



Presents

**EDDIE:
THE SLEEPWALKING CANNIBAL**

A FILM BY BORIS RODRIGUEZ

Starring Thure Lindhardt

In English

83 min., Canada/Denmark

To download hi-res images and video clips:

<http://www.musicboxfilms.com/eddie--the-sleepwalking-cannibal-movies-57.php>

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SYNOPSIS

Thure Lindhardt (*Keep the Lights On*) stars in this quirky horror-comedy as Lars, a former darling of the art scene slipping away into the land of has-beens and struggling with lack of inspiration.

When Lars' art dealer Ronny arranges a teaching job in a small town as a "therapeutic measure" to stir up his creative juices, things don't quite turn out as planned. At first, life in the peaceful small town seems rosy, as he settles in and impresses beautiful fellow colleague Leslie by taking in the brawny, mute Eddie after the latter's caregiver passes away. But Lars soon discovers that the façade of serenity hides something unimaginable: Eddie suffers from a rare form of sleepwalking that transforms him from a docile, cereal-obsessed art student into a ravenous sleepwalking cannibal. Initially horrified by Eddie's dark secret, Lars becomes enthralled by the not-so-gentle giant: at long last, here's the muse he'd been searching for! Exceptional art comes at a very high price...and how far is Lars willing to go for his next masterpiece?

Eddie: The Sleepwalking Cannibal is a fresh, clever satire about artistic inspiration that pushes boundaries with its unique blend of offbeat humor, twisted friendships, sweet-hearted romance, and the gory realities of sleepwalking cannibalism.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

THE FILM

EDDIE pushes the boundaries of the horror genre and weaves together a story that blends gory fun, friendship, love and, of course, sleepwalking cannibalism. Eddie is a blood-drenched satire of the art world that follows in the footsteps of films like *Fargo*, *Man Bites Dog*, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *Shaun Of The Dead*, *Blue Velvet* and more recently *Let The Right One In*. Often called “cult-classics”, these films toy with morality and defy convention. Enthusiasm from their initial audiences often triggers the kind of word-of-mouth that ensures these films reach an audience far beyond the horror genre.

On a personal level, EDDIE's genesis stems from my own experiences in the art world. From an education in Fine Arts to screenings at MoMA, I often placed the need to express myself ahead of everything else, and I made countless excuses for my skewed sense of priorities (my film was important, it dealt with relevant social issues, it was ground-breaking, etc...). But it was the rush of creativity that I was really after. My need to be creative became “my Eddie,” eating away at what mattered most in my life. I always wanted to make a film about that addiction to art. And while at first I leaned towards somber introspection, I chose to stay true to my own twisted sensibilities and began to weave a darkly comedic tale about an unusual friendship and an ill-fated love affair.

THE STORY

The irony of the art world plays a huge role in EDDIE. Art can be wondrous, liberating and therapeutic. But it can also be addictive, pretentious and alienating. Art can enrich the life of the art lover while creating a living hell for the artist. Eddie and Lars embody this dichotomy. Eddie is pure emotion and instinct. When awake, he is the inner child in all of us yearning for love and acceptance. When sleepwalking, he is that same child enraged by a love that's denied. Eddie is not responsible for the violent acts he commits; they are the result of someone else's choices. Lars, on the other hand, is the artist's consciousness, fully aware of his choices, fabricating noble causes to justify his addiction as he manipulates those around him to satisfy his selfish needs. Unlike Eddie, Lars is responsible for his actions – he is guilty.

Eddie is the creature, the passion. Lars is the monster, the addiction. But despite its themes, EDDIE is not an exposé on art. EDDIE is, first and foremost, a dark comedy. Its primary goal is to entertain audiences by providing them with an opportunity to laugh at what normally scares us. And like the films it draws inspiration from, Eddie will achieve the uneasy laughter its audience expects, by steering clear of the formulaic and relying instead on tone.

THE TONE

EDDIE's mixture of offbeat humor and gruesomeness creates a tone that is somber yet light-hearted. Carefully calibrated performances and an omnipresent score achieved this delicate balance. The score is crucial in guiding the audience as the tone rocks back and forth between horror and comedy.

