# **ONE IN THE CHAMBER**

# **PRESS KIT**

# Production Notes

Business is good for hired killer RAY (**Cuba Gooding Jr.**). As rival factions attempt to take over the city, Ray has no shortage of assignments. But when he fails to eliminate one of his targets, he calls down the wrath of one of the factions in the form of rival assassin ALEKSEY “THE WOLF” (**Dolph Lundgren**).

True to his *nomme-de-guerre*, Aleksey not only tracks down Ray, he discovers why Ray has spent so much time in the city: the beautiful and haunted JANICE (**Claudia Bassols**). Ray killed Janice’s father in a hit years ago and has been quietly guarding her from the shadows ever since. But now Ray is a target, and that makes Janice a target too. When Ray strikes out at Aleksey’s employers, Aleksey strikes back by capturing Janice, driving the two to an explosive showdown.

“What I loved about the story is that at its core it is a character study,” says director William Kaufman of the script, penned by **Benjamin Shahrabani** and **Derek Kolstad**. “Granted it’s hidden in a very genre action film, but at the end of the day, it’s the characters who are the heart of the film.”

Nowhere is this commitment to character more present than in Cuba Gooding Jr.’s portrayal of Ray and Dolph Lundgren’s portrayal of Aleksey. Both actors command the screen, and their climactic showdown provides the centerpiece not only of the action, but also of the very personal narrative. Continues Kaufman, “To me, this film is a dark little crime novella where the audience really engages in Ray’s journey and find themselves rooting for him despite his profession, and that really harkens back to the crime films on which I grew up.”

In fact, this youthful exuberance is at play throughout ONE IN THE CHAMER, and for good reason. As Kaufman describes it, “For me, shooting a film with Cuba Gooding [Jr.] was like making a movie with a childhood best friend. Every day he would show up, full of life and ready to work (or play, as we liked to call it!), willing to do whatever he had to do to make the best film possible.”

But Cuba Gooding Jr. wasn't the only actor at play on set, as Dolph Lundgren took the opportunity to enliven the deadly Aleksey with a Hawaiian shirt and fedora. “Dolph felt very strongly that the ‘Rat Pack’ concept was central to his character, and ultimately people have responded very well to it,” says Kaufman. “Dolph did a great job with The Wolf and I think he came off very well.”

Even the location got in on the act. When asked about shooting on location in Bucharest, Kaufman gushed, “Bucharest is literally over 500 years old—any direction you point the camera is amazing. I was like a kid in a candy store!” Kaufman is quick to share credit for the “beautiful-ugly” aesthetic on display throughout the film. “Once I arrived, the producers set me up with Anca Perja, a really brilliant local production designer who was able to suggest a nearly endless supply of locations that captured the feel and vibe I had always envisioned.”

But in addition to the compelling characters and excellent scenery, ONE IN THE CHAMBER delivers action in spades. “If there’s one thing I’m definitely known for it is my style of shooting action,” continues Kaufman. “From the get-go, I met with my stunt coordinator Dian Hristov and my special effects coordinator Nick Allder and we talked about how best to capture the action. I’ve always been of the opinion that action and violence should be scary and not sexy; Dian and Nick got that immediately and were able to help support that vision very well.”

Kaufman’s “scary not sexy” mandate is especially showcased in the fights between Cuba Gooding Jr.’s Ray and Dolph Lundgren’s Aleksey, where the two veteran fighters use every trick in their arsenal (and a few grenades for good measure) to get the upper hand. Fans of smart action films won’t be disappointed by ONE IN THE CHAMBER.

SYNOPSIS

From a high-rise rooftop, international assassin-for-hire RAY scopes his latest assignment two buildings away, YAVGENI, the chief rival of Russian mobster MIKHAIL.  It’s a one-in-a-million shot through three windows and another apartment, but Ray’s specialty is doing the impossible.  With two quick shots—one to make a hole in the windows, one to make a hole in his target—Ray completes his assignment and disappears into the night.

Furious over the assassination of his boss, Yavgeni’s right hand man DEMYAN leads an assault on Mikhail’s casino operations.  Demyan and his men destroy everything but leave the money—a declaration of war on Mikhail.  Mikhail’s brother, BOBBY, decides it’s time to call in ALEKSEY “THE WOLF” to deal with their problems, especially Ray.

Meanwhile, Ray goes to his favorite bar to blow off steam and talk to JANICE, the bar’s beautiful young owner.  She’s obviously attracted to him but Ray always keeps his distance—years ago he took a contract on her father and is horrified that Janice will find out if he gets too close.  As he leaves the bar, Ray gets his next assignment from Demyan: kill Bobby and Mikhail.

