

AT THE END OF THE WORLD  
THE JOURNEY FOR HUMAN CONNECTION  
BEGINS

# WALKING AGAINST THE RAIN

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## SYNOPSIS

Walking Against The Rain tells the story of two strangers, Tommy and Blair, who are navigating their way across a barren landscape in a desperate attempt to find each other.

With their only form of communication being two soon-to-die battery operated radio mics.

And with a new evil in the shape of 'The Forsaken' tracking them down, they must learn to confront loss and rediscover a trust in humanity.

Not just another post-apocalyptic film, Walking Against the Rain is an exploration into how people accept change and loss in different ways, and how, in this lightning-paced technological age, we take human interaction for granted.

## **Director Statement**

When I wrote *Walking Against the Rain*, I wanted to create a grounded, compelling and jaw-dropping exploration into a world where the smallest items, that we now so often take for granted, have been removed.

How would we survive without constant communication, information and social media?

And as a result, would we start to reassess how we look at our families, basic level human interaction, and what it really means to be alone?

The underlying theme of *Walking Against the Rain* is an exploration into loss, grief and how our characters are coming to terms with a new life in an empty, but at times beautiful landscape.

Looking back at a time when horror films dealt with social issues and the state of the world we live in, my aim with *Walking Against The Rain* is to create a horror film that terrifies and connects with the audience on a much deeper level.

Whilst I guarantee that you'll be jumping out of your seat in the cinema and screaming at the horrors our characters endure, this is a story that will stay with you long after the credits roll and make you question if you too might be taking the smallest things around you for granted.

Scott Lyus



## Director

Scott Lyus

Writer | Director | Producer

Scott Lyus is an award winning filmmaker behind festival hits 'Silently Within Your Shadow', 'Echoes of the Passed' and 'Black Mass'.

His shorts have screened at well over 100 festivals worldwide including Frightfest, Panicfest, Shriekfest and the Starburst International Film Festival from Starburst Magazine, where he was awarded Best Short Film in 2018 and Best Screenplay in 2020.

Scott's short film work has also received press attention from genre heavyweights Bloody Disgusting, Dread Central, Scream Horror Magazine and Starburst Magazine.

Scott was also the first short film filmmaker to receive a feature interview in Starburst Magazine.



Director Scott Lyus with DOP Neal Parsons on the set of Walking Against the Rain

# The Cast



## Blair

Taking on the lead role of Blair is the incredible **Sophia Eleni**.

A multi-talented actress of stage and screen, as well as a musician, model and talented writer in her own right, Sophia once again joins the team having previously starred as the lead in Crossroad Pictures festival hit **BLACK MASS**.

*“I am delighted to be working with filmmaker Scott Lyus once again, taking on the lead role of Blair in his ambitious feature **Walking Against the Rain**.*

*From the first scene, I was drawn to the post-apocalyptic world and strong female lead of Blair. Blair’s journey of survival, and the characters she meets along the way, explore all facets of humanity and the pursuit of finding nirvana even in the worst of places.*

*I am elated to be working with Scott and the team on this thrilling, end-of-the-world monster movie.”*

*Sophia Eleni*

# The Cast



## Tommy

Taking on the male lead role is the hugely talented **Reece Douglas**.

Reece has proven himself to be one of the UK's most promising young actors, with breakout roles in the BBC drama Waterloo Road, The Knife That Killed Me and the indie horror smash-hit Cruel Summer.

*"I was pleasantly surprised to be contacted by Scott following him noticing my work in one of my previous thrillers named Cruel Summer.*

*I was excited to see how established and recognised he is in the horror film industry. Having won and been nominated several times for his short film work, this proved to me not only his talents but also the potential for 'Walking Against The Rain'.*

*An apocalyptic story where two characters are enthralled in danger, a world where trust and love seem completely obsolete, yet it becomes paramount to a means of survival. A context subdued in a whirlwind of raw emotion, this is looking like my most challenging role to date".*

Reece Douglas



# The Cast



## Old Man

Taking on the role of the mysterious Old Man who Blair encounters during her journey to find Tommy, is indie film legend **Johnny Vivash**.

