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Synopsis

A father, who is dying, videotapes himself giving advice to his son.

About The Film

“SON” is the second film of a nine film series being made by independent filmmaker Glynn Beard. Each film will be a short and the entire series will be entitled “Ocean of Storms”. Beard plans to make one film each year until all nine are finished. “Ocean of Storms” is divided up into three trilogies. The first trilogy will address the costs of being a human being in our current culture. The second trilogy will concentrate on relationships. The third trilogy will be about chaos as it relates to individual and communal existence in our modern world. The first film, “SUCCESS”, about a father who has failed in life and pressures his son to succeed, was completed in 2003. “SUCCESS” has been screened at several venues including the 23rd Utah Short Film & Video Festival as well as the Los Angeles International Short Film Festival in 2004.

The inspiration for “Ocean of Storms” came 15 years ago. Beard had originally wanted to make a series of films based on each of the names of the Seas of the Moon with the final film titled “Ocean of Storms”. However, Beard went on to pursue independent features with “Murdered” (1993), a film about the murder of his closest childhood friend, and the “The Crier” (1994) a horror film based on the Mexican folk legend of La Llorona. While freelancing as an editor, line producer and actor in film projects as well as pursuing independent features, Beard did not satisfy his desire to make the films that he wanted to create to express himself as a filmmaker.

With the birth of his son, Glyn Montgomery Beard, in 1998, Beard realized that he wanted to create a series of films to speak to his son. “SUCCESS” and “SON” have been made as a legacy for his son, Glyn, and these films are dedicated to him as will all the films that make up “Ocean of Storms” in the future.

Beard is currently in pre-production for “EXIT”, the third film of “Ocean of Storms” and plans to begin principal photography for “EXIT” in the fall of 2004.

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Producer's Credits

CAST

Starring
Father GLYNN BEARD

CREW

Written & Directed by	GLYNN BEARD
Associate Producer	JACOB STRUNK
Produced by	TERESA L. STEPPE
Director of Photography	JOHNNY BISHOP
Assistant Director	JACOB STRUNK
A Camera Operator	EMILY LOCKWOOD
B Camera Operator	CHRIS HODSON
C Camera Operator	JOHNNY BISHOP
Consultant	MARGARET FRANCIS
Sensei	WILL COFFIN
Title Design	TAKAKO HOLLAND

THANKS TO

Digital FilmTree
RAMY KATRIB

For Glyn

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Glynn Beard & Teresa L. Steppe

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Director's Filmography

The Luckless Lad, 1982, short film; The Waste Land Productions
The Abyss, 1983, short film; The Waste Land Productions
Fire, 1986, short film; The Waste Land Productions
Shadows, 1987, short film; The Waste Land Productions
Murdered, 1993, feature film; The Waste Land Productions
The Crier, 1994, feature film; The Zaca Bunch Productions
SUCCESS, 2003, short film; Glynn Beard & Teresa L. Steppe Productions
SON, 2004, short film; Glynn Beard & Teresa L. Steppe Productions

Biographies

GLYNN BEARD, WRITER-DIRECTOR

Glynn Beard was born in Vancouver, BC. His parents gave him a Super 8 camera at age 10. Beard made his first short film, a mad scientist horror film shortly thereafter. There was a screening for his friends and family, which went so well that he continued to write, direct and act in Super 8 films throughout high school. Upon graduation from Prince of Wales High School, Beard was admitted to the Centre for the Arts Film School at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

After a year and a half of study in this program, Beard left to attend Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara. Upon graduation from Brooks in 1987 with a Bachelor's degree in Motion Picture, Beard developed several feature films which were not realized. In 1992 Beard, with author Margaret Francis, wrote a feature film script "Murdered" which went into production that year and was completed in January of 1993. Beard co-wrote, directed, produced and played the lead actor in this film about the murder of his childhood friend. It premiered at the Santa Barbara Film Festival in 1993 and was also shown at the Angelika Theatre in New York as part of the Independent Feature Film Market in 1994. In 1994 through 1998, Beard also co-produced, directed and acted in another feature film, "The Crier", a horror film based on the Mexican Folk legend of 'La Llorona'.

