

TRIBECA FILM in partnership with AMERICAN EXPRESS presents

a julijette inc. & Banana-Moon Sky production

AN AWKWARD SEXUAL ADVENTURE

Directed by Sean Garrity Written by Jonas Chernick

Available on VOD March 19, 2013

Run Time: 103 Minutes

Rating: Not Rated

Press Materials can be downloaded at: http://www.tribecafilm.com/festival/media/tribeca-film-press/

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FESTIVALS & AWARDS

Toronto International Film Festival – September 2012 – World Premiere Named one of TIFF's Top Ten Films of 2012.

Calgary International Film Festival – September 2012 Winner of the People's Choice Award for Best Narrative Film.

Mar del Plata International Film Festival – November 2012 – Mar del Plata, Argentina – In Competition.

Whistler Film Festival – November 2012 In Competition for the Borsos Award for Best Canadian Feature Film Winner of the Audience Award for Best Feature Film.

Santa Barbara International Film Festival – January 2013 – US Premiere

Atlanta Jewish Film Festival – February 2013 – Atlanta, Georgia

ACTRA Awards – February 2013 Nominated for Outstanding Male Performance – Jonas Chernick

Kingston Canadian Film Festival – March 2013 – Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Golden Horse Fantastic Film Festival – March 2013 – Taipei, Taiwan – Asia Premiere

FEATURING

Jonas Chernick

Emily Hampshire

Sarah Manninen

Vik Sahay

SYNOPSIS

Dumped by his girlfriend over his sub-par sex skills, uptight accountant Jordan (Jonas Chernick) goes to visit his lothario friend Dandak (Vik Sahay), hoping to learn some tricks to improve his game. Instead, he ends up finding a "sex Yoda" in Julia (Emily Hampshire, COSMOPOLIS), a worldly stripper with a mountain of debt; in exchange for teaching her money management, she agrees to introduce Jordan to a brave new world of massage parlors, cross-dressing, and S&M. Surely the first film to ever include a graphic act of cunnilingus on a cantaloupe, AN AWKWARD SEXUAL ADVENTURE is a sweet, sexy, genuinely raunchy comedy – and just might teach you a thing or two in the sack.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

There's an interesting symmetry to debt.

Comparing surpluses and deficits is simple when dealing with apples and apples, at the exclusion of all else. But when we start trading favors for affection, paying money for simulations of sex, or doing good deeds in the hopes of some kind of karmic return, the calculation becomes more complex. This is the thematic material that I was most interested in exploring in this story.

When people interact, there is an unspoken tracking of the see-saw motion of an emotional balance sheet between them, and an attempt to make sure it remains as even as possible. In my experience, women tend to be more attuned to this than men – perhaps the result of an unfair history that has relegated them to this realm.

Certainly, in this film, Julia has a deeper understanding of this balance than Jordan does. As someone who works on the fringes of the sex industry, she is adept in quantifying the satisfaction of emotional need and sexual desire, in understanding how these things are traded, and how much they can cost. Jordan – at the beginning of the film - is unaware of the value of anything that can't be entered in accounting software. He makes a joke about "the karma bank" in an early scene, unaware of the forces he is accidentally invoking, and unaware that he will have to come to terms with them before his arc is complete.

Ultimately, this is why he is the protagonist; because he has something important to discover. He isn't having to come to terms with the accounting practices & balances that have to do with finance – those methodologies of bean-counting that shift from culture to culture and era to era. But rather, he has to come to a keener understanding of those other, more universal balance sheets – that determine how we deal with one another, and ultimately how we define ourselves.

This, for me, is the motor at the core of "An Awkward Sexual Adventure."

ABOUT THE CAST

JONAS CHERNICK (Jordan Abrams, Writer, Producer)

Jonas Chernick is an actor/screenwriter. He co-wrote and starred in *Lucid*, a feature film that premiered at the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival and won the City TV Award for Best Western Canadian Feature Film at the 2005 Vancouver International Film Festival. He also collaborated on the screenplay and played the leading role in *Inertia*, which won the award for Best First Canadian Film at the 2001 Toronto International Film Festival and for which he picked up the Blizzard Award for Best Leading Actor.

