Harvest Wave Productions and Invisible Films in association with Make Believe Media present



Punch in... Punch out!



"Intriguing, original, stylish... Skillfully shot and edited. The Works displays talent along with highly-professional production values." -MICHAEL MEDVED, "Eye on Entertainment", former chief film critic of the NY Post

PRESS KIT

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Gal Katzir (310) 314 3912 Robi Michael (323) 440 5525 www.theworksmovie.com Press Contact: wave@theworksmovie.com Running Time: 91 min Format: Super 16 mm Not Rated © 2004 The Works LLC



CAST

Joe W. Anthony
Armin Shimerman
Corey Allen
Danielle Tadei
Jerrette Galante
Kim Stodel
Kitty Swink
Steve Franken
Andrew Kesler
Bob Ross
Camden Toy
Tyler Dana
Jeremy Bouvet
Phil Jalbert

FILMMAKERS

Directed by	Gal Katzir
Written by	Kit Bateman & Gal Katzir
Produced by	Robi Michael
Executive Producer	
Co-Producer	Kit Bateman
Director of Photography	Paul Mayne
Editor	Robi Michael
Production Design	Joe Thompson
Costume Design	Chie Ito & Juryun Hwang
Original Music by	Gordy Haab
Music Supervisor	Mark Robertson
Visual FX	Thomas Marinello



A WORD ABOUT THE WORKS

Can an accountant find himself – and grand passion, and the secret of life – working for a mindless, backbiting company in a skyscraper where the plumbing is about to blow? Can any of us? After 10 years of punching in first and punching out last, Victor Arnet (Joe W. Anthony) wants to punch out for good – quit, but the bureaucracy makes it impossible. Just when he thinks he can't take any more, things get really complicated: he falls in love with a plumber woman.

"The Works" is different: different in its story and its attitude, different in its filmic texture, different in its juxtaposition of modern arid corporate life and timeless aspiration. Finally it's different because "The Works" stakes out new dramatic territory: a place where absurdity and hope reinforce each other, where nothing makes sense so anything is possible.

In this off-beat world – Is it allegorical? Is it just nuts? Is it simply how things really are? – Victor finds his courage, and he finds Eve (Danielle Taddei), the prettiest plumber in town and the most determined. Their innocence allows new life to find them. This means happiness for Eve and Victor, and for audiences of "The Works" it means hilarity and inspiration.

We follow the nearly invisible Victor as he slogs through his daily routine, ignored by his co-workers at the hellish Mcore. His petty dictatorial boss Gerald (Armin Shimerman) heaps abuse on Victor but lavishes love on the houseplants that adorn his office. At night Victor returns to his comfortable but empty apartment to contend with his loud, raucous neighbors: the eccentric but goodhearted painters Zack and Derek (Jarrette Galante and Kim Stodel).

Victor is overwhelmed by a great revelation: he's had it. He throws caution to the winds and composes a letter of resignation.

A new day dawns... Victor, armed with his resignation letter, rides the elevator toward a new life. But a moving crew packs into the elevator, jostles Victor, and the letter disappears down the elevator shaft. Next he finds out that Mcore's billionaire owner, the reclusive and wheelchair-bound Mr. M (Corey Allen), is taking over the top floor, displacing the entire Accounting Department. Gerald proudly leads Victor to his new office – one of the company's larger but leakier bathrooms.

Mr. M summons, of all people, Victor... He has seen a beautiful painting in the office and he was told that Victor is the artist. No, explains Victor, that was done by his friends Zack and Derek. Mr. M makes the painters an offer they can't refuse to recreate the painting all over a wall of Mr. M's new penthouse. So now Victor gets to enjoy even more of the painters' loud music, commuting with them in their rattletrap truck.

With Mr. M's presence, politics at Mcore get even more vicious, and at last he announces that in 14 days he will leave the company for good and anoint a single successor.

The politics go from intolerable to worse and the plumbing becomes ever more dangerous. Eventually Gerald calls in Eve, an expert and resourceful (and gorgeous) plumber to deal with the gathering crisis. Victor has seen her around the building but never had the courage to speak. Now, at last close up, he falls hopelessly in love.

