

A FILM BY KRISTA MICHAELS

MANITTO

2022 / 12 MIN 38 SEC / HORROR / USA / COLOR / ENGLISH

CONTENTS

Logline / Synopsis	Page 2
Director's Statement	Page 3
Cast & Crew	Page 4-6
About Retro Raptor, LLC	Page 6
Film Format Information ...	Page 7
Contact Information	Page 7
Production Stills	Page 8-10

She's dropping by for a late night snack.



LOGLINE

A mantid being attacks a family during the night.

SYNOPSIS

When a deadly alien creature arrives in the middle of the night for a late night snack, Sarah is greeted with a horrific realization that either she or her baby will be devoured by a very hungry, expecting mother. Will her husband, David, get home in time?

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

“Having finished my first short film, *One Monday*, I wanted to explore my love of ufology while delving into a longer, richer narrative story. *Mantid* came to me in a very basic form as I lie awake one night—as I often do—scaring myself while imagining what just may be lurking within the shadows near my closet.

For some reason, I always picture waking up to some sort of creature waiting at the foot of my bed. Whether that may be a grey alien, a shadow creature, or even a human slasher killer depends on the rotation of my brain's attempt to terrify me on any given night.

I had always been fascinated by praying mantises as a child, because they lived in the billowy bush at the end of our driveway that held our mailbox of the house that I grew up in. Though creepy, their alluring sense of wisdom and gracefulness always piqued my curiosity. Such beautiful creatures.

It wasn't until much later in life that I had begun research on mantid alien beings. And they quickly became my very favorite species of alien overall. I couldn't place a film that treated them as I would have liked to have seen—wise, powerful, scary, alluring, and clothed in a hooded cloak.

Would it be weird? Absolutely. But this was something that my girlfriend, Brandy Bryant, and I both desperately wanted to see. And so we began writing the first draft of a would-be, untitled short film about a mantis-like alien creature that attacks a family during the night. We knew that our budget would be very small, but Brandy wanted to push her limits in terms of special makeup effects, and we filmed everything in the same small apartment as our previous short, *One Monday*. Of course, given a proper budget, there's much more that we'd like to do, but we are very proud of what we have accomplished with our amazing cast and crew!”

CAST & CREW

SAM SISSON

“Sarah”



Former National Champion of the “Air Sex” comedy competition, she’s opened for prominent comedians including Judah Friedlander and Todd Barry.

Mantid is Sam’s first foray into the world of screen acting, and she jumped right into action with a chilling, scream-inducing performance that is sure to leave a lasting impression.

ANTHONY CRAWFORD

“David”

Anthony Crawford is a high-energy storytelling stand-up comedian who has been entertaining crowds since he lost a bet in 1998. His background performing for rowdy house parties, loud bars, nightclubs, all branches of the military in bases across the country—and his ability to “paint the picture” for you—has helped him become one of the most attention-grabbing performers in his home state of North Carolina. Since moving to Denver in 2014, Anthony has been taking the comedy scene by storm.



LLOYD KAUFMAN

“Wally Preston”



Stanley Lloyd Kaufman Jr. is an American film director, screenwriter, producer and actor. Alongside producer Michael Herz, he is the co-founder of Troma Entertainment film studio, and the director of many of their feature films, such as *The Toxic Avenger* and *Tromeo and Juliet*.

CAST & CREW

BRANDY BRYANT

Co-Writer / Special Makeup FX / “Agent”

Self-described ‘Transgender Comedian, Tattoo Artist, and Parent’—debuted in her very first Special Makeup FX role in *Mantid*.

Though she grew up in a small town in southern Virginia, she has since exploded onto the Denver, Colorado comedy scene, having performed at such venues as *Comedy Works*, as well as the *High Plains Comedy Festival*. As Co-Founder and CEO of Retro Raptor, LLC, she is currently hard at work on several media projects, from an animated series to a TV sitcom.



