



Tribeca Film in partnership with American Express presents  
A film by Alex Karpovsky

# RUBBERNECK

*Select Theatrical Release*

**New York: February 22 at Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center**

**Boston: March 1 at Brattle Theater**

**Available on demand February 19, 2013**

**Run time: 84 minutes**

**Rating: Not Rated**

**Press materials can be downloaded at:**

**[www.tribecafilm.com/festival/media/tribeca-film-press/Rubberneck.html](http://www.tribecafilm.com/festival/media/tribeca-film-press/Rubberneck.html)**

***Official Selection:***

***2012 Tribeca Film Festival***

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## **SYNOPSIS**

Months after a weekend fling, Boston research scientist Paul (Alex Karpovsky, "Girls") continues to lust after his beautiful coworker Danielle (Jamie Ray Newman), nurturing his fantasies with the occasional polite exchange at work. But once she starts dating another scientist at their lab, his infatuation quickly turns into obsession – and he finds himself unable to control his desires. A slow-burn character study-turned-psychosexual thriller, co-written by Karpovsky and Garth Donovan, RUBBERNECK is a chillingly believable story of workplace romance gone wrong.

## **ABOUT THE PRODUCTION**

### **A NOTE ABOUT SHOOTING IN A WORKING LABORATORY**

The vast majority of scenes in RUBBERNECK occur in a scientific laboratory. Filming took place at TGA Sciences just north of Boston, which is a working facility devoted to malignant cancer research. The cast and crew worked side-by-side with TGA scientists in hopes of accurately depicting the everyday responsibilities of the laboratory. A workflow emerged where the words “action” and “cut” were seldom used and where the scientists began to increasingly ignore the shoot around them. With a small crew presence and minimal lighting, the production was able to seamlessly weave itself into the everyday fabric of the facility in hopes of capturing an atmospheric realism that was central to the film’s raw and voyeuristic aesthetic.

### **A NOTE ABOUT SHOOTING IN BOSTON**

It seems like most of the films coming out of Boston today revolve around the world of crime; tales of heavily accented men with shamrock tattoos and closets full of hockey trophies and misguided pride. RUBBERNECK is a story about scientists and unreciprocated desire, and in its telling it was important for us to show that other stories lurk here in Boston besides those that slither through its seedy underbelly.

### **A NOTE ABOUT OUR FUNDRAISING PROCESS**

Some of our funds came from private investors and savings, but a good chunk came through old fashioned blood, sweat and metal. Filmmakers Garth Donovan & Alex Karpovsky raised a substantial portion of the film’s budget by collecting discarded screen windows provided to them by a friendly contractor. They would fill the back of Garth’s pickup (Donovan also runs a house painting company) with aluminum screens (after removing all the glass) and drive over to a scrap yard in Chelsea, just north of Boston. A full dump would typically land between \$700-800, depending on the weight. The filmmakers estimate they made around 20 dumps during the “fundraising” stage of RUBBERNECK.

### **A NOTE ABOUT OUR INFLUENCES**

The slow-burning character-driven suspense and atmospheric tone of RUBBERNECK was, to some degree, inspired by the following films: BUBBLE (Steven Soderbergh), MORVERN CALLAR (Lynne Ramsay), MICHAEL CLAYTON (Tony Gilroy), CACHE (Michael Haneke), THE PIANO TEACHER (Michael Haneke), FATAL ATTRACTION (Adrian Lyne), and BIRTH (Jonathan Glazer).

## CAST & CREW BIOS

### **ALEX KARPOVSKY (director/co-writer/co-editor/lead actor)**

Alex Karpovsky is an actor, writer and director, best known as series regular Ray Ploshansky in the HBO comedy series "Girls".

Karpovsky's directorial feature debut, *THE HOLE STORY*, was completed in 2006. The critically acclaimed dark comedy screened at over 50 festivals, garnered numerous awards, and *Filmmaker Magazine* named Alex as one of its 25 New Faces of Independent Film. Karpovsky's follow-up features, *WOODPECKER* and *TRUST US, THIS IS ALL MADE UP*, premiered at the 2008 and 2009 South by Southwest Film Festivals, respectively. In 2012 Alex directed and starred in *RED FLAG* a comedy which premiered at the Los Angeles Film Festival, which went on to receive a Gotham Award nomination.

As an actor, Karpovsky played the male lead in *BEEWAX* (2009 Berlinale); the voices of several Russian gangsters in the video game *GRAND THEFT AUTO IV*; Mean Man Mike in *HARMONY AND ME* (2009 New Directors/New Films Series); Paul Lucas in *LOVERS OF HATE* (2010 Sundance Film Festival); Vlad in *BASS ACKWARDS* (2010 Sundance Film Festival); Jed in *TINY FURNITURE* (2010 SXSW Film Festival); Paul in *THE GROWNUPS*, (2010 Cannes Film Festival); *CODEPENDENT LESBIAN SPACE ALIEN SEEKS SAME* (2011 Sundance Film Festival); Wally Combs in *WUSS*, (2011 SXSW Film Festival); Ian Gilmore in *SLEEPWALK WITH ME* (2012 Sundance Film Festival); and Nick Berger in *SUPPORTING CHARACTERS* (2012 Tribeca Film Festival). He will also appear as Marty Green in the upcoming Coen Brothers film, *INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS*.

