



# SCISSOR PASS



SES11 PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS DION COSTELLOE ZACHARY GUTTMAN DAVID H. LITTLETON SAM SHAPIRO CHRISTOPHER SNELL IN  
"SCISSOR PASS" EDITED BY CLAIRE FISHMAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY GABE WALDMAN SECOND UNIT D.P. LIAM DILLAN PRODUCED BY ANDY SHAPIRO SAM SHAPIRO  
GABE WALDMAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY MATTHEW KAMIS MARCI SHAPIRO GRACE SHAW WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY SAM SHAPIRO



# SYNOPSIS

Told over the course of one day in their respective lives, *Scissor Pass*, loosely based on true events, is the story of Sam and Anthony, high school best friends and hockey teammates. Ambition and opportunity send Sam to college with a promising future, leaving Anthony behind in a dead-end job and a seemingly hopeless situation. Memories of their glory days bring moments of joy but ultimately lead them to life's hard and merciless lessons in the importance of friendship, timing and finding a way forward.



# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



I'm a huge planner. Upon entering the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University as a Television, Radio & Film Major and Entrepreneurialism minor in the fall of 2015, I had already mapped out my first 2 years at school. Summer freshman year I had two internships lined up - the Cannes International Film Festival and then at Killer Films which led to an on-set job on the Todd Haynes directed film *Wonderstruck* where I assisted Producers Christine Vachon, Brian Bell and Frank Murray. I function best when I'm very productive and high on adrenaline. That became more evident when I studied abroad in London this past spring semester, where I interned part time at the independent film production company The Ink Factory, took 15 credits, and traveled every weekend.

After a whirlwind semester, coming back from London in early May marked the first time in many years where I had no idea what was "next" for me. I went back to intern part time at Killer Films in the production office. The part time thing simply didn't work for me. Having four days per week to myself at home wasn't good for anyone, especially my parents. I knew if I ever wanted to be a director or producer, or be able to tell my own stories and express myself, I needed to make a short film, professionally. It's the advice every contact I've ever made or gotten a chance to talk to in this industry - Todd Haynes, Jeff Nichols, Christine Vachon, Pamela Koffler, Brian Bell, etc. - has given me. "If you're going to direct, direct! If you're going to write, write! If you're going to produce, produce!" The question was, how was I going to do that? Where do I even begin?

*Scissor Pass* started as a therapeutic short script I wrote for a screenwriting class I took my freshman year at Newhouse. I never thought about, or really even considered, the possibility of making this vision come to life. This was for a number of reasons, such as being intimidated by how personal this story is for me, thinking the scope of *Scissor Pass* and what it would require (i.e. thoughts of planning just the ice hockey scene was overwhelming!) was way too tall an order for what I was capable of, and the fact that I had no idea how to make something that was truly professional. Then, I went to Chris Messineo, founder of the NJ Film School in New Providence, NJ. Chris started his school to help aspiring student filmmakers like me bring their visions to life. I had sent him the script before our first meeting. When I walked in the door, he sat me down and told me point blank, "You have something here. This screenplay surprised me. I've been doing this for a lot of years. I don't get surprised very often. You have to make this!" I paused and thought about it. This was exciting, yet nerve-racking for me, but there was no wimping out at this point. I was in! I looked at him and said, "I'll make this, but if I'm going to, it needs to be done right. I need to do this story justice!"

Jump three of the most intense, sleepless, exhilarating and financially draining (i.e. all of my savings!) months of my life and here we are. With Chris' guidance, the help of an incredibly professional and hardworking cast and crew, and a lot of miracle-making, *Scissor Pass* is done and I am submitting to film festivals, something I would not have even dreamed of doing. I am so thankful to have had this experience, so proud of the final product, and so grateful to have met such amazingly talented individuals along the way. I look forward to the next one!

-Sam Shapiro

# CAST



**Zachary Guttman**  
as Anthony Falcone

Classically trained, Zach has played roles from Martin McDonagh to Shakespeare. He moved to NYC about 4 years ago from the far and exotic land of Canada. Zach graduated in 2015 from Atlantic Acting School founded by William H. Macy and David Mamet. Zach spends his time teaching kickboxing and trying to recreate the perfect Poutine. Recent credits include THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR (Peter Simple) THE SUM OF ALL SPECTACLES (Charles) THE TRIAL OF MRS. SURRATT (Frederik Aiken). Other credits include *What You Wanted*, *My Cricket and Me*, *Fatal Vows*.



**Sam Shapiro**  
as Sam Kaplan

Sam has no formal acting experience or training. His acting background consists of his \$0 budget high school film projects he used to make for fun and his occasional over the top melodramatic personality. With encouragement from his family and friends, he decided to play the lead role in this semi-autobiographical story that is so deeply personal to him. Sam is happy he decided to take that leap of faith, and he looks forward to more acting opportunities in the future.

# CAST



**David Littleton**

as Mr. Falcone

After a successful graphic design career, David H. Littleton returned to acting for the first time in 30 years in 2016. Since then he's performed in 10 plays and as many short films. A native Texan, he studied theater at Southern Methodist University before moving to New York to train with Arthur French, Jon Shear and the Atlantic Theatre Company. Recent theater credits include THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH at Theater for a New Audience, JULIUS CAESAR for the Public Theater's Shakespeare in the Park at the Delacorte Theater and SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE at The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. In film, he's played a vengeful janitor, a foul-mouthed priest, and a cannibalism victim among others. He's very proud to be involved with this project and playing Mr. Falcone has been a highlight of his career thus far.



