

45 RPM

45 RPM

David Schultz

OVERVIEW

A coming-of-age story, **45 RPM** is a dramatic and edgy love story poised against the backdrop of a remote Cold War era army base.

LOGLINE

In the Autumn of 1960 a reclusive teenager discovers, love, loss and rock and roll.

SYNOPSIS

It's the Autumn of 1960. Fifteen-year-old Parry Tender doesn't know where to turn. Hassled by the local cop, Parry wants out of his small town hell. He's lived in Goose Lake all his life. It isn't much; about two hundred folks in all give or take. It's five hundred miles north of nowhere which to the satisfaction of the United States Air Force makes it only five hundred miles south of the "DEW-LINE", a continent wide chain of early warning radar stations constructed across Canada's Arctic during the paranoia of the Cold War. With its four-thousand-foot gravel runway, Saskatchewan's Goose Lake is the perfect spot to airlift men and materials into Canada's frozen north. It's all very secret – all very boring – and no one wants out more than Parry.

Parry isn't asking for much. He only wants a little more that he already has which is an old Cree grandfather named Peter George who isn't even kin, and his best and only friend Luke, a thirteen year old girl who looks and acts more like a boy. Parry knows the dangers of small town life. Suicide cured his mother's troubles, and his father? Well, that's another story.

When a fluke atmospheric condition allows a fifty thousand watt Manhattan radio station to pump its infectious rock'n'roll signal into Canada's far north and out through the small paper speaker of Parry's RCA radio, Luke can't believe their luck. WABC – New York, 770 on the AM dial is running a radio contest. The winner and a guest will be flown to New York City to attend Alan Freed's Fourth of July rock'n'roll party at the Brooklyn Paramount. It all seems simple enough. Parry and Luke will win their escape from Goose Lake. But when Debbie Baxter, the pretty daughter of an American Army Air Force Major steels Parry's heart, no one is certain what will happen next.

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"Hey teenagers! Duck and cover! You're tuned to WABC – We start 'em. Other's chart 'em.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

45 RPM, a co-production between Calgary-based Nomadic Pictures and Don Carmody Productions, began principle photography in and around Regina, Canada on September 25, 2007. The 1950s period piece wrapped after 17 days of shooting.

45 RPM is a coming-of-age story exploring the discovery of rock and roll and the complicated relationships of Parry and Luke, the central characters in the fictional remote northern town of Goose Lake, Saskatchewan at the height of the Cold War.

The feature film was written and directed by David Schultz (*Jet Boy*).

45 RPM blends a mixture of veteran Hollywood actors and relative industry newcomers. The film stars Michael Madsen (*Reservoir Dogs, Kill Bill*), Emmy Award nominee August Schellenberg (*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*), Kim Coates (*Black Hawk Down, Assault on Precinct 13*), Amanda Plummer (*Pulp Fiction*) and Mackenzie Porter (*Dinosapiens, Christmas in Wonderland*).

45 RPM exceeds expectations for a period film. It entices the audience with dramatic dialogue alternating between heartwarming and heartbreaking.

Canadian Jordan Gavaris plays Parry Tender, a well-intentioned though rebellious teenager who views life in Goose Bay as nothing short of suffocating. When a radio signal from New York city arrives unexpectedly a plan of escape is set in motion with consequences that force Parry to grown up sooner than he would have anticipated.

The project is produced by Nomadic Pictures (*The Incredible Mrs. Ritchie, Broken Trail*) principals Mike Frislev and Chad Oakes, who received an Emmy Award for Best Outstanding Mini-Series for their break-out western *Broken Trail* and Don Carmody Productions with Don Carmody (*Chicago, Silent Hill*) as executive producer. Anand Ramayya (*Wapos Bay, Cosmic Current*) co-produced.

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CAST

Parry Tender.....	JORDAN GAVARIS
Luke.....	JUSTINE BANSZKY
Peter George.....	AUGUST SCHELLENBERG
Debbie Baxter.....	MACKENZIE PORTER
Major Baxter.....	MICHAEL MADSEN
Constable Able Taft.....	KIM COATES
Caralee Lucas.....	AMANDA PLUMMER
Radio DJ.....	TERRY DAVID MULLIGAN

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Jordan Gavaris

2007 proved to be an exciting year for rookie actor Jordan Gavaris.