### **JAIME RAY NEWMAN Danielle Jenkins**

Jaime Ray Newman hails from Detroit, and resides in Los Angeles. She has worked extensively in television and theater. Her most recent credits includes: Series regular on ABC's "Eastwick" based on *The Witches of Eastwick*, recurring characters on "NCIS," "Drop Dead Diva," "Eureka," "Nip/Tuck," "Life Unexpected" and "Veronica Mars," and the title character in the pilots "I'm Paige Armstrong" directed by Rod Lurie, and "Hollis and Rae" produced by Steven Bochco. Jaime made her New York Off-Broadway debut this year as the lead in David Auburn's *The New York Idea* with The Atlantic Theater Company. She has also done several plays in Los Angeles at the prestigious Geffen Playhouse, including *Some Girls* written and directed by Neil LaBute. A producer as well, Jaime is collaborating with Berlin Film Festival winning director Guy Nattiv and writer Noa Berman Herzberg on a yet untitled feature to be filmed in 2012 in Detroit, Israel and the West Bank.

**DENNIS STAROSELSKY Chris Burke**

Dennis Staroselsky can currently be seen in the world premiere of David Rabe's new play *An Early History of Fire* at The New Group. Some of his TV/Film work includes "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia," "White Collar," "Nurse Jackie," "Jericho," "Law & Order," "All My Children" and HOW TO MAKE A DOLLAR BILL IN BROOKLYN written & directed by Mousa Kraish. Selected theatrical credits include the Pre- Broadway run of *The Mambo Kings, Exposed* and *Elephant in the Room* (Stage 13) both directed by Dan Fogler, *News Junkie* (Lincoln Center Director's Lab) directed by Justin Waldman. *Dead End* and *The Rivals* (Huntington Theater Company) both directed by Nicholas Martin, *Henry V* ( A.R.T) directed by Ron Daniels, *Back, Back, Back* (Dallas Theatre Center) directed by Hal Brooks, as well as credits at the Geva Theatre Center, Alabama Shakespeare Festival and the Paper Mill Playhouse.

**AMANDA GOOD HENNESSEY Linda Harris**

Amanda Good Hennessey is a founder of Albion Park Productions. Its first short, a romantic comedy with a Twilight Zone twist called THE OBLIQUE SECTOR, had its premiere at the Nantucket Film Festival and is currently on the festival circuit. Amanda co-wrote the script, served as a producer and also played the lead, a snobby foodie who gets taken down a peg. Other recent film work includes the feature DAY OF YOUTH and shorts including THE SNEAKERS (won Best Dramatic Short at the Atlanta Underground Film Festival and Cedar Rapids Film Festival), ONWARD AND UPWARD, HAPPILY EVER AFTER, GUPPY LOVE and INTERFACES. Amanda has also appeared in numerous commercials and industrials. Her most recent stage work was playing Lois Lane (and Sarah Palin) in the world premiere of *The Superheroine Monologues* produced by Phoenix Theatre Artists and Company One. She received her MFA in Acting from the Actors Studio Drama School at the New School.

**DAKOTA SHEPARD Kathy Greene**

Dakota Shepard will next be seen in the upcoming films IN YOUR EYES (written and produced by Joss Whedon), and R.I.P.D. (Universal Pictures), and played the lead role in COME ON DOWN (Grandview Productions; Best Short, 2010 Provincetown International Film Festival). Onstage, Dakota was most recently seen in *Festen* at the Sandra Feinstein Gamm Theatre. Theatre credits include work with the Huntington Theatre Company, New Repertory Theatre, Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, Cape Cod Repertory Theatre, and Whistler In the Dark. Dakota studied with Maggie Flanigan and the Actors Movement Studio in New York and is a graduate of Vassar College.

**MARIANNA BASSHAM Marsha Burke**

Marianna Bassham is a Boston-based actress who has appeared with The Huntington Theater Company, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, SpeakEasy Stage, The Lyric, New Rep and

many others. She is resident acting company member with The Actors' Shakespeare Project and an Elliot Norton and IRNE award recipient. Film credits include MOORISE KINGDOM, BOOSTER, and LOUISA MAY ALCOTT: THE WOMAN BEHIND THE LITTLE WOMEN opposite Elizabeth Marvel.

**GARTH DONOVAN co-writer/producer/co-editor**

Garth Donovan has learned filmmaking by rolling his sleeves up and making movies. Over the past decade he has directed, written, produced and edited five feature films, including the award winning PHILLIP THE FOSSIL (2010 SXSW Special Jury Award for Best Individual Performance) and EVERYONE'S GOT ONE (New England's Best Comedy 2003 National Society of Film Critics). PHILLIP THE FOSSIL is screened at last year's SXSW as part of an encore program where the audience selected their favorite past award winners to play again. Donovan has two feature films currently in production: THE RODNEY CLEMONS STORY is a documentary exploring one man's struggle to prove his innocence of a murder conviction, while endeavoring to heal his fractured family from behind bars. The story chronicles his family's pattern of paternal abandonment over multiple generations and reveals the devastating effects over many years on the children left behind. The other project is a narrative feature drama set in New England that centers around two young adults who form a bond that allows them to break free from the personal pitfalls that have been holding them down.

