

ELLIANDER PICTURES

*The Mysterious Disappearance
of
M. M. Bayliss*



A DARK ROOM.
A DARKER SECRET.

SYNOPSIS

The Mysterious Disappearance of M.M.Bayliss is an homage to classic Victorian ghost stories and the weird tales of the Twilight Zone serials.

A young man is woken one night by a set of haunted keys that float before him. Guided through his empty house by the possessed keys, he discovers a dark room hiding an even darker secret.

This short film was shot on only 800ft of 16mm Fuji-film to achieve the distinct and unique aesthetic audiences associate with the classic ghost films of the past.

LINK TO MOVIE ON VIMEO

LINK: <https://www.vimeo.com/ellianderpics/box>

PASSWORD: box

PRODUCTION DETAILS

TITLE: The Mysterious Disappearance of M.M.Bayliss

GENRE: Thriller/Mystery

DURATION: 9mins 42sec

SHOOTING FORMAT: Film Gauge, 16mm

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EXHIBITION/

PREVIEW FORMATS: - DVD Video (Region 0, NTSC, PAL)
- Media Files (.MPG, .MOV, *OTHER*)

SCREENSHOTS



DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

In an increasingly digital World, my brother and I want to stand up as part of a younger generation and show that the film medium matters to us.

Growing up in the 90's, going to see a film meant something very particular; like many before us, but sadly few after, seeing a movie in the cinema came with the knowledge that you would be watching a film, shot on film, projected on film. There was something captivating about knowing that at its heart, what you were watching was a simple visual illusion; the mind being tricked by fast moving pictures. It was physical, it was visceral, the projector made a noise and the print got scratched and dusty over time and it was part of the magic that from an early age, inspired us to pursue our passion; how could something so complex, vast and alluring to so many, come from something, that at its roots, was so simple?

Having long dreamt of being feature film directors, we always pictured ourselves one day shooting on film. We longed to stand beside a Panavision 35mm camera, because for us, film and film-making were so strongly intertwined. But we have grown up at a very interesting time; we are a digital generation with its roots in an analogue world, at the edge of a new era of opportunities for filmmakers. We have grabbed the new exciting opportunities that digital filmmaking offers, from the early home computer based editing software and handycams, to the new wave of cutting edge DSLR cameras, we owe our training to digital advancements.

But with so many so eager to push forwards to the future, we were desperately clinging to, what seemed, might soon be the past.

For this reason, we decided to get on with it - with film manufacturers dwindling before our eyes, we wanted to shoot film before it would seemingly be gone forever. This is our first project on 16mm film and hopefully it won't be our last. The experience we had in creating this short story was beyond our expectations of what it meant to shoot film; the sound of the camera whirring beside your ear, the sight of the shutter flickering in the viewfinder and the pressure to get it right first time, every time, drove our standards as a crew to an all time high.

Film still has a place, it may not be as economical as digital and it may be harder to shoot, but that is what makes it great. Film itself demands more from filmmakers.

Its connection with the heritage of filmmaking and the origins of this industry means it is something we should never discard from our storytelling tool kits. My brother and I owe so much to digital; for the opportunities it has afforded us and the accessibility it has created, but we will always love film and what it represents.

- *Zander Weaver*



DIRECTORS' BIOS

ELLIOT WEAVER & ZANDER WEAVER



The Mysterious Disappearance of M.M.Bayliss marks directing brothers, Elliot and Zander Weaver's, first short to be shot on 16mm film. Previous experience and credits include working as freelancers on behalf of Bentley, Mercedes Benz, Honda, Panasonic, Vodaphone and Sony.

At the ages of 14 and 17, the brothers set about co-producing and directing an independent short film, *The Price of Freedom*; a drama inspired by the poetry of the First World War which received a nomination for a *Young Independent Film and TV Award* in the Best Short Film category. Other productions include award winning music videos for bands such as the Polydor-signed Envy & Other Sins, and a series of 25 documentary films profiling bands such as Led Zeppelin, Deep Purple and Queen; the film profiling the US hip-hop group the Black Eyed Peas selling over 25,000 DVD copies in its first week of DVD release.

In 2010 Elliot and Zander directed a one hour documentary special; *APOLLO 17: The Untold Story of the Last Men on the Moon*, commemorating the 40th of NASA's final manned mission to the moon, which in October 2011 was represented at the World's leading TV acquisition market in Cannes. The documentary was subsequently acquired across many territories by the factual programming giants Discovery Channel, PBS, RAI and Canal+ and premiered on UK television on 16th February 2012. APOLLO 17 was also featured as the finale show in Discovery Science's "Space Week" in December 2012.

Elliot and Zander are currently in post-production on three other documentary specials; *The Saturn V Story*, *Tolkien in the Great War* and a two part mini-series recounting the incredible story of Apollo 13 - NASA's finest hour and the thirteen steps that brought the crew safely home.

PRODUCTION STILLS