There is yet another new relationship in his ever more chaotic life: an unexpected friendship with the surprisingly multifaceted Mr. M. Victor's mind and the building's plumbing are coming apart fast and they both seem ready to blow.

Mr. M reveals a secret that puts everything in a new perspective. That two-week deadline presents judgment day for Mr. M, for Victor and Eve, for Mcore's wretched staff and its decrepit plumbing. Can Victor really quit? Can he win the winsome Eve? Can Mr. M achieve what he wants so much more than a corporate empire? It all comes out in the wash as the plumbing finally gives way.



Gal Katzir Director/Co-Writer

Born in Israel 1975. Graduated 'Cabri Art School' majoring in Cinema. After writing, producing and directing the short film ISAK (screened at the Jerusalem Film Festival), KING ABNER a short film played on Israeli network, and a TV Pilot between 93-97. in 1998 Katzir packed his bags and moved to Los Angeles in 1998.

Graduated Columbia College- Hollywood in 2002 (Magna Cum Laude, Laurel Society Inductee). Katzir has wrote, produced, edited and directed "Paranoia Cha Cha no.192" a B&W, 16mm short (1999), "The Maker" (2000) 10min, color, DV hi-8 Final Thoughts (2001) 5 min, color, DV.

Katzir wrote four feature screenplays including co-writing credit on 'The Works'. As well as a television pilot for an animation show based on his own characters.

THE WORKS marks his feature debut. Gal is currently developing future feature projects with Kit Bateman and Robi Michael. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Sharon Hummel.

Robi Michael Producer/Editor

Born in Israel in 1972. Michael has moved to Los Angeles in 1995 to pursue his life long passion-Directing.

Michael has graduated from Columbia College Hollywood in 1998. In 1999 his thesis Short Film "Treasury of images" which he wrote, directed and produced, has gone on to win various awards in film festivals.

In 1999, fresh out of film school, producers Mark and Elian Zicree (writers, STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION, THE TWILIGHT ZONE COMPANION) hired Robi to direct REAL STORY - a TV pilot starring Armin Shimerman.

Robi co-founded 'Invisible Films' (www.invisiblefilms.com) in the year 2001 and has produced, edited and directed several commercials and the sci-fi pilot "A Can Of Paint" (2004 official selection in Comic-Con, LA Short Film Festival, and Dragon-Con). Micheal has produced and edited THE WORKS between 2003 and 2005. His main passion and focus is on his directing carrier. He is currently developing his feature debut.



Paul Mayne Director of Photography

Paul Mayne has been working as a Cinematographer in Los Angeles for over six years.

Mayne graduated with an MFA in film from Florida State University in 1997. Since moving to Los Angeles his work has been diverse, expending his visual style and professional skills.

He has shot several independent features, along with documentaries, commercials and music videos. Mayne does not view film making as a way od income alone, he continues searching for interesting and enlightening projects to work on, and collaborating with talented, creative filmmakers.

Kit Bateman Co-Producer/Co Writer

Christopher P. Batman was born in Sidny, Iowa . His gift for words and passion for film making inspired him to pack his bags and move to Los Angeles in1999.

In 2003 Batemen graduated Colombia College Hollywood as an honorary student.

Soon after his graduation, Bateman began to collaborate with long time friend Katzir. Besides THE WORKS the two just finished the feature screenplay A Travelers's Trail and are looking to option it.

Kit continues to write and developing his own screenplays and ideas.

Thomas Sammon Executive Producer

Thomas has worked in the entertainment industry for nearly 10 years. He has produced music videos, commercials, television projects and feature films.

In 2002, Thomas Sammon founded Make Believe Media USA, a Los Angeles based Production Company. The company was formed for the purposes of producing high-concept, wide appeal, family friendly feature films and television projects. In 2003, his company signed a deal with Dinarius Film Finance to produce five films over a five-year period.

The finance model for the films are a first for the industry and will allow the entire cast and crew of each film to have significant ownership in the projects.



Gordy Haab Composer

Gordy Haab (1976), born in Richmond, VA, began composing music at the age of twelve and has been focused on the craft ever since.

