing on a beach, looking out at the ocean. The word "BLACK" is written in large, bold letters across the middle of the cover. To the right of the main image is a circular logo containing a detailed drawing of a leaf. Below the leaf logo, the text "LULLSKULL LTD." is printed. The article title "Betting on 'Black'" is visible on the cover, along with the author's name "By Jason Hagen". The magazine also includes a "REEL LIFE" section and a "CASTING & CREW" section. The cover price is listed as "U.S. \$5.99 CAN \$6.50".

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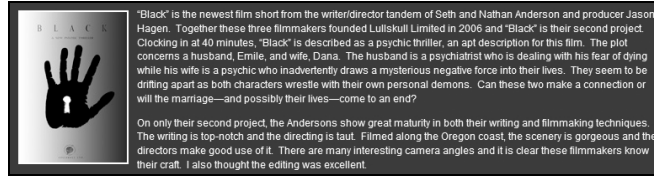
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Cary Conley's review of *BLACK* for the November 2009 webzine *RogueCinema.com*:



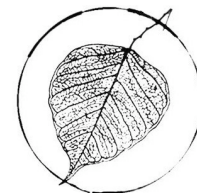
"Black" is the newest film short from the writer/director tandem of Seth and Nathan Anderson and producer Jason Hagen. Together these three filmmakers founded Lullskull Limited in 2006 and "Black" is their second project. Clocking in at 40 minutes, "Black" is described as a psychic thriller, an apt description for this film. The plot concerns a husband, Emile, and wife, Dana. The husband is a psychiatrist who is dealing with his fear of dying while his wife is a psychic who inadvertently draws a mysterious negative force into their lives. They seem to be drifting apart as both characters wrestle with their own personal demons. Can these two make a connection or will the marriage—and possibly their lives—come to an end?

On only their second project, the Andersons show great maturity in both their writing and filmmaking techniques. The writing is top-notch and the directing is taut. Filmed along the Oregon coast, the scenery is gorgeous and the directors make good use of it. There are many interesting camera angles and it is clear these filmmakers know their craft. I also thought the editing was excellent.

Robert McAtee plays Emile, our psychiatrist that is grappling with a potentially life-threatening illness. His overriding fear is of dying and he is wondering how to break this news to his wife, whom he loves but has also felt more distant from recently. McAtee does a terrific job with his character and shows a wide range of emotions in his acting.

Seriina Covarrubias plays Emile's psychic wife Dana. Dana accidentally invites a negative force into her home when she is helping a mysterious man try to find his missing wife. She has an innate psychic ability but her husband doesn't believe her and has her taking medication in an effort to cure her. Actress Covarrubias also does a nice job in her role, alternately showing both a timid side as well as a strong side to her character when the time arises.

This is a strange little film. Emile keeps having dreams or visions of some type of alien or monster chasing him. While it is unclear if the alien is out to harm him, when it catches him, he is always bound and gagged, leaving him unable to take control of the



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situation. Dana keeps trying to break through his mental block and help him along to a solution, but she also has problems of her own. The mystery man keeps harassing her, trying to convince her to help him find out what happened to his missing wife.

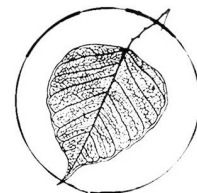
There are all kinds of different subtexts to this film. The opening shot shows Emile jogging as we hear a voiceover of his wife counseling a client during a psychic reading. She asks the client to “think of the person you have lost and tell them what you need to tell them.” It seems clear that while she is talking to a client, she is also trying to coach her husband along his journey.

The title of the film is “Black”, and it is filmed in black-and-white; therefore, it’s no surprise that the color black plays an important part of this film. The characters typically dress in dark clothing; much of the set decoration is in dark colors; there are several instances of characters either entering into or exiting from very dark areas; and Emile experiences a blackout during the climax that both he and Dana must fight through if they are to be saved.

But finally, this film is really about faith, hope, trust, and ultimately redemption. It is tense but ends on a very positive note and ultimately leaves the viewer satisfied with the conclusion of events. It seems clear to me that the filmmakers had a very specific vision and worked hard to communicate that vision not only visually, but on several different levels.

I enjoyed “Black” both as a narrative film as well as a film with multiple subtexts. I wish the filmmakers good luck in any future projects they may have as they show real talent and promise.

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