

THE LAST EXECUTIONER

HANDMADE DISTRIBUTION AND TIGER ENTERTAINMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH SRF MEDIA PRESENT A DE WARRENNE PICTURES PRODUCTION
A FILM BY TOM WALLER 'THE LAST EXECUTIONER' STARRING VITHAYA PANSRINGARM PENPAK SIRIKUL DAVID ASAVANOND
WITH JARAN PETCHAROEN AND NIRUT SIRICHANYA MUSIC BY OLIVIER LLIBOUTRY DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY WADE MULLER H.K.S.C.
PRODUCTION DESIGNER PONGNARIN JONGHAWKLANG EDITED BY SAWIT PRASERTPHAN ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS KATRINA GROSE SOMBOON VICHASRE
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ANTEO QUINTAVALLE PRODUCED BY MICHAEL PRITCHETT TOM WALLER
SCREENPLAY BY DON LINDER DIRECTED BY TOM WALLER



DeWarrennePictures
MOTION PICTURE FILM PRODUCTION

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HANDMADE
DISTRIBUTION



"A stylish and fundamentally fascinating portrait"

- Elizabeth Kerr, THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

WILLOW T.M.

THE LAST EXECUTIONER

DE WARRENNE PICTURES
MOTION PICTURE FILM PRODUCTION

De Warrenne Pictures Co. Ltd.

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Runtime: 95 mins Language: Thai Subtitles: English



THE LAST EXECUTIONER

SYNOPSIS

Inspired by true events, **THE LAST EXECUTIONER** is the story of Chavoret Jaruboon, the last person in Thailand whose job it was to execute by gun - a wild rock and roller who took a 'respectable' job to support the family he loved devotedly, then constantly tried to reconcile the good and bad karma that came from his decision. It is a story of life at its most beautiful and death at its most surreal.

“THE LAST EXECUTIONER is a lush, sometimes surreal, occasionally lurid biography of a good man in an ugly world” - Elizabeth Kerr, THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER




“We Thais believe in destiny and fate. I believe in Karma”

- Chavoret Jaruboon

Vithaya Pansringarm as Chavoret Jaruboon

INBORN
THE LAST EXECUTIONER

A man in a white shirt and blindfold, tied to a wooden gallows, holding lotus flowers. The scene is outdoors with green foliage in the background. The man is seen from behind, with his arms outstretched and hands holding two lotus flowers. He is blindfolded with a white cloth. The gallows is made of dark wood. The background is a lush green field with trees.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