Gordy's rock and jazz background has become infused with a brilliant sense of craft and creativity, which was first recognized when he won the Reflections National Composers Award at the age of 14. This award-winning trend has continued through Gordy's career - He also won the BMI/Warren National Film Composers Competition, and the ASCAP National Jazz Composers Competition. He was offered a position as staff composer for the Air Force Band of the Golden West and recently received ASCAP's Henry Mancini Fellowship.

Gordy earned a BM from Virginia Commonwealth University, and an advanced certificate from the USC Thornton School of Music, Scoring for Motion Picture and Television Program. Gordy has served as composer/arranger in many professional situations, from composer for over 30 professional film scores to arranging staff member for the national tour of "Funny Girl", starring Debby Gibson, and musical assistant/co-engineer to Grammy-nominated composer, Doug Richards for the jazz album "It's all in the Game" featuring Renee Marie and Jon Faddis.

He also served as Artistic Director and Composer for the "Devil's Workshop Big Band" featuring trumpeter, Rex Richardson.

Currently, Gordy is composing the music for "Juice," a Broadway musical directed by the Tony Nominated director, Tom O'Horgan (Jesus Christ Superstar, Hair, Lenny) Gordy recently joined forces with composers, Kyle Newmaster and Dave Chiappetta, to form the 100 member jazz, rock and pop orchestra, The NOVO Philharmonic. Gordy acts as Composer and Artistic Director for NOVO. NOVO recently recorded its debut CD at the Fox Newman Scoring Stage in Los Angeles, featuring the the music of Gordy Haab, and is now planning its inaugural concert season.



Thomas Marinello Visual Effects

Thomas was born in Salzburg, Austria in 1973. Working as a Graphic Designer for the "Salzburger Nachrichten" in his hometown, he has moved to America in 1997 to pursue a career in Computer Animation.

After finishing his degree in Computer Animation at The Art Institute in Atlanta.

He arrived in LA in 1999 and began working in the Burbank located company - 'Continuity' for renowned Comic book Artist - Neal Adams.

After meeting and collaborating with Robi Michael on a project they have co-founded 'Invisible Films' in 2000 in order to be able to independently see a project through its post production stages.

Thomas abilities can be seen in the Sci-Fi short - "A Can Of Paint" (Official selection in Comi-Con. Dragon-Con and The LA Short Film Festival), where he created the space exteriors.

'The Works' is the first feature he worked on. He single handedly created all the CG effects and title sequences (including this very site). Thomas currently works on various Animation and CG projects.



CAST BIOS

Joe Anthony Victor Arnet

Originally from Philadelphia, Joe Anthony has been acting for over 18 years. He attended the University of Delaware where he received a B.A. in Communications with a minor in Theater Arts.

Joe moved to Los Angeles in 1992 and has since appeared on stage, television guest appearances and independent short and feature length films. Roles played on stage include Sam in Crossing Delancy, Silva in Tennessee Williams' The Long Goodbye, and Chris in All My Sons.

Notable television appearances include roles on Beverly Hills, 90210, Party of Five and Sisters.

In 1998 Anthony began teaching at Columbia College, were he met with Director Gal Katzir. The two began collaborating on a short film. the pleasant experience led Katzir and Bateman to write a lead part for The Works with Anthony in mind.

Most recently, Joe played a recurring role on Unscripted, a new HBO series produced by George Clooney and Steven Soderbergh.

Joe has been teaching acting for ten years and currently has his own studio in Hollywood.

Corey Allen Mr. M

Corey Allen's performance in The Works marks his return to the big screen after a little over forty years. His last appearance as an actor on the silver screen was in The Chapman Report (1962). In those forty years Mr. Allen has turned to teaching and directing Film and Television.

As an actor, Allen is best known for his role as Buzz in Nicolas Ray's classic film REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE (1955), were he played Buzz Gunderson, the leader of a pack of misguided teens, opposite James Dean.

Corey Allen earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from UCLA in Theater in 1954. While there, he received the department's Best Actor award and starred in the UCLA film, A Time Out of War, which won the Academy Award, Cannes and Venice Film Festival for Best Short Film.