Ray has no trouble quietly garroting Bobby in a bathroom stall, but with Mikhail in his sights, he spies Mikhail’s young daughter, reminding Ray of the pain he caused Janice and shaking his confidence.  For the first time, Ray botches a shot and must hurry to escape his position before being found.  Unfortunately, Aleksey has been tracking Ray and, finding him vulnerable, Aleksey attacks.  Ray and Aleksey fight with skill and stamina, neither able to get a clear upper hand until Aleksey knocks Ray off the side of the building and drops two grenades on top to make sure.  Ray manages to break into a basement and hide, barely escaping the explosions.

Ray drags himself to Janice’s bar.  This time, he lets her convince him to take her back to his place.  The intimate mood is shattered when Mikhail’s goons break in, forcing Ray to reveal his profession to Janice.  But there’s no time for Janice to react; Mikhail’s men are upon them and she needs Ray’s expertise to survive the onslaught.  Ray cuts a path through the attackers, but when Janice sees her father’s blood-stained bible in Ray’s bag, she realizes who Ray is, shoots him in the shoulder, and runs away.

Beaten, battered, shot, and alone, Ray travels around town to collect his various cash and weapon stashes in preparation to leave.  Hurting and wanting to explain, he calls Janice from a payphone, only to discover that she’s been taken hostage by Mikhail, who plans to kill her in revenge for Bobby’s death.  Now Ray must choose between freedom and a mission to save a woman who shot him without falling victim to Mikhail’s men or Aleksey’s skill.  It’s a one-in-a-million shot, but Ray’s specialty is doing the impossible.

BIOGRAPHIES

**Cuba Gooding Jr. – “Ray”**

Cuba Gooding Jr. was born on January 2, 1968, in The Bronx, New York. Following high school, Cuba studied Japanese martial arts for three years before turning his focus toward acting. Early on, he landed guest starring roles on shows like *HILL STREET BLUES* and *MACGYVER*. His first major role was in the 1991 box office surprise *BOYZ IN THE HOOD*. He followed this success with supporting roles in major films like *A FEW GOOD MEN*, *LIGHTNING JACK* and *OUTBREAK*.

In 1996, Cuba was cast as an arrogant but loyal football player in the [Tom Cruise](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000129/)-[Cameron Crowe](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0001081/) film *JERRY MAGUIRE*. The film became a huge box office smash and earned Cuba an Academy [Award](http://www.imdb.com/search/name?bio=Award) for Best Supporting Actor. His "Show Me The Money" line in the movie became a nationwide catchphrase. The role elevated him to superstar status, as many of Hollywood's top producers began to "show him the money" to appear in their films.

Since then, Cuba has managed to keep busy with a wide range of roles alongside many of Hollywood's biggest stars. Most recently, he won critical support for his portrayal of a mentally handicapped man in the heartwarming film RADIO, another movie about football. In 2002, he was given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Currently, he resides in Studio City, California with Sara, now a school teacher, and their two sons.

**Dolph Lundgren – “Aleksey - The Wolf”**

Dolph Lundgren was born in Stockholm, Sweden and, despite an early interest in music and the fine arts, Dolph decided to follow in his father's footsteps and pursue an Engineering degree.

It was in the military when Dolph first came in contact with the martial arts. Five years later, Dolph had become a World-Class competitor in Japanese Karate and was deeply involved with a discipline that was to become an important part of his life.

Dolph's motion picture [debut](http://www.imdb.com/search/name?bio=debut) came in the 1985 James Bond feature, *A VIEW TO KILL*. However, it was his performance in *ROCKY IV* later that year that brought him international attention. Following that success Lundgren moved to Los Angeles and has since starred in more than thirty feature films. Lundgren portrayed the classic action-heroic lead in such films as [Gary Goddard](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0323787/)'s *MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE*, *SHOWDOWN IN LITTLE TOKYO*, co-starring [Brandon Lee](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000488/), and *BLACKJACK* by Hong-Kong action legend [John Woo](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000247/).

Lundgren has also continued to turning in memorable performances as the main adversary to other action-stars, most notably in *UNIVERSAL SOLDIER,*directed by [Roland Emmerich](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000386/), opposite [Jean-Claude Van Damme](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000241/), as well as [Robert Longo](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0519434/)'s *JOHNNY MNEMONIC* opposite [Keanu Reeves](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000206/). In February 2004, Dolph Lundgren directed his first feature film, the thriller [*THE DEFENDER*](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0402127/), in which he also starred. In 2005, he directed and starred in yet another feature, *THE MECHANIC*. Lundgren also reunited with co-stars [Jean-Claude Van Damme](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000241/) and [Sylvester Stallone](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000230/) for *UNIVERSAL SOLDIER: REGENERATION* and the highly anticipated action blockbuster, *THE EXPENDABLES*.