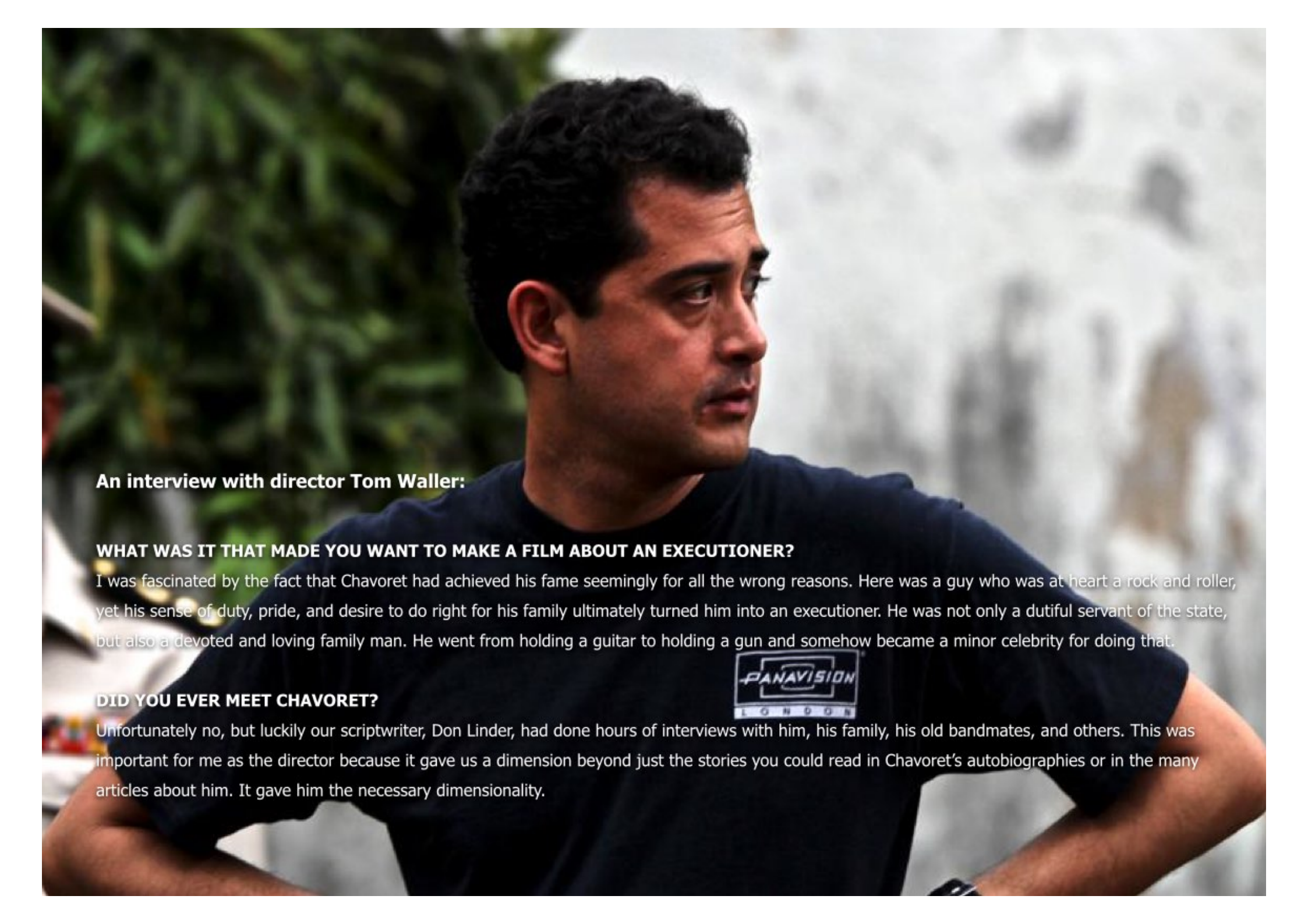
I first read about Chavoret Jaruboon in a Bangkok Post obituary in May 2012. What came across to me was that he was clearly an ordinary man who led an extraordinary life. For a man who wanted to be a rock'n'roll singer, becoming a prison executioner would seem like an unlikely vocation. This is a man who went from holding a guitar to holding a gun - it was as if at times, he was living a double life. In his later years he had even become a minor celebrity in Thailand, as a guest on gameshows and chat shows, celebrated for performing his duties in taking the lives of 55 condemned prisoners.

It was perhaps for Chavoret, fame for all the wrong reasons. Yet Chavoret had led his life with a sense of duty, pride and diligence for his job, not once questioning why or how the condemned came to end

Often troubled by these 'spirits' that haunted him, Chavoret turned to monks for moral guidance, seeking to make amends for his acts of killing. But it is as if his karma came around to punish him in the end, with cancer that took his own life after enduring much suffering. Don Linder's screenplay tells the story of Chavoret's extraordinary life with much panache, illustrating his inner turmoil and conflicted efforts to reconcile with his karma.

up on death row. How does a man given with such a task of taking so many lives reconcile with his karma? This was initially what interested me most in making a film inspired by the story of his life.

However, after speaking to his widow and family, I realized there were different layers to this man. Not only was he a dutiful servant of the state, but he was also a wonderful husband and a loving family man. After all, raising his family in many ways, was the reason he entered the prison service in the first place. It paid more bills than playing the guitar would, but working at Bang Kwang prison, ultimately, led to living with demons inside his head.




