



15 TO SUNRISE

Program Announcement Information

LOGLINE:

A despondent young woman discovers blissful detachment after she chooses to become a vampire - only to discover that her new clutch is being hunted by their primeval, nihilistic ancestor.

TITLE: 15 TO SUNRISE

WORLD PREMIERE

DIRECTED BY: JOEL AUSTIN

WRITTEN BY: ROBERT CAPRON & JOEL AUSTIN

GENRE: HORROR | COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: USA

STARRING: KALEIGH MACCHIO, TIME WINTERS

PRODUCER: MIKYLA BORDNER



Film Information & Specs

Directed by: Joel Austin

Co-written by: Robert Capron & Joel Austin

Produced by: Mikyla Bordner

Director of Photography: Padraic O'Meara

Key Hair & Makeup Artist: Trysta Kelley

Costume Design: Sarah Meyer

Set Design: Nic Prentiss

Composer: Travis Bacon

Sound Design: Richard Walters

Editor: Seth Boston

Colorist: Ryan Graves at Hibernation Post

VFX: Raymond Hil

Starring:

Kaleigh Macchio

Time Winters

Rebekah Rawhouser

Chris Yamez

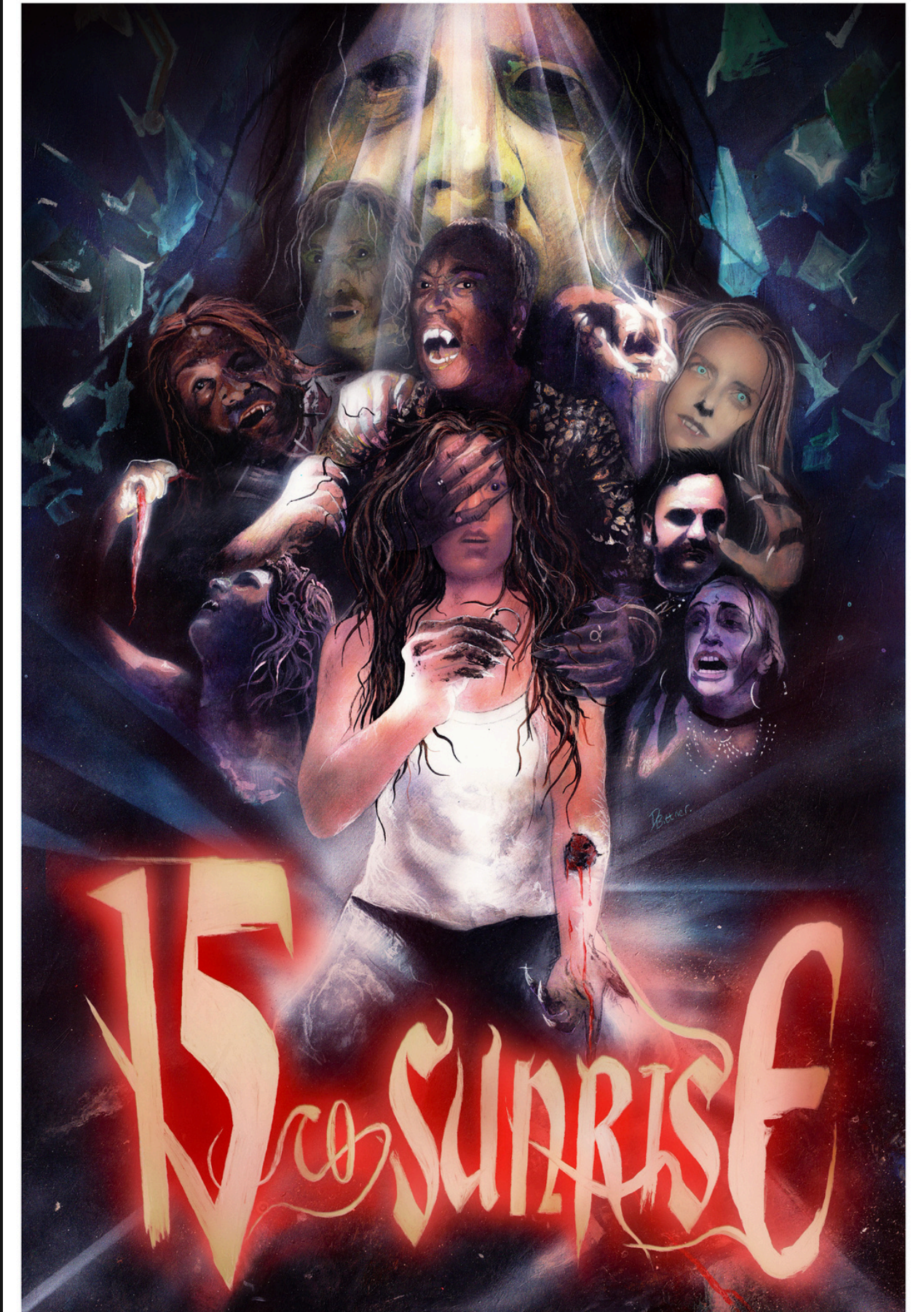
Shawn Arani

Estanislado Orona

Mikyla Bordner

Peter Fanone

Jaqueline MacDonald



Synopsis:

15 to Sunrise follows Ruby Capps, a woman in her 30's who's racked with grief following the recent death of her abusive mother. In an attempt to escape the pain, Ruby falls in with a group of eccentrics who reveal themselves to be vampires. The film begins after Ruby and her new "friends" have descended into a set of twisting, underground tunnels for an initiation ritual, or sorts. Unbeknownst to Ruby, the vampires have their own agenda, namely the pursuit of a mysterious creature, referred to only as, "Him."