Upon graduation he appeared in approximately twenty plays in the Los Angeles area. Director Nicholas Ray spotted Allen and subsequently chose him for the role of "Buzz" in Rebel Without a Cause. This led to featured roles in another dozen films such as Private Property, Party Girl, Darby's Rangers and The Chapman Report. Allen also appeared in many leading television series including Perry Mason and Alfred Hitchcock Presents.

Meanwhile he created, directed for and co-produced the Freeway Circuit Theater, which toured the Southwest for six seasons. Allen also directed numerous Equity productions in Los Angeles theaters.

This led to a thirty year directorial career in television and film during which he directed three movies including Avalanche; television movies including the Emmy winning "Anne Gillian Story"; created a dozen pilots for television series including "Star Trek: The Next Generation", "Murder She Wrote", "Simon and Simon", "Codename: Foxfire", "Stone" and "Capitol".

He has earned two Directors Guild nominations for Best Direction in a television series, the Award for Cable Excellence for Best Direction of "Paper Chase" and received an Emmy for Best Direction of the "Hill Street Blues" episode "Waiting for Mr. Gibbis".

Throughout this career Allen instructed acting, including three years at the Actors Workshop, and for the last nine years, conducted cold reading workshops at the Margie Haber Studio. Allen was presented with an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Columbia College-Hollywood for his work in helping to create their acting and directing curricula.

Armin Shimerman Gerald

Born to immigrant parents and raised in a small farming town in New Jersey, Shimerman's family moved to Los Angeles when he was 16 years old. In an effort to help her son meet new people, his mother enrolled him in a drama group and (as the saying goes) the rest is history.

Upon graduation from the University of California at Los Angeles, he was chosen as one of eight apprentices out of 900 for the prestigious Old Globe Theater in San Diego.

Shimerman appeared prominently in many regional theater productions for the Tyrone Guthrie Theater, the Mark Taper Forum, the American Shakespeare Festival, the New York Shakespeare Festival, and the Indiana Repertory Theater.

Following a move to New York, he landed roles in several Broadway productions.



Shimerman has continued to work steadily over the years in many film and television guest appearances, and recurring roles. Shimerman most notably appeared as a regular cast member on Star Trek: Deep Space Nine as the character Quark.

He has taught acting at the High School of Performing Arts, the Theatricum Botanicum, the Tyrone Guthrie Theatre and his alma mater, UCLA.

He has written "The Merchant Prince", as well as two Star Trek novels, "Wheels within Wheels" and "The 34th Rule."

Shimerman is also an active National Board Member of the Screen Actors Guild.

Danielle Taddei Eve

Danielle Taddei was born in Chicago, Illinois. Her passion for acting began with improvisational performances at the Piven Theatre, which led her to a spot with The Young Peoples' Company.

Danielle studied at DePaul University's Theatre Conservatory, formerly a part of the Goodman School of Drama.

Danielle has recently moved to Los Angeles where she enrolled in improv classes at the Groundlings and has appeared in several short films and a national commercial.

THE WORKS marks her first feature film appearance.

Kim Stodel Derek

Kim Stodel was born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa. His families ties to the film and theater industry insured that it wouldnt be too long before Kim caught 'the bug' and became involved himself. At a very young age, Kim began working on commercials and theater productions, most notably being the musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' 'Oliver Twist', where he played the part of the Artful Dodger.

Later on in his teens, Kim was cast in several more commercials, radio voice-over spots, student films and a t.v. mini series entitled 'Daisey' where he played the part of Rhodes, the son of the infamous South African serial killer, Daisey De Melke.

By the end of his high school career, Kim had earned 'full colors' (aka top honors) and a distiction in drama. He also received both first place and overall winner at the Dalro National Acting competition in 1997.



In 2000 Kim set up shop in Los Angeles with aspiriations of studying theater arts. He attended Santa Monica College and while there was cast in the college productions of 'Noises Off', where he played the part of Selsdon. and 'I Never Saw Another Butterfly', where he played the part of the Rabbi.

Jarrett Galante Zack

Jarrett Galante is a native of San Francisco where he's studied with the world-renowned American Conservatory Theater as well as with famed acting teacher Jean Shelton.