**MIKE BOWES producer**

Mike Bowes has extensive experience as a Producer, Line Producer, Production Manager. Splitting his time between independent feature films (RUBBERNECK, THINK OF ME, THE MULBERRY TREE, SLIP & FALL, DON MCKAY) and PBS documentaries that feature dramatic reenactments (WE SHALL REMAIN, GOD IN AMERICA, BECOMING HELEN KELLER, MYSTERY OF MATTER) for series such as The American Experience, Frontline, American Masters. Mike gets great joy from building productions that strike a balance between being pragmatic and lean while remaining creatively ambitious. He is co-founder of Central Productions, the Boston based film production support organization whose mission is to advance the emerging film community and to contribute alternative bodies of work within the culture of the moving image. While getting his B.A. at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, he was the President of its Film Society and the organizer of the Five College Film Festival. Mike also served for seven years as the Board Chair of the Brattle Theatre, Cambridge, MA's nationally-recognized repertory cinema.

**ADAM ROFFMAN producer**

Adam Roffman has worked in various branches of the film industry since 1996. He has worked as a property master or on-set dresser for directors such as Robert Altman, Martin Scorsese,

Denzel Washington, Martin Campbell, Ben Affleck, Seth McFarlane, and Paul Greengrass. In 2001 Adam wrote, directed, and starred in a one-minute short film titled *The Terror Of The Invisible Man* which was written, shot, and edited over the course of 4 hours, went on to play 28 film festivals and was acquired by the Independent Film Channel and obtained a three-year broadcast deal in Japan. Adam has served as the Program Director of the Independent Film Festival of Boston, New England's largest film festival, since its inception in 2003, bringing over 700 filmmakers to Boston to date. He has produced the features *Woodpecker*, *Trust Us This Is All Made Up*, and *Phillip The Fossil*, all of which premiered at the SXSW Film Festival. Most recently, Roffman produced the documentary feature *Plimpton! Starring George Plimpton As Himself*, which is currently in post-production.

## CREDITS

### CAST

Paul Harris.....ALEX KARPOVSKY  
Danielle Jenkins.....JAIME RAY NEWMAN  
Linda Harris.....AMANDA GOOD HENNESSEY  
Chris Burke.....DENNIS STAROSELSKY  
Kathy.....DAKOTA SHEPARD  
Detective Timmons.....SEAN SULLIVAN  
Detective Ford.....RICHARD FORBES  
Marsha Burke.....MARIANNA BASHAM  
Ken.....GABRIEL KUTTNER  
Tom.....MICHAEL LEO JUDGE  
Jenine.....LINDA OROSKZO  
Young Paul.....ANDREW HOROWITZ  
Sean Harris.....LUKE DONOVAN  
Police Lieutenant.....WILLIAM DeCOF  
Little Boy in Car.....JEFFREY McCINERNEY  
Interviewer.....JOAN FLEISHMAN BACHENHEIMER  
Lab Workers.....NANCY GAHAGAN  
.....LEROY BROWN  
.....QUIG FENNO

### CREW

co-writer/director.....ALEX KARPOVSKY  
co-writer/producer.....GARTH DONOVAN  
producers.....MICHAEL BOWES  
.....ADAM ROFFMAN  
executive producers.....ROBERT PATTON-SPRUILL  
.....PATRICIA MORENO  
production manager.....ELIZABETH JONES  
associate producer.....STEVE JEFFREY  
director of photography.....BEECHER COTTON  
sound.....CHARLIE ANDERSON  
.....WILL LAUTZENHEISER  
editors.....GARTH DONOVAN  
.....ALEX KARPOVSKY  
original music.....JAMES LAVINO  
assistant editor.....ANGLEA ELLIS  
story consultant.....ANASTASIA PANAGOPOULOS



assistant camera.....ANTHONY CAPOBIANCO  
assistant director.....TODD DAVIS  
production designer.....LINDSAY DEGEN  
art director.....PEARL LUNG  
assistant art director.....ROSEMARY MARCHETTA  
website & poster design.....TOM SULLIVAN  
digital imaging technician.....SEAN GARDNER  
on-line editor & colorist.....OWEN WILLIAMS  
color correction & mastering.....LOCOMOTIVE, BOSTON  
sound mix facility.....MODULUS STUDIOS  
sound mixing.....DAMON ADDLEMANN  
.....ERIC MASUNAGA  
hair & makeup.....ANASTASIA PANAGOPOULOS  
production assistants.....LAUREN COSTA  
.....TYLER ROTMAN  
.....BRITTANY ROSS  
.....RYAN STAMERRO