YouTube Originals NEON

BODIED

A FILM BY JOSEPH KAHN

Directed by: Joseph Kahn
Written by: Alex Larsen
Produced by: Eminem, Paul Rosenberg, Adi Shankar, Jill Hardin
Starring: Calum Worthy, Jackie Long, Shoniqua Shondai, Rory Uphold, Walter Perez, Charlamagne Tha God, Anthony Michael Hall

Rating: R
Running time: 2 hours

FESTIVALS:

Toronto International Film Festival 2017
Fantastic Fest 2017
AFI Fest 2017
Palm Springs International Film Festival 2018
Portland International Film Festival 2018
Chicago Critics Film Festival 2018
Seattle International Film Festival 2018

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In Theaters November 2nd and on Youtube Premium November 28th

LOGLINE

BODIED is the satirical story of Adam Merkin, a progressive grad student who becomes an accidental battle rapper whose success breeds outrage. The film stars Calum Worthy (Austin & Ally, The Thinning, and American Vandal), Jackie Long (Idlewild, ATL), Shoniqua Shondai (Sing It!, The Fosters), Walter Perez (The Avengers, Fame), Rory Uphold (Hella). Also featured are well known battle rappers Dizaster, Dumbfoundead, Hollow Da Don and media personality Charlamagne Tha God.

YOUTUBE PREMIUM

YouTube Premium is a subscription service that gives you access to YouTube Original Movies and Series -- along with, a premium music service, and an uninterrupted experience across YouTube.

YouTube Premium is currently available in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, Korea, the U.K., Ireland, Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Russia, Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Brazil.

FILMMAKER BIOS

Joseph Kahn (Director)

Joseph Kahn has directed hundreds of videos for artists including Taylor Swift, Eminem, Britney Spears, Maroon 5, Dr. Dre, Backstreet Boys, U2, Janet Jackson, George Michael, Wu Tang Clan, Katy Perry, Lady Gaga, Shakira, and Rihanna. He also directs commercials for clients such as BMW, Lexus, British Telecom, Adidas, Samsung, Maybelline, Fox Sports, Budweiser, Revlon, Burger King.

He has won multiple Grammys, MTV VMAs, Clios, Emmys, and been honored with a lifetime achievement "Icon" award by the UK Music Video Awards.

Kahn was born in Pusan, South Korea. His family lived in Livorno, Italy until he immigrated to the USA at age 7. After attending NYU Film School for a year, he dropped out to direct low budget music videos for gangster rappers.

In 2011 his self-financed independent cult film starring Josh Hutcherson, DETENTION, premiered at the South By Southwest Film Festival. It was bought by Sony Pictures and released in 2012, after winning multiple audience and jury awards.

In 2015 he released POWER/RANGERS, a satirical, self-financed "fan film" starring James Van Der Beek and Katee Sackhoff that became an internet phenomenon.

BODIED is the latest independent film from Kahn, and it has won audience awards at Toronto International Film Festival, Fantastic Fest, and the American Film Institute.

Alex Larsen (Writer)

Alex Larsen is better known as Kid Twist, a 10-year veteran of the battle rap scene and an internationally renowned and innovative battler. He is most known for his witty, incisive humour, laidback delivery, and off-the-top rebuttals. Alex first made his name in the 2007 World Rap Championships, and in 2008-2009 he was integral to the founding of the King of the Dot battle league. KOTD has since grown to be one of the biggest and most respected battle organizations in the world, with the scene as a whole drawing more fans and attention by the day. While continuing to battle at major events against top-tier opponents worldwide, his parallel professional life has included work as a game designer and screenwriter, most recently writing for the TBS celebrity rap battle show Drop the Mic.

CAST BIOS

Calum Worthy (Adam)

Calum Worthy began his acting career at the age of nine with his screen debut in Fox's *Night Visions* and went on to land the starring role in the BBC One award-winning mini-series *I Was a Rat*. He has since appeared in a number film and television productions, including a series regular role on HBO's *Out of Order* and recurring roles on series such as *The Days*, *Reunion* and *Psych*.

