

**Mongrel Media**

Presents

# **BEYOND THE BLACK RAINBOW**



**A Film by Panos Cosmatos  
(110 min., Canada, 2010)  
Language: English**

**Official Selection  
2011 Fantastic Fest**

Distribution



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High res stills may be downloaded from <http://www.mongrelmedia.com/press.html>

## SYNOPSIS

Set in the strange and oppressive emotional landscape of the year 1983, **BEYOND THE BLACK RAINBOW** is a Reagan-era fever dream inspired by hazy childhood memories of midnight movies and Saturday morning cartoons. From the producer of *Machotaildrop*, **RAINBOW** is the outlandish feature film debut of writer and director Panos Cosmatos. Featuring a hypnotic analog synthesizer score by Jeremy Schmidt of "Sinoia Caves" and "Black Mountain," **RAINBOW** is a film experience for the senses.

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT – PANOS COSMATOS**

I wasn't allowed to watch R-rated films when I was a kid, but when we'd go to the video store on the corner, a mom and pop shop called Video Attic, I'd obsessively look at all the horror movie video tapes. I was mesmerized by the lurid box covers and the vivid descriptions on the back. So I'd imagine, in great detail, my own versions of these movies without having ever seen them. That was one of the key inspirations for the film. The idea of making one of those imagined movies.

The mood of the film is my memory of how the late 70's and early 80's felt to me. Both the reality and the fantasy world of the pop culture I would immerse myself in. I think in making it I was trying to grasp something intangible. It's a nostalgic movie, but it's a poisoned nostalgia.

- *Panos Cosmatos*

## ABOUT THE CAST

### **MICHAEL ROGERS** (Barry Nyle)

Michael Rogers is a Canadian actor with over 50 film and television credits on his extensive resume. Starting his career over 20 years ago on stage, Rogers quickly found roles on screen guest starring on hit television shows such as “21 Jump Street,” “Wiseguy,” “Beggars and Choosers,” and “Dead Zone.”

Michael continued to guest star on numerous series and has since appeared in many hit feature films including *The Assassination of Jesse James*, with Brad Pitt and Casey Affleck, and *Two for the Money*, with Al Pacino and Matthew McConaughey. In addition to **BEYOND THE BLACK RAINBOW**, Rogers has been busy filming the role of “Quan Chi” in the highly anticipated TV series, “Mortal Kombat: Legacy.”

### **EVA ALLAN** (Elena)

Eva Allan grew up in the small rural town of Creston, British Columbia. With little activities for a youth to do, she started to become involved in school plays, although she never thought of acting as a career path. After high school she studied Dental Assisting, but realized there was a creative element missing in her life and had the urge to act again.

Allan moved to Vancouver on a whim, and studied with School Creative. Soon after graduating, she found an agent and began auditioning right away, which led to her role in **BEYOND THE BLACK RAINBOW**. Allan then booked a recurring role on the SyFy series “Caprica”, as well as roles on USA’s “Psych,” Disney’s “16 Wishes,” and 20th Century Fox’s “The Big Year.” Recently Allan booked a lead role on the Hub Network’s “The Haunting Hour.” Allan currently resides in Vancouver, British Columbia. In her free time she enjoys painting, dancing, running, and hanging out with friends.

### **SCOTT HYLANDS** (Mercurio Arboria)

Scott began working in the film biz in college (UBC) a long time ago and appeared in Larry Kent’s *The Street*, Vancouver’s first independent film. Forty years later he worked with Kent again in Vancouver in the much debated *Hamster Cage* (VIFF 2004). His feature debut was in *Daddy’s Gone a’ Hunting*, a film directed by Mark Robson, who also cast him in *Earthquake*. In the miniseries “Centennial,” he played a horse thief, Mike Lasater, which earned him a fan letter from James Michener himself.

After 10 unsold TV pilots, Hylands bailed to Toronto and finally found himself standing under the right tree at the right time, starring as Cop O’Brien in the police procedural “Night Heat.” It lasted four years and produced 96 one-hour episodes. He turned down further series work in Toronto in order to fulfill his other priorities - building his own house, getting married, having kids, and fooling

around in the theater. He lives on beautiful Saltspring Island, a ferry ride from where he was raised. **BEYOND THE BLACK RAINBOW**, which was shot in Vancouver, brings his journey full circle.

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### **PANOS COSMATOS** – Writer & Director

Born in Rome in 1974 to a Greek movie director father and a Swedish experimental artist mother, Cosmatos spent his early formative years traveling all over the globe before settling in Canada. In 1981, the family lived for a year in Mexico where exposure to the strange local interpretations of American pop culture had a profound and lasting effect on his creative life. Growing up in the isolated suburbs of Vancouver Island during the 80s, he obsessed over the minutiae of heavy metal, fantasy art, and science fiction horror films, which he still does to this day. He then immersed himself in the underground art and music scenes making short films, album covers and music videos with a burgeoning group of influential and ground breaking artists.