After graduating from high school in spring 2007 he embarked on path not unfamiliar to his friends and family and enrolled in university studies beginning the following September.

Around the same time Jordan considered pursuing an interest in acting. This pursuit would temporarily derail his first semester of academic post-secondary education.

Jordan Gavaris celebrated his 18th birthday on September 25, 2007. The same day principal photography began on his first role – as lead character in the feature film *45 RPM*. And, 17 shooting days later marked the completion of his first role.

Jordan now works to balance his studies and continuing work in film, television and theatre productions while residing in Ontario, Canada.

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Justine Banzky

Justine Banzky caught the attention of casting directors while auditioning in her hometown of Edmonton, Canada.

Justine's relative inexperience will come as a surprise to the audience of her inaugural role in **45 RPM** as she appears with the grace and talent of an industry veteran.

She continues her studies and resides with her family in Edmonton.

August Schellenberg

August Werner Schellenberg was born in Montreal, Quebec, Canada on July 25, 1936 to a Swiss father and an English-Mohawk mother. He lived in Montreal until moving to Toronto, Ontario, where he made his home from 1967 until 1995. Currently living in Dallas, he is married to actress Joan Karasevich and is the father of three daughters.

August is a lifelong athlete, a champion diver and boxer in his youth who currently participates in celebrity charity sporting events. He has taught acting seminars at the Centre for Indigenous Theatre and at York University, both in Toronto. He continues to conduct motivational workshops in schools and for cultural and community organizations across North America.

A 1966 graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada, August began his acting career in the theatre with a six-month tour of Ontario performing for high school students with the Crest Theatre Hour Company.

August has appeared at Ontario's renowned Shaw and Stratford festivals; at Stratford he received the 1967 Tyrone Guthrie Award for most promising young actor.

The early Canadian classic film *Rip Off* in 1971 marks the beginning of a film career that has spanned almost four decades and includes: *Power Play* (Peter O'Toole), *Bear Island* (Vanessa Redgrave), Bruce Beresford's *Black Robe* and Terrence Malick's *The New World* (Colin Farrell, Christian Bale).

His diverse television achievements include August's Emmy-nominated portrayal of Sitting Bull in Dick Wolf's HBO production *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* also starring Adam Beach, Aidan Quinn, and Anna Paquin.

August was presented with the National Theatre School of Canada's Gascon-Thomas Lifetime Achievement Award upon wrapping production on **45 RPM**.

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Mackenzie Porter

Mackenzie Porter was born in Medicine Hat, Canada. The 18-year-old actor began her performing career at a young age alongside her family of musicians.

Mackenzie has appeared in several roles including the highly entertaining television series *Dinosapiens* for the BBC.

Her film credits include *Christmas in Wonderland* alongside Patrick Swayze and Tim Curry.

She is the sister of *Canadian Idol* winner Kalan Porter. When not travelling for work, Mackenzie makes her home on the family ranch outside Medicine Hat.

Michael Madsen

Michael Soren Madsen was born September 25, 1958 in Chicago, Illinois. His sister is Academy Award nominated actress Virginia Madsen. Michael's acting career started at the Steppenwolf Theatre Company in Chicago, where he served as an apprentice actor under John Malkovich.

Soon after his apprenticeship, he was cast in a small role in his first movie *War Games*. He moved to Los Angeles and appeared in a series of minor film roles, including playing baseball player Bump Bailey in *The Natural*, a deranged killer in *Kill Me Again*, and Susan Sarandon's tough but touching boyfriend "Jimmy" in *Thelma & Louise*.

He played a razor-wielding, sadistic ex-con and jewel thief, "Mr. Blonde", in the film *Reservoir Dogs*. The film gained attention among film critics and fans, as did Michael's performance and the brutality of his character.

Subsequently, he was cast in a variety of supporting roles in major studio films, including *Free Willy*, *Mulholland Falls*, *Species*, and the critically acclaimed production *Donnie Brasco*.