Jonas won a 2008 Gemini Award and was nominated for a 2009 ACTRA Award for his work as "Slade" on the hit CBC drama series *The Border*. He can currently be seen in ongoing roles on the comedy series *Living in Your Car* (HBO Canada) and *Degrassi* (Teen Nick/Much Music).

Other recent appearances include *Covert Affairs* (USA), *King* (Showcase), *The Listener* (CTV), *Haven* (SyFy/Showcase), *Being Erica* (CBC), *Little Mosque* (CBC), *Intimate Stranger* (Lifetime), *Mayday* (CBS), *This is Wonderland* (CBC), *Recipe for a Perfect Christmas* (Lifetime), *At the Hotel* (CBC) and the films *Seven Times Lucky* (Sundance Film Festival 2004) and *The Samaritan* with Samuel L. Jackson, and Sean Garrity's upcoming *Blood Pressure*.

As a screenwriter, Jonas currently has three feature films in development: **Borealis** (a father-daughter road trip story co-produced by Buffalo Gal Pictures), **Clara's War** (an historical epic produced by Corey Marr Productions) and **The Spark** (a sexy relationship comedy).

EMILY HAMPSHIRE (Julia Bowe)

Emily is one of Canada's most acclaimed and respected actresses. She has a slew of awards to her credit, including three Genie Award nominations; she was a Best Supporting Actress nominee for the comedy *A Problem with Fear*, a Best Leading Actress nominee for the movie *Blood*, and a Best Supporting Actress nominee for the 2006 movie *Snow Cake*, in which she starred opposite Sigourney Weaver and Alan Rickman. Emily also has won a Gemini Award for Best Ensemble Performance in a Comedy Program or Series for *Made in Canada*.

Most recently, Emily starred with Jay Baruchel and Scott Speedman in the dark comedy **Good Neighbors** and the Genie-award winning **The Trotsky** (also with Jay Baruchel), which won the Audience Award at the 2009 Tokyo International Film Festival. She can currently be seen in David Cronenberg's new film **Cosmopolis**, in the upcoming **All The Wrong Reasons** alongside Cory Montieth (*Glee*) and in Cannes Film Festival winner Xavier Dolan's yet-untitled new movie.

Hampshire also starred in the Canadian series *This Space For Rent, Carl*² and *Northern Town*. She starred alongside Kevin Zegers and Samaire Armstrong in the 2006 romantic comedy *It's a Boy/Girl Thing*, co-starred in *The Life Before This*, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in 1999, and starred in the 1998 romantic comedy *Boy Meets Girl*. She also voiced Starr/Nebula on the animated Canadian sitcom *6Teen*.

SARAH MANNINEN (Rachel Stern)

Sarah Manninen has twice been nominated for Gemini Awards as Best Leading Actress in a Dramatic Program or Miniseries for the BBC/CTV film **AKA The Albert Walker Story** in 2003, and for Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role for the CBC mini-series **Keep Your Head Up, Kid: The Don Cherry Story**. She played opposite Lou Diamond Phillips as Natasha in the feature **Never Forget** and was a series lead in the acclaimed HBO Canada drama **The Line**.

Sarah has played lead roles in CBS' *Martin And Lewis, Beautiful Girl* for ABC and *Molly: An American Girl On The Homefront* produced by Julia Roberts' Red Om Films. She has made guest star appearances on *King, Murdoch Mysteries, NCIS, Republic of Doyle, Naked Josh, Blue Murder, Wild Card* and *Platinum*, and will soon be seen in the TV movies *The Edge of the Garden* and *When Love is Not Enough*, in the lead role of the feature film *Separation*, and in Richie Mehta's upcoming *I'll Follow You Down*, co-starring Haley Joel Osment and Gillian Anderson.