He studied in New York for a brief time, and has settled in Los Angeles where he's been Stella Adler trained for the last three years. He recently completed two plays, Patrick Marber's Closer at the Stella Adler theater where he starred as the emotionally inept Dan. The second play Rap, an original play in which he played the Eminem wannabe Doug.

He's also just completed my first successful tour with the sketch comedy group The Disappointments

Tyler Danna Charlie

Tyler Danna is an actor, a writer and a director. Danna started his acting career in his home state of Colorado at the age of 16 in a variety of short films.

In 2003, Danna graduated Columbia College. He made his Feature Debut, writing directing and staring in 'Existing Means', playing the role of troubled college student Lance Kramler.

Tyler is now in pre production on the feature film 'Fall' which will return him to Denver, Colorado. A long time student with a degree in Film, Tyler currently studies Acting at Playhouse West in North Hollywood.



THE WORKS is the feature-film debut for many of its creative team. It is the first feature for Director/Co-Writer Gal Katzir, for Producer/Editor Robi Michael and for Co-Producer/Co-writer Kit Bateman. But the filmmakers make no excuses – they want their work to be judged (and enjoyed) as the product of full-fledged professionals.

At its core, THE WORKS is a film about believing in yourself and about risking everything for your dream, as big or small as the dream might be. Like its story, the production embodied the drive and the resourcefulness to make a dream come true – in this case the passion to produce a feature film. It was important for the filmmakers to tell the story their own way: a simple story, truthful, with a deceptive smallness belying a powerful emotional undercurrent.

To tell it their own way, they had to make it their own way. With a dauntingly small, independently raised budget, THE WORKS is testimony to the creativity and indefatigable hard work of a small team of classmates, colleagues and friends...

Israeli born and raised Writer/Director Gal Katzir was planning to make another short in hope of getting some festival attention to start his professional career. A moment of inspiration made him change his plans. He remembers, "I realized that what I really wanted was to make a full-length feature. That's what I was on the way to, so why not just do it? I refused to worry about 'How?' or 'Where's the money?'"

Gal made one call, to Co-Producer/Co-Writer Kit Bateman, a fellow recent graduate of the international film school Columbia College Hollywood. They scheduled their first writing session and THE WORKS was under way in the fall of 2002. Two ideas for short films dovetailed beautifully to create the corporate hell of THE WORKS. The lead roles of Victor and Mr. M were written with the actors Joe Anthony and Corey Allen specifically in mind; both had been important teachers for Gal and Kit at Columbia College Hollywood.

But it wasn't until yet another Columbia graduate and good friend, Robi Michael (Producer/Editor), read their script that the wheels were really set in motion. Inspired by the script, Robi sat down with Gal to devise the smallest possible but practical budget the film could bear. He drew on his own experience as director and producer of his award-winning shorts "Treasury of Images" and "A Can of Paint".

"Being outside of the system like we are" Robi reflects "we tried to get the script read by a few industry professionals and tried to attach it to some known actors. Soon we realized that that process would take a long time and was likely to produce little result. We couldn't wait that long, so we took a real chance."

Gal and Robi did what any film lover who desperately wants to make a movie would do – they called home. That was the beginning of pre-production.



THE PRODUCTION

The lead roles in THE WORKS – Victor, Mr. M and Eve – are subtle and gentle characterizations. "I met Joe Anthony and Corey Allen when I was studying at Columbia," says Gal. "Joe was my acting teacher; we had collaborated on a short called "Paranoia Cha Cha Cha" and we stayed in touch after Joe left the college to open his studio. Corey was my directing teacher and he became a very close and important friend to me. It was a real honor to collaborate with them on THE WORKS. Knowing their talent and what they could bring to the film was a big help with the writing process. And our friendship and trust set a beautiful working environment on the set."

Actress Danielle Taddei who plays the role of Eve, the tough plumber woman Victor falls for, shares this. "I had just arrived in LA and was working at a coffee house. One day Gal approached me and asked if I was interested in acting in a film. I asked to read the script and as soon as it was done I did. I loved Eve as a character, she was both strong and vulner-able and I immediately wanted to be involved."

Katzir adds "The script was not yet finished and I remember feeling weird about approaching Danielle. I was afraid, being in LA, that it would sound like a cheap line. But she had a unique and different look, and I knew she would be great. Then it turns out of course that she is already pursuing acting."

