

SHUDDER ACQUIRES JOSH RUBENâ??S FEATURE DIRECTORIAL DEBUT â??SCARE MEâ?? AND JAYRO BUSTAMANTEâ??S VENICE AWARD-WINNER â??LA LLORONAâ?? AHEAD OF THEIR SUNDANCE PREMIERES

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE) New York, NY â?? Monday, December 16 â?? Shudder, AMC Networksâ?? premiere streaming service for horror, thriller and the supernatural, has announced the acquisition of all rights in its territories (North America, the UK, and Ireland) to the Sundance Film Festival-bound titles SCARE ME and LA LLORONA. SCARE ME, Josh Rubenâ??s feature-length directorial and screenplay debut, in which he also stars alongside Aya Cash (â??Youâ??re The Worstâ?•) and Chris Redd (â??Saturday Night Liveâ?•), will have its world premiere in Sundanceâ??s Midnight Section. Jayro Bustamanteâ??s LA LLORONA will have its U.S. premiere in the festivalâ??s Spotlight Section following its top award-winning world premiere at Venice Days, the independent competitive section of the Venice Film Festival, and its Canadian premiere at the 2019 Toronto International Film Festival.

The comedic thriller SCARE ME unfolds as two strangers tell scary stories during a power outage in the Catskills. The more Fred (Ruben) and Fanny (Cash) commit to their tales, the more the stories come to life in the dark cabin. The horrors of reality manifest when Fred confronts his ultimate fear: Fanny is the better storyteller. Josh Ruben pens a refreshing, hilarious, and self aware narrative that features committed performances from Ruben, Cash, and Redd that beg the question: what makes a good scare?

Josh Ruben is a five-time Webby Award-winning actor, writer, and director best known for appearing in and/or directing hundreds of shorts for comedy mega site, CollegeHumor. Josh recently directed all ten episodes of Spotify and Funny or Dieâ??s upcoming narrative series, â??The Last Degree of Kevin Baconâ?• and is currently in pre-production for his next feature, a horror/comedy whodunnit with Ubisoft Film & Television and Vanishing Angle producing. Ruben is represented by Artists First, ICM and

Ginsburg Daniels Kallis.
SCARE ME was produced by Josh Ruben, and Irony Pointâ??s Alex Bach and Daniel Powell. ICM negotiated the deal with Shudderâ??s Emily Gotto.
LA LLORONA follows Enrique, a retired general who oversaw the Mayan genocide and is haunted by his devastating crimes. A tale of horror and magical realism, the film reimagines the iconic Latin American fable as an urgent metaphor of Guatemalaâ??s recent history and tears open the countryâ??s unhealed political wounds to grieve a seldom discussed crime against humanity.
The film received unanimous acclaim out of Venice and TIFF, with The Wrapâ??s Carlos Aguilar praising its balance â??between fact and myth to engender a shrewdly frightening piece of political horrorâ?• and Varietyâ??s Guy Lodge calling it â??meaty, adventurous auteur cinema.â?• LA LLORONA marks Bustamanteâ??s third feature and demonstrates his continued efforts to highlight social inequality in his native Guatemala following his previous titles TEMBLORES (2019) and IXCANUL (2016).
LA LLORONA was produced by Jayro Bustamante, Gustavo Matheu, Georges Renand, and Marina Peralta. Film Factory negotiated the deal with Shudderâ??s Emily Gotto.
Speaking on the acquisition, Shudderâ??s General Manager Craig Engler said, â??We are thrilled that the Sundance Film Festival has recognized the exceptional talents of Jayro Bustamante and Josh Ruben and their new films, each of which pushes the boundaries of genre cinema in exciting and surprising ways. We canâ??t wait to share LA LLORONA and SCARE ME soon with Shudder members around the world.â?•
â??Iâ??m so grateful that SCARE ME has found its home at Shudder,â?• said filmmaker Josh Ruben. â??It was a bucket list item to make this movie, let alone get eyes on it. Now, weâ??re headed to Sundance under the Shudder banner. Theyâ??re the horror club you want to be a part of. Their curation is expert, and theyâ??re so creator-forward. Itâ??s a total privilege, Iâ??m dead serious, pun intended.â?•
â??For independent producers like us, it is very hard to film a movie in a country like Guatemala,â?• said filmmaker Jayro Bustamante. â??It honors us that a distributor like Shudder is supporting a film from a country with an emerging industry. It is very important for us to make visible the social and political horrors from Guatemalan history; and on the other hand, to help the industry grow and display our talent. I am extremely happy that LA LLORONA will be seen in the U.S. at Sundance alongside Shudder.â?•

About Shudder

Shudder continues to be at the forefront of curating many of the most exciting and critically-lauded independent and international genre films, including Coralie Fargeatâ??s REVENGE, Issa Lopezâ??s TIGERS ARE NOT AFRAID and Shinichiro Uedaâ??s ONE CUT OF THE DEAD. The service has also garnered attention for its original programming including the breakout hit series â??Creepshowâ?• under showrunner Greg Nicotero and the influential and acclaimed documentary HORROR NOIRE: A HISTORY OF BLACK HORROR.

(Source: Press release provided by Guillermo Restrepo, Brigade Marketing)

Category

1. Sundance Film Festival

Date Created
December 16, 2019
Author
hollywoodglee