VIK SAHAY (Dandak)

Vik Sahay starred in NBC's critically acclaimed series *Chuck* as 'Lester Patel,' a frenemy to Zachary Levi's title character and member of the "Nerd Herd."

Sahay, an accomplished comedic actor, was born in Ottawa, Canada. As a young boy, he learned Indian Classical dance, and attended Canterbury High School of the Arts in Ottawa, Ontario, and then studied Theatre Performance at Montreal's Concordia University. Sahay now resides in Los Angeles, California.

Sahay played the lead character in YTV's *Radio Active*, in addition to starring roles in Bruce McDonald's *Platinum* and *Escape from The Newsroom* by Ken Finkleman. Sahay spent two seasons on the hit Canadian television series *This is Wonderland*, and received a Canadian Comedy Award nomination for his role on the series *Our Hero*. Before getting his big break in the U.S. with *Chuck*, Sahay starred in the Nickelodeon TV-movie series *Roxy Hunter*, and had guest spots on *Without a Trace* and *Las Vegas*.

Sahay can be seen in such feature films as Gus Van Sant's **Good Will Hunting**, David Cronenberg's **eXistenZ**, the comedy release **The Rocker**, and the thriller **Time Bomb**. The actor traveled to India to shoot the Canadian film **Amal**, which was nominated for 6 Genie Awards in 2009.

Most recently, Sahay starred in the indie drama *Afghan Luke* by director Mike Clattenburg (*Trailer Park Boys*), which screened at the 2011 Toronto International Film Festival. He also appeared in the recent Hollywood hit *American Reunion* and stars in the upcoming *Wer*, the highly anticipated follow-up film from director William Brent Bell (*The Devil Inside*).

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

SEAN GARRITY (Director)

Sean's first feature, *INerTia*, won Best First Feature at TIFF (2001) and Best Director at the 2001 FilmCan Festival. His second feature, *Lucid*, won Best Western Canadian Feature at VIFF (2005) and was an official selection at more than 25 festivals around the world, including Shanghai, Mannheim and Toronto. His third feature, *Zooey & Adam* premiered at AIFF (2009) to wide spread critical praise. His fourth feature, *Blood Pressure*, had its world premiere at the 2012 Busan International Film Festival and screened in competition for the Borsos Award at the Whistler Film Festival.

JULIETTE HAGOPIAN (Producer)

Juliette Hagopian, founder and President of julijette inc., a Canadian corporation based in Winnipeg, Manitoba, has created Production Company that is responsive both to the needs of innovative filmmakers and to the realities of the film business. Juliette is an internationally acclaimed producer who has made a career of producing films that put their entire budget up on the screen. From the critically acclaimed mini-series **The Capture of the Green River Killer**, which received the highest ratings in the Lifetime Network's history, to the celebrated independent feature film **Stryker** which was the only Canadian dramatic feature film to be an Official Selection at the prestigious Venice International Film Festival in 2004, Juliette has a proven track record for producing high quality film.

In 2011, The Divide, directed by Xavier Gens (*Hitman*) an Official Selection at SXSW film festival garnered the highest US sale in the history of the festival via Anchor Bay, one of the leading distributors of independent feature films.

Most recently, Juliette produced *Lucky Christmas* and *Christmas Heart*, MOWs for The Hallmark Channel, and the independent film *Perfect Sisters*, starring Academy Award winner Mira Sorvino and Academy Award nominee Abigail Breslin.

Juliette Hagopian has years of experience in producing high-quality, critically successful, commercially viable films.

