



CURSE OF THE GLASS EYE

SCREENPLAY BY MICHAEL TRACHIOTIS

CRIME-HEIST-HORROR-SUPERNATURAL-REVENGE-THRILLER-DARK COMEDY





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LOGLINE

AFTER A CHARISMATIC THIEF'S DIAMOND HEIST TRIGGERS UNINTENDED MURDERS, HE PLANS ONE LAST SCORE TO AVENGE THEIR DEATHS – BUT HIS BLOODTHIRSTY, DOUBLE-CROSSING PARTNER'S VODOU-CURSED SEVERED HAND HAS OTHER PLANS, UNLEASHING A DEADLY HUNT FOR PAYBACK.



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WHY THIS STORY

A FRESH COLLISION OF COMMERCIALY RECOGNIZABLE GENRES: A STYLISH, SAN FRANCISCO DIAMOND HEIST, COLORFUL ENSEMBLE, SUPERNATURAL HORROR, DARK COMEDY AND VODOU MYTHOLOGY. AT ITS CENTER IS ROCKO – AN ALTRUISTIC THIEF ATTEMPTING HIS MOST DIFFICULT JOB YET: ESCAPING THE CRIMINAL LIFE BEFORE THE CONSEQUENCES OF HIS PAST COME CRAWLING BACK.



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TONE

ATMOSPHERIC. MACABRE. STYLISH. SEXY. IRREVERENT. VIOLENT. NOIR. THE FILM MOVES EFFORTLESSLY BETWEEN SOPHISTICATED DIAMOND CAPERS, LIVELY CRIMINAL BANTER. STREET CRIME AND GENUINELY CREEPY DREAD. THE HUMOR COMES FROM CHARACTER AND CULTURE, WHILE THE VIOLENCE IS VISCERAL AND UNEXPECTED. THE RESULT IS A DARKLY ENTERTAINING GENRE COCKTAIL WHERE A CLEVER HEIST CAN SUDDENLY BECOME A NIGHTMARE.



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THEMES

AT ITS HEART, *CURSE OF THE GLASS EYE* ASKS: WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN TO GET AWAY CLEAN? ROCKO DISCOVERS THAT GREED CREATES BLOOD DEBTS; VIOLENCE LEAVES GHOSTS; VENGEANCE IS JUSTICE; AND REDEMPTION REQUIRES SACRIFICE. ULTIMATELY, THE FILM ARGUES THAT THE GREATEST FORTUNE ISN'T DIAMONDS – IT IS FAMILY, CONSCIENCE AND A SECOND CHANCE.



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WORLD

THE STORY MOVES THROUGH THE SAN FRANCISCO UNDERWORLD OF DIAMOND THIEVES, RITZY HOTELS, WAREHOUSES, POSH MANSIONS, CLEVER DISGUISES, HIGH TECH DEVICES AND SECURITY CAMERA TRICKERY, TENDERLOIN STREETS AND 1860'S JEWELRY DISTRICTS. FROM BLOOD DIAMONDS AND NAZI-LOOTED GEMS TO HAITIAN VODOU, IT CONNECTS LOCAL CRIME TO A GLOBAL HISTORY OF GREED, ARMS DEALERS, VIOLENCE, CURSES, WARLORDS AND EXPLOITATION.



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CREATIVE INTENT

TO FORM A COMMERCIAL GENRE HYBRID WITH A DISTINCTIVE SOUL – A CLEVER CRIME MOVIE THAT AUDIENCES ENTER FOR THE DIAMONDS, CHARACTERS AND CRAFTY SCHEMES, THEN DISCOVER IT HAS TEETH. THE VODOU TERROR FEELS MYSTERIOUS AND CULTURALLY FORMED RATHER THAN A DISPOSABLE HORROR GIMMICK. ULTIMATELY, BENEATH THE BLOOD, HUMOR AND HEISTS, IT IS ABOUT REPERCUSSIONS, SALVATION AND FINDING SOMETHING WORTH MORE THAN MONEY.



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VISUAL STYLE

THE VISUAL LANGUAGE COMBINES THE POLISHED SURFACES OF HIGH-END JEWELRY AND INTERNATIONAL CRIME WITH THE GRIMY TEXTURE OF SAN FRANCISCO'S STREETS. NOIR, NEON, FOG, GLASS, GOLD AND BLOOD CREATE A SEDUCTIVE PALETTE. SURVEILLANCE IMAGERY, DISGUISES AND SPLIT IDENTITIES REINFORCE THE CON-GAME AESTHETIC, WHILE VODOU RITUALS INTRODUCE SHADOW, FIRE, SYMBOLISM AND SUPERNATURAL DREAD.



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STORY OVERVIEW

ROCKO'S PULLED EIGHT JOBS WITHOUT A BODY, BUT HIS FINAL DIAMOND HEIST TRIGGERS CATASTROPHE: HIS HAITIAN PARTNER UNLEASHES A SUPERNATURAL CURSE, A ZOMBIE RISES AND A BLOODY RAMPAGE ENSUES. PLAGUED BY GUILT AND VENGEANCE, HE PLANS ONE LAST SCORE – NOT TO GET RICH, BUT TO MAKE RESTITUTION. PURSUED BY HIS VODOUN PARTNER'S DEMONIC SEVERED HAND, HE RACES TOWARD ABSOLUTION AND HIS PREGNANT WIFE WAITING IN FIJI.





