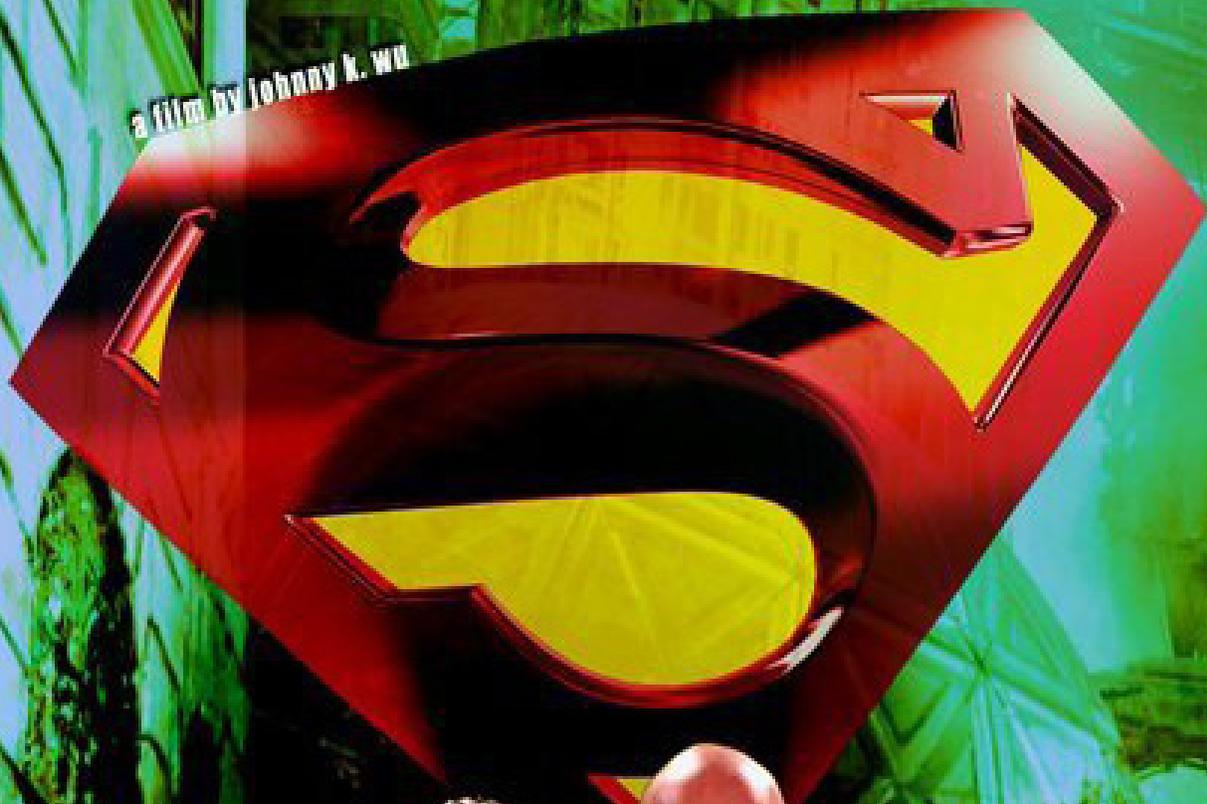


a film by Johnny K. Wu



A DC Comics Superman Fan Film

Media Design Imaging & Creative House Studios presents A Johnny K. Wu Film written by George M. Tuttle James V. Geier

Produced by Peter Sampson Cynthia Graham Andrew Sokol James V. Geier Mark Pittenger Kyle Znamenak

Starring George M. Tuttle Kyle Znamenak E Ray Goodwin Jr. Donna Williams

Director: Johnny K. Wu 2nd Unit Director: Jeff Yanik Director of Photography: Peter Sampson Music by: Mark Haas

Visual Effects & Animations/Makeup/Costume: Fiorella Brothers Editors: Johnny K. Wu Andrew Forthofer

Safety/Stunt Supervisor: Andrew Sokol Fight Choreography: Johnny K. Wu E Ray Goodwin Jr. Sound Effects Editor: Austin Peltier

Printed by Consolidated Graphics Group, Inc.

[Facebook.com/S4Superman](https://www.facebook.com/S4Superman)

S A SUPERMAN FAN FILM

'Superman'.. This name inspires hope across the world - indeed, across many worlds. But in certain circles, it inspires... darker emotions. Master villains Brainiac & Lex Luthor both intend to destroy the Man of Steel. But can their hatred of Superman overcome their mistrust of each other? And if it can, what will become of the world?

Release Date: October 1st, 2011

Genre: Action Fan Film

Live Action in a Comic Book Style Short Film

Studio:Media Design Imaging,
Creative House Studios

Website: www.facebook.com/s4superman



CAST



SUPERMAN/CLARK KENT

GEORGE TUTTLE



BRAINIAC

KYLE ZNAMENAK



LEX LUTHER

E. RAY GOODWIN JR.



LOIS LANE

DONNA WILLIAMS



MUGGER

ZACHARY ROWE



TV REPORTER

ROBBIE BARNES



SUPERMAN STUNT DOUBLE

JEFF FRANKO

CREW

PRODUCERS

JAMES V. GEIER
CYNTHIA GRAHAM
MARK PITTENGER
PETER SAMPSON
ANDREW SOKOL
KYLE ZNAMENAK

DIRECTOR 2ND UNIT DIRECTOR CINEMATOGRAPHER

JOHNNY K. WU
JEFF YANIK
PETER SAMPSON

WRITERS

JAMES V. GEIER
GEORGE TUTIE

1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SCRIPT SUPERVISOR FX SUPERVISOR FX MAKE-UP ARTISTS STUNT/SAFETY COORD. COMPOSER COSTUME DESIGN FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER. EDITOR ADDITIONAL EDITORS

JEFF YANIK
CYNTHIA GRAHAM
NICK FIORELLA
JOE FIORELLA
ANDREW SOKOL
MARK HAAS
JOE FIORELLA
RAY GOODWIN JR.
JOHNNY K. WU
AUSTIN PELTIER
NICK FIORELLA
JOE FIORELLA

VISUAL FX COMPOSITING

JOHNNY K. WU
ANDREW FORTHOFFER
JOE FIORELLA
NICK FIORELLA

CG ANIMATION OPENING CREDIT FX CAMERA OPERATORS

FIORELLA BROTHERS
JAMES V GEIER
ANDREW FORTHOFFER
THOMAS F. SEMPLE
JEFF FRANKO
ANDREW SCHOFIELD

KEY GRIP GRIP

JOE THOMPSON
ANDREW SCHOFIELD



WIRE-STUNT PULLERS KAI GETROST
ANDREW FORTHOFFER
JUSTIN GLANVILLE
ADAM BOLZ
JEFF FRANKO
MOHAMMAD MUSTAFA
JACK NAPIER
CORY ROBERTS

PHOTOGRAPHER ADAM BOLZ

CAPE CHOREOGRAPHER ADAM BOLZ

RE-RECORDING MIXER JEFFREY PITTS

SOUND FX EDITOR AUSTIN PELTIER

BOOM OPERATOR JIM HLEBA
MOHAMMAD MUSTAFA
JEFF FRANKO

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT LUCA ZULLO

MEDIC TODD METZENDORF
JOHN DILLON

CATERING KOKO BAKERY
MARK PITTENGER
RAYMOND ELKIN

POSTER DESIGN ANDREW FORTHOFFER
JOHNNY K. WU

BEHIND THE SCENES JIM HLEBA
JACK NAPIER

BTS EDITORS JOHNNY K. WU
ANDREW FORTHOFFER
KYLE ZNAMENAK
MARK HAAS
JEFF YANIK



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MARY ELLEN TOMAZIC

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TOM GALLAGHER
THE REEL TV SHOW



VI HUYHN
VICCI SIMPKINS
WALLY LANCI

MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO VOLUNTEERED BUT WE DON'T KNOW YOUR NAMES...

EDITED WITH ADOBE MASTER COLLECTION CS5 WITH RED GIANT SOFTWARE PLUG-INS:
MAGIC BULLET DENOISER
MAGIC BULLET LOOKS
MAGIC BULLET MOJO
MAGIC BULLET COLORISTA II

THIS IS A FAN FILM PAYING TRIBUTE TO OUR AMERICAN HERO: SUPERMAN
CREATED IN CLEVELAND, OHIO BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER

PUBLISHED BY DC COMICS.

NOT FOR SALE.



REVIEWS

“S: A Superman Fan Film is well written, well acted and more importantly has something to say. We get a surprise ending that will leave the hardcore fanboy and girls in mass debate.”

- Christopher Moser *Fan Film Follies*

“This one looks to be the Superman Fan Film that Superman Fans have been waiting for.”

- *Fanboy Theatre*

“It really came out phenomenal.”

- *Comic Book Cast*

“ I’m really looking forward to this production, to see where they can take my hero. And if the film lives up to the amount of love it looks like it’s got in it, it should be amazing.”

- Dale Who *Respond to Urgent Calls Pull to Open Blog*

Johnny, I watched the DVD and all the extras. Holy cow, there is a lot of stuff there! I’m glad Braniac did his P90-X excercises. :>) I liked your Lex Luthor actor and the Superman guy was decent - though not that muscular.

“The wire work is really impressive and I enjoyed the work that went into the costumes and makeup. Score was cool, too... Nice job making it happen in 4 days!”

- Mike Conway *Director/Filmmaker, Las Vegas*



Superman Films Local PSA



Reflections from the Cast & Crew

A Note from Director Wu

by Johnny K. Wu

Being a computer geek since 1983, I've always found technology to be fascinating. The same can be said for any kind of creative visual endeavor. Ever since I was young, I have been fond of creating visual arts that poked fun at my teachers (moku-comics), competing in art competitions, and organizing visual-related events (dancing, choreographed shows, etc). Slowly, this fondness has built up inside of me and tends to enhance my creativity.

