



BREAKWALL PICTURES

THANKS MOM (2010)

SHORT FILM PRESENTATION
PRESS KIT

BREAKWALL PICTURES PRESENTS



BREAKWALL PICTURES PRESENTS A FRINGE ELEMENT ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION THANKS MOM PENNY SLUSHER DANIEL KUHLMAN JEREMY KUHLMAN
DAVID GOODLOE KRISTINA MORALES KAYLA MALEC AND CHRISTIAN STOLTE STYLING DUSTIN CAMILLERI PROP JON MENDENHALL COSTUME KATIE KAT REISNER
EDITED BY DENEEN MELODY PRODUCED BY DANIEL KUHLMAN WRITTEN BY JEREMY KUHLMAN DIRECTED BY DANIEL KUHLMAN AND JAMES ERRICO

MOTHER KNOWS BEST...

“FILLED WITH SUBTLE ACTING AND WELL TIMED COMIC DELIVERY, THE END RESULT IS ONE OF THE FUNNIEST BITS ON FILM PRODUCTION I HAVE SEEN YET. THERE ISN'T A WEAK LINK IN THE CHAIN... DO YOURSELF A FAVOR AND CHECK THIS ONE OUT, JUST LEAVE MOM AT HOME!”

- KILLINGBOX

“THIS SHORT FILM BEGS TO BE A FULL LENGTH FEATURE... I BELIEVE THIS SCRIPT WOULD EMERGE AS A BOX OFFICE WINNER.”

- CHICAGO CRITIC

FEATURING:

CHRISTIAN STOLTE (LAW ABIDING CITIZEN)
DENEEN MELODY (SLICES OF LIFE)
PENNY SLUSHER (GRACE IS GONE)



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www.breakwallpictures.com/thanksmom.html



Running Time:
12 Minutes 40 Seconds

MPAA:
NOT RATED

Aspect:
4:3/Letterbox 16:9



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Executive Summary

SYNOPSIS

Brothers Dan and Jeremy are aspiring filmmakers. When the economic crisis drains their pool of potential investors, they have no choice but to accept their mother's offer to fund their feature film. Months later, with their movie nearly complete, their artistic vision runs headlong into their mother's more wholesome values. THANKS MOM is a comedy about art, filmmaking and a couple of momma's boys.

PROJECT DETAILS

THANKS MOM is twelve minutes, forty seconds in length, and was shot on HD 720P.

BUDGET

THANKS MOM's budget is currently estimated to be \$22,500.

WEBSITES

The THANKS MOM official site:

www.breakwallpictures.com/thanksmom.html

Facebook Fan Page:

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Thanks-Mom/130470746998545?ref=ts>

IMDB:

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1623154/>

BREAKWALL PICTURES

Breakwall Pictures is a privately owned Limited Liability Company founded in Chicago by brothers Daniel and Jeremy Kuhlman in June of 2007. Breakwall has produced numerous short narrative films, including: *Jacob in the Wilderness*, *Convo* and *THANKS MOM*, the documentaries: *Icelandic Boards* and *The Making of The ONE and ONLY*, the commercials *Heinz: Good on Anything* and *Heinz: Feel the Love*, as well as theatrical trailers for the feature film, *Helena*, and the novel, *The ONE and ONLY*, by Stuart V. Goldberg.

To learn more about us, visit our websites at: www.breakwallpictures.com or www.helenathemovie.com.

To view the trailer for *The ONE and ONLY* visit: www.theoneandonlynovel.com.



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Director's Statement

The idea behind THANKS MOM ironically comes from very real experiences that my brother Jeremy and I have had over the past several years. Since the birth of our production company, one of our primary goals, of course, has been to produce a feature film. However, with the downturn in the economy, it's been a hard road for us and pretty much every independent filmmaker in the country. So, ironically, or maybe not, our biggest supporter, and sometimes our only supporter, has been our mother. For each of our projects, our mom has been to every screening and read each and every script. In the case of one of our films, I've written literally hundreds drafts, and our mom has read every one.

That said, it's also important to understand that our mom grew up in the 1950's, and thus has the matching conservative mindset and taste. While my brother and I have sensibilities that fall somewhere between *Requiem For A Dream* and *It's Always Sunny In Philadelphia*, our mom's land solidly between *Casablanca* and *The Beverly Hillbillies*. As a result, our scripts often run us headlong into conflict.