After drinking a mysterious black liquid that kicks off her transformation into vampirism, Ruby experiences her first kill in a chamber filled with trapped humans, though how precisely those humans arrived is initially a mystery. The vampire group—including the seductive Salome, the half-burnt Ulf, the French decadent Oudinet, the cold Miloslava, and the devoted Vesago—systematically slaughter the captive victims in a brutal feeding frenzy.

The carnage is interrupted by the arrival of Billy, a powerful and ancient vampire who appears to be the mysterious "Him" the group has been seeking all along. Rather than welcoming them, Billy turns violent, killing Vesago immediately and terrorizing the other vampires. In the ensuing chaos, all hell breaks loose while the vampires desperately try to escape through a locked iron gate. Billy's supernatural power reduces the formerly predatory vampires to helpless prey.

In a twisted turn, Ruby—the newest vampire—chooses not to flee but instead expresses her desire to learn more about Billy. Recognizing a kindred spirit seeking freedom through violence and darkness, Billy appears to accept her, pointing her rage and grief toward the trapped vampires who now face the same fate as their human victims.





Cast & Crew

Joel Austin: Director

Joel Austin has been an actor since boyhood, working in the southeast, northeast, pacific northwest, and southern California.

15 to Sunrise is Joel's second film as a director. He also teaches post-production at UCLA Ext.

Joel has been a lover of horror for his entire life. Technically his first filmmaking project was a *Blair Witch* knock-off shot on a VHS tape in his Godfather's backyard. So horror runs deep in his history.

In the time since, he's published horror stories, an expanded reality podcast series, and more.



[WEBSITE](#)

[IMDb](#)

Robert Capron: Co-Writer

Robert Capron: The co-writer of 15 to Sunrise, Robert's worked in entertainment as an actor, writer and independent producer since he was eight years old.

Highlights include starring roles in the Wimpy Kid film trilogy and Tim Burton's animated Frankenweenie. He most recently completed work on The Muppets Mayhem as a writers' assistant and has worked as a documentary researcher for Trouper Productions.

[INSTAGRAM](#)

[IMDb](#)



Mikyla Bordner: Producer

Without failure, emotional fruition and passionate investment are constantly at the frontline of all the films Mikyla Bordner creates. Every shot counts, every angle counts and every moment spent in pre-production illuminates itself on the screen in ways that often go undervalued by those who do not see the proof in the pudding.

After studying Film at Portland State University (21' BS- Minor in Theatre), she gained valuable skills that continue to help her dive deeper into the meaning of hard work and dedication to every creative endeavor you encounter.

Mikyla has completed works like *The Way We Speak* and is going into production on a feminist horror, *Cottontail* starring Natasha Haveli later this year.

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[RESUME](#)

[WEBSITE](#)

[IMDb](#)

Padraic O'Meara: Director of Photography

Padraic O'Meara (*Half Sisters*, 2023) is a South African-born cinematographer and filmmaker whose journey into visual storytelling began early in animation and visual effects, working in both traditional hand-drawn and 3D mediums before studying directing and screenwriting at AFDA (The South African School of Motion Picture Medium). After moving to the United States in 2012, Padraic focused fully on cinematography, building a career across commercial, narrative, and documentary forms.

For Padraic, the camera is more than a technical tool — it's a means of deep creative connection. Having felt the solitude that can come with directing, he relishes the role of collaborator: interpreting a director's vision, supporting it both creatively and technically, and showing up as a trusted partner and friend.

[IMDb](#)

[WEBSITE](#)



A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a small, dark metal ring. The hand is positioned over a surgical site on a person's chest, which is covered by a white cloth. The surgical site is visible through a circular opening in the cloth, showing a dark, bloody wound. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Director's Statement

What is the legacy of **abuse**? How much control do we really have over spreading our **trauma**? These are the questions at the heart of "15 to Sunrise."

As our protagonist struggles to overcome the passing of her abusive mother, she willingly embraces becoming a **vampire**. But will her new power grant freedom from the pain or make things far, far worse?

"15 to Sunrise" is a story about the timeless nature of trauma, abuse, and **grief** hidden within the guise of a blood-soaked, **early 2000's film**-inspired, subterranean, vampiric hellscape that seeks to ask more questions than it answers and leave the audience wanting **more**.