Blending art and technology is what enables me to excel in creating a different short film style than you see commonly today. Each has its own genre and taste, and each is completed with the use of my resources (computers, cameras, lights, personal skills, and friends). All my films have a style totally different from each other.



Each project has helped me to understand the different areas of filmmaking and truly pushes me to extraordinary limits by helping me strive to learn the many styles of visual arts. All of this is made possible with the help of technology.

I hope to continue doing projects of a creative nature and also breaking the rules in “indie” filmmaking. To me, making an independent film is an expression of ideas, concepts, dreams, and sometimes even fantasies. While transforming my stories into a visual interpretation, I also crave the need to break the different molds set by most independent filmmakers. I do not play by the rules, nor create my films based on the rules set by most people in the filmmaking industry.

I believe in creation that is not limited by society.

The Superheros from the East & West

by Johnny K. Wu

Growing up, I have been exposed to two cultures, by embracing them, I've learned to appreciate the differences and the similarities of each. Hence, they've molded me into who I am now.

In Asian culture, we use martial art novels as our pastime just like in the Western culture the way it uses comic books. The similarities are there: the good guys have 'incredible' powers and fight for justice.

In Asian culture, the martial art novels are called Wuxia, these are books written by period scholars that talk about how this and that person after getting an incredible amount of martial art skills became invincible or ascended to become a God. Just like in Comic Books, a Wuxia character can 'jump and leap over buildings' like Superman would. Another Wuxia character uses his wit and martial art skills to solve and stop crimes, just like Batman did.



As I grow between the two cultures: Having a family value and tradition of a descendent of a martial art family and my exposure to the comic book worlds, I can say I've had the best of both worlds.

As a filmmaker, the way I was brought up in the society, has built me to become who I am now, and as you have probably seen most of my films, I've always challenge myself with actions, martial arts, and artistically styled films that help me grow.

Back in 2003, I made a parody fan film that got me a bit of name brand with the independent and comic book fans, A Joker's Card was shown to over 20+ festivals and conventions. With its success, it prompted me to create a feature film The Rapture, that was distributed worldwide to several countries.

As I returned back to do another fan film, this time, I wanted to make it dark, without the comedy, and was more in the character and the action sequence and able to challenge me to draw in my artistic way.

Superman was the character I decided to venture into. Not only is he a superhero everyone knows, he is also my hero. Superman is not just an Alien living on Earth, but he is an Alien that tries to do the best as a good human being, maybe like a poster child for the entire human race. He gets angry but yet, he has a heart and compassion that not many of us can hold and claim as our own I grew up loving him, although I am not a 'hard core' comic book fan, I would always watch the cartoons, the movies, the TV series and enjoy every minute of it.

The challenge of making a movie about someone that everyone knows is that no matter how you make the film, people will either love it or hate it, and not usually just have a “neutral” interest. This is because Superman has become a subculture of our society, and each individual has his own “mold” of what Superman is and is about. For me to venture into this legend, it is almost feels like getting into a firing range and hoping that the bullets miss me... And like Superman, I would have to have a body of steel and not be weakened by the words and sometimes, personal attacks people would throw at me after finishing watching the short film.

That’s the MAIN obstacle I would face by doing a Superman Fan Film. The second, would be how to convey the story. Fans all over the world have what they like and dislike. For me, making S is more about having fun, creating a ‘universe’ that is different, so I opted to shoot most of it on a green screen, as we wanted to be able to make our hero fly. Next, we added wire-harnesses, that make flying more possible or in-the-air fight sequences fun. Lastly, I decided to make the background ala comic book style. I can easily make the background as realistic as possible but why when it would be easier to shoot the entire short film on location with harnesses hooked on above. Shooting on a green screen allows me have more creative and artistic expression. So after considerable time discussing with our friends, cast, and crew: the decision was made to make it a color two dimensional comic styled background. After all, it is a universe we created for OUR Superman.

I hope you enjoy the short film. This is our interpretation of Superman.



Confessions of a Superhero

Actor & Writer: George Michael Tutie

by George Michael Tutie

My name is George Michael Tutie and I wrote S (which was later re-written by Johnny Wu and Jim Geier) and also starred in the film as well. I had also worked with Johnny before on *The Rapture* and *Jean Claude: The Gumming Zombie*. I played Midael in *The Rapture* and a zombie in *Jean Claude*. I have always liked working with Johnny and the crews he puts together. Johnny knows how to get a film done, do it well and then actually release it! So when Johnny came to me saying he was thinking about doing a Superman short film, I got all tingly inside!

Johnny sent me a few scripts written by some writers. Some were alright, but they just didn't have that special something. So I told Johnny that I really didn't want to do any of the scripts he sent to me and he replied simply..... Why don't you write the script? At first I was nervous, but after I realized that this was a chance to tell a story rather than just be a part of someone's else's work I was ready to write it! Johnny just gave me a few ideas about the characters he wanted and the way he wanted it to end (which was later scrapped) and left me free reign over the rest of the story. It wasn't too hard to come up with an interesting story for my favorite superhero. So after a month or so I sent Johnny what I had written, he liked it, tweaked some parts then sent it over to Jim to tweak it some more. Jim did a great job with adding more personality to the characters and beefing up the dialogue. Johnny cast all the roles like I was right there because he picked everyone that I had envisioned for each character!



I will say one thing, I really wanted to change up Superman's costume. I thought it was time for something different. Oh well, maybe for a sequel. I did try to beef up a little bit for the role. Besides not getting paid hundreds of dollars to workout like a madman and months to prepare, I had another reason for getting massive. I don't think Superman should look like some bodybuilder that's been on steroids his whole life. It's hard to seriously watch a huge guy be Clark Kent. It has to be somewhat believable that people would have a hard time figuring out that Clark Kent is Superman and to me it's not that believable having Kal-El be huge. I would like to elaborate more on this subject but I only have limited space.



This was by far, the most fun I've had filming a project! Yeah, there were a few headaches here and there and boy did I freeze my butt off in that suit! There was plenty of wirework to keep me happy and all the actors did an amazing job with their roles which took some of my worries away. Kyle blew me away with how well he portrayed Brainiac! I pretty much already knew that Ray was gonna relish being Lex Luthor! There were a few times where I couldn't help but smile when he was acting because the role was made for him! Donna did great as Lois. I didn't have any doubts that she would. The last scene with her and me was great, heart wrenching stuff. As for me as Superman well, that's for everyone else to judge.

I tried my best with the role. I researched, watched Chris Reeves, Brandon Routh, Dean Cain, Tom Welling as they put their spin on the legendary hero. Well, I'm almost out of room. I'd like to thank everyone who worked on this project and made it possible. I won't name any names because I'm sure I'll forget someone, but I will say Nick and Joe Fiorella did an absolutely amazing job with the cg. Great job guys!

Finding the Ying & Yang of Lois Lane

by Donna Williams

When Johnny first approached me about working on this project I was pretty excited. I mean I get to be in a Superman Fan Film and I get to play Lois Lane?? Count me in!

I have worked with Johnny on several projects before. The ongoing joke is that he tends to kill my characters off in his projects. Would this one be different? It had to be, you can't kill Lois Lane...right?

The snapshot of Superman's life that emerges in this fan film is filled with twists and turns and a lot of action. And of course love and I got to be Superman's wife. We see them in a stage in their lives after they are married trying to balance their lives as husband and wife while balancing the needs of the world. Superman was played by George Tuttle. Not only did he co-write the fan film, he also portrayed the man of steel.



The entire cast and crew were professional and fun to work with. Everyone came together to make a passion a reality. I've had the pleasure of working with a number of them on other projects and it's always been a treat. This time was no exception. It's always fun to get together with old friends and also to make new ones. Everyone was great to work with.

Creative House Studios is a great facility to shoot in. Now with this being a Superman Fan Film of course there was wire work involved and yours truly got to do some flying. I don't want to give anything away, but it was pretty cool doing wire work. I had never done it before, but always wanted to. The ceiling at that studio is pretty high! Made my heart skip a beat, but then I eased into it after a few practice runs and had a blast.

Hopefully I'll get to do wire work again. Perhaps on a Superman Fan Film sequel???



The Movie Magic of S: Wire Stunts/Flying (or Hanging Out on The Set)

by Andrew Sokol

To say they have it 'wired' at Creative House Studios is putting 'it' lightly. The production team filming "S: A Superman Fan Film" learned all about it 'hanging out' on the set. The largest and most sophisticated, green screen facility of its type in Ohio made it possible for Superman and his foes to safely fly with the greatest of ease.

Recently, Creative House added a unique new resource to its impressive list of production services, equipment and capabilities for movie making: Wire Flying and Wire Stunts, according to Cynthia Graham, owner and Manager. Mrs. Granham said "The CreativeHouse Wire Team consists of a highly highly diverse and experienced group of martial artists representing over a half dozen martial arts styles, fight choreographers, stunt coordinators and on-set paramedics.

Johnny Wu, noted Cleveland Film Maker operates Media Design Imaging(MDI). Due to insurance reasons, the Wire Team and Wire Operations are organized and operated by MDI from within the physical confines of the Creative House Studio.



With multiple award winning productions under their belt, the MDI Wire Team makes Creative House Studios not only the largest, but the largest, most sophisticated and experienced permanent studio of its type in the entire mid-west. The MDI equipment inventory of harnesses and hardware used for wire work is the most comprehensive in the mid-west. The MDI flying harness inventory consists of the complete collection of harnesses and hardware used by Cirque Du Soleil - in multiple sizes and the entire collection Jackie Chan Stunt Team Harnesses.