In addition to his early feature films such as *The Last Mimzy, Dr. Dolittle 3* and *Deck The Halls*, he has also appeared on hit television shows including *Stargate Atlantis*, *Kyle XY*, *Smallville*, *Supernatural* and *Stormworld*, the latter of which earned him the 2010 Leo Award in Canada for his performance. His breakout came 2011 on Disney channel with a guest-starring role on *Good Luck Charlie*, which soon led to a series regular role on *Austin & Ally* as Dez.

Following his time on Disney, he went on to star in the Netflix breakout series *American Vandal* and recently wrapped the newest Kenya Barris pilot for NBC, *Bright Futures*. His next main roles on television will come in late 2018 as the superhero Speedball in Freeform's *New Warriors* and in 2019 as the lead in the upcoming true-crime anthology series *The Act* on Hulu.

Calum stars as the lead in the upcoming film *Bodied*, directed by Joseph Kahn and produced by Enimem, where he will play a progressive graduate student who finds success and sparks outrage when his interest in battle rap as a thesis subject becomes a competitive obsession. The film took home the Midnight Madness People's Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2017 and is set for release on November 2, 2018. Following *Bodied*, he can next be seen in the 2019 independent film *Corporate Animals*, directed by Patrick Brice and starring opposite Demi Moore and Ed Helms.

Calum is a supporter of The Climate Reality Project and participates in the 24 Hours of Reality whenever possible. He was born on January 28, 1991 in Victoria, British Columbia and currently resides in Los Angeles.

Jackie Long (Behn Grymm)

ackie Long was born to entertain. Growing up in Altadena/Pasadena, California, he knew early on he wanted to be an entertainer. In high school, he constantly entertained his classmates with his wit and charisma. Jackie had raw talent and an insatiable drive to succeed. Unfortunately, he also had a fear of performing in front of people. Not one to be defeated, he began taking acting classes, going out for small roles as an extra and getting work on commercials to conquer his stage fright. His perseverance and hard work paid off and he steadily began to climb through the ranks of the Hollywood matrix. Today he continues his rise in the entertainment industry combining charm and talent. His onscreen presence spans television sitcoms and commercials. Long is best known for his role as Benjamin "Esquire" Gordon in the cult-classic, ATL. His other films include Hurricane Season alongside Oscar winner, Forest Whitaker; Soulmen, co-starring Isaac Hayes, Samuel L. Jackson and the late Bernie Mac; A Cross to Bear for the Gospel Music Channel; Love Wrecked with Amanda Bynes; Love For Sale; The Comebacks with the Coen Brothers; and Idlewild with Big Boi and Andre 3000 of Outkast. His recent award-winning film venture with the Eminem-produced, Joseph Kahn directed by, Bodied will hit theaters in 2018. His commercials credits include Toyota, McDonalds, KGB, Nike, US Army, Al Gore's "We" Campaign, Honda, Sprite, Bud Light, Miller Lite and Cingular. In addition, Jackie starred alongside Kevin Hart in the number one show on BET, Real Husbands of Hollywood.

Because of his fervor for youth empowerment, Jackie joined forces with the NAACP and The Achievement Academy to encourage young people to strive for academic excellence. Jackie says he is, "passionate about life, laughter and people; and that reflects through everything I put my heart into." He has toured schools across the country speaking to young people on the importance of education and reminding them to "LIVE YOUR DREAM." Often inviting celebrity friends to speak and perform for students, Long addresses academic performance, anti-violence within the community and environmental issues.