Even more important to EDDIE's tone are the performances of the actors. More than just a deadpan delivery, a serious commitment to every outlandish moment is essential. Danish star Thure Lindhardt's mastery of both comedic timing and drama sets the pace as the cast moves continuously from laughter to fear and back again. The characters are made as real as possible, even in the most outlandish moments. With EDDIE, the cast and I walk the fine line between funny and frightening, between gross and engrossing.

Overall, EDDIE is a playfully malicious film that allows its audience to enjoy the kind of story that is hard to find in a landscape littered with straightforward horror movies. Eddie is fun, fresh, lighthearted, and seriously twisted – the way a sleepwalking cannibal movie should be.

BIOGRAPHIES

BORIS RODRIGUEZ DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER

Boris Rodriguez studied Film Production at Concordia University's Fine Arts Centre in Montreal before going on to make the award-winning documentary *Havana Kids* in 1996. That same year he attended the Canadian Film Centre as a director resident before spending the next two years honing his directorial skills at TVO. In 2000 Boris' second film, *Beso Nocturno*, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and was selected at MoMA in New York. In 2004, he premiered his third film, *Perfect*, at the Toronto International Film Festival. Boris' first French language film, *Maison Jolie Maison*, is slated for production in the fall of 2012. EDDIE – THE SLEEPWALKING CANNIBAL marks Boris' feature debut.

MICHAEL A. DOBBIN PRODUCER

With one foot on each side of the Atlantic, Michael takes pride in bringing Canada and Europe together. Recent titles include Boris Rodriguez's EDDIE – THE SLEEPWALKING CANNIBAL, and Endre Hules' *The Maiden Danced to Death* (shot by Oscar winner Vilmos Zsigmond), the first ever co-production between Canada and Slovenia. Past titles include Toni Harman's *The Devil's Curse (Credo)* and David Chernushenko's documentary *Powerful: Energy for Everyone*. Michael has worked with one of Europe's top script-development agencies, Arista Development and was mentored by BAFTA-winning producer Leslee Udwin. He is an alumnus of Ryerson University and founded the 'Just Watch Me!' Berlin Screening Room with the Canadian Embassy. As a story editor, script doctor, and lecturer, Michael is in steady demand on both sides of the Atlantic.

RONNIE FRIDTHJOF PRODUCER

Over the past 27 years, Ronnie Fridthjof has been involved in film productions at different stages: as a photographer, editor, VFX supervisor, color grader, post production producer, writer and director. In 2000, he founded Fridthjof Film A / S, where he is currently a producer and the CEO. Today, the company is part of multiple sister company structures that employ well over 50 employees. Recently, Ronnie produced the war documentary *Armadillo*, which was awarded the top award at the Cannes Film Festival's Critics Week in 2010. Ronnie has produced *All For One*, *Take The Trash*, and *The Christmas Party*, all of which have been featured among the highest earning Danish features in 2011, 2009, and 2008, respectively. Ronnie is currently working on post-production of *The Rival (Rivalen)* and will start shooting *All For 2* in 2012. In 2009 the Danish magazine 'Arena' named Ronnie as one of the top five most influential people in the Danish film industry under the age of 40.

THE MAIN CAST

THURE LINDHARDT LARS

Thure Lindhardt, one of the most critically acclaimed Danish actors of his generation, began his career at the age of 12. Bigger roles soon followed when he was cast in Bille August's film, *Pelle The Conqueror*, which won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival and the Academy Award for "Best Foreign Language Film" in 1987. Shortly after, Thure played the lead role in Michael Ende's *The NeverEnding Story*. Thure continued his training at the Odense Theatre School. Thure also worked in the television productions of Denmark's Radios Edderkoppen, and in the Lars von Trier-produced family saga, *Morten Korch – Ved stillebækken*. Thure garnered international critical acclaim for *A Place Nearby*, an official selection at the 50th Berlin Film Festival, where he was also named "Shooting Star." Thure has since appeared in such films as *Into The Wild*; *Sugar Rush*; *Princess*; *Nordkraft*; *Flame & Citron*; *Love In Thoughts*; and Ron Howard's *Angels & Demons*. He was most recently seen in the indie feature *Keep the Lights On* by Ira Sachs, and *The Island*, which screened in the Director's Fortnight at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival.