Within the studio itself, permanent 'pick points' or anchor points have been set into the building's structure. Each pick point was drilled and permanently epoxied into place in the wooden rafters of the studio. Each Rafter is some 3 feet deep and 18 inches wide. The pick points are made of forged steel eye bolts that are 1 inch in diameter and rated to support up to 10,000 pounds of actor. "Yeah, we're pretty safe on our weight limits as far as that goes." Said Andy Sokol, Wire Team Safety Director And Stunt Coordinator. "I'd rather over do the safety margin than anything." He continued, "It's really important to the entire production to have the full confidence of the actors in the safety of the rigging and therefore their own safety. The last thing you need is a distracted actor who can't act because they're worried about getting hurt. We're really careful to take the time and effort to build the confidence of the actors. You know you've done it right when the actors just rave about how fun the wire work was." Mr. Sokol said, "We're setup so that we can have multiple actors flying at the same time to achieve a highly dynamic visual effect."

"I'm really lucky to have all the people that we have. We've been working together long enough that we overlap responsibilities, not because we need to, but because of how tight the team has become with time. This results in greater safety margins because we know what each of us needs to be doing and we look out for each other. The result is that such teamwork produces a much higher quality work product."

"Yeah, it looks like he knows what he's doing." Says Todd Metzendorf, The Wire Team's Paramedic. Mr. Sokol respects the paramedic, even though he won't let Mr. Sokol near the defibrillator.



Luca Zullo Production Assistant Talks About His Experience on S.

by Luca Zullo



First of all I would like to thank the cast and crew of S for allowing me to be a production assistant. I found the entire experience to be a lot of fun as well as it being a great learning experience.

Being someone that does not know much about film, it was really great to see the film come to life in front of me, and also being allowed to help it come together. I see now what often comes across to the viewer as a short clip, may have taken hours to film. Watching the creative process really demonstrated how much work can be put into a single shot. For example, Superman does not simply show up, stand in front of the green screen and then you have a film. This incarnation of the hero must first be created by the writer, given a visual identity with the help of costume and makeup, and finally given life by the actor. The same is true of Brainiac and Lex Luthor as well as the other characters in the film. Being present for the transformation of the cast demonstrated how film is a group effort and a creative process that is a lot more than one person with a camera.

The Psychological Profiles of the “Goody Little Two-Shoes” and the Not so Good

by James V. Geier

SUPERMAN

Regarding The Portrayal Of Superman

Through most of the script, I think we see Superman pretty much as we might expect: Upright, straightforward, confident, caring, and an all-around good guy. When he expresses anger or mistrust at the villains, it's never because of what they've done to him, either in the past or currently; it's because of what they've done (or tried to do, or threatened to do) to others.

This changes very near the end, when Luthor shoots Lois. When that happens, Superman's anger turns very personal. If not for Lois crying out before he was done, he may very well have simply squeezed Luthor's neck until the latter's head popped like a balloon, out of a husband's outrage at his wife being hurt. And in the brief time that he's got Luthor that way, Superman's face displays his struggle to not simply end Luthor's life with a squeeze of his hand. (As does his body language, as he shakes with barely-restrained rage, struggling against the urge to just pop Luthor like a blood-filled tick.)



But still, it's not until the moment that Superman tries to lift Lois to take her to a hospital, and she cries out in pain and says, "No time. I'm sorry, Clark...", that his confidence fails and he comes up against true desperation like a "mere mortal" would. He's so accustomed to winning in the end, and not paying a truly personal price for his victories, that even with what he'd gone through up until that moment, he figured he'd be able to save her. Just take whatever action needed to be taken – in this case, fly her to the hospital – and she'd be fine. But as it turns out, there's no action that can save her. For perhaps the first time in his life, he's truly powerless to change what's happening.

And he doesn't know how to cope with that powerlessness. Instead of the confident, take-charge kind of guy we're accustomed to seeing, he's confused, hesitant, almost in denial. Just like a "regular guy" that has to watch the love of his life die in his arms would be.



So when Lois gives him her request/order/plea at the end, to keep trying, to keep being Superman, that's why it suddenly becomes so important to him that he respond to her while she's still alive. At that moment he doesn't care about us, he doesn't care about his "duty to the world", he doesn't care about anything other than giving his wife the only thing he still can: The promise that she's asking for.



LOIS LANE

Here's My Take On Lois Lane

Lois has always had that “rush in where angels fear to tread” quality about her, as if she somehow never gave her own well-being a second thought when she was hot on the trail of whatever she was pursuing (usually, a story). But her concern for others is such that she'd be the first person to warn someone else out of a danger zone that she, herself, had blithely entered (without seeing – or at least, without admitting – that there was any inconsistency in her actions). It may well have been her larger-than-life fearlessness which (somewhat ironically) first drew Clark Kent's attention, but it was her concern for others, her deep (though realistic and somewhat hard-nosed) compassion, that made him fall in love with her.



The “tough as nails” aspect of Lois's personality is probably so ingrained that I bet the loss of Clark would be the only thing that could “break” her, emotionally. If friends like Jimmy Olsen or Perry White were to somehow be killed, she'd grieve and mourn, but ultimately move on. If Clark were to die, she'd just shut down. (She's strong enough that if others were in danger at that moment, she'd try to help them, first. But once that was done, she'd simply go numb.)



The one thing Lois might actually fear more than the thought of living her life without Clark is the thought of the world having to cope without Superman. She is very much aware of Superman’s importance to the planet, and would never even consider putting her own wishes before the well-being of Earth as a whole. (In a certain sense, I imagine Lois must have made the same sort of mental accommodation that a police officer’s or firefighter’s spouse has to make: “This is who he is. This is what he does. Accepting him means accepting that, and not getting in the way.”) Also, she knows how much Clark genuinely loves helping people, and she would never deny him that joy in his life.



One can debate how much she agonizes over Clark’s going out into danger almost every day, but I sort of think it’s probably to a lesser extent than, say, Mary Jane Watson-Parker agonizes over Peter Parker going out as Spider-Man. After all, Clark is Superman, and not every challenge he faces is strong enough to be an actual threat to his life – in contrast to Spider-Man, who probably faces foes that are strong enough to kill him on a more frequent basis. Of course, this probably makes it even more emotionally difficult to deal with those situations that do end up putting Clark’s life in genuine danger – like the one in our script.



BRAINIAC

Here's My Take On Brainiac

Given his inhuman and mechanical nature, I'd imagine that his psychology would probably be very bizarre. I envision him as someone who -- even if he didn't have his megalomaniacal hatred of Superman and lust for dominance -- still really just wouldn't give a f*ck about most sentient beings. This leads me to think of him more as an understated sociopath than an over-the-top moustache-twirler. He probably manifests his joy at the thought of killing Superman not with an outright "Mmmmwahahahaha...!" but with a small grin that is as cold as space and as patient as eternity. I think of Malcolm McDowell in *A Clockwork Orange*, slowly raising his face up toward the camera, peeking out from under his bowler hat, with a happy but malevolent grin that with its creepiness is FAR more disturbing than any enraged scream could be.



Regarding Brainiac's Dialogue

Because he's a machine, I like the idea of making his way of speaking very precise and specific, and perhaps a touch technical-sounding. I understand the danger of making him sound TOO mechanical, because the comics definitely show him NOT being emotionless -- he passionately hates Superman for many past defeats, after all -- but if we balance things properly, I think this can distinguish his dialogue from Luthor's, and from a generic "run-of-the-mill" villain's.



Regarding Brainiac's Background

(Including Having Previously Been Sent Back To The Big Bang, Etc.):

I'm thinking it's best to avoid going into a big, detailed explanation of Brainiac's survival at this point ("How?!? How did you survive?"), especially because even a lot of DC Comics fans wouldn't necessarily know about the whole "transported back to the Big Bang" thing (which I assume is a reference on Johnny's part to the "Our Worlds At War" storyline, where this happens, and which I do happen to own).

But I still want to essentially stick with the most recent "official DC Universe" thinking on Brainiac, which, as I understand it, appears to be the following: Brainiac can download copies or subsets of his consciousness into various vessels through "nanoprobes"/"nanites", so that any particular body for Brainiac that Superman has encountered previously has really just been a "Brainiac drone" or "Brainiac probe", not the "original" or "authentic" Brainiac, which we might call "Brainiac Prime". (Apparently, this explanation for Brainiac's repeated returns -- and his varying appearances and self-explanations over the years -- was presented in a recent (2008) story arc in "Action Comics" issues 866-870, in which Superman finally does meet the "authentic" Brainiac. This came after the "Our Worlds At War" stuff, and seems to be the most recent "official" thinking on Brainiac. I haven't seen these issues myself, but I'm going by a Wikipedia entry about them.)



So, anyway: Presumably, the Brainiac that got sent back to the Big Bang was just one of these probes, so "Brainiac Prime" was still around to keep things going, afterward. We definitely don't want to go into all this rigmarole to explain what's what so I figure a "more-or-less accurate but not-overly-detailed" response from Brainiac would be appropriate to the "How did you survive?" question.

BTW: To satisfy my anal retentive nature, I'm assuming that our story takes place after "Our Worlds At War" but before the events of "Action Comics" 866-870, so it would make sense for Superman to have to ask how Brainiac had survived.