CREDITS

Produced with the participation of TELEFILM CANADA

Produced with financial investment from MANITOBA FILM & MUSIC

Produced with the participation of ASTRAL'S HAROLD GREENBERG FUND

Jordan Abrams Jonas Chernick Julia Bowe **Emily Hampshire** Rachel Stern Sarah Manninen Dandak Vik Sahay Reshma Melissa Elias Ruth Marina Stephenson Kerr Naked Tom Mike Bell Sapphire Andrea del Campo Gypsy the Stripper **Onalee Ames** Rabbi Finklestein **Randy Apostle Bank Manager** Dean Harder Tanya Tamara Gorski Sarah Constible Kelly Melanie Jessica Burleson Spike the Bouncer Stephen Eric McIntyre Flight Attendant Gord Tanner Reporter Curt Keilback Transvestite **Rvan Miller** Cabbie Adrian McLean Bartender Alan Castanage Massage Parlor Owner Steed Crandell Young Woman Aisha Alfa Naked Man #1 Andrew Johnson Naked Woman Laura Olafson Naked Man #2 Matthew Stefanson **Robert Kostyra** Skeet Line Producer/Production Manager Norman Denver 1st Assistant Director **Ronaldo Nacionales** 1st/2nd Assistant Director Martin Ellis Story Editor Marguerite Pigott **Ruth Atkinson** Casting Jim Heber **Additional Casting** Lori Stefaniuk **Extras Casting** Next Casting Stand Ins Jeremy Kozielec Shannon Guile Holly Rose **Cliff Ducharme** Bronwyn Thorndycraft Suzanne Pringle

Maria Antoinette Reimer

Producer's Assistant

Ryan Simmons

Production Coordinator Production Office PA 2nd Assistant Director 2nd/3rd Assistant Director Set Production Assistant Production Assistant

Production Designer Art Department Coordinator Graphics

Costume Designer Assistant Costume Designer Set Supervisor

> Director of Photography A Camera 1st AC A Camera 1st AC A Camera 2nd AC B Cam Operator B Camera 1st AC B Camera 2nd AC Toronto Unit 1st AC Digital Media Technician Camera Trainee

> > Stills Photographer Gallery Photographer

> > > Gaffer Best Boy LX Lamp Op

> > > > Key Grip

Best Boy Grip

Key Make Up Make Up Assistants Chaz Beaudette Aaron Graham Richard Duffy Reed Makayev Jorge Requena Dustin Courchene

Rejean Labrie Jamie Lou Morneau Gary Barringer

Wanda Farian Maureen Petkau Paula Dunfield

Gavin Smith, C.S.C. Marcus James Jason Heke Caley Gibson Marcus James TJ Casey Harrison Jeff Hammerback David Orton Ryan Wuckert Steven K. Johnson Izak Mallin Devon Unrau Nathaniel Rollo Thomas Fricke

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Brenda Magalas Nina Kyaternik Jennifer Machnee

Gwen Trutnau Alisha Talbot

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Script Supervisor

Catering Provided by Chef Sous Chef Key Craft Services Craft Services Assistant

Location Manager Assistant Location Manager Key Location PA Location PA

> Security Coordinator Security

Post Production Supervisor

Dialogue Editor

Sound Effects Editor

Foley Recordist Foley Artist Re-Recording Mixer

Toronto Unit ADR Recordist Daily

Editor Assistant Editor

VFX Supervisor

Props Master Assistant Props

Set Decorator Lead Dresser On Set Dresser Lori Caputi Travis Marszalek

Alanna Mills

Evolve Catering Corby Pearce Kristian Sullivan Cindy Harrison Lyn Marlowe

Michael Chirsky Neal Baksh Bryan R. Burns Rochelle Hykaway Scott Layton Dimitrious Sagiotis Andrew Schulz

James Cronk Wayne Glesby Tim Vincent

Gary Mueller

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John Gurdebeke Jaimz Asmundson Mark Gebel Darren Wall