Dolph has managed to not let his Hollywood career stand in the way of his athletic background. He has been [award](http://www.imdb.com/search/name?bio=award)ed his Third Degree Black Belt by the World Karate Organization in Tokyo. His accomplishments include being the Captain of the Swedish National Karate Team, as well as a Champion of the Swedish, European and Australian Heavyweight Division titles. Lundgren still regularly performs Karate exhibitions at international tournaments worldwide.

Lundgren has also been working on a fitness book and sports wear line for men, the creation and launch of a new Dolph Lundgren brand, a licensing, media and publishing program and the development of future entertainment and media projects.

**William Kaufman — Director/Producer**

After film school, William Kaufman began his career working in the special effects department, where he learned the intricacies of feature film production from some of the most skilled and talented technicians in the industry. It was also where he began to understand and develop his ability to construct incredible action sequences while working with very modest budgets. Adding to his talents, Kaufman began working as a second unit director and producer for commercials and independent films. He then went on to direct his debut indie film, “The Prodigy.” With the extraordinary international success of this little sleeper hit, the demand for Kaufman took off. In 2010, Kaufman was brought on to direct the Sony Pictures thriller “The Hit List” starring Oscar winner Cuba Gooding Jr. and Cole Hauser.

That same year, Kaufman also co-wrote, directed and produced, through his company Throttle Films, the action thriller “Sinners and Saints.” The film starred Johnny Strong, Sean Patrick Flanery and Oscar nominees Jürgen Prochnow and Tom Berenger. More recently Kaufman just wrapped production in Romania on his latest film and is in post production on Cuba Gooding Jr.’s follow-up action thriller, “One In the Chamber.”

**Derek Kolstad – Writer**

Addicted to genres dependent upon relentless action, brutal violence, neoteric concepts, and unique character design, Derek Kolstad has adopted a storytelling method wherein style and substance share equal footing.  To finance the innate drudgery it takes to secure ample footing in the entertainment industry, Kolstad  was a multimedia/business consultant for a number of non-profit ventures and non-governmental organizations over the years.   With Kolstad's next script *THE PACKAGE* currently in production starring Steve Austin and Dolph Lundgren,  he is now developing *ACOLYTE* with Voltage Pictures (*HURT LOCKER*) and writing original features on a continual basis.

**Benjamin Shahrabani – Writer**

Benjamin Shahrabani began his professional career as an assistant to the producer on *HEARTWOOD*starring Hillary Swank and Jason Robards. He later attended and received his M.F.A from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Film, Theater, and TV. He produced the horror feature *JUNE CABIN*in 2007, and the documentary *MS. SURF 2008*for Surf Magazine. He is currently developing a comedy with Mayhem Pictures (*INVINCIBLE, SECRETARIAT*), and a thriller, *KNOWING,*for German production company Erfttal Films (*YOUNG GOETHE IN LOVE, ONE WAY*).



**Brad Krevoy— Producer**

BRAD KREVOY began his career in the entertainment industry at Concorde Pictures, which he co-established with the legendary producer Roger Corman.  He later served as the company’s president, working closely with Mr. Corman to manage his vast library of films.  In 1986, Krevoy co-founded Motion Picture Corporation of America (MPCA), and has played a key role in the finance, development, production and distribution of more than 100 motion picture and television projects.

Having been in business for over 20 years, MPCA first made its mark with big commercial comedies and genre films and has since expanded into producing and developing English-language remakes of successful foreign-language films.  Mr. Krevoy is also known for jumpstarting the careers of many young actors and filmmakers who have gone on to become some of the biggest names working in Hollywood today, including the Farrelly Brothers, Vince Vaughn, Ben Stiller, Sarah Jessica Parker, Will Ferrell, Viggo Mortensen, Ashley Judd, Jude Law, Reese Witherspoon, Paul Rudd, Kirsten Dunst, Courteney Cox, Bill Paxton, Ben Foster, Gretchen Mol, and Jon Turteltaub.

Among his many early works, Mr. Krevoy produced the blockbuster Farrelly Brothers comedy *DUMB AND DUMBER*, starring Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels, as well as the Farrellys’ follow-up, *KINGPIN*, starring Woody Harrelson and Bill Murray.  Mr. Krevoy also produced *BEVERLY HILLS NINJA* starring Chris Farley and *JUNGLE 2 JUNGLE* with Tim Allen.  Mr. Krevoy's moderately-budgeted 1994 production *THREESOME*, starring Stephen Baldwin and Lara Flynn Boyle, remains one of the most profitable independent films to this day.