LEX LUTHOR

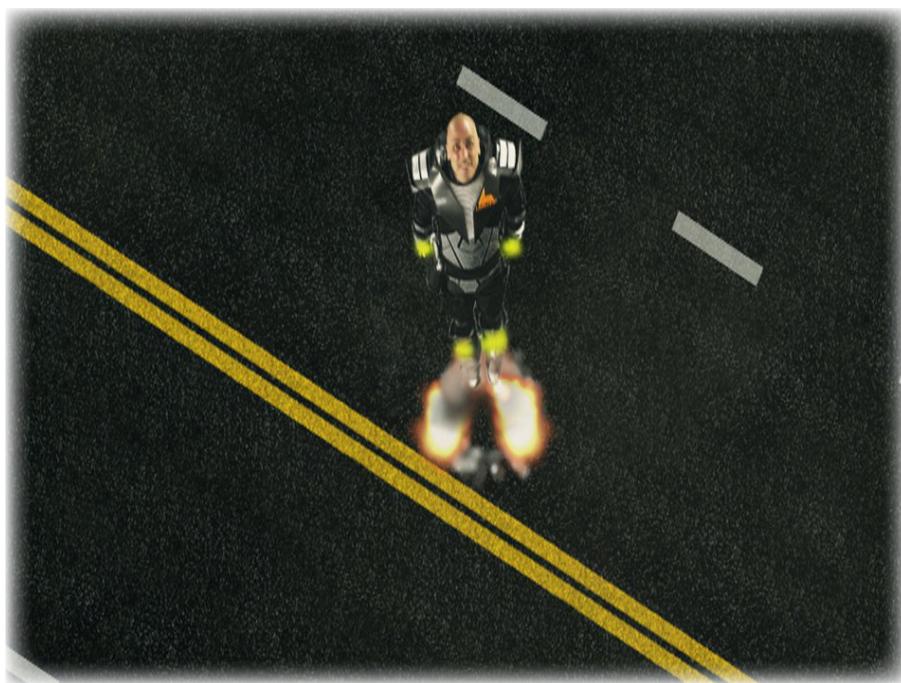
Here's My Take On Lex Luthor

Luthor is a scientific genius whose technical brilliance is matched by his strength of will and his arrogant sense of superiority. He has an almost manic energy to him when he's in the midst of something, and he can sport a smile and a grim sense of humor in the most trying of situations. If he weren't such an arrogant prick, he'd probably be a good guy to party with. And if he weren't so untrustworthy, he'd probably be a good guy to have at one's back in a firefight.

Luthor's hatred of Superman is only partly due to the fact that Superman has defeated him in the past so many times, and prevented him from amassing the full degree of wealth & power that he believes he deserves. Luthor is also offended by the mere existence of Superman, on both a personal and a "meta" level



On a personal level, Luthor sees Superman as someone who came into power merely through an accident of birth, rather than by having earned it, as he believes he, himself, has. Luthor assumes that Superman's victories have all been essentially "easy", just a matter of applying the gifts he was given. (He's incorrect in this belief, since the opponents and situations with which Superman contends are themselves so formidable, but just try telling Luthor that...!) In contrast, Luthor has worked and studied hard to hone both his scientific and strategic faculties, and he takes a great deal of pride in having achieved what he has without the use of any "special gifts". (Of course, one could try explaining to him that his innate genius is as much an accident of birth as Superman's powers are -- and that like Luthor's intelligence, Superman's abilities were strengthened & optimized by years of hard work and experience -- but one would probably just get shot for his trouble.)



On what Luthor sees as a "meta" level, he objects to Superman's role as a protector of the earth. He's insulted at the suggestion that the earth would need any sort of outside protector, and is quite certain that if Superman weren't around, he, himself, would be able to solve the various problems with which Superman has dealt, over the years. (Only, he would make the world pay handsomely for its salvation, rather than merely giving it away as "the alien Boy Scout" does.) And beyond the "insult factor", Luthor believes that Superman's role as recurrent savior is helping to make the earth dependent on the Man of Steel, and therefore less able to take care of itself than it otherwise would be. Luthor despises weakness, whether in himself or others, and honestly feels that Superman's presence is having an "infantilizing" effect on humanity as a whole.



Shot	Panel	Duration
29	1/1	05:00

**Action Notes:**

Wide shot showing a man being beaten by a mugger. The VICTIM is injured and falls to the ground.

Shot	Panel	Duration
30	1/1	05:00

**Action Notes:**

Wide shot showing a man being beaten by a mugger. The VICTIM is injured and falls to the ground.

Shot	Panel	Duration
31	1/1	05:00

**Dialogue:**

I said, can you spare some change...!

Action Notes:

The camera is behind the injured VICTIM, with a trench coat, watching the mugger stooping down to grab him. (We do not see the VICTIM's face.) The camera follows the man's body upward, so we can see the MUGGER's face. In his free hand, the MUGGER is holding a gun, which he points at his VICTIM's neck.

S: A Superman Fan Film (2011)

18 min - [Short](#) | [Action](#) | [Adventure](#)

Your rating: -/10

(awaiting 5 votes)

Reviews: [write review](#)

Director: [Johnny Wu](#)

Writers: [James V. Geier](#), [George Tuttle](#)

Stars: [George Tuttle](#), [Kyle Znamenak](#) and [Ray Goodwin](#)

Watchlist

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Cast

[Edit](#)

Cast overview:

	George Tuttle	...	Superman / Clark Kent
	Kyle Znamenak	...	Brainiac
	Ray Goodwin	...	Lex Luthor
	Donna Williams	...	Lois Lane
	Zachary Rowe	...	Mugger
	Robbie Barnes	...	TV Reporter

[Full cast and crew](#) »

Storyline

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Genres: [Short](#) | [Action](#) | [Adventure](#) | [Fantasy](#) | [Sci-Fi](#)

Parents Guide: [Add content advisory for parents](#) »

Details

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Official Sites: [Official Facebook](#) | [Add/edit official sites](#) »

Country: [USA](#)

Language: [English](#)

Company Credits

Production Co: [Creative House Studios](#), [Media Design Imaging](#) [See more](#) »

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Technical Specs

Runtime: USA: 18 min

Color: [Color](#)

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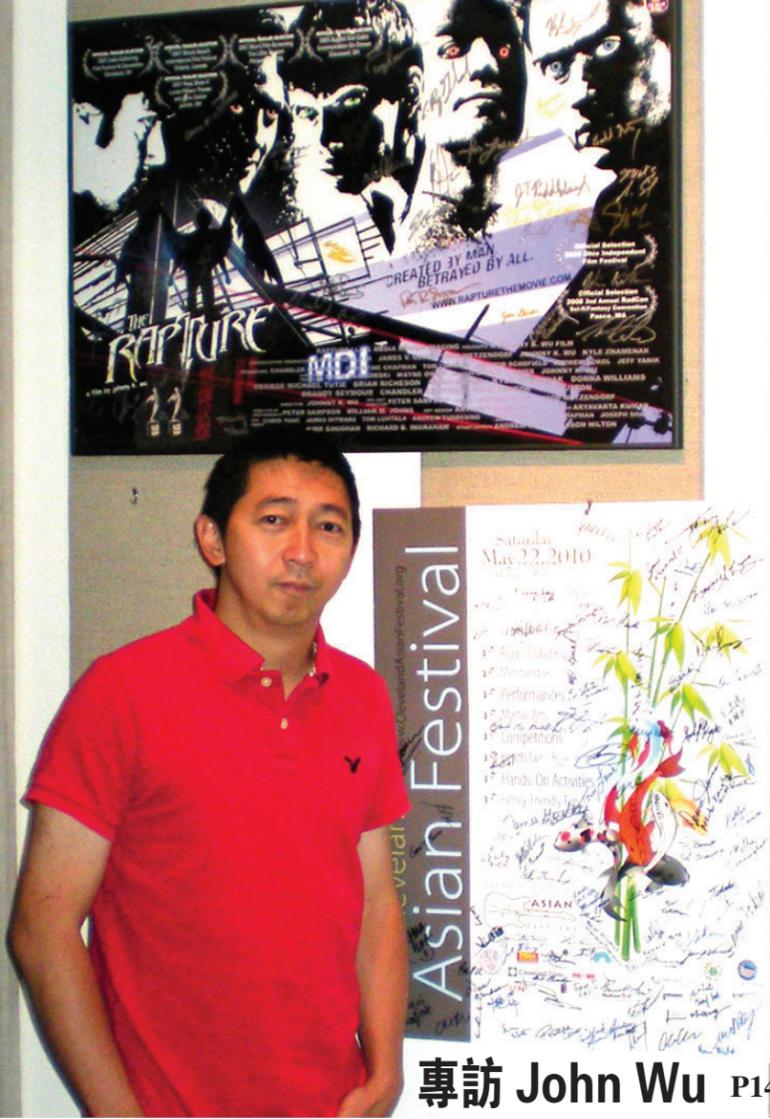
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融中西文化 獲今日成功



專訪 John Wu P14

【本報訊】10月9日晚上7點，由賓來客賭城(Presque Isle Downs & Casino) 舉辦的第二屆亞洲偶像卡拉 OK 大賽第五場初賽在克里夫蘭 38 街亞洲城市中心 2 樓舉行，一批參加初賽的歌唱高手由賓來客賭城派加長型超豪華專車專程遠從匹茲堡接到克里夫蘭的比賽現場。當日來自 Kent State University 的中國留學生於雪(曾獲得第一屆亞洲偶像卡拉 OK 大獎賽第一名)也來參加比賽，但因為臨時報名參賽的人太多，只能參加下一場初賽，但是她向本報表達了她的心願：金色的十月，秋風送爽艷陽高照，Presque Isle 亞洲偶像歌手大賽正在激烈的進行中。我有幸去年參加了 Presque Isle 亞洲偶像歌手比賽，獲得第一名。上屆比賽現場氣氛激動熱烈，參賽選手及親