An interview with director Tom Waller:

WHAT WAS IT THAT MADE YOU WANT TO MAKE A FILM ABOUT AN EXECUTIONER?

I was fascinated by the fact that Chavoret had achieved his fame seemingly for all the wrong reasons. Here was a guy who was at heart a rock and roller, yet his sense of duty, pride, and desire to do right for his family ultimately turned him into an executioner. He was not only a dutiful servant of the state, but also a devoted and loving family man. He went from holding a guitar to holding a gun and somehow became a minor celebrity for doing that.

DID YOU EVER MEET CHAVORET?

Unfortunately no, but luckily our scriptwriter, Don Linder, had done hours of interviews with him, his family, his old bandmates, and others. This was important for me as the director because it gave us a dimension beyond just the stories you could read in Chavoret's autobiographies or in the many articles about him. It gave him the necessary dimensionality.



"I was an executioner...not a murderer"

- Chavoret Jaruboon

WHAT WERE YOUR BIGGEST CHALLENGES IN MAKING THE FILM?

One of the biggest challenges was how to integrate the character of the Spirit as a constant in the film without making it hokey or too much like a typical Thai ghost film. The Spirit is actually Yama, or the Angel of Death, who follows Chavoret throughout his life. By making him a very real character instead of something unearthly, I was able to keep the character grounded. Add to that a terrific synergy between Vithaya Pansringarm as Chavoret and David Asavanond as the Spirit. I also needed to emphasize the bloodiness of his job without turning the film into a blood-and-gore extravaganza. Again, I think we accomplished this through always keeping the story grounded in real life experiences.

WHAT KINDS OF AUDIENCES DO YOU THINK THE FILM WILL APPEAL TO?

Many. It has more than enough execution scenes to appeal as an action film, yet it's also a complicated take on karma, duty, and life and death as a whole. In addition, it's very much a love story between Chavoret and Tew too. So, I think it has appeal for a wide range of audiences and tastes.



"I never got pleasure from shooting people...It was my job"

- Chavoret Jaruboon



SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

2016 MECHANIC RESURRECTION by Dennis Gansel

2015 LUPIN III by Ryuhei Kitamura

2014 THE LAST EXECUTIONER by Tom Waller

2013 NINJA: SHADOW OF A TEAR by Isaac Florentine

2013 ONLY GOD FORGIVES by Nicolas Winding Refn

2012 TRADE OF INNOCENTS by Christopher Bessette

2011 LARGO WINCH 2 by Jérôme Salle

2011 THE HANGOVER PART II by Todd Phillips

2009 MINDFULNESS AND MURDER by Tom Waller

2009 THE PRINCE & ME IV by Catherine Cyran

VITHAYA PANSRINGARM (as Chavoret Jaruboon)

Vithaya Pansringarm (nickname Pu) was born in Bangkok, Thailand in 1959. Growing up in the 1960s in a middle-class Thai family, he was exposed to western music and films. One of his father's jobs was to translate and voice-over American Westerns shown on large outdoor screens at festivals. Passionate about the arts, he went to New York City and graduated in graphic design with honors from the New York Institute of Technology in 1985. After working as a graphic designer for a number of years, he moved back to Bangkok in 1987 with his wife, an American ballet dancer. Together, they founded the Rising Star Dance Studio, one of Bangkok's foremost academies of dance.

His acting career started almost by accident when he was discovered by Australian cinematographer/director Wade Muller, who asked him to act as a Policeman in the short film Second Chance. Wade later recommended Vithaya Pansringarm to the casting director of the Hollywood production The Prince and Me: The Elephant Adventure shooting in Thailand. He was cast in a main role as King Sarayu, thus making his international film debut in 2009. This led to director Tom Waller asking him to play the lead role of Father Ananda in the controversial Thai film Mindfulness and Murder in late 2009. This role earned him Best Actor at ThrillSpy International Film Festival in Washington, DC in 2010. When the film was finally given permission to be shown in Thailand in 2011, he was nominated for Best Actor at the 2012 Thai National Film Awards (Subhanahongsa). After roles in several international productions shot in Thailand including Largo Winch 2, The Hangover Part II, and Trade of Innocents, he was cast by Nicolas Winding Refn in the leading role of Police Lieutenant Chang in Only God Forgives, opposite Ryan Gosling and Kristin Scott Thomas.

