

Mass Hysteria

A feature-length thriller/comedy from the team that brought you the award-winning comedy, *YouthMin.*

A photograph of a dense forest with tall, thin trees. A person wearing a white poncho and dark pants is walking away from the camera, towards the center of the frame. The ground is covered in green moss and fallen leaves.

PROJECT OVERVIEW



HISTORY REPEATING

LOGLINE:

A group of Salem Witch Trial re-enactors find themselves the target of a modern-day witch hunt.

SYNOPSIS:

When a tourist dies on Halloween Night in Salem, the crowd seeks justice by mounting a modern day witch hunt. Our wrongly accused heroes—a troupe of historical re-enactors—flee as another tourist dies, then another...making it clear this is much more than just a random accident.

Directed by: Arielle Cimino & Jeff Ryan

Written by: Christopher O'Connell & Jonathan Coleman

FROM THE DIRECTORS

Having lived in, and around Salem for the past seven years, we have always wanted to make a film surrounding this amazingly unique town. Halloween in Salem is an experience of a lifetime, and we wanted to recreate a modern witch hunt surrounding this annual event. The majority of tourists come to Salem in October with no idea of what actually happened in 1692. Our goal is to make a thriller/comedy that is truthful and entertaining, but also shares the dangers of the effects of a modern-day witch hunt.



WHY SPONSOR IN SALEM?

- Widespread Appeal - Over one million people visit Salem annually - 200K on Halloween weekend alone.
- Local involvement to help insure honesty and integrity to the town and history of Salem, MA.
- There exists a potential for a **tremendous ROI** within a two year period, due to foreign sales, genre following, domestic theatrical revenues, and VOD sales.
- **All sponsorships are tax-deductible** and can be made through our 501(c)(3) non-profit partners at the Independent Filmmaker Project. (ID #13-3118525)





TIMELINE

Month 1-2: Film financing and pre-production:
Casting, Crew and Locations confirmed.

Month 7-8: Festival
Premiere Pending Sale

M 1 M 2 M 3 M 4 M 5 M 6 M 7 M 8 M 9 M 10 M 11 M 12

Month 3: Production begins: principal photography 18 days.

Month 4-5: Editing - picture
locked.

Months 9-12: Film to AFM &
Foreign Markets.

Months 1-3

At month one, our script is locked and we are beginning the timeline on production.

Once financing is in place, our core production team begins pre-production. At this time, we confirm our casting director and negotiate contracts with

Months 4-6

During production, our editing team begins assembling, syncing and organizing the footage for daily viewing.

We work every day on trimming and cutting down our runtime before locking picture for mixing.

Months 7-12

Once the film is finalized, we work with a sales agent, publicist, and executive producers to solidify a spot at a top tiered festival.

Once at the festival, the goal is to make a sale. Following the festival, we plan to take the project to American and Foreign

A HISTORY OF SUCCESS

Our debut feature-film, *YouthMin*, was a community, festival, and financial success.

- We filmed in Beverly, MA involving 40 local crew members and 10 local businesses.
- *YouthMin* premiered at the Independent Film Festival of Boston, where it won the Audience Favorite Award after three sold-out screenings.
- The film continues to screen at colleges, festivals and theaters nationally – including South by Southwest, Dallas, BU, North Carolina and more.
- We released the film theatrically in New York City to rave reviews!



[Website](#)

[Teaser](#)

OUR HISTORY

Arielle Cimino, Director



Arielle Cimino is a Boston born filmmaker and improv artist. Arielle is the directing founder of the Salem Comedy Festival and has established a creative base on the north shore of Massachusetts. Arielle made her directorial debut with the award-winning mockumentary feature-film *YouthMin*.

Jeff Ryan, Director



Jeff Ryan is a New Jersey born filmmaker. Over the past seven years he has worked on shows like Netflix's *Orange is the New Black*, AMC's *Turn*, and the Sundance hit *The Way, Way Back*. Jeff's directorial debut, *YouthMin*, made on a modest budget, has gathered audience awards and rave reviews during its festival run.

Dave Schachter, Producer



Boston Celtics fan Dave Schachter has produced two award-winning films: Colin Healey's home renovation-themed slapstick drama, *Homemakers*, and Ben Powell's Mississippi towboat documentary, *BARGE*. Dave also directed the documentary Last Pyramid for *The Epilepsy Foundation*.

Jonathan Coleman, Producer



Jonathan Coleman is Vice President of a Manhattan based film and television production company. He is a graduate of Wheaton College where he studied Film and created several award-winning shorts. He is also an accomplished Voiceover Artist, producing work for IMAX Corporation, Vanderbilt University, Kickstarter, and many others.



THANK YOU!

We believe we can change the model for successful, low-budget, independent films. We're asking that you partner with us to help us achieve our vision.

Thank you for considering supporting
Mass Hysteria!

Sincerely,
First-Names Films



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