Don Greenberg Alexis Labra

Summer Holmes Robert Laurie Rob Kestler

Set Dresser **Greg Warkentin** Scenic Artist Lloyd Brandson **Construction Coordinator** Olaf Dux **Toronto Unit Art Department Daily** Kate Grant **Original Score** Ari Posner **Music Assistant Patrick Cotter Recording and Mixing Engineer** Jared Kuemper **Assistant Engineers** Ian Boddy **Brian Bernard** Music Recorded at Pirate Radio and Television Contractor/Bass Roberto Occhipinti Copiest/Orchestrations Jamie Hopkings Trumpet Alexis Baro Trombone William Carn Drums Mark Kelso Violin Marie Berard Violin Edwin Huizinga Violin Lynn Kuo Violin Veronique Mathieu Violin Jennifer Thompson Violin Annalee Patipatanakoon Cello **Roman Borys** Cello John Marshman **Music Supervisor** Jeremy von Hollen Sound Mixer Stan Mak **Dallas Pomedli Boom Operator** Loop Group Performers Gord Tanner Sarah Constible **Tobias Hughes** Julia Arkos **Transport Coordinator David Perich** Captain Dale Bracken Driver **Corey Walker** Steve McGuire **Calvin Pochinko** Unit Move Driver James Alexander **Electronic Press Kit Ryan Simmons** Marlon Wiebe Web Designer myawkwardsexualadventure.com Digital Intermediate by DELUXE | EFILM | TORONTO **Digital Intermediate Colourist** Chris Wallace

Peter Armstrong

Digital Intermediate Producer

Digital Intermediate Project Manager Digital Intermediate Editor Digital Intermediate Assistant Editors

> Digital Intermediate Assistant Imaging Supervisor Data Supervisor

> > Production Accountant Payroll Accountant

> > > Payroll Services Legal Services Lawyer

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Dale Cornick Adriana O'neil

Entertainment Partners Canada Taylor McCaffrey LLP Devan Towers

Sim Video William F. White Deluxe Post Production Channels Audio & Post Production Multimedia Risk The National Bank of Canada Film Finances Canada Ltd.

Special Thanks To

Carole Vivier	Sebastien Nasse	Louise O'Brien-Moran
John Dippong	Jarrett Miller	Sean Hicks
Neila Benson	Charlene Paling	Christine Lachance
David Cherry	Natalia Simachkevitch	David Rotenberg
Richlu Manufacturing	Ezra Braves	Maria Dellipizzi
Claude Forest	Kevin Uddenberg	Steve Bates
Kim Guise	Hotel Fort Garry	Steve Morrison
Jim Sternberg	Allison Bile	Lisa Lethbridge
Lisa Kussner	Sam Posner	Karyn Nolan
Elisha Gruer	Michelle Levy	Patience Chukwuka
Rogers Ofime	Kenny Boyce	Tess Gebel
Karynn Austin	Brian Clasper	Dan Lyon
Jennifer Porter	Michael Perlmutter	Tammy Tucker

Extra special thanks to Yumi and Nicole... for, literally, everything

Thanks to the following individuals for their thoughts, comments and feedback on the screenplay over the years

Mike Bell	Nicholas Burns	Inga Cadranel
Brad Caslor	Andrea del Campo	Sarah Constible
Tricia Cooper	Lee White	Glenn Forbes
Marc Ford	Bill Hurst	Chadd Henderson
Tobias Hughes	Kim Johnston	Shereen Jerrett
Tammy Marlowe Johnson	Sarah Lazarovic	Nicole Kagan
Joe Kay	Viviane McConkey	Corey Marr
Elan Mastai	Gia Milani	Deb McGrath
Kerry McPherson	Aubrey Nealon	Matthew Miller
Colin Mochrie	Nate Rollo	Rebecca Northan
Christopher Read	Celeste Sansregret	Zorana Sadiq
Vik Sahay	Robyn Slade	Bradley Sawatzky
Steve Sims	Courtney Walker	Jane Testar
Elke Town	Deborah Wilton	

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With additional songs including:

"Crazy" Written, performed by and courtesy of King Ujah

"Be My Woman, Be My Man" Written by and courtesy of Kirby Ian Andersen Performed by Shinjuku Zulu

"They Like To Travel" Written, performed by and courtesy of Richard Moody "Always, Always, Always, Never." Written, performed by and courtesy of The Details

We wish to thank the citizens of Winnipeg

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Produced with the generous participation and support of Erla Glesby

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Produced with the assistance/participation of

The Government of Canada - Canada Film or Video Production Tax Credit Program

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Shot in Winnipeg, Manitoba and Toronto, Ontario

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