Vithaya is an active environmentalist and member of the Executive Committee of the Wild Animal Rescue Foundation of Thailand (WARF). He is a martial artist holding a fifth degree black belt in Kendo (Japanese fencing). He is the President of the Thailand Kendo Club.



PENPAK SIRIKUL (as Tew)

Penpak 'Tai' Sirikul is one of Thailand's best known actresses, models, and singers. In the 1980s, she became well-known for her sultry, erotic photos, and since then she has appeared in more than 25 films in her 30-year career. In that time, she has been known for taking on roles that are daring and "out of the box," such as the girlfriend of a Mafia boss, the jealous woman, and the temptress. She has also appeared in more mainstream films such as "Hangover, Part II."

Penpak's recent films have included "She: Their Love Story" (2012), "It Gets Better" (2012), "9 Wat" (2010), and "Phil Khon Pen" (2006).

Now 51 and the mother of a 30-year-old son, if you mention her name to any Thai, the response is invariably, "She's so beautiful."

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

2014 THE LAST EXECUTIONER by Tom Waller

2012 SHE: THEIR LOVE STORY by Sranya Noithai

2012 IT GETS BETTER by Tanwarin Sukkhapsit

2011 KON KHON by Saramyu Wongkrachang

2011 THE HANGOVER PART II by Todd Phillips

2006 THE VICTIM by Monthon Arayangkoon

2001 THE LEGEND OF SURİYOTHAI by Chatrichalerm Yukol



DAVID ASAVANOND (as The Spirit)

David Asavanond is a Thai-French actor known for his performances in "The Protector" (2005), "Croc" (2007), and most notably for his crazed performance as a sadistic, drug-dealing hipster named Jesus in the New York-set horror-thriller "Countdown," for which he was named Best Actor at the 2012 Thai National Film Awards (Subhanahongsa). David is $\frac{3}{4}$ French and $\frac{1}{4}$ Thai and has lived in England, Thailand, France, and the U.S. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Boston University. While living in New York City, he completed a two-year intensive program in method acting at the world-renown Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institute. He is fluent in Thai, French, and English.

Of his role as the Spirit in "The Last Executioner," David Asavanond says, "It was interesting playing The Spirit as I was following Chavoret everywhere as an entity only he could see. I felt like I was playing hide and seek and I was winning the whole time against the rest of the world, except against Chavoret."

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

- 2014 THE LAST EXECUTIONER by Tom Waller
- 2013 PEE KAO PEE OOK by Pakphum Wongjinda
- 2013 SANTORINI BLUE by Matthew Panepinto
- 2012 COUNTDOWN by Nattawut Poonpiriya
- 2007 CROC by Stewart Raffill
- 2005 THE PROTECTOR by Prachya Pinkaew

NIRUT SIRICHANYA (as the TV interviewer)

Nirut Sirichanya is an internationally recognized actor well-known for his role as the stern father of the bride in 2011's "The Hangover, Part II." His film career began in 1977 in the role of Dr. Warong in "O, Madda." He is also known for his roles in "Ong-bak 2" (2008), "Ong-bak 3" (2010), and in the TV movie "Das Madchen aus dem Rengenwald" (2011). He will appear as Manit Lekpal in the upcoming "The Knife Thrower."