友團熱情參與，大賽主辦方的組織認真嚴謹，主辦方在美國給亞洲文化的弘揚提供了這個很好的平台，促進了世界文化的交流，給我留下美好印象。同時，伊利華報一直注重弘揚亞洲文化，對比賽盛況給予關注和進行了跟蹤報道，也非常感謝他們的辛勤工作。我作為一名中國學生，深深感受到這兒的友誼與美麗，我希望能用我美好動人的歌聲，用作為亞洲文化絢爛奇葩之一的中國經典現代民族聲樂，向熱愛生活勤勞友好和關心幫助我的人們送去快樂，同時也通過這次活動結交更多的好朋友，所以得知今年的第二屆 Presque Isle 大賽，規模更大，範圍更廣，我心情激動，很感謝主辦方繼續搭建了這個平台，又報名參加。預祝本屆大賽圓滿成功！
當晚來自匹茲堡花腔女高音馬

曉美(Queeny Ma)獲得第五場初賽的第一名。幾年前馬曉美隨家人移民美國，她繼續並接受了系統而全面的美聲訓練。她也多次參加演出及比賽。她在高中時曾獲得“Honor student”的稱號，她曾作為學校合唱團和教堂唱詩班的領唱。此外，她還多次參加學校舞蹈團、交響樂團、軍樂隊等的演出。她還在福羅里達參加迪斯尼“American Sings”的表演。賓來客賭城歡迎更多的華人在 11 月 27 日前往賭場觀看初賽選手的風采。

10月23日晚上7點，在亞洲城市中心將舉行決賽前的最後一場初賽，歡迎更多的歌唱愛好者參加比賽，請大家不要大家不要錯過這個最後的機會。和去年一樣，本次大賽獲得第一名的頭等獎獎金也是\$5000。



第二屆亞洲偶像卡拉 OK 大賽 進入最后衝刺

音樂義演敬恩師



于今、秦平夫婦及女兒于懷恩

【本報訊】在愛克隆住了二十多年的于今和秦平夫婦是臨近華人家喻戶曉的一對音樂名人，他們有一位音樂天才女兒于懷恩，於今教鋼琴，秦平教小提琴。他倆服務于克里夫蘭及愛克隆地區二十餘載，他們用音樂帶給了無數人美的享受。數以百計的學生出自于她的門下。她的學生們很多考入專業交響樂團及各個等級的音樂團體，僅在 2009 年度她就有 7 個學生考上愛克倫青年交響樂團，3 個在克里夫蘭青年交響樂團，真可謂是桃李滿天下。學生們更是參加多次比賽並榮獲各種獎項。

不幸的事情是今年 6 月，秦平查出罹患胃癌。為了感謝秦平這么多年來的耕耘，作為尊敬及愛戴她的朋友及學生們，自發地組織了一場“義演音樂會”，演出時間是：2010 年 10 月 16 日，地點在 Akron Chinese Church, 135 Fir Hill Akron, OH 44304。歡迎您參加這場音樂會，伸出愛的手，讓秦老師的小提琴再奏出更動聽的旋律，秦平畢業于上海音樂學院和加州國際大學。師從著名教授李克強先生，曾與許多交響樂團合作演出。她現在在愛克倫交響樂團拉第一提琴。



再講幸福人生 相聚感恩時節

克利夫蘭 11月19日

【本報訊】克里夫蘭婦女聯誼會，在感恩節之際為廣大婦女及她們的家人送上一堂幸福人生大餐。婦女聯誼會在 11 月中旬邀請匹茲堡幸福人生講座主講人陳世瑞先生再次來克利夫蘭演講人生幸福。

陳世瑞先生是匹茲堡著名的華人企業家和社區活動家。陳世瑞先生在匹茲堡創辦的《幸福人生》講座已經有十六年的歷史，近二年伊利華報聯繫俄州其他華人社區，推廣陳世瑞先生的《幸福人生》講座，陳先生得到各地的華人社區好評。陳先生知識淵博，語言幽默，憑着對社會和生活極強的理解力和洞察力，在實踐中獲得了廣博的智慧和豐富的經驗。陳先生的講演深入淺出，使用生動的比喻講解深奧的人生哲理，每一次活動都講解不同的主題，他的《幸福人生》講座是為您找到一把開幸福大門的鑰匙。

11月19日他將再來克利夫蘭給大家主講更精彩的人生“講中正”，希望大家積極參與，詳情請看下期伊利華報。



專訪 John Wu
浦瑛

融中西文化 獲今日成功

我認識 John Wu 至少也有 10 多年了,他做事認真,對任何事情只要他承擔下來,就會用他百分之百的努力去完成它。伊利華報和他也有一段很深的緣分,那就是創刊不久第三和第四期,John 擔任了伊利華報的版面設計,當時伊利華報還只是每月一期,而 John 一個人做幾份工作,其中有一份工他從 1998 年開始,每個星期要到好萊塢去拍電影。那時我還是剛開始做報紙,什麼都不懂,真巧有人介紹在加拿大有一個華人報紙的版面設計北大方正公司,所以伊利華報就開始和加拿大北大方正合作至今,想來時間真快,一晃伊利華報已經生存了九個年頭。我時時刻刻感恩與華報一起成長的幕前幕後耕耘的人,John Wu 也是其中一位。



他主修的是心理學和計算機專業。在他 23 歲那年,帶著 \$3000 美元只身到他的出生地克里夫蘭來,到克里夫蘭後,他第一就去找克里夫蘭華人教會,在那里他得到華人朋友的支持和鼓勵,他開始了他創業生涯。

John Wu 自稱他小時候是一個最調皮最不喜歡讀書的學生,由於父親工作每隔四五年遷移一次,他原本就不喜歡讀書,這就讓他更加難以過關。父親十分嚴厲,John Wu 至今都記得小時候不管他在哪個國家,父親規定每天必須抄寫 3 張中文作業,John 說雖然我不喜歡讀書更不喜歡抄寫中文,但被父親和老師懲罰很殘忍,所以他今天能精通中文還得感謝在他幼小時,父親每天逼他抄寫中文。回想自己,John 說他媽媽說他以後會變成一個“小太保”,因為父母親年齡差距很大,在他成長過程中父母離婚,按他自己說:我是在中西文化熏陶中成長。

John Wu 中文名字是吳凱森,但大家都喜歡叫他 John,尤其在克里夫蘭 John 更是一位在其他少數族裔里也被認同的華人名人。這二年由他和一批年輕有活力的青年人聯合策劃主辦的克里夫蘭亞洲節讓 John 的名字更響了。因為他做事勤快低調做人,他在眾人面前總是將話筒讓給其他人。10 月 1 日他導演的又一部新片問世,首次放映就有 250 人觀看,讓不大的製作公司放映室擠滿了觀眾。

John Wu 1967 年出生於美國克里夫蘭,他的父親是一名外交官,在他的童年他隨他的父母親到過菲律賓、台灣最後到南美巴拿馬,因為他不能按照他父親的指望當醫生,而

寫中文。回想自己,John 說他媽媽說他以後會變成一個“小太保”,因為父母親年齡差距很大,在他成長過程中父母離婚,按他自己說:我是在中西文化熏陶中成長。

John Wu 一個人摸索走出一條通向成功的路,這條路就是跟着你的夢想走。他喜歡東方文化,他從小就練武術,他第一次表演武術是在美華協會新春晚會上,他自己都沒有想到,從一個表演者到參與美華協會的董事人員到今天他已經做了 7 年的美華協會主席,他希望明年有其他人能承擔為人們服

務的重要職位。

John Wu 他也喜歡西方文化,他和他的一幫熱愛計算機和電影的朋友,就這 10 多年了拍攝了近 40 部不同的電視和紀錄片,他在工作中親自瞭解市場,他發現自己在中西文化的熏陶下一個新的計劃脫穎而出,克里夫蘭需要舉辦一個亞洲節,這樣會有更多西方人瞭解亞洲文化,這不僅是傳播亞洲文化同時也是發展經濟。連續二屆亞洲節參加人數從 1 萬增加到 3 萬五,他希望明年有五萬參加者。John Wu 他還和克里夫蘭政府領導和開發部門一起聯手,打算在未來的 10 年讓克里夫蘭亞洲城面貌煥新。

我採訪 John Wu 只有短短一小時,他給我上了人生一課:人在這個世界天天都過着不同的一天,這是他的親身體會:他的父親吳明德出生在上海一個很富有的家庭,家族經商大米,可是年輕時的父親愛賭,將整箱的黃金都在賭桌上溶化。但一天他父親清醒,這不是他要的未來,父親苦讀,最後成了一名出色外交官,父親在菲律賓認識比他小 18 歲到母親,John 還有一個妹妹,自父親去世,10 多年來 John 一直關愛他們,在經濟上支持他的母親和妹妹,人生天天過的不同,關鍵你如何把握。

John Wu 小的時候不愛讀書,成績總是在紅燈區,在他到達巴拿馬時候,課堂上講的是西班牙語,他不知道老師在講什麼,那年他上八年級,學校讓他退學,他母親到學校去說讓 John Wu 留一年試試看,如果跟得上在繼續讀。由於他是外交官的小孩,他住的地方全部都是文化與金融人士,他告訴自己不能再這樣調皮搗蛋,要跟上班級同學,要好好讀書。人只有自己能征服自己,沒過半年,John Wu 就趕上同班學生,他也找到了他自己:人只要自己敢做夢,同時朝着夢想去努力,有一天一定能走到你的目的。



The Superheros from the East & West

by Johnny K. Wu

Growing up, I have been exposed to two cultures, by embracing them, I've learned to appreciate the differences and the similarities of each. Hence, they've molded me into who I am now.

In Asian culture, we use martial art novels as our pastime just like in the Western culture the way it uses comic books. The similarities are there: the good guys have 'incredible' powers and fight for justice.

In Asian culture, the marital art novels are called Wuxia, these are books written by period scholars that talk about how this and that person after getting an incredible amount of martial art skills became invincible or ascended to become a God. Just like in Comic Books, a Wuxia character can 'jump and leap over buildings' like Superman would. Another Wuxia character uses his wit and martial art skills to solve and stop crimes, just like Batman did.