FRANCHISE POSSIBILITIES

CURSE OF THE GLASS EYE OFFERS AN EXPANDABLE CRIMINAL UNIVERSE BECAUSE IT INTRODUCES A WORLD CAPABLE OF ESCALATING WELL BEYOND A SINGLE HEIST. ROCKO AND HIS FLAMBOYANT CREW CAN MOVE INTO NEW INTERNATIONAL SCORES INVOLVING STOLEN ART, DIAMONDS, HISTORICAL TREASURES AND CRIMINAL SYNDICATES. EACH TALE CAN COMBINE SOPHISTICATED THEFT MECHANICS WITH A FRESH SUPERNATURAL MYSTERY ROOTED IN GLOBAL FOLKLORE AND MYSTICISM.



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JOHN “ROCKO” SALLY - LEAD



A CHARISMATIC DIAMOND THIEF HIDING BEHIND ALIASES, ACCENTS AND DISGUISES. ROCKO IS CLEVER, FUNNY AND DANGEROUSLY RESOURCEFUL, BUT BENEATH THE SWAGGER IS A GUILT-DRIVEN MAN SEEKING SALVATION SEEKING SALVATION VIA VENGEANCE AND TO ESCAPE A LIFE OF CRIME FOR HIS FAMILY.

AMA “CHEF” SALLY - SUPPORTING



ROCKO'S FIERCELY LOYAL IRISH WIFE. THE ONE PERSON WHO HAS ALWAYS KNOWN THE MAN BEHIND THE ALIASES. SMART, SENSUAL AND EMOTIONALLY FEARLESS, PREGNANT AMA IS THE REASON FOR HIS JOURNEY FOR REDEMPTION AND START HIS FAMILY WITH A CLEAN SLATE.

JESULA “GLASS EYE” NOEL - SUPPORTING



A HAITIAN FENCE AND ROCKO'S PARTNER WHOSE VODOU FAITH BECOMES CHILLINGLY REAL. HIS OBSESSION WITH SPIRITS, AND CURSES TRANSFORMS A PRECISELY EXECUTED DIAMOND SCORE INTO A HORRORIFIC NIGHTMARE THAT TAILS ROCKO LONG AFTER THE ROBBERY.

RUNNING “TRICKSTER” COYOTE - SUPPORTING



A GIFTED BLACKFOOT GEN Z TECH GURU WHO MANIPULATES SURVEILLANCE, IDENTITIES AND DIGITAL EVIDENCE. ROCKO GAVE HIM A CHANCE WHEN NOBODY ELSE WOULD, CREATING A FIERCELY LOYAL PARTNERSHIP THAT BECOMES ESSENTIAL TO ROCKO'S FINAL – AND MOST ELABORATE – CON.



MOOD
BOARD



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MOOD BOARD



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- C O M P A R A B L E S**
- SNATCH**
A COLORFUL ENSEMBLE OF THIEVES, HUSTLERS AND ECCENTRIC CROOKS COLLIDE AROUND A DIAMOND, DOUBLE-CROSSES, SHIFTING ALLIANCES AND OVERLAPPING STORYLINES, THE CHEEKY CRIME-COMEDY DNA THAT INFORMS ROCKO'S WORLD.
- THE LAST DIAMOND**
A RECENTLY PAROLED THIEF IS PULLED INTO ONE MORE DIAMOND ROBBERY WHERE HE IS CAUGHT BETWEEN MONEY, LOVE AND MORALITY, MAKING IT A PARTICULARLY STRONG REFERENCE FOR ROCKO'S CRIMINAL REDEMPTION ARC.
- THE GENTLEMEN**
SOPHISTICATED CRIMINALS, ELABORATE SCHEMES, BACK-STABBERS AND CHARISMATIC ANTIHEROES PROVIDE A TONAL REFERENCE FOR THE CURSE OF THE GLASS EYE'S STYLISH UNDERWORLD AND FAST-MOVING, CHARACTER-DRIVEN CRIME NARRATIVE.
- ANGEL HEART**
A PRIVATE EYE LIVES IN THE WORLD OF NOIR INVESTIGATION. ROCKO'S REALM IS ELABORATE DIAMOND HEISTS. BOTH LEARN THAT OCCULT FORCES HAVE MANIPULATED EVENTS THAT PROGRESSIVELY REVEAL VODOU IS MORE THAN SUPERSTITION – IT HAS REAL SUPERNATURAL CONSEQUENCES.
- THE SERPENT AND THE RAINBOW**
A CLEAR REFERENCE POINT FOR CURSE OF THE GLASS EYE'S SUPERNATURAL MYTHOLOGY AS THIS THRILLER BRINGS HAITIAN VODOU, RESURRECTION AND THE LIVING DEAD INTO AN ADULT GENRE FRAMEWORK.





MICHAEL TRACHIOTIS

AWARD WINNING SCREENWRITER, FILMMAKER, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR AND EDITOR. COMIC CREATOR, WRITER, ARTIST AND ANIMATOR. HIS SHORT FILMS *DEATH KNOCKED 3 TIMES*, A SIZZLE REEL AND PROOF-OF-CONCEPT FOR *CURSE OF THE GLASS EYE* SCREENPLAY AND *INNOCENCE LOST* HAVE RECEIVED MULTIPLE ACCOLADES AND AWARDS. MICHAEL'S SCRIPTS *THE BLACK HATCHET*, *BLUE GIRL* AND *THE CHRYSANTHEMUM GARDEN* HAVE ALSO GARNERED MANY HONORS AND AWARDS.

HIS WRITING AND STORY DEVELOPMENT SKILLS INCLUDE WORKING FOR LEGENDARY DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER PENNY MARSHALL'S PARKWAY PRODUCTIONS IN STORY, SCRIPT AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT. MICHAEL'S LIMITED EDITION, *THE BLACK HATCHET* ANIMATED P-O-C COMICS, ADAPTED FROM THE SCRIPT SOLD OUT AT COMIC-CONS AND ON AMAZON.





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