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

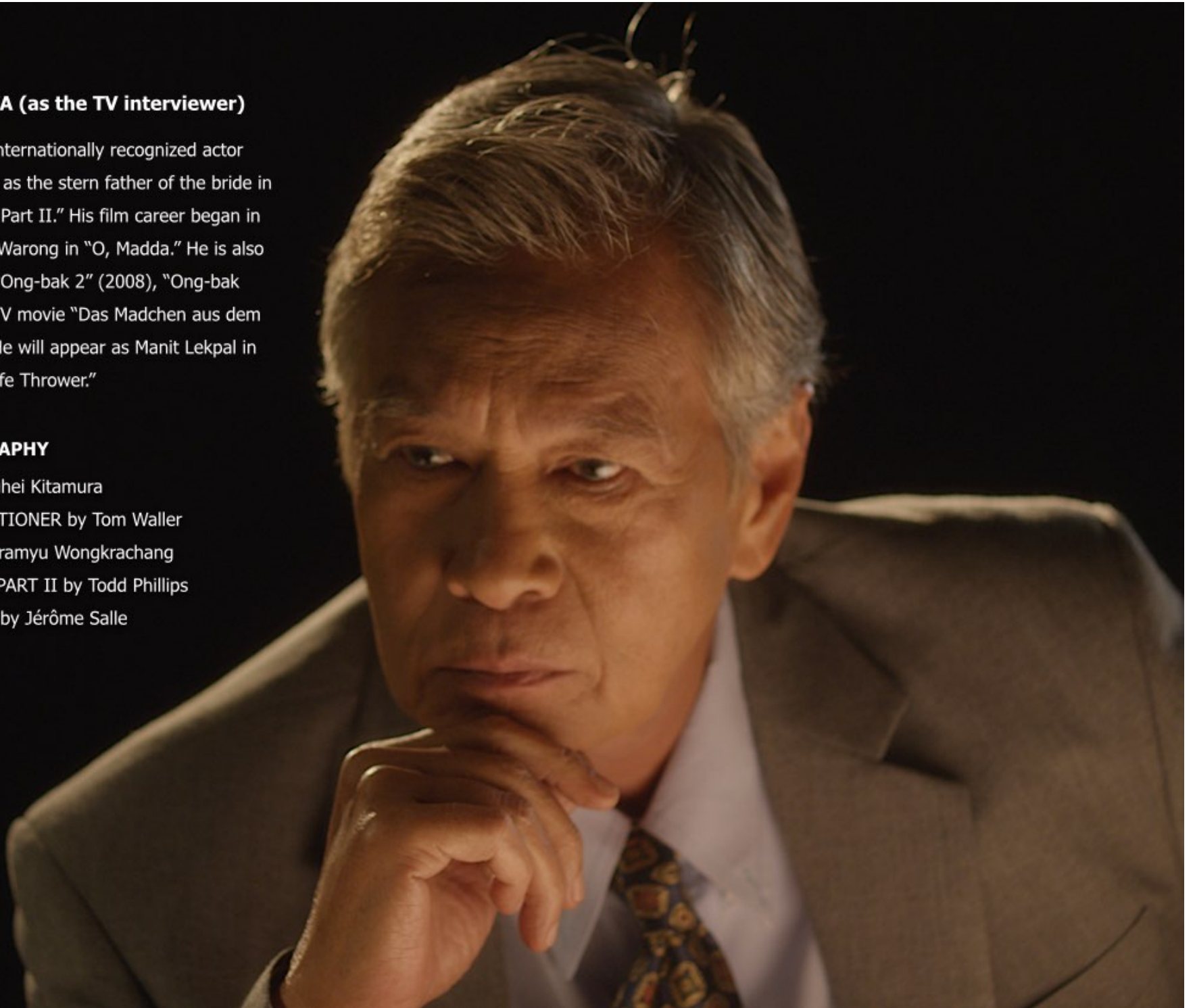
2015 LUPIN III by Ryuhei Kitamura

2014 THE LAST EXECUTIONER by Tom Waller

2011 KON KHON by Saramyu Wongkrachang

2011 THE HANGOVER PART II by Todd Phillips

2011 LARGO WINCH 2 by Jérôme Salle



A photograph of Tom Waller, a man with dark hair and a slight smile, wearing a dark blue t-shirt with a 'PANAVISION LONDON' logo. He is standing in front of a metal prison cell. A green sign with white Thai script 'แค้น' (Aen) is visible on the cell bars behind him.