In 1994, Beard was hired on, with Leland Faulkner, as the Video Design artist for the theatre company Slightly Askew Players in Santa Barbara. From 1994 through to 1998 Beard and Faulkner created video projection backgrounds to be used during play performances. These "video walls"

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were subtext backgrounds, used to support the story and performance content of the original plays. Beard and Faulkner shot, edited and technically ran the video cues for these video walls during theatrical performances.

Beard ceased freelancing in the middle 1998 to pursue his Masters degree at Brooks Institute of Photography. He graduated from this program in December of 2000. In 2002, Beard acted with Ethan Wilcox in the Pioneer Extreme Filmmaking project "Go Man Go" which Jacob Strunk had written and was directing. Beard was impressed with Wilcox's performance and in the spring of 2003 cast him in the short film "SUCCESS". Beard hired on Jacob Strunk to be the Associate Producer and Assistant Director for "SUCCESS". Their work together on "SUCCESS" further strengthened their relationship as filmmakers and the realization that they shared a common vision for what filmmaking could be.

When an actor fell through for Jacob Strunk's short film "Valhalla", Beard offered to play the lead for Strunk as he felt he could deliver the complex, but subtle acting, acting needed to make the piece work. Strunk agreed and the shoot of "Valhalla" was remarkably smooth.

Beard has currently completed the post-production for the next film for 'Ocean of Storms' titled "SON", which is about a father videotaping himself giving advice to his son. He is currently in pre-production for the third short film in the 'Ocean of Storms' first trilogy titled "EXIT".

JACOB STRUNK, ASSOCIATE PRODUCER, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Jacob Strunk was taken to filmmaking at an early age, earlier than most. He cites two incidents as being instrumental in his young psyche attaching itself to the medium of film and the desire to push his creativity as such. Both events, so contradictory by their very nature yet so similar in theme, happened before Strunk could appreciate their repercussions, though in hindsight, he credits them equally for driving him to where he is today.

The more memorable of the two surrounds Strunk's first viewing of and subsequent fascination with George A. Romero's "Night of the Living Dead" at age seven. Though Strunk has embraced rich, character-driven dramas as his current focus, the vision of those dead hands battering at the

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reinforced door of an old farmhouse and the excitement and horror of it is something that has haunted him through every endeavour, and something which still inspires what ends up on the page and, eventually, the screen.

Growing up in the midwestern town of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, Strunk made the transition from in front of the screen to behind the camera early, producing a number of short horror-themed films in the years before high school. He began working for the local television station and video production house doing everything from newscasts to sporting events to wedding editing and videography. Not long after, Strunk and a longtime friend decided to bring to fruition what would be the culmination of all that had come before and the final product was a featurette calling upon both local and out-of-town talent which gained him recognition in Wisconsin as one of a scarce few filmmakers attached to dramatic work in the state.

After a brief stint as a travel agent, Strunk made the move to Southern California and enrolled in Brooks Institute in Santa Barbara to hone his filmmaking skills. It was here that he met Glynn Beard and began vigorously pursuing film projects. Strunk is now working on a number of projects, most notably the development of a feature film (the fourth that he's written) which he will direct. He also continues to write both literary fiction and work for the screen. He and Beard have collaborated on six films: *Go Man Go*, *SUCCESS*, *Sand Country*, *Valhalla*, *A Shadow Before Sunrise* and *SON*. Strunk was also on board as the Associate Producer and Assistant Director for *SON* which Beard completed in the summer of 2004.

Technical Specifications

SUCCESS was shot on a Panasonic DVX100 using the Advanced 24P frame rate setting. Cinema Tools was used for the reverse telecine process needed to edit at 24 frames in Final Cut Pro. The uprezzing of the DV 24P locked cut was done on a Final Cut Pro HD finishing station at Digital FilmTree.

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