As a filmmaker, the way I was brought up in the society, has built me to become who I am now, and as you have probably seen most of my films, I've always challenge myself with actions, martial arts, and artistically styled films that help me grow.

As I grow between the two cultures: Having a family value and tradition of a descendent of a martial art family and my exposure to the comic book worlds, I can say I've had the best of both worlds.

Back in 2003, I made a parody fan film that got me a bit of name brand with the independent and comic book fans, A Joker's Card was shown to over 20+

festivals and conventions. With its success, it prompted me to create a feature film The Rapture, that was distributed worldwide to several countries.

As I returned back to do another fan film, this time, I wanted to make it dark, without the comedy,



and was more in the character and the action sequence and able to challenge me to draw in my artistic way.

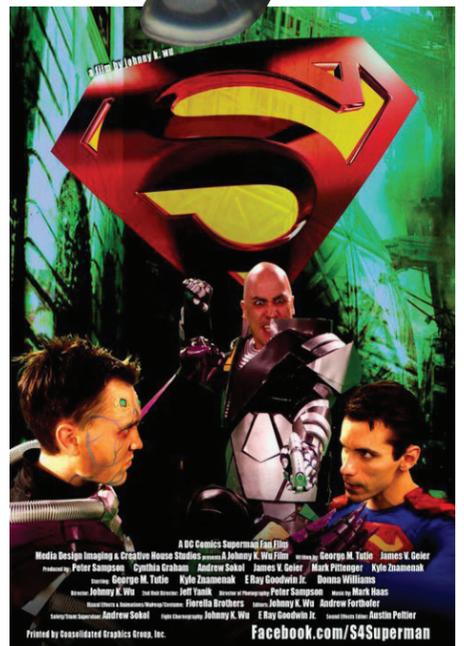
Superman was the character I decided to venture into. Not only is he a superhero everyone knows, he is also my hero. Superman is not just an Alien living on Earth, but he is an Alien that tries to do the best as a good human being, maybe like a poster child for the entire human race. He gets angry but yet, he has a heart and compassion that not many of us can hold and claim as our own I grew up loving him, although I am not a 'hard core' comic book fan, I would always watch the cartoons, the movies, the TV series and en-

joy every minute of it.

The challenge of making a movie about someone that everyone knows is that no matter how you make the film, people will either love it or hate it, and not usually just have a "neutral" interest. This is because

Superman has become a subculture of our society, and each individual has his own "mold" of what Superman is and is about. For me to venture into this legend, it is almost feels like getting into a firing range and hoping that the bullets miss me... And like Superman, I would have to have a body of steel and not be weakened by the words and sometimes, personal attacks people would throw at me after finishing watching the short film.

That's the MAIN obstacle I would face by doing a Superman Fan Film. The second, would be how to convey the story. Fans all over the world have what they like and dislike. For me, making S is more about having fun, creating a 'universe' that is different, so I opted to shoot most of it on a green screen, as we wanted to be able to make our hero fly. Next, we added wire-harnesses, that make flying more possible or in-the-air fight sequences fan. Lastly, I decided to make the background ala comic book style. I can easily make the back ground as realistic as possible but



why when it would be easier to shoot the entire short film on location with harnesses hooked on above. Shooting on a green screen allows me have more creative and artistic expression. So after considerable time discussing with our friends, cast, and crew: the decision was made to make it a color two dimensional comic styled background. After all, it is a universe we created for OUR Superman.



SUNDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2011

S; A Superman Fan Film - The Review

Remember a good few months ago when I said I'd been watching the filming of a Superman fan film via online streaming? Well, the film's finished, been released, is online, and as such can now get a review.

Now firstly, there needs to be a warning for this short: it has character death in it. I know a few people who get mightily upset if characters in fandoms get used/abused/killed and it smacks them in the face out of left field; I'm one of them. So there's your warning.

S: is a triumph of greenscreening and special effects, and a complete mastery of substance over budget. The action doesn't let up, and the team have done so well with what's their disposal you quickly get carried off in the story.

I am aware there's been some talk over the lead actor George Tuttle not being muscled enough for Superman, but personally, it's not even occurred to me. There's been a lot of backstory that Kal-El doesn't actually need to be that huge to be superpowered - Brandon Routh certainly wasn't Hulk sized, and worked better for it. It's the same with George. He's certainly toned and fit - and he nailed *perfectly* one of the most difficult things for any Superman actor to get right - a graceful, gentle poise perfect descent and landing. His Clark is entirely believable and sweet, and I loved him. Lois (Donna Williams) is equally instantly likable, and her reaction to seeing the fight on television between her man and Brainiac is brilliant - honest and rushed and important. I adored Lois. She can also chop tomatoes like a good'un, and there's an in-joke in the fridge, if you can see it.

Villain wise, there are two to choose from: Brainiac and Lex Luthor. Now everyone's least favourite computer creature was played with gusto by Kyle Znamenak, and it's great to see him on screen. Kyle's got Brainiac down to a tee, helped by a great suit and some lovely contact lenses that make him look suitably alien. Lex... well, Lex is Lex really. There's really not much to say that's new about the character, but at least with E Ray Goodwin Jr's performance there's a hint at the darker, more technical side to the villain than there has been in many a Superman film. My only real irk is how easily Lex gets rid of Brainiac - you'd think that an alien life form that can inhabit, live through and control technology would see Lex's booby trap, and instantly find a way round it. Alas, not in this case. Poor Brainiac, rust in peace.

It's a very, busy short film. Doesn't let up, or give you time to catch your breath; and for a short piece, that's a good idea and well managed in this case. It's obvious, looking through director Johnny Wu's back catalogue, that he's a fan of the comic book genre - notably with the fantastic "A Joker's Card" (again with a fantastic performance, lead this time, by Znamenak, as the Joker's son), and Wu creates the comic book world of our heroes very nicely. There's some suitably large scale (but amusingly still greenscreen and CGI) battles and damage to Metropolis, and I think, for a fan film, it's all done brilliantly...

And that's the thing that sticks out above all else. As a relatively low budgeted piece, the actors, tech crew, sound and vision people etc all go far beyond the call of duty to make this an enjoyable short film. And it is... until that fatality near the end. That shocked me and left my mouth dangling open. Wasn't expecting it, didn't like it.

And as a last fun little touch, if you're me, there's a suspiciously familiar name in the credits... one... Dale Who?

YOUR HOST...



Dale W.

Head in the clouds, feet on the ground... but of which planet I'm not sure.

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in the news

local filmmaker johnny wu unveils superman fan film

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It took local filmmaker Johnny Wu roughly nine months to produce "S: A Superman Fan Film," an 18-minute tribute to the Cleveland-born Man of Steel.

"We did it cause we wanted to pay tribute to our Cleveland born hero Superman," Wu says.

The lengthy process required about three to four months in preproduction, four and a half days of shooting, and about five months in post-production, explain Wu, who acted as director, producer, and editor on the movie.

Wu says that he will be submitting the live-action comic book film to several festivals that accept fan films.

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Don O'Malley • Cuyahoga Community College

Looks great! E. Ray Goodwin Jr. always at his best when he is evil!

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"S: A Superman Fanfilm" review



In what seemed to appear out of nowhere, a new [Superman](#) fan film joined the race between Superman: Requiem and Superman: Golden Child. I review this min-movie.

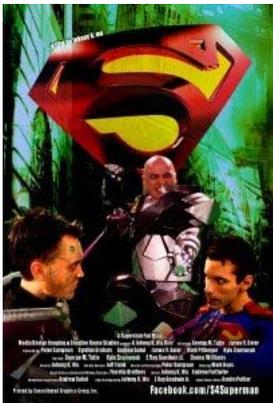
Since the news of Man of Steel's production, the Superman fan-film phenomenon has been spreading like wildfire. A wildly popular one being Superman: Requiem, set to debut November 11, 2011 (I will definitely be reviewing that). Then there's Superman: Golden Child, which is set for release mid 2012.

Surprisingly, another, pretty much unknown fan-film surprised me (a fan-film connoisseur) with it's unexpected release, which I happen to find on the release date. This film is called S: A Superman fan-film, a pretty vague title, I feel Superman vs Brainiac (sorry for the spoiler) would have been better, but the title doesn't take away from what the film has in store for us.

If you watched the film expecting to see something comparable to Superman I, you'll be a bit disappointed. If you watch hoping to see something a lot more action packed than [Superman Returns](#), you might just like it.

The official plot summary is:

With the intent of finally destroying Superman, Brainiac finds his way to earth. However, he doesn't go about this task alone, as Lex Luthor finds his way into the mix. Now two of Superman's greatest villains are working together to take down the Man of Steel. Guest Starring Lois Lane.



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The Plot

The Plot's pretty simple (I won't be revealing much), but it's also something we haven't seen from a Superman film since 1/4 of Superman: Doomsday. Villain attacks, Hero fights, someone dies (It's not who you'd think it would be.)Being that it was only 18 minutes long, I feel it was a bit rushed, and do feel it could have gone maybe 10 minutes longer, as they had a good plot, but it could have become more than it was had it been developed just a little more. Overall, the plot was good. Lex for some reason knows Clark is Superman, which I don't understand.

Acting

The acting was surprisingly good, I've seen a lot of Superman fan-films (and Superman films) with cheesy acting.

Superman: In this film the Man of Steel was played by young actor George Tutie (who's previous work includes a low-budget film called The Rapture) His acting was okay, I felt he could have delivered several lines with a stronger voice, at times he sounds like a 15-year old in the middle of a school play. My problem with the actor chosen was the fact that he looks and sounds too young to be Superman, and ended up looking a little more like Superboy-Prime. He had the muscular build for Superboy-Prime (which they did not allow to go unnoticed.)