แค้น

DIRECTOR

TOM WALLER was born in Bangkok in 1974 to a Thai Buddhist mother and Irish Catholic father. He has been working as a film producer and director for over 10 years in Thailand, with notable credits BUTTERFLY MAN (2002), GHOST OF MAE NAK (2005), THE ELEPHANT KING (2006) and SOI COWBOY (2008) which was selected in Un Certain Regard at Cannes, amongst the acclaimed titles produced through his production company De Warrenne Pictures, which he founded after graduating from the Northern Film School in Leeds, England with a PGDip in Film Production in 1996.

In 2011, Waller returned to his passion for directing with the award-winning Thai language mystery thriller MINDFULNESS AND MURDER, based on the novel by Nick Wilgus and starring Vithaya Pansringarm as Father Ananda, an ex-cop Buddhist monk who investigates corruption and murder in his monastery in Bangkok. Theatrically released in Thailand by M Pictures, MINDFULNESS AND MURDER was nominated for 5 Thai National Film Awards (Subhanahongsa) in 2012, including for Best Film, Best Director, Best Actor and Best Screenplay. The film won Best Supporting Actor for Wannasak Sirilar. The film also won Best Director for Tom Waller and Best Actor for Vithaya Pansringarm at ThrillSpy International Film Festival. THE LAST EXECUTIONER will be Waller's second Thai language feature film.

CREDITS AS DIRECTOR

2014 THE LAST EXECUTIONER

2011 MINDFULNESS AND MURDER

1997 MONK DAWSON (TV)



SCREENPLAY

DON LINDER is a writer, editor, photographer, and academic who has travelled, lived, and written on five continents. A native-born New Yorker, he did his undergrad and graduate studies in Comparative Literature at Columbia University where he minored in Film Studies under Andrew Sarris the noted proponent of the auteur theory of film criticism.

Don's work and travels have included director of English programs in the U.S., the Canary Islands, China, and Thailand; writing program director for Poets & Writers, Inc., the State University of New York, and the North Carolina Arts Council; jazz and blues radio host in New York City and radio lecturer in China; New York City taxi driver; plus travel and culture writer worldwide, notably in Mongolia and Morocco. Don has written and acted for Japanese cable TV and taught scriptwriting in Egypt, Brazil, and the U.S. "THE LAST EXECUTIONER" is his first feature-length film.

After ten years in Bangkok, Don now lives in Chiang Mai, Thailand, with his wife, Lida.

PRODUCER

MICHAEL PRITCHETT has been an Executive Producer on two feature films, WISH YOU WERE HERE a drama set in Spain which has recently reached the best-seller lists in Germany; and BUTTERFLY MAN, set in Thailand. Pritchett was educated at Cambridge University where he managed the newspaper that printed the world's first ever colour photograph in a student newspaper. He went on to occupy management positions in the Financial Times Group and at the head office of Pearson plc, a FTSE100 media company and one of the UK's largest international media organisations.


In 2011 he collaborated with Tom Waller to produce the award-winning MINDFULNESS AND MURDER (2011), based on the novel by Nick Wilgus. He developed the sequel project KILLER KARMA which was selected for the EAVE Ties That Bind workshops in Udine at the Far East Film Festival and Busan at the Asian Film Market in 2011. As well as being associated with De Warrenne Pictures Ltd., Pritchett has also been non-executive chairman of an AIM listed film company and participated and advised on the financing of over \$150m of films.

CREDITS AS PRODUCER

2014 THE LAST EXECUTIONER by Tom Waller

2011 MINDFULNESS AND MURDER by Tom Waller



A close-up, low-angle shot of a man with short, curly brown hair, wearing a black and white checkered shirt. He is looking down and to the right, intently operating a professional video camera. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting a film set or a dimly lit indoor space. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the man's face and the camera's lens.