DYLAN SMITH EDDIE

Dylan Smith is the son of Academy Award-winning director Cynthia Scott and N.Y Film Critics Circle award-winner John N. Smith. He spent the first fifteen years of his life playing very competitive hockey, which brought him to school in Connecticut, at Choate Rosemary Hall. After an injury, he was forced to leave hockey and found his love of theatre playing various roles. After studying at the University of Toronto, he went on to the theatre school Webber Douglas in London. He properly began his career there and spent the next five years working as a professional actor. Since returning to Toronto in 2005, he has gone through diverse and challenging character roles. His stage credits include: *Don Carlos*; *De La Guarda*; *Zadie's Shoes*; *Poochwater*; *Age of Arousal*; *The Red Queen Effec*; and *Blasted*. On screen, Dylan has starred in *Eastenders* (BBC); *Murder On the Orient Express* (CBS); *The Englishman's Boy* (CBC); *Kit Kitredge* (HBO); *300* (Warner Bros); and *Hangnail* (Paul Haggis). Upcoming projects include *Stephanos*; *Tiny*; *The Immortals* (Tarsem Singh); *High Chicago* (Alphons Adetuyi); and *Total Recall* (Les Wiseman).

GEORGINA REILLY LESLIE

Georgina Reilly was born in Surrey, England. In addition to on-camera work, Georgina also voices the female lead character in CBC Radio's series *Trust Inc*. Other leading and recurring roles both in film and on television include *Stag* (film feature); *Republic of Doyle* (CBC TV); *My Babysitter's a Vampire* (Teletoon); *Unnatural History* (Cartoon Network); *Overruled* (Family Channel); *Valemont* (MTV); *This Movie Is Broken* (directed by Bruce McDonald); *How to be Indie* (YTV); *Majority Rules* (Teletoon); *A Hindu's Indictment of Heaven*; *Pontypool* (directed by Bruce McDonald); *The Dark Room* (CBC); *Beautiful People* (Sony); and *Runaway* (CW). After filming EDDIE, Georgina soon landed the regular role of Dr. Emily Grace on the new acclaimed TV series *Murdoch Mysteries*, as well as a recurring role on the TV series *Highland Gardens*.

CREW

Director/Screenwriter	Boris Rodriguez
Producers	Michael A. Dobbin Ronnie Fridthjof Boris Rodriguez
Executive Producers	Michael Solomon Steve Moretti Sven Schnell
Associate Producers	Miriam Nørgaard Alex Sandahl Chris Hastings
Story Editor	Alex Epstein
Original Score	David Burns
Director of Photography	Philippe Kress, dff
Editor	Sara Bøgh Jensen
Sound Design	Thomas Arent
Production Design	Colleen Marchand
Costume Design	Sue Fijalkowska
Stars Casting	1066 Productions
Casting	Sarah Kay Jenni Lewis

CAST

Lars	Thure Lindhardt
Leslie	Georgina Reilly
Eddie	Dylan Smith
Harry	Alain Goulem
Ronnie	Stephen McHattie

TECH DETAILS

Countries	Canada, Denmark
Run Time	83 minutes
Film	35mm, color, 2.35:1
Sound	Dolby Digital

About Doppelgänger Releasing

The new cutting-edge genre label of Music Box Films, Doppelgänger Releasing launched in 2013 and kicks off its slate with EDDIE: THE SLEEPWALKING CANNIBAL. Upcoming releases include 100 BLOODY ACRES, directed by Australian brothers Colin and Cameron Cairnes.

Founded in 2007, Music Box Films has quickly established itself as one of the leading theatrical and home entertainment distributors of foreign language, American independent and documentary films in the US. Past releases include the film adaptations of Stieg Larsson's trilogy of international mega selling novels; the first in the series, THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO, with over \$10 million in US box office, was one the most popular international releases of the decade. 2012 heralded diverse new titles such as Terence Davies' THE DEEP BLUE SEA, starring Rachel Weisz, and Philippe Falardeau's Academy Award nominated MONSIEUR LAZHAR, one of the top grossing foreign language films of the year. 2013 releases include Cate Shortland's LORE and Baran bo Odar's THE SILENCE, starring Ulrich Thomsen. Music Box Films is independently owned and operated by the Southport Music Box Corporation, which also owns and operates The Music Box Theatre, Chicago's premiere venue for independent and foreign films.

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