Columbia College was a major supporter. The school allowed the graduate filmmakers to use the campus to build their sets. Thus they had complete control of their filming environment just as if they had full use of a studio sound stage.

Talent both in front of the camera and behind it joined the project because they believed in the story and in the filmmakers... Director of Photography Paul Mayne remembers, "I met with them expecting to gracefully decline the project because of time constraints, but their true intent and their passion for the film captured my attention. We had very little to work with, but their careful planning and attention to detail bridged the gap."

"I was very involved with picking my crew and camera package," Mayne continues. "I brought in people whom I worked with in the past. The crew was hard-working and efficient, because fast setup time is key in low-budget film making."

The shooting schedule was set for 23 days in July of 2003. Production took both precision and faith. Every last dollar of the budget had to be made to count; there was little to no room for any deviation from the schedule, little to no room for mistakes. At the same time they had to hope that the last few (large) pieces would fall into place. For instance a crucial location, the bathroom that serves as Victor's office, was found just before the scenes had to be shot. Set design pieces were completed moments before shooting, with the entire crew pitching in.



THE PRODUCTION

"I remember us down on our knees painting the pipe room floor gray while they set up the lighting and the actors were all ready," Co-Producer and Co-Writer Kit Bateman remembers. "It was no ordinary shoot. Everybody was doing all they could to make the film happen. There were some real close calls... The pleasure I feel now, seeing the result, being so proud of it..."

For Katzir the experience was humbling "I am very grateful for the hard work that the crew put into this film. People stayed late, they played more than one role on any given shooting day." Micheal, who also edited the film, says "This was truly an independent production with all it advantages and disadvantages. We all learned a tremendous amount about movie making and the colorful people who make them. We cannot wait to put that knowledge into another production."

The post production took over a year and a half to complete, often with long breaks forced upon them when funding ran out. Every decision had to be weighed out and carefully calculated to make sure it would produce the best result for the film at minimal cost.

Post production was completed by three People: Katzir, Michael, and Thomas Marinello (Special Effects) who worked round the clock every day to bring the film to its full potential. Marinello single-handedly created all the special effect and graphics on the film. "It was a personal challenge for me to create believable effects, because the fantasy elements all occur on the same level of reality as the rest of the story. Nowadays the tools are all there; it is a matter of how you use them. We worked very hard for the effects in THE WORKS to not feel like special effects but to look like a natural part of the world of the film."

The film recently had its premiere screening at the Ince Theater in Culver City Studios. Katzir says, "It all came together. To see this film completed, looking the way it looks. To hear people respond as they did, talking about the production values, about the philosophy of the film, speaking of their 'deep experience,' their 'lingering feelings.' It brings a real sense of fulfillment. Looking back, we set out to make a film about the way we see the world and the way we feel in it, about what it takes to be happy. That's what I saw on the screen that night."





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WORKS

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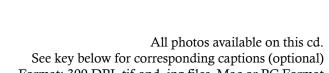
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- 01 Victor (Joe Anthony) is enjoying another day in paradise.
- 02 Gerald (Armin Shimmerman) and his precious plant.
- 03 Zack (Jarrett Galante) and Derek (Kim Stodel) paint the mural.
- 04 Eve (Danielle Taddei) and Victor (Joe Anthony) facing new problems.
- 05 Victor's neighbors. (Jarrett Galante and Kim Stodel)
- 06 Victor (Joe Anthony) and Eve (Danielle Taddei) in the Van.
- 07 Mr. M's (Corey Allen) secret revealed.
- 08 Gerald (Armin Shimmerman) "Face it Victor, you are one of us!"
- 09 Mr. M (Corey Allen) "It's all relative."
- 10 Mr. M (Corey Allen) in secret room.
- 11 Victor (Joe Anthony) facing the resignation committee. (Andrew Kesler, Steve Franken, Bob Ross)
- 12 Charlie's (Tyler Danna) first day.
- 13 Eve (Danielle Taddei) and Victor (Joe Anthony) in the pipe room.

Also included on the CD is a Quicktime Trailer of The Works.