Michael has appeared in several television series, including *Vengeance Unlimited* and most recently as "Don Everest" in the poker-themed ESPN series *Tilt*.

He resides with his family in Malibu, California.

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Kim Coates

Canadian born actor Kim Coates was raised in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan – not far from the set of **45 RPM**.

With over 40 films to his credit, including director Michael Bay's feature film *The Island, Hostage* (Bruce Willis), *Assault on Precinct 13* (Ethan Hawke) and *Open Range* (Annette Benning, Robert Duvall).

He has appeared in the Academy Award-winning films *Black Hawk Down* and *Pearl Harbour*.

Kim has worked extensively in television and theatre including a portrayal of Stanley Kowalski in the Broadway production of *A Streetcar Named Desire* and in the title role in *Macbeth* at the Stratford Theatre.

Kim makes his home in Los Angeles, California.

PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

Don Carmody

Executive Producer

Don Carmody has been producing films for more than 30 years.

He was vice-president of production for Canada's Cinepix (now Lions Gate Films), where he co-produced David Cronenberg's early shockers *They Came From Within* and *Rabid* as well as the popular comedy *Meatballs*.

Starting his own production company in 1980, Carmody went on to produce the smash hits *Porky's* and *Porky's II*, also the perennially popular *A Christmas Story* as well as *Spacehunters: Adventures in the Forbidden Zone*, *Whispers*, *The Big Town*, *Physical Evidence*, *Switching Channels* and several Chuck Norris films, including *The Hitman* and *Sidekicks*.

He returned to comedy successfully with the *Weekend At Bernie's* series, and *The Late Shift* for HBO, which was nominated for seven Emmy Awards, three Cable Ace awards and the Producers' Guild of America Golden Laurel.

His credits include some 75 films thus far, including the Academy Award winning *Good Will Hunting* (Ben Affleck, Matt Damon), *Studio 54* (Mike Myers), *The Whole Nine Yards* (Bruce Willis, Mathew Perry), *Assault on Precinct 13* (Ethan Hawke, Laurence Fishburn) and *Lucky Number Slevin* (Josh Hartnett, Bruce Willis).

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In 2002 he was co-producer of the hit film musical of *Chicago* starring Renée Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Richard Gere, which won seven Academy Awards including Best Picture, three Golden Globe Awards including Best Musical or Comedy and the Producers' Guild of America Golden Laurel Award for Best Picture as well as many, many other awards and citations around the world.

Don Carmody was born in New England and emigrated to Canada with his parents as a boy. He graduated from film school in Montreal and has gone on to produce films all over the world. He currently lives in Toronto and Los Angeles.

Mike Frislev

Producer

Mike Frislev received his degree in Motion Picture Production from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto in 1985. He has written, produced and directed four independent films: *Sundance*, *Out of Sight*, *Out of Mind*, *Watershed* and *Chinook Heads*.

In 1995 Mike founded Nomadic Pictures with Chad Oakes. Nomadic's first picture, on which he served as executive producer, was *Hugo Pool* starring Sean Penn, Robert Downey Jr., Alyssa Milano, Malcolm McDowell and Cathy Moriarty.

Next he produced and conceived the 1870s adaptation of *Christmas Carol*, *Ebenezer* starring Jack Palance and Rick Schroder.

He followed this up by executive producing *The Art of Murder*, *Snowbound* and *Coverstory*. In 2002 Nomadic Pictures produced *The Incredible Mrs. Ritchie* starring Gena Rowlands and James Caan. The television movie, produced by Mike and his partner Chad Oakes won three 2004 Daytime Emmy Awards, for picture, writing (Paul Johansson) and acting (Gena Rowlands).

He has produced numerous television projects since including *The Legend of Butch and Sundance*, *Call Me: The Rise and Fall of Heidi Fleiss* and *The Mermaid Chair*.

In 2006, Mike produced the Emmy Award winning mini-series *Broken Trail* starring Robert Duval and Thomas Haden Church.