**BEYOND THE BLACK RAINBOW** is his feature film directorial debut. He currently lives and works in Vancouver, British Columbia.

### **SINOIA CAVES** - Music

Since the late 90s, Sinoia Caves has been the solo musical output of Jeremy Schmidt, who currently plays keyboards in Vancouver's Black Mountain. An enduring fascination with the genre, as well as the antiquated technology that accompanies it, informs Sinoia Caves' continuing explorations of the "ether-synth abyss". Drone, repetition, melody, random voltages, hymns, and songs are some of the forms that are consistently revisited.

### **OLIVER LINSLEY** - Producer

Founder of Doghouse Films, Oliver Linsley has been working in film in Vancouver for over a decade. Starting as a production coordinator on commercials, his experience as a producer now ranges from feature films and commercials to music videos. Working with a wide range of creativity is what keeps work interesting for Linsley, but making films is still the driving force behind his ambition. He has completed two feature films in addition to **BEYOND THE BLACK RAINBOW**: Corey Adams and Alex Craig's *Machotaildrop*, a dark comedy set in the world of skateboarding, and Blaine Thurier's *A Gun to the Head*, both of which premiered at the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival.

Formerly, Linsley was an accountant and before that a painter. He holds a degree in Art History with a minor in Visual Arts as well as a Diploma in Accounting. For some reason, film is more fun than that other stuff.

**CHRISTYA NORDSTOKKE - Producer**

Born in 1980, Christya Nordstokke grew up on Vancouver Island in British Columbia. She first started working in film with director Panos Cosmatos on music videos and short films. She continues to work with Cosmatos on projects they are both passionate about including their first feature film **BEYOND THE BLACK RAINBOW**, which she produced with Oliver Linsley. Nordstokke is an autodidact and California Gold Rush history enthusiast who currently works and lives in Vancouver, BC.

**NORM LI - Cinematography**

Norm Li is a Director of Photography based out of Vancouver, BC. Best known for his blend of European, Asian, and North American camera and lighting styles, he loves to collaborate with directors on interesting projects to push the limits of cinematography.

Even though he is experienced in all film and digital shooting formats, he prefers to shoot features, commercials, and music videos. His work has garnered international and festival recognition and his love and passion for cinematography is contagious.

**BOB BOTTIERI – Production Design**

Bob Bottieri was born in Webster, Massachusetts and his early interest in design led him to attend the Art Institute of Boston. Bob currently lives in Vancouver, British Columbia with his wife, LaVonne, and son, Carmelo. As well as designing for film and television, Bottieri is a painter and author. His book, “Kid Made: Easily Made Sets For Action Toys,” has been published by Oxford University Press.

**NICHOLAS SHEPARD – Editor**

Nicholas Shepard has been a film editor since 1998, when he completed the Film Production program at Vancouver Film School. In addition to **BEYOND THE BLACK RAINBOW**, Shepard’s recent film credits include Blaine Thurier’s *A Gun to the Head*, *Cultural Revolutions*, and Michael Dayan’s award-winning documentary, *Glimpses of Heaven*. Shepard is currently a Post-Production Manager and Senior Editor at Lionheart Productions in Vancouver.

**ERIC PAUL- Sound Design**

Eric Paul is a Vancouver based sound designer and composer. He studied experimental music composition with Alvin Lucier and Anthony Braxton at Wesleyan University. Following graduation, he moved to NYC where he worked on films with the likes of Ang Lee and Antoine Fuqua. Since then his sound design work can be heard in the uniquely independent films *Machotaildrop* and *Glory at Sea*.

# **CAST AND CREW**

Barry Nyle – **Michael Rogers**

Elena – **Eva Allan**

Mercurio Arboria- **Scott Hylands**

Rosmary Nyle – **Marilyn Norry**

Margo – **Rondel Reynoldson**

Mutant – **Geoffrey Condor**

Fat Heshher – **Chris Gauthier**

Skinny Heshher – **Gerry South**

Sentionauts – **Roy Campsall**

Directed by

**Panos Cosmatos**

Written by

**Panos Cosmatos**

Produced by

**Oliver Linsley**

Produced by

**Christya Nordstokke**

Cinematographer

**Norm Li**

Production Designer

**Bob Bottieri**

Editor

**Nicholas Shepard**

Sound Designer

**Eric Paul**

Composer

**Sinoia Caves**