SELECTED FEATURE CREDITS

2014 THE LAST EXECUTIONER by Tom Waller

2013 YOUNG AND DANGEROUS: RELOADED by Daniel Chan

2012 TRIAD by Daniel Chan

2011 ELEPHANT WHITE by Prachya Pinkaew

2011 MINDFULNESS AND MURDER by Tom Waller

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

WADE MULLER H.K.S.C. was born in a small town in Australia and wanted to experience the world, leaving home for Hong Kong at the age of nineteen. After four productive years based in Hong Kong, Muller made a name for himself in the industry after winning numerous prestigious awards. With a newfound direction, he began freelancing for several years with major networks such as National Geographic and the Discovery Channel. One of his assignments was filming at Bang Kwang prison for the BBC documentary THE REAL BANGKOK HILTON. Constantly craving for more adventures, the next facet dominating his career was to embark on feature length films. One of his shorts films CUBIK won the Remi Award at the Houston Film Festival, which led to his more recent creative collaboration with director Tom Waller on the film MINDFULNESS AND MURDER (2011) winning a Best Cinematography Award at ThrillSpy International Film Festival.

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

PONGNARIN JONGHAWKLANG was born in Nakornratchasima, Thailand in 1973. He studied at Rangsit University in the Faculty of Fine Arts, majoring in Product Design. He worked as a freelance Interior Designer before turning to work on music videos and films such as THE PROTECTOR (2005) as a props master and on SOI COWBOY (2008) as Art Director. He followed this with BITTER/SWEET (2009) as Art Director, CREATION (2009) and THE PRINCE AND ME: THE ELEPHANT ADVENTURE (2010) as Production Designer.

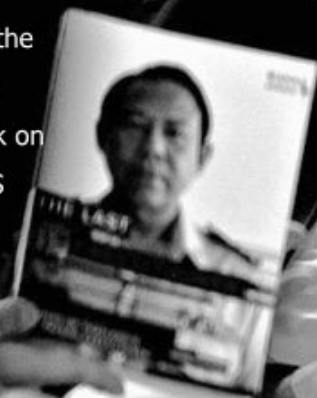
He also collaborated with director Tom Waller on the hit music video El Nin-YO! for Thai/American pop princess Tata Young in 2006, and went on to work on his acclaimed Thai language debut MINDFULNESS AND MURDER (2011).