Brainiac: I'm not sure if it was the lack of acting, or very good acting, but Kyle Znamenak's Brainiac has the wooden, nearly life-less personality you'd expect a mass-murdering super-computer to have. Throughout most of the film, I noticed he stares directly at the camera, albeit creepily, rather than at Superman, who was kneeling in front of him.

Lex Luthor: Upon seeing E. Ray Goodwin Jr. as Lex, I caught flashbacks to the Lex Luthor of Superman: The Animated Series, there's a small resemblance between the two. Being that he is Lex, who has never failed to gloat in both the comics as well as the [movies](#), he has the most lines in the film. Goodwin perfectly captured the humor you'd expect Lex to have and represented the character excellently. Definitely the strong point of the film.

Lois Lane: She might have just turned out to be the strongest actor of the bunch, she delivered her lines with plenty of emotion. (That's all I have to say, no spoilers remember.)

Special Effects and CGI.

For a fan-film, the special effects were impressive at times, and cheesy and laughable at others (The rolling car wheel, Superman flying through a building, Superman crashing into concrete, [the Heat](#), Vision battle.) A lot of the scenes do however look impressive, and I was pretty pleased with those specific ones, such as the bridge background, which was pretty well done.) Much of the flying and mid-air scenes look rather laughable, not to mention the sliding land-fight, which was odd to see, they were just hitting each other, and sliding without even the tiniest leg movements, it distracts from some other's wise great fight choreography.

Costumes

The Superman suit has the same design as the Returns suit, save for some more traditional coloring (darker blues, lighter reds). The cape lacks the yellow S-Symbol, and appears to be made out of silk.

Brainiac lacks the green skin (The reason is explained by watching the [movie](#)). his suit seems to be made out of tights, surgical tape, and aluminum foil, with tubing and lights. He wears a lot more armor than Brainiac usually does. The make up is pretty good, and they even included Brainiac's 3 dot symbol on the forehead, as well as metal flesh under the skin which is surrounded by blood stains and wounds

Lex Luthor appears in his battle suit as always. It lacks the traditional purple and green for silver and black, It looks to be made out of the same material as Brainiac's suit, except it looks a bit more traditional to his comic counter-part. The main difference is the inclusion of the LuthorCorp symbol on the chest.

Sound and Camera quality.

The film has some pretty good sound effects, and an even better music selection, which do help capture the tensity of many of the film. My biggest problem was the echo, which most likely has something to do with the fact that it was shot entirely in a green screen studio in 4 days, so there's some echo and at times their voices make it seem as if they're far away from the camera. The film was shot in HD, which is pretty convenient.

Rating: I'd rate this film with a 3 out of 5. It has some bad points, but also some good points.

You can watch it here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SDADP0MLZHQ&feature=player_detailpage

NatDuv
10/3/2011



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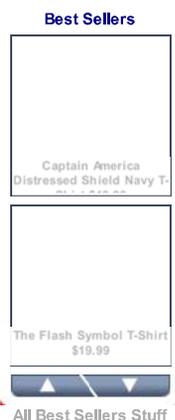
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2 Comments

mdifilm - 10/4/2011, 5:49 AM

Thanks for the review! Just to let you know that I have to highlight the text and put it onto a word processing program to be able to read the rest. [Login to report abuse](#)

The title was done intentionally :) So yeah, S was very vague but it does 'get searched a lot' :)

And before we started the production, we opted to do all the background as a comic book styled as we know if we do 'screw' up on a real live background, it would be much more noticeable. At one time, we thought of having the background 3D styled or black and white, but we finally decided to do it as a 2D comic book styled as it is much more fun and artistic. :)

Thanks again for the review!

Johnny Wu



Arminies - 10/5/2011, 11:55 PM

LOVED IT!
but i also did do an interview for the podcast with him and got a Blu-Ray of it :D [Login to report abuse](#)

S: A Superman Fan Film Review

By
[Christopher Moshier](#)
– September 10, 2011 **Posted in:** [Adult Child of Alien Invaders](#), [Columns](#), [Featured](#)

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Superman is not an easy character to bring into a live action fan production. Let's think beyond the logistics of special effects. I'm talking just about the character of Superman and the disguise he wears in the form of mild mannered Clark Kent. We've certainly seen a representation of the character in fan favorite films such as John Fiorella's *Grayson* and Sandy Collora's *World's Finest*. Those appearances are more frosting on a fan film cake. Muscled men downing the costume we're all familiar with for that lovely eye candy to get those Fanboy juices flowing. The only fan film that comes to mind that actually explores the character is *Tomorrow's Memoir*. And that may be a stretch because the filmmakers didn't come right out and say that the character in that short film was actually Superman. It was all implied, but anyone who knows the character clearly can see the parallels. And yes – there are other fan productions out there that utilize the Superman character that are either bastardizations of what Christopher Reeve did or the films just aren't good enough to bring into this review.

It seems that just this past year there's been a few Superman virtuosos popping up prepared to put their fan film stamp on the Last Son of Krypton. *Superman: Requiem* and the newly announced *Superman: The Golden Child* are two projects getting some positive buzz out there on the internet. At this point who knows if they'll be any good. I personally haven't seen enough information on either to make a determination. They may be genius. They may live out their life hidden in a whirlpool of YouTube videos between the likes of *Chris Croker* and *Two Girls, One Cup*.

Another production ablaze with buzz is Johnny K. Wu's *S: A Superman Fan Film*. This one is the closest to be let out of the gate with an online world release date of October 1st. There's plenty of stills out there of the film as well as the [trailer](#) which I did make comment on when posting it on the Fan Film Follies news section. My critique then holds up and I'll revisit what that is. Johnny sent along an almost completed version of the full seventeen minute film. I guess they have some sound work and remixing to take care of before the initial release.

Let me indicate this before I go on. I don't like to write critiques of fan films. I can tear Hollywood movies a

new asshole left and right all day long without a problem. Hollywood has millions of dollars to make movies and they mostly make crap. Plus what do they care what I have to say? They just don't get my money. Fan film makers have hundreds or maybe even thousands of dollars to work with. I can really appreciate how they do so much with so little. They also don't get my money because as we all know they can't make a cent off someone else's intellectual property. They release their films online for free. How crazy is that? With the Fan Film Follies I either post fan films I really think bring something new to the fan film table or I simply ignore them letting them disappear into obscurity. I don't do reviews.

BUT! Are you ready for the BUT, Johnny? When someone sends me an advance copy of their film they do so with the expectation of getting more exposure for their efforts in the hope to build some kind of following as they move closer to their release date. So here it goes. The no holds barred review of Johnny K. Wu's S: A Superman Fan Film.

My biggest critique off fan films that I indicate over and over again in writing for the site and also through the Fan Film Podcast is both sound and acting. Even potentially good fan films suffer because the wrong decisions are made in casting and/or no one is concentrating on one of the most important aspects of making any movie and that is sound. OK. Unless you're making a silent movie I take exception. S already has two of my worst pet peeves covered. I know at the time of writing this review Johnny and his team were remixing the sound for the film. And it does need it especially in the parts where all the action occurs. It's clear they had an Audio Engineer during their initial shoot so kudos to that individual.



George Tuttle as Superman. George is built. They have his shirt off at one point torn from the climactic end battle. I'm not sure if that was intended for the story or Johnny wanted to show the audience his actor does have muscles or a combination of both, but either way George is clearly ripped. Does he have the body of Superman? No. I would instantly cast him as Peter Parker in my next Spiderman fan film, but he's not proportioned for the character of Superman the way Michael O'Hearn was in World's Finest. How do you find a muscle bound person who looks like Superman and who can actually act? Beats the hell out of me. I get what Johnny was after with someone athletic who could deliver a convincing performance. All I could think of in the back of my mind while watching the film was that classic line from Star Wars, "Aren't you a little short to be a Storm Trooper?" – "Aren't you a little skinny to be a Superman?"

The rest of the characters were well cast bringing in solid performances. If I was to be nitpicky (and I will be) when Lex Luthor played by E Ray Goodwin Jr. first shows up he's way to smiley for the lack of a better word. He was like Lex Luthor light. I'm not sure if this was a decision made by the actor or the direction he was given, but he seemed like the Mister Rogers of Superman villains. I was waiting for Mr. McFeely to show up and deliver some mail made of Kryptonite. I understand what was trying to be conveyed. Lex was trying to be convincing to the fact that he's a "changed man". It just seemed forced. As the film progressed Goodwin fell into the Luthor we all know and loath. When you see the film in October you'll instantly pick up on what I mean.

Extra big kudos for delivering a villain not yet seen in a live action fan film. This villain being in the form of Brainiac played by B Kyle Znamenak. Everything about the look and the performance was spot on.

When I first posted the trailer to S: A Superman Fan Film I commented how I was distracted in my viewing by all the heavy CGI. It was explained to me by Johnny when I raised this point initially that he was going for a more comic book look so the reason for the big use of After Effects and the green screen. I'm not exactly the picture of youth. I'm more an old school, practical effects kind of guy. To put my review in perspective I'm not overly crazy about a majority of the mainstream movies that come out with intense computer graphics. The Playstation 3/XBOX 360 video game generation may well dismiss it as awesome, but it my opinion it distracts and detracts from the story being presented. I'm not talking in all cases. The remake of Clash of the Titans comes instantly to mind as an overuse of the tool making a terribly written movie terrible looking. On the flip side the genius that was Peter Jackson's Lord of the Rings uses CGI fittingly only when practical effects couldn't cut the butter.

In S I can accept certain shots that could never of been done practically. We are talking a limited budgeted fan film here. And we're also talking about one of the most difficult superheroes to bring to the live action world. That's why we don't see many fan films based on the character as opposed to the Batman who has at least a trillion popping up all over the viral video sites. It's just easier to make a film about a guy dressed up as a bat rather than some boy falling from the sky from another planet who can fly, lift mountains, shoot beams of light out of his eyes, see into the girl's locker room (unless it's a lead wall), and has a rogue's gallery equally as difficult to bring to live action.