Jackie Long is an example of dedication and love for the arts. While pursuing his acting career and his philanthropic endeavors, Jackie dabbles in music. Heavily influenced by the musicians and hip-hop greats he has met throughout the years, Long is inspired to pursue music beyond the scope of a hobby. Sticking to his mantra, "Always do what you do best, and that's stay blessed," Long is proving to be a multi-faceted and exciting entertainer. His self-acclaimed movement ACTOR GANG encourages burgeoning entertainers to live by his mantra. Stay tuned for more…

Rory Uphold (Maya)

Rory Uphold is a multi-hyphenate actor-writer-director who created the original web series, ONLY IN HELLA (pronounced “hell-lay”) which has been featured everywhere from Huffpost to Buzzfeed to The Daily Mail and Hello Giggles. Season 2 of HelLA, which has garnered over 10M views per video, premiered with guest Sophia Bush. Following the success of ONLY IN HELLA, Rory boasts over 7k Youtube subscribers, 2.3 million viewers, and 16.6k Twitter followers. Rory was the first director in Elite Daily's Artist in Residency program with her original scripted series THIS IS WHY WE’RE SINGLE. Last year, she was voted top 4 in the “Make em LAFF” competition at the Los Angeles Film Festival. In addition to her work on the web, her shorts have played and won in festivals all over the world, including SAFETY with Ben York Jones. Rory can next be seen starring opposite Calum Worthy in Joseph Kahn’s feature BODIED, which was produced by Eminem and premiered at the 2017 Toronto International Film Festival.

Shoniqua Shandai (Devine Write)

SHONIQUA SHANDAI hit the stage at the early age of three, performing her own rendition of the classic "Proud Mary." Since that first encounter with the arts, Shandai has wholeheartedly focused on developing her crafts. The union actress has starred in several Hollywood plays, including The Ovation award winning performance of 'Hit The Wall’, and has made appearances on both the big and small screen, including The Netflix original movie 'Sierra Burgess Is A Loser’, the upcoming Patty Jenkins directed TNT miniseries 'I Am The Night' and The Larry Dorf comedy series, ’Nobodies’. Shandai can next be seen on stage at the Kirk Douglas in ‘Quack’, premiering October 21, and in movie theaters with the upcoming Eminem produced, Joseph Kahn directed film, ‘Bodied’, out November 2. More information can be found on Shoniqua Shandai and her upcoming endeavors on all social media sites: @ShoniquaShandai

END CREDITS

DIRECTED BY JOSEPH
KAHN

WRITTEN BY
ALEX LARSEN

STORY BY
JOSEPH KAHN & ALEX LARSEN

PRODUCER
EMINEM

PRODUCERS
PAUL ROSENBERG
ADI SHANKAR
JIL HARDIN

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
DAVID KANG
JUSTIN SMITH
BOB ABRAMOFF
STUART PARR

CINEMATOGRAPHY
MATT WISE

PRODUCTION DESIGN
BRETT HESS

EDITOR
CHANCLER HAYNES

COSTUME DESIGN
EDDA GUDMONSDOTTIR

MUSIC
BRAIN & MELISSA

CASTING
JUDY COOK

MUSIC SUPERVISORS
EMINEM
PAUL ROSENBERG
BUDD CARR

VISUAL EFFECTS
INGENUITY STUDIOS

SOUND DESIGN
FLETCHER ALLISTON

CO – EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
FRANK BARWAH
DANIEL NEGREANU
ALICE BRADLEY
ED BRADLEY
BRYAN BRUCKS

CO-PRODUCERS
RENN BROWN
CHARLAMAGNE THA GOD
KATHY ANGSTADT
TRAVIS 'ORGANIK' FLEETWOOD
TROY 'SMACK' MITCHELL

CAST
CALUM WORTHY
JACKIE LONG
RORY UPHOLD
JONATHAN 'DUMBFOUNDEAD' PARK
WALTER PEREZ
SHONIQUA SHANDAI
CHARLAMAGNE THA GOD
DIZASTER
WITH
DEBRA WILSON
AND
ANTHONY MICHAEL HALL