

A man and a woman are seated at a dark wooden dining table in a restaurant. The woman, on the left, has long brown hair and is wearing a denim jacket. She is smiling and looking towards the man. The man, on the right, is wearing a dark suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a light-colored bow tie. He is looking down at his plate of food, which includes a steak and vegetables. The table is set with plates, glasses of wine, and a napkin. In the background, there are large windows with a view of a dimly lit interior. The overall atmosphere is intimate and romantic.

The Date



LOGLINE

A woman finds herself in the most uncomfortable date of her life.

SYNOPSIS

Fred Perkins has prepared a special dinner for his upcoming date with Janet Miles. After Janet arrives, Fred starts to show some peculiar quirks, making Janet uncomfortable. Eventually, all his peculiarities reach a boiling point for Janet once Fred passes a point of no return and from there on Janet must find a way to escape her predicament.





The Date

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| <i>Running Time:</i> | 19 Minutes |
| <i>Director:</i> | Daniel Mart |
| <i>Writer:</i> | Daniel Mart |
| <i>Producer:</i> | Daniel Mart |
| <i>Co-Producer:</i> | Jace Elton |
| <i>Associate Producer:</i> | Carlos Pino |
| <i>Production Company:</i> | DMart Productions Jace Elton Entertainment |
| <i>Cinematography:</i> | Jace Elton |
| <i>Editor:</i> | Jace Elton |

Behind The Film

The Date is one of ten short films made for MMH Production's anthology horror film Tapes From The Underground where a man finds some mysterious tapes one day and decides to see what the the tapes contain within them.

Daniel found it rather easy to make The Date. An idea that had been kicking around Daniel's head for some time, He wanted to create his own "Psycho". Knowing what he was inspired by, he began to meticulously write the script, often revising it, even up to the day before filming had commenced. For Daniel, he considered this to be his most important and ambitious film thus far as he views it as a culmination of everything he's learned so far as a filmmaker, something he was ready to take on.

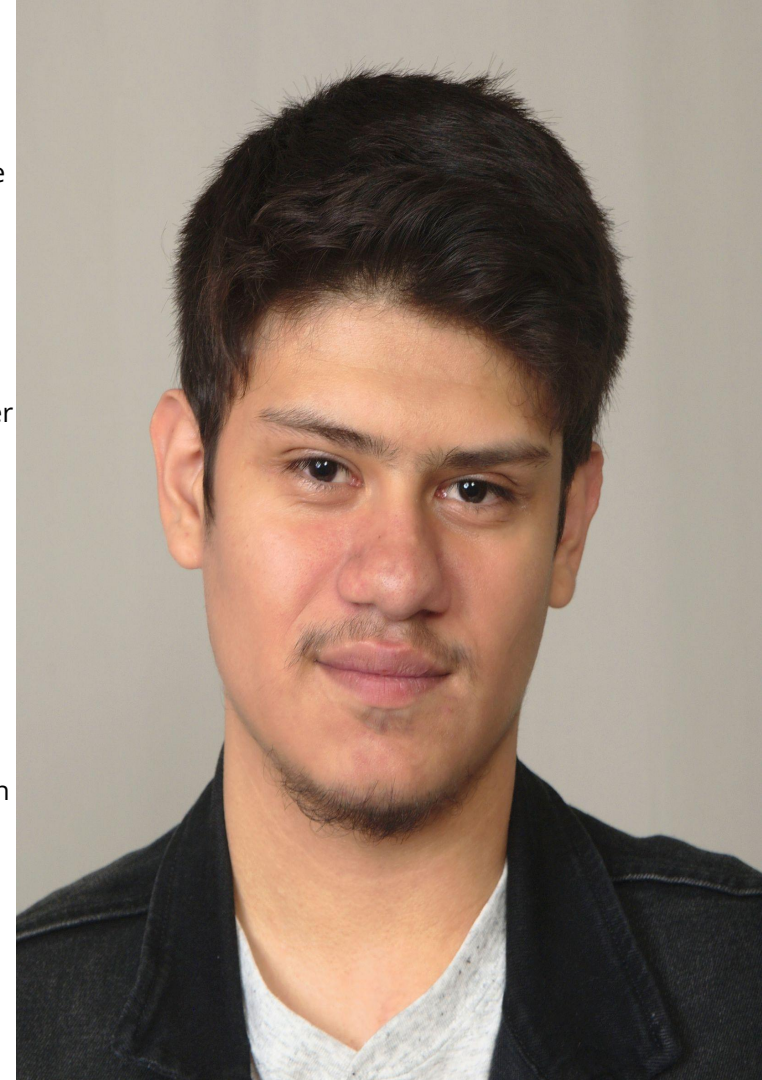
Once he had assembled his cast which includes frequent collaborators such as Chloe Schwinghammer, Melissa Almanza, and Jessica Pastor alongside Derrick Similien in his first film role, he knew he had something special in his hands. After the table read, Daniel knew that this would be his best film thus far.

While filming, he made sure to pay particular attention to the pacing of the film to give it that consistent uneasy feeling that he was looking for, something that was further enhanced by the cinematography and performances. Pacingwise, he knew he wanted to build up to the eventual twist very slowly as if slowly winding a string until it breaks. With the cinematography, he entrusted Jace Elton to give him the long and dark shots that were required for this film. He also knew that closeups at the right time that show what the characters are feelings and their intentions would further tell this story.

DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, Daniel Mart

Daniel Mart is someone who's always strived to explore new ways to express himself. At the age of 8, Daniel first discovered acting when he received the role of a reindeer during his school's Christmas production "The Polar Express". Although he enjoyed the experience, he wouldn't come back to acting until he was 13 years old when his mother enrolled him in an acting summer camp at UM. Afterwards, he continued to pursue acting by taking classes at Area Stage Company and became student intern at Florida International University's Theater Department. After graduating from Miami Killian Senior High, he decided to attend Miami Dade Community College where he was able to perform in many of their plays including Church and State, Warner Bros., and Luna Gale.

In an attempt to expand his talents, Daniel started his own interview show aptly called An Interview with (2016). After having been inspired by many of the people he worked with, he began creating his own content with the first of these being his directorial debut The Deal (2019). Afterwards, he produce and starred in Churi (2019). Since then, under his production company DMart Productions, he has been attached to direct, write, and/or produce several project including Unwritten (2020), Silent Locale Cinematics (2018), and Drew (2020). Furthermore, he has also gone on to frequently collaborate with Jace Elton on projects such as S.H.E. (2021), Spending Some Time Together (2021), and Electric Feel (2020).



CO-PRODUCER, Jace Elton

Jace Elton became interested in acting at around the age of 12. Ever since then he has been studying his craft and doing his best to better it. Although his main goal was to just be an actor, he is now interested in directing. Furthermore he has also taken up to do several other jobs on films such as cinematography, editing, and writing.



ASSOCIATE PRODUCER, Carlos Pino

Carlos Pino didn't expect to enjoy filmmaking as much as he did. He was introduced to the world of filmmaking by Daniel Mart when he would help him out with auditions. The filmmaking bug bit Carlos and thus led him to make his directorial debut Churi (2019). From then on, Carlos has helped out in the casting and producing of some of Daniel's films.





Derrick Similien as ***Fred Perkins***

Derrick Similien is 23 years old and is originally from the city of Miami before moving to Palm Beach with the rest of his family. He graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a bachelors in Criminal Justice to pursue a law degree, but his love for film and theatre began long before that. He gravitated towards acting at the age of 11. Growing up, he didn't always see acting as a way to tell stories, but to experience a life through characters who lived different realities that some people wouldn't necessarily consider socially acceptable. He always admired those who chose to be vulnerable in a life that is not always fair, and if there is a way to temporarily provide a fantasy for those to escape whatever they're facing in the moment he would choose to do so every time.



Chloe Schwinghammer as ***Nicole Dawson***

Chloe Schwinghammer started acting at the age of 12 with the Main Street Players. She continued on through high school and has been in several competitions. She's currently majoring in Theater at Florida International University. Chloe has done several short films from having an extra role to lead roles and has recently starred in a total of 3 short films.

CREDITS

Director: **Daniel Mart**

Writer: **Daniel Mart**

Producer: **Daniel Mart**

Co-Producer: **Jace Elton**

Associate Producer: **Carlos Pino**

Cinematographer: **Jace Elton**

Production Designers: **Daniel Mart**
Jace Elton

Editing Department: **Jace Elton**
Daniel Mart

Music: **Itai Argaman**
Tom Goldstein
Jimmy Svensson

Sound Department: **Jace Elton**



CAST

Fred Perkins

Janet Miles

Caroline Taylor/Vera Crane

Lila Chambers

Gus Hitchcock

Derrick Similien

Chloe Schwinghammer

Melissa Almanza

Jessica Pastor

Daniel Mart



Production Manager:

Daniel Mart

Assistant Director:

Jace Elton

Sound Editor:

Jace Elton

Sound Mixer:

Jace Elton

Camera Operator:

Jace Elton

Daniel Mart

Lighting Technician:

Jace Elton

Casting Director:

Daniel Mart

Casting Assistant:

Carlos Pino

Location Manager:

Daniel Mart

Stunt Choreographer:

Daniel Mart

Stunt Coordinator:

Jace Elton

Props:

Daniel Mart

Jace Elton

Costume Supervisor

Daniel Mart

Set Dresser:

Jace Elton

Special Effects Supervisor:

Jace Elton

Special Effects Assistant:

Daniel Mart

Special Effects Makeup Artist:

Melissa Almanza

Chloe Schwinghammer

Script Doctor:

Jace Elton

BTS:

Daniel Mart

Weapons Specialist:

Salvatore Ercole



FAQ

What camera was used to film The Date? **A Canon Rebel t7i was used in this film.**

What inspired you make this film? **Matthew of MMH Productions entrusted me in making a film for his upcoming anthology horror film Tapes From The Underground. I had been toying with the idea for this film where a woman meets a seemingly normal man for a date and slowly it's revealed that he's not all what he seems. It's a movie very much inspired by Psycho with hints of Eating Raoul in regards to the twist at the end. After I got the base of my film, I just started creating the story from there and seeing how these characters got to the place they ended up in by the time the film was done.**

What was the most challenging thing about making this film? **Lila's death scene was surprisingly hard to accomplish. I knew we would have some difficulties in getting the shot correctly given how dark the lighting for the scene had to be as well as how precise the blood squirt out of her body needed to be, but it did honestly take a lot longer than I had anticipated.**

What was the easiest thing about making this film? **Getting the performance out of the actors I'd say was the easiest thing. That is the reason I cast them in the roles, because I knew they can deliver the performances I looking for. Derrick and Chloe had never met each other prior to filming and the odd chemistry they had throughout the film worked in giving off that uneasy vibe that was needed for the film. With this being Derrick's first film role, I really do think that he knocked it out of the park with this one. He was able to give those Anthony Perkins/Norman Bates vibes I was looking for. Similarly, Chloe was able to give off those Vera Miles/Lila Crane vibes I was looking for**