We sincerely hope you love our dive into undead **depravity** as much as we do. And, if you do, please let us know! We're hard at work on the **feature**, so we'd love to know your thoughts.

Vampirically,
Joel Austin



The Production



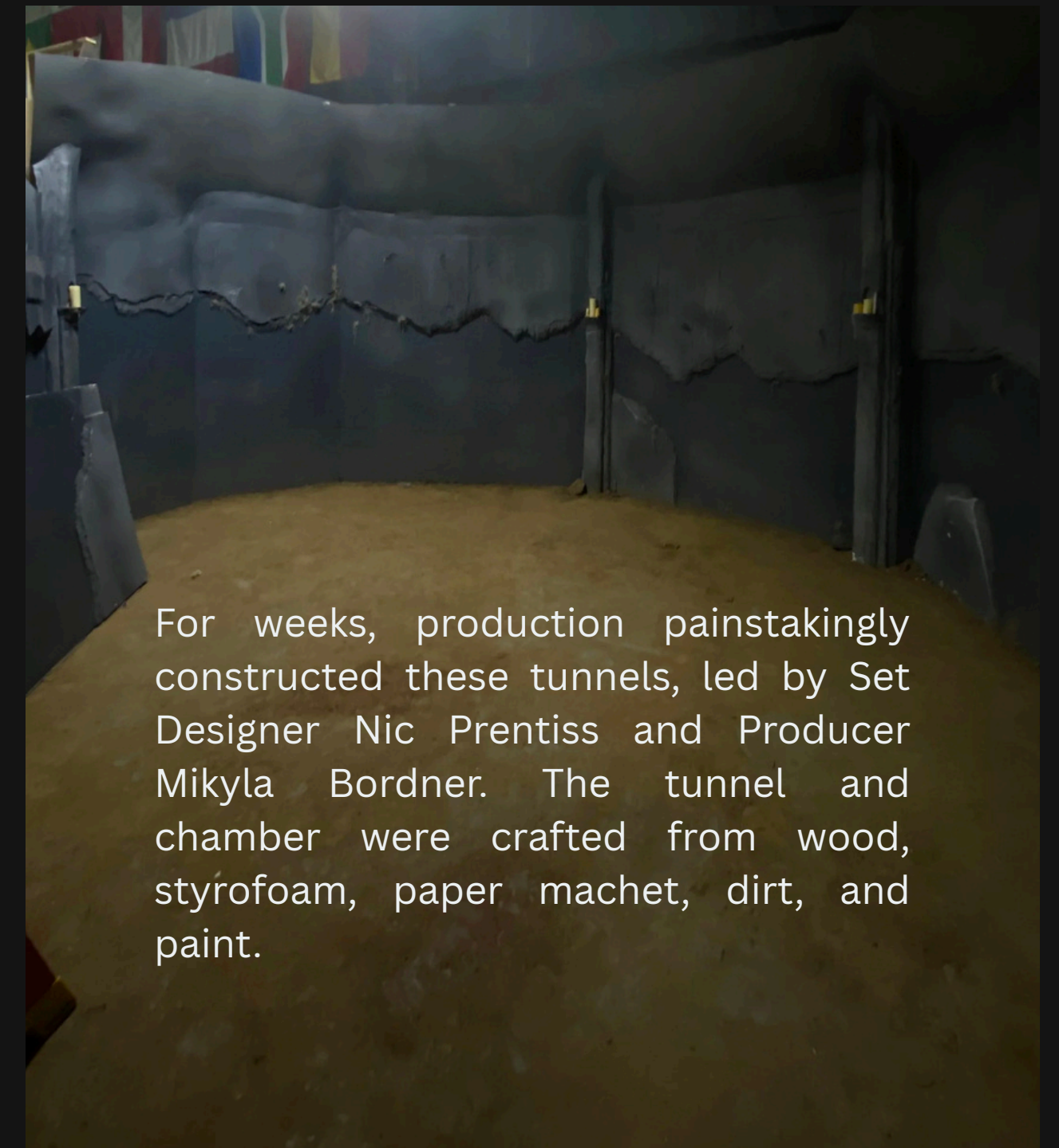


15 to Sunrise was shot over three principal photography days, with an added half-day for picku-ups. For the shoot, production built an elaborate, 40 foot-long tunnel which doubled as two sets in the first half of the film. This was built alongside an indoor soccer field, which graciously donated their storage space for use during filming.



[Watch pre-construction tunnel walkthrough](#)

The second half of the film takes place in a large, circular chamber, which was constructed at the end of the tunnel. Most materials for both structures were donated by local businesses in the Portland, Oregon area.



For weeks, production painstakingly constructed these tunnels, led by Set Designer Nic Prentiss and Producer Mikyla Bordner. The tunnel and chamber were crafted from wood, styrofoam, paper machet, dirt, and paint.

Thank You

Thank you for learning more about 15 to Sunrise. For all inquiries, please contact Producer Mikyla Bordner.

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