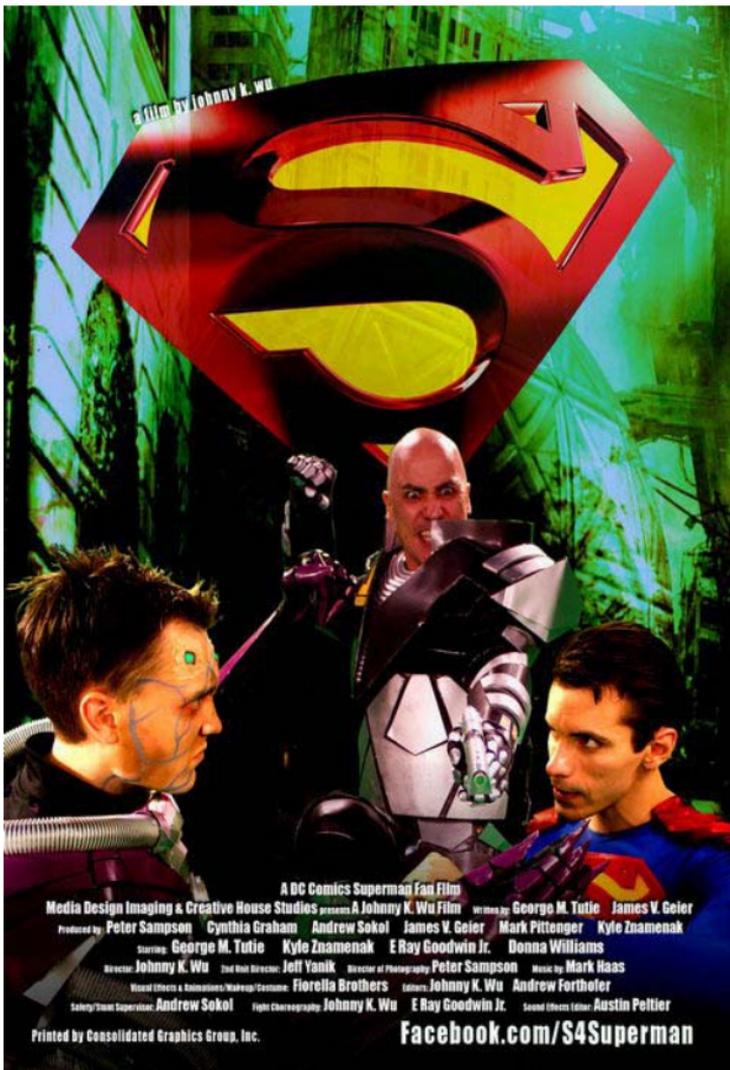
I should also mention in closing that the fight scenes were well planned and executed. That's what steamed my cookies about Superman Returns. Not only was it an ejaculation of what Richard Donner and

Christopher Reeve already did there was no giant battle. No crashing through buildings. No fisticuffs in the middle of the streets of Metropolis. S: A Superman Fan Film has these elements that the fans want to see. That I want to see! And although I piss and moan about the use of CGI in this short film the action elements are well designed and paced.

THE SUM UP

S: A Superman Fan Film is well written, well acted and more importantly has something to say. We get a surprise ending that will leave the hardcore fanboy and girls in mass debate.

S: A Superman Fan Film relies too much on CGI. Annoyingly so. That's really my only biggest bitch towards the film. Superman fans are going to love it.



Popularity: 19% [2]

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TUESDAY, 12 JULY 2011

An update: Superman, Wonder Woman and the new toy...

I think we'll take these in reverse order.

The new toy is a Samsung Galaxy Tablet, and it's a joyous piece of kit. It does everything I could want it to do bar travel in time and make tea. It's obviously another company's answer to an iPad, but a tad smaller and according to the comparison tests, it tends to come off better. I'm insanely impressed by the shiny toy. It's wallpaper is an animated spinning galaxy, and it can play all sorts of media files, as opposed to the iPad's insistence on iTunes and related stuffy.



Wonder Woman. I had a major squee today when I got a message from Lynda Carter. That was a very surreal moment that I wasn't expecting. I'd left a post on a forum saying she was one of my childhood heroines, and up she pops to thank me for my support! Bizarre, but insanely cool. I'm still bouncing.

Superman. A revisit to S: A Superman Fan Film, actually. I was privileged enough, via the wonders of modern streaming internet technology to watch the production team filming a scene on Friday night. I was watching them online and chatting to them in their online chat room in real time, and I had the best time. In between takes, the director showed us a few scenes they've already completed, including what is, in my view, one of the very hardest to get right - Superman dropping out of the sky, landing perfectly and walking into the scene. It's also very rare I'll describe anything from a fan-film as iconic; but that's how perfectly they'd nailed the scene. Their Superman - played by a very handsome gentleman called George Tuttle - who looks like this -

YOUR HOST...



Dale W.

Head in the clouds, feet on the ground... but of which planet I'm not sure.

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- executed a point perfect landing like flying was something he does every day - which of course Superman does. I was stunned and speechless. A properly iconic moment, perfectly executed. In the meantime, Lois massacred some tomatoes, and an in joke was placed in the kitchen. At the end of the filming, the nice people took our names and calmly announced that as we'd been useful... our names would be in the end credits under thanks! Oh my little face couldn't stop grinning.

Posted by Dale W. at 02:21:00



0

Labels: [Geekdom overload.](#)

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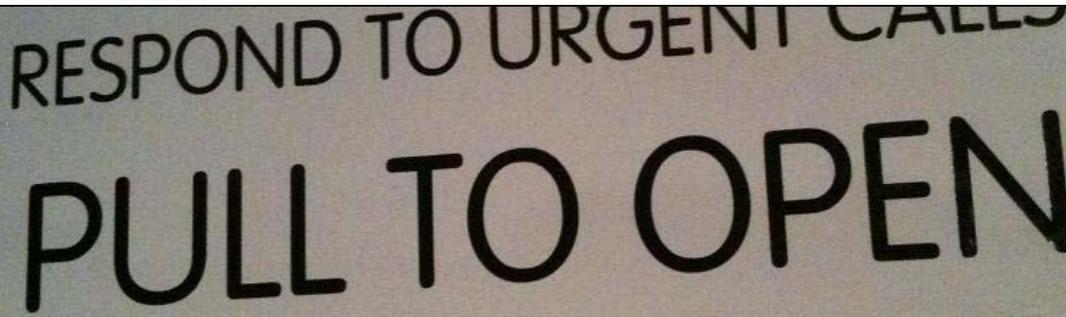


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Steven



FRIDAY, 15 APRIL 2011

Superman: "S: A Superman Fan Film"

Okay, this one's been brewing for a wee while, but a fan film I saw a trailer for on Facebook has jogged my failing memory on what I wanted to talk about.

"S: A Superman Fan Film"

One of the things I always try to remember about fan films is they're done on very little budget and with an awful lot of love, so one can't be too hard on them. Now I've watched their trailer, and it looks amazing for a fan film - lots of CGI and green screen work, but that's alright. One thing Doctor Who used to use a lot was the greenscreen process, and I'm familiar with it and it's plusses and minuses. From what I can see so far, they're using it very well.

Their Clark. The guy they've picked is gorgeous, really good, looks the part entirely. More of the Dean Cain/Brandon Routh slimmer build Superman - again, something I have no problem with. The chap's certainly fit and toned, but his Clark blows me away. Amazing.

I have a few worries with the production. One of them is visible, and two of them are possible.

The visible is the Superman suit they've made. Again, I understand the lack of a budget here... but Superman in red wellies? Really? Also... his suit doesn't fit terribly well. Now this may not show up as he's striding and flying around onscreen - I'll wait for the production to judge; but it's a minor quibble anyway.

Again with the worries, I'll have to wait and see here; but I'm worried that the trailer has precious little Clark being Super, and more than I'm comfortable with Clark getting mashed. I'm not a fan of the "mash them until they're jelly and see what they do from there" school of writing. I'm hoping there's a lot of Superman being The Man Of Steel and being properly challenged, not a senseless beat-em up to take Clark down.

My other worry is something they're promising: a twist in the tail that will upset a lot of hardcore Superman fans. Yikes. If you kill Clark I'll be very, VERY upset. If you kill Lex or Brainiac... meh. ;o) won't be that bothered. My heroes matter to me.

Despite these very very minor worries I have, I'm really looking forward to this production, to see where they can take my hero. And if the film lives up to the amount of love it looks like it's got in it, it should be amazing. It should be out in the Summer

They've also put up the single best shots of someone working with green screen I've *EVER* seen... and here's one of them:

YOUR HOST...



Dale W.

Head in the clouds, feet on the ground... but of which planet I'm not sure.

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Yup. Someone's hoovering Planet Green Screen.

Posted by Dale W. at 01:41:00

0

Labels: [Superman Part One](#)

1 comments:



MDIFILM said...

Hi Dale, thanks for the write up, I sure hope you won't kill me after you watch the short film, we will try to get it done by Summer this year and then have it premiered it free at a theatre (if all possible) here in Cleveland that is, then maybe a day or two later online at a site or two first...

I won't say much about the story but I can say one thing, EVERY costume used (except for Superman's) were made of paper mache :) (Well Superman's S was made of that too). So, you can imagine us in 'scare' mode while shooting the short film and trying not to destroy the costume lol

Johnny Wu

22 April 2011 21:34

Post a Comment

Got something to say?

There are up days, and there are down days.

Spooks in the Workplace!

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Heh heh heh... post 69.

Monday, Monday...

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