Each time that we go through this our mom is always very supportive. Each script is followed by a, "Danny! It was very moving. VERY moving!... But..." And the "But" is, of course, followed by a comment about specific parts that are "difficult" for her to read.

In one such film, the climax involves a breakup between a husband and wife incorporating some rather prolific language. My mother read it, called me, and following the obligatory questions about my diet and how much sleep I get, asked, "Danny. People don't really TALK like that, do they?" Followed by a, "I just don't think people should use that WORD." That word being one loved by potty mouths around the world. Trying to contain my inner tantrum, however, I calmly explained to her that I had heard that particular word come out of her mouth on many occasions, both private and public. At which time she, of course, turned on a motherly guilt that can burn like the rays of ten thousand suns.

However, when I put down the phone, I turned around and changed the script. Every time. No matter how pissed off or vehement my argument had been, out would go the language, sex, drugs, infidelity, and on and on. The reason for this being a subject I'm sure therapists would have a field day with.

The irony is that when we have shopped our scripts to producers and production companies around the country, they have had the exact same things to say. Thus, my mother, without knowing it, has her sensibilities completely in line with those of industry leaders. And we just thought that was absolutely hilarious.

The script for THANKS MOM was born out of that idea. It was nurtured by the love that our mom has for us and what we do, and invariably focused by our intense frustration with the fact that she is so often... right.

With that in mind, our goals for the film are simple: make people laugh, delve into their relationships with their families, and convey the struggle between integrity, loyalty, and popularity. We hope you enjoy the film.

Daniel Kuhlman - Director of THANKS MOM



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Synopsis



TAG LINE

Mother Knows Best.

SYNOPSIS

Brothers Dan and Jeremy are aspiring filmmakers.

When the economic crisis drains their pool of potential investors, they have no choice but to accept their mother's offer to fund their feature film.

Months later, with their movie nearly complete, their artistic vision runs headlong into their mother's more wholesome values.

THANKS MOM is a comedy about art, filmmaking...

And a couple of momma's boys.





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Cast Biographies



Christian Stolte (Studio Executive) – Christian Stolte lives and works in Chicago, where he has been acting in theatre, film and television since the early nineties. He portrayed Corrections Officer Stolte for 18 episodes of *Prison Break*, and also was featured on episodes of *The Beast*, *Cupid*, *America's Most Wanted* and *Turks*. His recent film roles include Charles Makley in *Public Enemies*, Dan Boyle in *The Express*, Hank Bailey in *Under New Management*, and Clarence Darby in *Law Abiding Citizen*, he tangles with Freddy Krueger in the re-make of the original *A Nightmare on Elm Street*, and most recently he can be seen as Sergeant Worthen on *The Chicago Code*.



Penny Slusher (Mom) – Penny 's credits include Dustin Lance Black's film, *What's Wrong With Virginia*, *Meet The Browns*, *Grace Is Gone*, and *Death Of A President*. You may also have seen or heard her in commercial spots for Scrubbing Bubbles, and Steak and Shake. A long time Chicago theatre actress, Penny has worked with Writers', Steppenwolf, Court, Timeline, and Victory Gardens Theatres, among numerous other companies. She has received the Joseph Jefferson Award for her work in *Another Part Of The Forest* (Writers' Theatre) and a Chicago After Dark Award for the same production as well as for her role in *Uncle Vanya* (Court Theatre).



Deneen Melody (First AC) – A former ballerina and experienced model, Deneen's involvement in film began when she moved from Houston to the Chicago area. Since that time, she has become very popular due to her success in horror, as well as the fantasy and science fiction genre. Her roles include leads in the films *As Night Falls* (Pop Gun Pictures), *III Slices of Life* (TinyCore Pictures), and the remake of *Don't Look in the Basement!*, which is directed by Anthony Sumner and Alan Rowe Kelly. Deneen also does stunt training and fight combat in her spare time. She can currently be seen as the Goddess Hecate-Freya in the *Western X* web series.