**Dion Costelloe**

as Robbie

Dion is a classically trained actor and studies technique at the T. Schreiber Studio. He has years of experience in the NY Off-Broadway theatre scene and has recently been breaking into the world of indie films. Dion is proud to have worked on Scissor Pass.



**Christopher Snell**

as Adrian

Chris graduated from the NY Conservatory for Dramatic Arts. He acts in both theatre and film. Chris performed in the series "Talkin' Money" that won the 2015 Miami SunCoast Emmy award for best Educational financial literacy series.



**Alex Rauter**

as Josh

Alex has no acting experience but has been a dear family friend/hockey mentor to Sam for many years. He is an incoming senior and communications major at Cornell University playing Division 1 hockey. Alex hopes to play in the NHL.

# CREW



**Gabe Waldman**

**Producer/Director of Photography**

A resident of Long Hill, New Jersey, Gabe majored in Film and graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 2017. Gabe has a tremendous amount of on-set experience at both the student and professional level, working various positions from Grip to Director of Photography. His body of work includes Bypass, The Other F Word, Kumiho, Hell-Bent, A New Age, The Ways, Mental Prelude, Inspired & Perfect Girl.



**Claire Fishman**

**Editor**

Claire graduated from Montclair State University (MSU) in 2015 with a degree in filmmaking. She has edited, written, directed, and acted in several award winning shorts. Claire is the lead editor for promotional web material for MSU's College of the Arts and is an in-house editor for the boutique commercial production company, ASL Productions.



**Jalen Thompson**

**Field Sound Mixer/Boom Operator**

Jalen is an alumni of Fairleigh Dickinson University's film department. Having worked professionally as a Field Sound Mixer and Boom Operator for almost 6 years, Jalen has worked on more than 45 films and television shows.

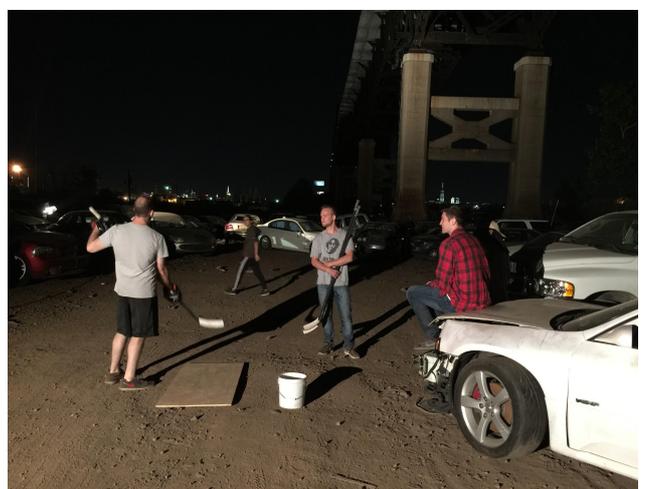


**Michael Engesser**

**Post Sound Mixer**

Born and raised in Munich, Germany, Michael is a graduate of the Berklee College of Music in Boston. He is an audio professional with credits as a composer, a music producer and an audio engineer. With his wife Halley, he founded a music and post production house, Rock Solid Productions.

# STILLS



# CREDITS

## CAST

Anthony Falcone – Zachary Guttman

Sam Kaplan – Sam Shapiro

Mr. Falcone – David Littleton

Robbie – Dion Costelloe

Adrian – Christopher Snell

Josh – Alex Rauter

Sam's Dad – Jimmy Andriola

Professor – Andy Shapiro

## CREW

### Producers

Sam Shapiro

Gabe Waldman

Andy Shapiro

### Writer

Sam Shapiro

### Director

Sam Shapiro

### Executive Producers

Matthew Kamis

Marci Shapiro

Grace Shaw

### 1st Assistant Director

Matthew Kamis

### 2nd Assistant Director

Grace Shaw

### Director of Photography

Gabe Waldman

### Camera Operator

Liam Dillon

### 1st Assistant Camera

Salma Hbaich

### 2nd Unit Director of Photography

Liam Dillon

### Grip

Brendan Laird

Jacob Kessler

Dominic Rotundo

### Field Sound Mixer

Jalen Thompson

### Digital Imaging Technician

Liam Dillon

### Make-Up

Kate McNaughton

Evelyn Ziropoulos

### Editor

Claire Fishman

### Colorist

Liam Peterson

### Post Sound Mixer

Michael Engesser

### Sound Mix Recorded At:

Rocksolid Studios, Manahawkin, NJ



### Casting

Sam Shapiro

### Art Director

David Littleton

### Music

"Where We Stand" Written  
by James Trimble, Aaron Hoskins, Justin  
Hoskins, Michael Jenkins, Cozmo Holloway  
and Kevin Hyfantis, Performed by The  
Dirty Guv'nahs Courtesy of Dualtone  
Records Under License from  
MusicBed

"Ships of Cortez"  
Written by Jake Scott  
Performed by Tossing Copper  
Under License from MusicBed



# Festivals



# Press Links

<http://newhouse.syr.edu/news-events/news/student-film-accepted-two-film-festivals>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGcPBgEqu98> (watch 40:40-43:05)

[http://www.newjerseyhills.com/echoes-sentinel/news/watchung-filmmaker-to-debut-at-garden-state-film-festival/article\\_88de04af-8fd1-58b1-b153-0aa83d07f209.html](http://www.newjerseyhills.com/echoes-sentinel/news/watchung-filmmaker-to-debut-at-garden-state-film-festival/article_88de04af-8fd1-58b1-b153-0aa83d07f209.html) (subscription based- article attached on Withoutabox)