In 1996, MPCA was acquired by John Kluge’s Metromedia International Group and operated under Metromedia’s Orion Pictures Corporation.  Mr. Krevoy served as Co-President of Orion Pictures, where he oversaw the production, acquisition, and distribution of Orion’s motion picture and television programming.  At Orion, he produced films for Academy Award-winner Tom Schulman (*DEAD POETS SOCIETY*) and released films such as 1997’s Academy Award and Golden Globe nominee for Best Foreign Language Film, *PRISONER OF THE MOUNTAINS*, directed by Sergei Bodrov, and the critically acclaimed *ULEE’S GOLD* directed by Victor Nunez, presented by Jonathan Demme, and starring Academy Award-winner Peter Fonda.  Mr. Krevoy’s revitalized Orion Pictures was sold to Kirk Kerkorian’s MGM/UA in 1997.

In 1998, Mr. Krevoy returned to his roots and restarted MPCA with a distribution deal through MGM. Since then, he has produced over 20 motion pictures, including the heart-warming true story *TAKING CHANCE* starring Kevin Bacon, which premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival and was the most watched HBO original film in over five years, and the Disney family film*BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA 2,* currently the best selling DVD release worldwide. *TAKING CHANCE*was nominated for 10 Emmys, winning one, and won a Golden Globe (Best Actor, Kevin Bacon), SAG award (Best Actor, Kevin Bacon), WGA award (Best Screenplay, Adaptation, Michael Strobl, Ross Katz), DGA award (Best Director, Ross Katz), a Humanitas, and was also nominated for a PGA award.

Mr. Krevoy remains very active in several major charities as well, including the Fisher House Foundation and the California State Summer School for the Arts, of which he sits on the Board of Directors.  He is also a frequent guest speaker at various film festivals and seminars around the world, most recently serving on a panel dedicated to the business of English language remakes of Japanese films at the 2008 Tokyo International Film Festival.

**Patrick Newall – Producer**

PATRICK NEWALL is a highly experienced producer and line producer with an extensive background in independent and studio filmmaking.

Versed in all aspects of production, from concept to finished film, Newall has worked as a producer, line producer, post-production supervisor, unit production manager, second unit director and writer. He also served as Vice President of Production for Current TV from 2005-2008.

With his wide range of experience—and true to his Brooklyn roots—Newall has a well-earned reputation as a scrappy, no-nonsense producer who maximizes production value across a wide variety of budget ranges. He knows how to thoroughly vet each project he works on to make sure each production dollar ends up on the screen.

Among Newall’s credits are:

• *KILLER JOE* (currently in post-production) - directed by William Friedkin (*THE FRENCH CONNECTION, THE EXORCIST*), starring Matthew McConaughey and Emile Hirsch

• *ARENA* (currently in post-production) - starring Samuel L. Jackson and Kellan Lutz

• *ASSASSINATION GAMES*  - starring Jean-Claude Van Damme and Scott Adkins

• *RESIDENT EVIL: AFTERLIFE* - starring Milla Jovovich and Ali Larter

• *THE BOONDOCK SAINTS II: ALL SAINTS DAY* - starring Sean Patrick Flanery, Billy Connolly and Clifton Collins, Jr.

• *LONELY STREET* - starring Jay Mohr, Robert Patrick and Joe Mantegna

Newall is a graduate of Brooklyn College. He lives in Santa Monica, CA with his wife and three young daughters.

**Justin Bursch—Producer**

Producer Justin Bursch ran a successful real estate holding company and produced and financed several independent films prior to joining MPCA.  While an executive at Primetime Pictures, he co-produced the film *CRUEL WORLD* starring Jaime Pressly (*MY NAME IS EARL*) and Edward Furlong (*TERMINATOR 2*).  While at MPCA, Justin oversaw production on the Syfy original movie, *MOTHMAN*, in addition to *TICKING CLOCK* starring Cuba Gooding Jr. (Academy Award-winner for *JERRY MAGUIRE*) and Neal McDonough (*CAPTAIN AMERICA, MINORITY REPORT, BAND OF BROTHERS*).

Justin’s areas of expertise include budgeting, scheduling, casting, talent and union relations, vendor relations, post-production, and monitoring state and foreign tax incentive programs.  Justin most recently produced *ASSASSINATION GAMES* starring Jean-Claude Van Damme and Scott Adkins (*WOLVERINE*) and *MEETING EVIL* starring Samuel L. Jackson (*PULP FICTION, IRON MAN, XXX*), Luke Wilson (*OLD* *SCHOOL, THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS, VACANCY*), and Leslie Bibb (*THE ZOOKEEPER, IRON MAN, LAW ABIDING CITIZEN*), and is co-producer on *ARENA* starring Samuel L. Jackson, Kellan Lutz (*TWILIGHT, IMMORTALS*), and Daniel Dae Kim (*LOST, HAWAII FIVE-0*).

Justin holds a B.S. in Business Administration with a specialization in Marketing from Central Washington University, where he also played basketball.  In addition to his passion for making films, Justin is also the Executive Director of Rescue Thailand, a non-profit foundation that supports and builds orphanages for children rescued from slavery in Southeast Asia.