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Filmmaker Biographies



Daniel Kuhlman (Producer, Director, Screenwriter) Daniel is an actor, director, screenwriter and producer, originally from Cleveland, Ohio. His credits include independent film, theater and improv, and he is a proud alumnus of Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama. In 2007, he founded Breakwall Pictures with his brother Jeremy Kuhlman. His producer, director and/or writer credits include *Helena* (2008), *Jacob In The Wilderness* (2009), *Thanks Mom* (2010), *The ONE and ONLY* by Stuart V. Goldberg (2010), *Convo* (2011), the documentary *The Making of The ONE and ONLY* (2010), and the spec commercial, *Heinz: Good On Anything*. He is also the writer/director of the upcoming dark fantasy, *Rose White*.

As an actor, his theater credits include: Famous Door's multi-Jeff Award winning production of *The Cider House Rules: Parts I and II*, *The Fastest Clock in the Universe* with A Red Orchid Theatre, *The Caretaker* and *Saved* at Mary-Arrchie Theatre, *The Misanthrope* with Next Theatre, and *Mauritius* at Northlight Theatre, all of which were Jeff Recommended. His film credits include: *Crime Fiction* which was an official selection at the Slamdance, Vail, Crossroads and Gen Art film festivals, Sphinx Productions' *The Memoirs of Don Walker* which was an official selection at The New York Film Festival and Chicago's IndieFest, and the role of Timothy McVeigh in *Conspiracy: Oklahoma City Bombing* for the History Channel.



Jeremy Kuhlman (Director of Photography) Jeremy founded Breakwall Pictures with his brother Daniel Kuhlman in 2007. Since his graduation from the University of Oregon, he has worked extensively in documentary film, music video, independent short film and commercial production. He has over ten years of experience as a photographer and cinematographer, and has a portfolio that includes shots from locations ranging from Tasmania to the glaciers and mountains of Patagonia.

His Director of Photography credits include the narrative films *Jacob In The Wilderness*, *Thanks Mom*, and the upcoming *Rose White*, the documentary *Icelandic Boards* shot on location in Jackson Hole, Wyoming and Salt Lake City, Utah, and music videos for "The Charlie Hapner Band," "Stairway Denied," and "Reeple Jar."



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Reviews



KillingBox Review

"Filled with subtle acting and well timed comic delivery, the end result is one of the funniest bits on film production I have seen yet. If like me you love films, or you yourself make films, this is a must see..."

"There isn't a weak link in the chain and the end result speaks for itself..."

"Do yourself a favor and check this one out, just leave Mom at home!"

William R. Colby – KillingBoxx.com

Full Review:
<http://www.killingboxx.com/content.php?section=BoxxOffice&cID=ThanksMom>

The Chicago Critic Review

"...the acting, especially by the 'killer' and his victim and the brothers, was authentic yet exuding humor. Daniel Kuhlman is terrific as Dan. Art and life work together here."

"This short film begs to be a full-length feature film. I can see this script becoming a comic hoot as both a knock on the bad films being made these days and a tribute to those light family-friendly films of the 1950 such as those Doris Day Rock Hudson comedies. I believe this script would emerge as a box office winner."

"The talent of the Kuhlman brothers is demonstrated in this short film. I'd enjoy seeing these guys produce a feature. They just need an angel."

Tom Williams – ChicagoCritic.com

Full review:
<http://chicagocritic.com/thanks-mom-a-film-review>



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Promotional Materials

THANKS MOM (2010) - OFFICIAL FILM POSTER

THANKS MOM (2010) - POST CARDS

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PROD. **THANKS MOM**

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| ROLL 11 | SCENE 14-A | TAKE 26 |
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DIRECTOR: **Dan Kuhlman
James Errico**

DATE: 7/13/2010 FPS INT EXT

BREAKWALL PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH FRINGEELEMENT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS THANKS MOM PENNY SLOSER DANIEL KUHLMAN JEREMY KUHLMAN DAVID GOODLOE KRISTINA MORALES KAYLA MALEC AND CHRISTIAN STOLTE STARRING DUSTIN CAMILLERI WITH JON MENDENHALL PRODUCED BY KATIE KAT REISNER WRITTEN BY DENNEEN MELODY PRODUCED BY DANIEL KUHLMAN DIRECTED BY JEREMY KUHLMAN AND DANIEL KUHLMAN AND JAMES ERRICO

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH FRINGEELEMENT ENTERTAINMENT

Mother Knows Best

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