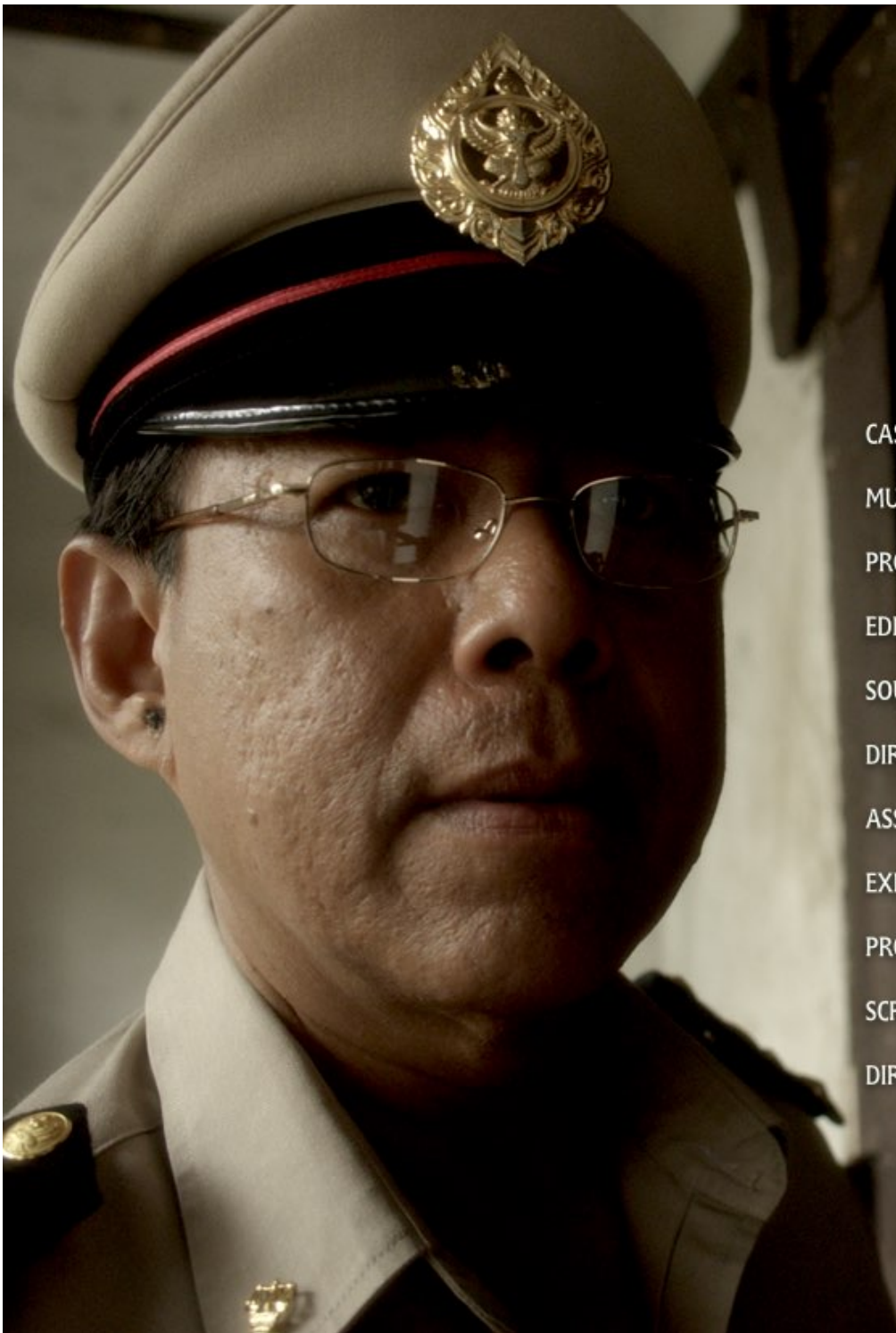
COMPOSER

OLIVIER LLIBOUTRY began studying classical violin at age five, and later on, piano and harmony. At sixteen, he discovered the world of synthesizers and electronic music, and after his Baccalaureat, he entered Pierre Schaeffer's class of electro-acoustic music composition at the "Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris".

In 1985, wanting to further his knowledge of musical arrangements, jazz and film scoring, he left for Los Angeles, and spent seven years studying there, between the "Grove School of Music", "U.C.L.A.", and the film music workshop at "B.M.I."

Since 1990, Olivier has been composing mostly for films, writing for full symphonic orchestras, with choir and ethnic soloists, as well as small combos or electronic scores, and has worked in Europe, USA, China, South America and French Polynesia. Today, when not scoring pictures, Olivier is composing & producing a more personal project for live concerts and records, merging symphonic writing, electronic music and vocals. Olivier was also composer on Tom Waller's MINDFULNESS AND MURDER.





WIMOLWAN

THE LAST EXECUTIONER

CASTING BY.....WIMOLWAN BOOCHAN, KANLAYA NETRAYON
MUSIC BY.....OLIVIER LLIBOUTRY
PRODUCTION DESIGNER.....PONGNARIN JONGHAWKLANG
EDITED BY.....SAWIT PRASERTPHAN
SOUND DESIGN BY.....NOPAWAT LIKITWONG
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY.....WADE MULLER H.K.S.C.
ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS.....SOMBOON VICHASRE, KATRINA GROSE
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER.....ANTEO QUINTAVALLE
PRODUCED BY.....MICHAEL PRITCHETT, TOM WALLER
SCREENPLAY BY.....DON LINDER
DIRECTED BY.....TOM WALLER

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