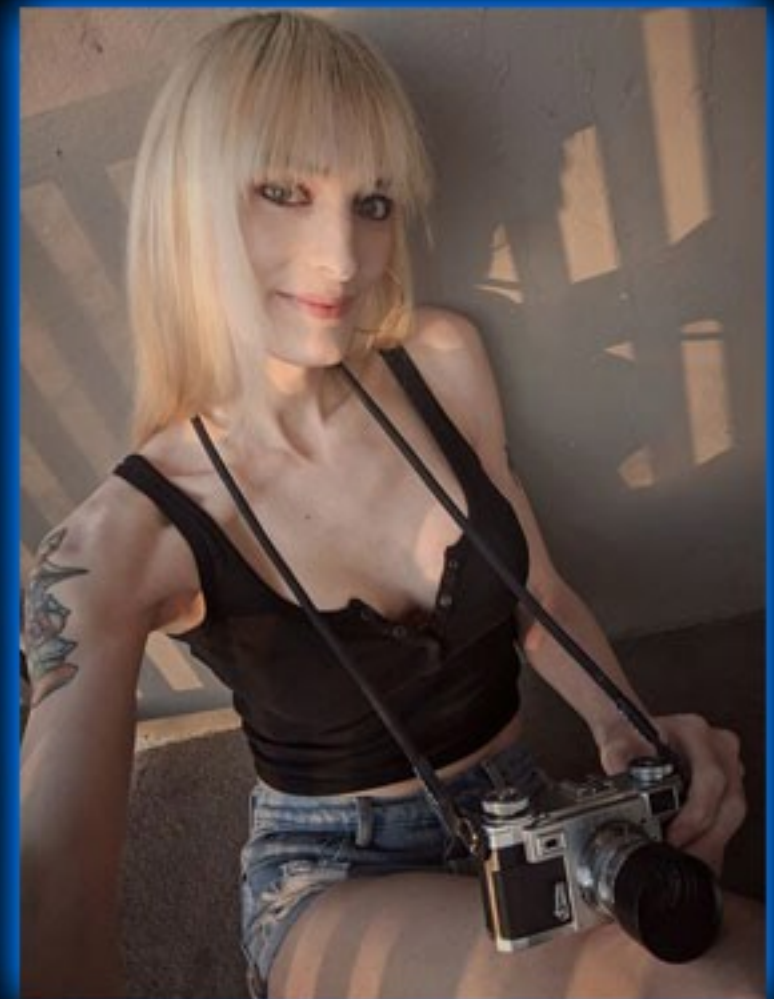
KRISTA MICHAELS

Co-writer / Director / Cinematographer

Krista Michaels—Co-Founder and CEO of Retro Raptor, LLC—made her film directorial debut with *One Monday* (2020) after years of being in the entertainment industry—from working in theatre doing sound, set, and poster design to directing behind-the-scenes Blu-ray extras for a horror company.

Krista fell in love with cinema from an early age, as well as the tangible film format as a dual-35mm projectionist and, later, as a film photographer.

She met the star of the film, Brandy Bryant—also her girlfriend—back in southern Virginia where she grew up. Together, the two formed the film production company Retro Raptor, LLC, where various film and TV projects are under way.



CAST & CREW

(cont'd)



JESSICA D'AMELIO

Musician, Twitch streamer, and weed connoisseur—Jessica D'Amelio made her narrative film debut by providing the foley effects for the short film *One Monday* (2020), which was completely filmed without any location sound.

D'Amelio has quite the experience in sound from performing in several rock and metal bands to her time spent in audio school, where she learned ADR, EQ, mixing & mastering, etc.

EQ, mixing & mastering, etc.

She worked with director Krista Michaels to produce original music for *Mantid*, as well as providing the location sound and mixing.

STARRING: SAM SISSON, ANTHONY CRAWFORD, LLOYD KAUFMAN, & BRANDY BRYANT

STORY BY: KRISTA MICHAELS AND BRANDY BRYANT

SOUND: JESSICA D'AMELIO

CINEMATOGRAPHY: KRISTA MICHAELS

SCORE: JESSICA D'AMELIO AND KRISTA MICHAELS

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER / SPECIAL MAKEUP FX: BRANDY BRYANT

PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY: KRISTA MICHAELS

ABOUT RETRO RAPTOR, LLC

Retro Raptor, LLC was co-founded by Krista Michaels and Brandy Bryant in March of 2020 in Denver, Colorado as a film production company, which is currently in production of several short films, as well as an animated series and a TV sitcom.

FILM FORMAT INFORMATION

Title: "Mantid"

Camera: Panasonic Lumix G9

Lenses: Vivitar 24mm f/2.8 - for Canon FD mount,

Canon FD 28mm f/2.8 S.S.C.

Canon FD 35mm f/2 S.S.C. (concave)

Canon FD 50mm f/1.4 S.S.C. w/ Mitakon focal reducer

Shooting Resolution: 4k UHD (3840x2160)

Master Resolution: 3840x2160

Aspect Ratio: 1.85 : 1

Runtime: 12 min., 38 sec.

Sound: Stereo

Language: English

Format: Digital; Color

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Website: www.KristaMichaels.com

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Anthony Crawford

Twitter: www.twitter.com/CrawfordComedy

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Lloyd Kaufman

Twitter: www.twitter.com/lloydkaufman

Instagram: www.instagram.com/unclelloydkaufman

Brandy Bryant

Co-Founder & CEO, Retro Raptor, LLC

Twitter: www.twitter.com/InkMasterbator

Instagram: www.instagram.com/therealbrandybryant

Sam Sisson

Twitter: www.twitter.com/queefpantry

Instagram: www.instagram.com/queefpantry

Jessica D'Amelio

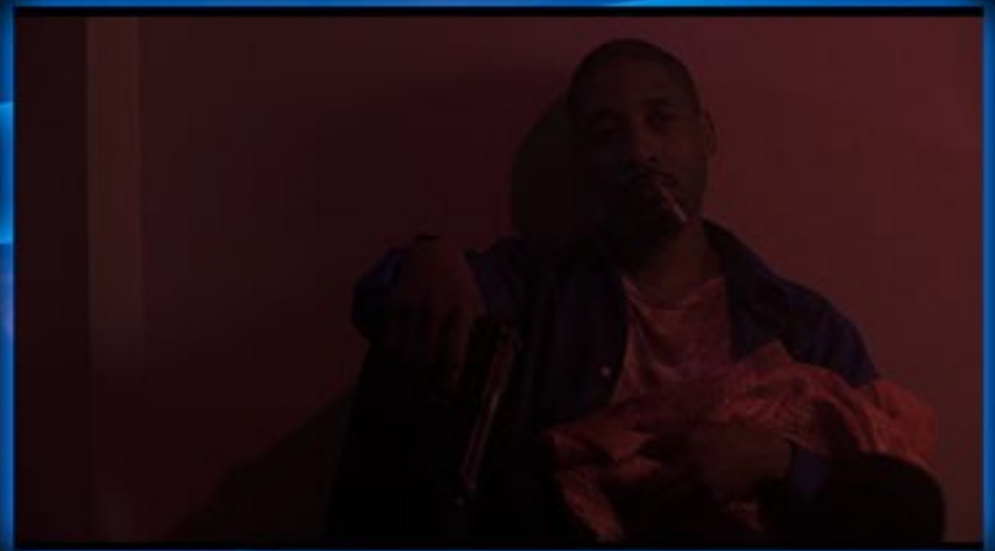
Twitter: www.twitter.com/JeziDoomGirl

Instagram: www.instagram.com/JeziDoomBaby

PRODUCTION STILLS



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