

LONESOME

Written and Directed by Tony K Hall

TONY K HALL

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PRESS
KIT



LONESOME

A film by Tony K Hall

Amber DeRuyter

Zach McLain



SYNOPSIS:

TAGLINE:

A Girl, a Guy, & The Beach.

LOGLINE:

Lonely city dweller Guy is struggling to find his ideal partner. In a trip to the beach suggested by his roommate, he may have found his match with the free spirited Roxie.

MEDIUM + LONG:

Lonely city dweller Guy is having bad luck with Internet dating, until his roommate proposes a new approach - going out and meeting with real people. Guy hits it off with free spirited Roxie at the beach, and they spend an exciting day getting to know each other. Eventually realizing they may have found the person of their dreams, they are faced with a decision that could separate them forever. 'Lonesome' is an ode to classic cinema, new wave cinema, and silent film.

Music by
Tony Doubek

Cinematography by
Jake Wollner

Written & Directed by
Tony K Hall

Produced by Rue Du Port,
Tony K Hall, Jake Wollner

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

“Lonesome” was shot in B&W on the streets of Milwaukee, Wisconsin with a skeleton cast & crew and a shoestring budget. Heavily influenced by the films of the French New Wave, I wanted my first feature to be a film that was shot on the cheap, with a handheld camera, natural lighting, and using location shooting. In the early 2010s DSLR cameras started becoming affordable for first time film makers, who would no longer need to rent expensive equipment or buy a camera that would cost a life’s savings. With the advent of the affordable DSLR, I felt that we had the tools to make a film look cinematic, while still being able to maintain a low budget. Many challenging variables allowed us to complete this film. Many first time directors have the goal of trying to make the next ‘no budget’ feature that can become a cult hit, and ‘Lonesome’ was made in this spirit.

Along with the ‘low budget’ shooting concept, I felt the story of ‘Lonesome’ had to be a simple story as well. My taste has always veered towards romantic narratives (heavily influenced by the films of Jacques Demy and Wong Kar-Wai). ‘Lonesome’ needed to be a simple love found, love lost story. I wanted the film to have a feel of improvised dialogue, even though the majority of dialogue was scripted. Initially the movie was conceived as being a silent film in which inter-titles would provide the narrative, and the dialogue would be subtitled. However, as filming went along, the artistic decision was made to leave the dialogue as dialogue (instead of using subtitles), and only use inter-titles to narrate. I wanted to play around with different genres, so it was fun to have the film be partially silent, partially a musical and to be dramatic with comedic moments. Ultimately, we were trying to achieve a romantic narrative that would fit the genre of Art-house or Indie Film, and still have that classic cinema look.

- TONY K HALL



ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

“Lonesome” was filmed over 16 separate filming days over the course of 26 months from October 2018 to December 2020. Since the cast & crew were unpaid, and everyone involved already had regular jobs and contracted paying gigs – we got together when we could. Many times not knowing until several days before shooting that we would actually be filming. The project was going to be a ‘shoot on the fly’ or ‘run and gun’ type of production due to most people involved already had other obligations. The COVID-19 pandemic also nearly derailed the project. When the COVID shutdowns went into affect in March 2020, we were only 85% done with the current state of the script at that time. As an independent project, we mimicked the ‘Safe Sets’ protocol set forth by the Screen Actors Guild and were able to film for 1 day each in October 2020 and December 2020 to get to a completed project. Some scenes we were never able to film, so ‘Lonesome’ was left with a short running time of 65 minutes but still worked as a complete story. Also, worthy of note is that ‘Lonesome’ started initially as a short film project. However, after the first 3 days of filming in the fall of 2018, we realized that there is much more story here than a film that would come in under 30 minutes. Some additions were made to the script at that time, and the main cast & crew agreed to the goal of trying to accomplish a feature, even though we knew this was a lofty goal. The writer/director felt that the amount of talent that had agreed to this project was too much to not go for a feature length film. Luckily because the script was not dialogue heavy, it left a lot of room for improvisation for how scheduling would go and for filming extra scenes that were added to the script along the way.



MAIN CAST PROFILES



Amber DeRuyter
Roxie

An avid theater performer since the age of 10, Amber has starred in shows such as Chicago, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Arsenic and Old Lace, and Blind Dating at Happy Hour. Company associations are Theater on a Hill, Musical Masquers, and The Kettle Moraine Playhouse. When not on stage, she house manages at The Kettle Moraine Playhouse or works behind the desk at The West Bend Community Memorial Library. Amber resides in the Kettle Moraine with her husband and son.



Zach McLain
Guy

Zach is a filmmaker and designer with a passion for storytelling. He is an award winning director and actor, published author, and designer. Zach also works as a photographer, writer and producer. Starting at the age of 10, Zach performed leading roles in a multitude of musicals before studying at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. Moving into film and digital media after school, Zach is passionate about storytelling, regardless of the medium.

www.zachmclainmedia.net



Alexandra Peseri
Alexa, Roxie's Friend

Alexa is a multidinary artist, focusing primarily on voice acting and independent films. Alexa grew up in New York and attended Brown University where she performed in several Brown/RISD short films, musicals, revues, stage plays, a capella, and choir. Alexa wrote and performed her own solo show "Eat, Pray, Robot". She currently resides in Madison, WI, with plans to relocate to Salt Lake City, UT. In Madison, she has performed in stage plays, with Breakthrough Dance Company, acted in a handful of short and feature-length films and done voice work for Trek Bicycle Company and Raven Software.