Chad Oakes

Producer

Chad Oakes was the founder and past president of Oakes Model Management Inc., an organization he developed into one of Western Canada's leading international model placement agencies. He also created and co-published *Calgary Fashion Magazine* in 1993.

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In the autumn of 1995 Oakes co-founded Nomadic Pictures as a fulltime venture with Mike Frislev.

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Anand Ramayya

Co-Producer

Anand Ramayya is a filmmaker, writer and producer and the principal of Karma Film Inc. in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Most recently, Anand has produced the multiple Gemini Award-winning animated adventure series *Wapos Bay* whose ensemble cast includes Gordon Tootoosis (*Legends of the Fall*), Lorne Cardinal (*Corner Gas*), and Andrea Menard (*Moccasin Flats*).

Wapos Bay is a light-hearted stop-motion animation series about the adventures of three Cree children living in remote northern Saskatchewan.

He has produced numerous documentary series' including *The Psychedelic Pioneers* for History Television chronicling the early leaders in the use of LSD.

Anand wrote and directed *Cosmic Current* for the National Film Board of Canada, a documentary about family and identity in which he recorded his own family's journey to their ancestral home in India.

Anand Ramayya has been instrumental in developing the burgeoning film and television production industry in Saskatchewan, Canada.

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DAVID SCHULTZ

Writer / Director

David Schultz is a writer/director with more than twenty years service to the Canadian film industry. His directing credits include the feature films *45 RPM* and *JET BOY*. Writing credits include screenplay adaptations of Joy Fielding's New York Times best selling novels *DON'T CRY NOW* and *THE OTHER WOMAN* as well as Daniel Kalla's *PANDEMIC*. Original screenplay credits include *SILENT CRADLE*, *QUESTION OF PRIVLEDGE*, *ONE OF OUR OWN*, *ANTHRAX* and *DOUBLE FRAME*. His documentaries include the six part series *REBELS - A JOURNEY UNDERGROUND* and the History Television special *THE LONGEST ROAD*, co-produced with the National Film Board of Canada.

Craig Wrobleski, CSC

Director of Photography

In sixteen years behind the camera Craig Wrobleski has served as Director of Photography on productions of every description in a variety of formats including 35mm film, 16mm film, 8mm film, Betacam, 24p NTSC and High Definition video and multi-camera mobiles.

Craig's drama credits include second unit photography on *Human Trafficking*, *Man in the Mirror: The Michael Jackson Story* and *Lies My Mother Told Me*, as well as award winning short films such as *Pieces of Eight*, *Bohemians*, *Insomniac*, *The Office*, *Carpe Diem* and *Game Seven*.

Craig has filmed documentaries on subjects ranging from Catholic missionaries (*God's Explorers*) to AIDS (*Killing Time*) and from Bret 'The Hitman' Hart (*Wrestling with Shadows*) to Preston Manning (*Life and Times*).

In addition, Craig has photographed hundreds of commercials and promotional spots for broadcast all over North America. His music video work for acts such as Blue Rodeo, Terri Clark, Paul Brandt, Mike Plume and James Keelaghan have aired on CMT, MTV, MuchMusic, MuchMoreMusic and Bravo!. He has served as cinematographer on over 30 live concert specials aired on MTV, CMT, CBC and PBS.

His work has taken him all across Canada and to locations throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. His photography has been singled out for awards at the Yorkton Film Festival, The Alberta Motion Pictures Industry Awards and The Iris Awards. Craig has been a full member of the Canadian Society of Cinematographers since 2001 and is a member of IATSE Local 669. He has taught lighting seminars at the Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers and IATSE 212 and is a sessional instructor at Mount Royal College in Calgary.

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Hugh Shankland

Production Designer

Hugh Shankland was born and raised in South Africa before emigrating to Canada and establishing himself as a highly sought after production designer in the film and television industry.

Most recently, Hugh served as the production designer for the CTV smash hit narrative comedic television series *Corner Gas*, a role for which he has received numerous awards and nominations from his industry peers.

Hugh has worked on many film and television projects including the Mary Higgins Clark television mini-series' *Try to Remember* and *The Cradle Will Fall*.