The team has been lucky enough to work with Johnny on their previous project *Black Mass*, where Johnny won the Best Performance Award 2020 at the Starburst International Film Festival from Starburst Magazine.

*“I am so excited to be working with Johnny once more on what is one of the most important supporting roles in the film.*

*In truth the role was written with Johnny in mind, and I am honoured he is once again joining the team. I have no doubt he will bring something very special to the picture.”*

Scott Lyus



# The Cast



## The Forsaken

Donning the heavy make-up and bringing The Forsaken to life as our lead creature actor is the incredible **James Swanton**.

James has very quickly made a name for himself within the horror genre with Kim Newman calling him the “horror star of the future”.

Credits include Shudder’s smash hit ‘HOST’, festival hit Broadcast Signal Intrusion, and Blumhouse-produced Dashcam, which won Best FX at BIFA 2021.

James also brought Scott’s previous monster to life - ‘Darkness’ - in their festival hit Black Mass.



# Creature Effects



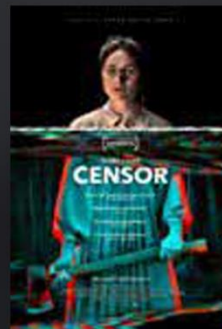
## Daniel Martin

Walking Against The Rain will feature a brand-new breed of monsters known only as The Forsaken.

The Forsaken have been created using full body practical effects, designed and implemented by BIFA award winning artist Daniel Martin.

Daniel and his team at 13FingerFX have created some of the best practical effects work of the last ten years, including award winning work on hit films, Possessor, Color Out of Space, Girl on the Third Floor, Censor and Dashcam.

[www.13fingerfx.com](http://www.13fingerfx.com)





# CROSSROAD P I C T U R E S

Crossroad Pictures offer genre films unlike anyone else on the market. Compelling, character driven pictures that ask topical and on-trend questions about the world around us. They are specifically produced to not be the usual 'schlocky' films that are often prevalent in this sector, but still contain enough of the much-loved tropes to please even the most die-hard genre fan. In today's world of prequels, sequels and reboots, we pride ourselves on offering original and compelling genre cinema.

**KEY PLAYERS:** Scott Lyus and Chris Nials are committed to creating feature length films via Crossroad Pictures Ltd. Both Scott and Chris have assembled a team of award-winning collaborators including Director of Photography Neal Parsons who worked on the OSCAR winning short *The Silent Child* and BIFA winning SFX designer Dan Martin.

**VISION:** After successfully navigating the world of short films, Scott and Chris registered Crossroad Pictures Ltd at the end of 2019 ready to make the jump into feature filmmaking, with an aim to produce one feature film every 18 months for the next 10 years. Each time expanding slightly in budget, scale and audience reach, starting with feature film *Walking Against the Rain* (2022).

*Walking Against the Rain* is the first film in a trilogy and the first picture of a five picture slate. Next up is *The Wicked and The Damned*, followed by Chapter 2 of *Walking Against the Rain*.

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# Stills



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FOR HUMAN CONNECTION BEGINS

# WALKING AGAINST THE RAIN

CROSSROAD PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH RED ROCK ENTERTAINMENT AND M&M FILM PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

A SCOTT LYUS FILM "WALKING AGAINST THE RAIN" SOPHIA ELENI REECE DOUGLAS  
JOHNNY VIVASH DIANE SPENCER FRANCESCA LOUISE WHITE AND JAMES SWANTON

MUSIC BY MITCH BAIN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY NEAL PARSONS CREATOR OF DAN MARTIN

PRODUCTION DESIGNER KELLY TOODE COSTUME DESIGNER VIKKI JONES MAKE UP ARTIST MARIA PAVLOU

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS NEIL BABBAGE GARY COLLINS MALCOLM WINTER MONIKA GERGELOVA

PRODUCED BY SCOTT LYUS LINE PRODUCER CHRIS NIALS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR MEL MORLEY

WRITTEN AND  
DIRECTED BY SCOTT LYUS