@thehumanalexa on Instagram



Eric Halverson
Jim, Guy's Rommate

Local Milwaukee creative, Photographer, Videographer and Beard Enthusiast. Eric has appeared in numerous shorts and YouTube videos. Amongst his many projects - he runs the YouTube channel 'Weather You Like It or Not' and plays the character 'Bert Lauderdale', an aspiring meteorologist and storm chaser.

@erichalvie and @bertlauderdale on Instagram
@BertWeather on Twitter



Carolyn Lyons
Mary, Jim's Girlfriend

Carolyn is a graduate of UW-Milwaukee with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She has prior appeared in YouTube videos and Student Films made at the UW-Milwaukee Film School.

PRODUCTION TEAM PROFILES



Tony K Hall
Director, Writer, Producer

Tony is a first time film director based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from St. Norbert College (De Pere, WI). His prior experience includes being on set as a production assistant and assistant director for several other short films and YouTube videos. He has one prior unreleased short film as writer/director. He also routinely writes film reviews that he privately shares via forums with his friends and family. He has several other feature film scripts that have not yet been green-lighted but has high hopes to continue to make more films.



Jake Wollner
Cinematographer, Film Editor, Producer

Jake is a cinematographer, editor, director, producer, and marketer based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He has landed screenings in multiple film festivals and awards including best short film. His work ranges from narrative, event, brand, small business, travel, corporate.

@jakewollner on Instagram



Tony Doubek
Composer/Music Score

Tony is a composer with a mission to invite audiences to step out of their daily lives into new perspectives, worlds, and emotional states through the power of music. He has worked with film, TV, dance, concert music, and many other unique collaborative projects. More information, samples of his work, and tracks readily available for licensing can be found on his website at <https://www.tonydoubekmusic.com>



Patrik Beck
Visual Effects

Patrik is the owner-operator of Electric Crayon Studio, an animation and visual effects boutique that has been running continuously since 1992. Servicing the private sector and artistic community by providing Hollywood level animation and digital effects for multi-national companies, to student films, and everything in between. Patrik is a creator in his own right, having completed a full length feature, several shorts both live and animated, written several books, and is currently in pre-production for an independently produced animated feature. He is a musician, playwright, and heavily involved in the local comedy scene. Electric Crayon Studio creates animated content on a wide range of styles, from 2D cartoons to the photo realistic. Visual effects from the spectacular to the invisible, from adding explosions to seamlessly removing unwanted people/places/things from footage and the notorious 'fixing it in post'. Contact him if you got a problem or want to endlessly talk about movies.

Contact: zippy@wi.rr.com



Nick Daniel
Sound Editor

Nick is a set mixer, post audio editor, and award-winning composer based out of Illinois.



Shanna McLain
Costume Designer + Make-up Director/Artist

Shanna graduated from UW-Parkside in 2013 with a BFA in Theatre Performance and Costume Design. She has been an active member in the Milwaukee film and theatre communities since 2013 serving as costume and makeup support on multiple projects. Her credits include: Assistant MUA (The White Owl – 2015); Assistant MUA (Blood of Bad Men – 2016); Costume and Make Design (Romeo and Juliet – Voices Found Rep. 2016); Artistic Director (Twelfth Night – Voices Found Rep. 2017); Assistant Costumer (Survivor: A Tale from the Nearscape – 2017); MUA and Costume Design (Trip – 2021). Wardrobe (Florentine Opera Company 2014 – present).

CAMEO/CHARACTER ACTOR PROFILES



Benjamin Koenigs
Beach Maintenance Worker

Benjamin Koenigs grew up in a small village in Sheboygan County, Wisconsin. Art has been a constant in his life. He's been the front man for several bands around the Southeastern Wisconsin area that have headlined TONS of charity events. He also has a podcast centered around his lack of watching movies called "Where Have You Ben?" where he acts as a co-host and producer. For the last several years, he's worked at 102.9 The Hog in Milwaukee under the name Benny K. He also dabbles in acting as he has been a part of several music videos along with the occasional role in short films.



David Vargas
Hot Air Balloon Operator & crew as a
Production Assistant

Hailing from Central Wisconsin, Lonesome marks the motion picture debut for David, whose acting credits until now have focused on community theatre stage productions. Having been afforded the opportunity to travel extensively throughout North America over the past decade, David is excited to settle down and join the Milwaukee film and theatre scene. In addition to assisting with independent film projects, David is a vocalist with the Milwaukee Choristers, volunteers with several civic organizations, and is an avid contributor to the living history community. Throughout all, David remains a committed public servant and is passionate about sharing his talent with others both locally and abroad.



Sadie Kruse
Not Roxie at the Caffe

Acting is a passion for Sadie. She has performed in plays, choir concerts and has acted as a home manager. She is currently performing at The Bristol Renaissance Faire for 2021 and plans to continue this gig. She is currently seeking more independent film roles.



Daniel Soto
Caffe Barista

Daniel is currently majoring in Film Studies at UW-Milwaukee. In the summer of 2017, as a filmmaker, Daniel got the opportunity to participate in an international short film competition in Thailand. It was there that he got his first exposure to the film industry and met with filmmakers from other parts of the world. 'Lonesome' is his first film acting role, and aspires to have more. He also models for the Milwaukee based company Koss Headphones.



Carlos Garcia
The New Beau

Carlos is a bi-lingual local Milwaukee creative. He is currently the guitarist for Valerie Lighthart. His most recent focuses have been on music and music videos. While appearing in numerous music videos, he has also been an extra in short films and acted in YouTube videos. He is open to further film roles, and inclines towards taking on 'bad guy' roles.