Bridget Durnford

Editor

A veteran in the film and television industry, Bridget Durnford has edited numerous diverse projects.

Her feature film and television movie editing credits include *Picking Up and Dropping Off* for ABC Family Channel, *Almost America*, *Question of Privilege* and *Silent Cradle* for Showtime/Illusions Entertainment, two *North of 60* television movies for CBC/Alberta Film Works, the two-hour pilot for *Neon Rider* and the television movies *The Clinic* and *The Hound of London*.

She edited two full seasons of the CBC one-hour narrative drama series *Tom Stone*.

Among the many documentaries Bridget has edited are the National Film Board of Canada's *Pieces of a Dream*, *Kuwait: The Aftermath*, *Terri Clark – Real* and *The Ghost Whales of Lancaster Sound*.

In the past Bridget kept busy editing sports programs for network television, working on the Albertville and Nagano Winter Olympics, as well as the Barcelona and Atlanta Summer Olympics. She has worked two World Figure Skating Championships for ABC, a World Gymnastics competition for NBC and an Extreme Games event for ESPN.

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THE STORY OF 45 RPM

There is no question that the making of **45 RPM** was a labour of love for all those involved.

45 RPM, a challenging cinematic undertaking, was a project in limbo for a number of years until writer/director David Schultz approached his good friend Mike Frislev and the pieces of the puzzle began to fall in to place.

Since the inception of Nomadic Pictures in 1995, producers Mike Frislev and Chad Oakes have engaged David Schultz as a writer on a number of projects.

Their relationship was well established when Schultz approached Frislev with the script for **45 RPM**, the timeless story of the awkward transition from adolescents to adulthood that is set to the soundtrack of the politically unstable post-war 1950s.

who was able to complete the financing structure for his friend's treatment in spite of the perceived hurdles of producing a period piece in rural Saskatchewan.

Teamed with co-producer Anand Ramayya and executive producer Don Carmody, the transition from script to screen began with a collection of producers and key creative crew who rallied to support the project and the director.

Described as an unrelenting ball of energy, David Schultz possessed a surprising calm on set of the film shot on location in Saskatchewan. Schultz's unparalleled passion and unbridled spirit reigned as he directed with modesty and intelligence.

While Schultz finalized the creative direction of the project, Frislev set about orchestrating the business affairs of such an undertaking and producer Chad Oakes worked alongside casting director Jackie Lind to assemble an originally refreshing cast of talented performers. Taking a risk by casting the lead roles with unknown actors, Chad Oakes and David Schultz were determined to fill the adult roles with veteran industry professionals...an objective that was exceeded with the addition of Michael Madsen, August Schellenberg, Kim Coates and Amanda Plummer to the roster.

The casting was not complete. The Douglas DC-3 aircraft is another central character in the storyline. The plane opens the film and provides an instant audience connection to the military presence and implications of the cold war on the residents of Goose Bay.

The DC-3 is an American fixed-wing, propeller-driven aircraft whose speed and range revolutionized air transport in the 1930s and 1940s. When retired from use in World War II the transport aircraft became central to the success of the US

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cold war tactics, including transportation to remote DEW Line stations in northern Canada.

However, finding a camera-ready plane that was both flight worthy and restored to original condition presented a very serious logistical challenge. Eventually, the producers were able to locate a suitable plane operated by retired pilots and filmed second unit outside of St. Louis, MO.

ABOUT THE DEW LINE

The Distant Early Warning Line, also known as the DEW Line or Early Warning Line, was a system of radar stations in the far northern Arctic region of Canada, with additional stations along the North Coast and Aleutian Islands of Alaska, in addition to the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Iceland.

It was set up to detect incoming Soviet bombers during the Cold War, a task that quickly became outdated when intercontinental ballistic missiles became the main delivery system for nuclear weapons.

One such station is the fictional Goose Bay, Saskatchewan.

Nomadic Pictures and Don Carmody Productions present **45 RPM** starring Michael Madsen and introducing Jordan Gavaris. Written and directed by David Schultz, the feature length drama is a coming-of-age story of love and loss set to the soundtrack of the original rock and roll.