



"WU LIN THE SOCIETY" JERRY SUR THOMAS H.F. GASSAWAY PAULINE NOWAKOWSKI **KYLE HOUSTYN** YVONNE YORKE KYLE ZNAMENAK ERN GERARDO MATT KANE SETH BELINGER MUSIC ARYAVARTA KUMAR EDITED JOHNNY K. WU DIRECTOR OF SHAWN ADAMS WRITTEN ANDRAS ZOLD STORY JOHNNY K. WU DIRECTED JOHNNY K. WU NICK MUHLBACH JOHNNY K. WU FRRY GIANCATERINO PRODUCED KEITH COLLINS II SCOLLARD REINHARDT ARYAVARTA KUMAR ASSOCIATES RON GEORGE DAN HENSEL MIKE ORADINI ASSOCIATES SCOTT E. BROSIUS NICK MUHLBACH TERRY GIANCATERINO SCOTT T. MORRISON

Synopsis:

In the future... Revenge has no limit...

Set in the year 2050 when pollution, and viruses are rampant and people need to wear masks to be able to breath easy. Life is still the same. When people dies mysteriously, the police thinks it is the work of a serial killer, while rumors a float about a demon that is doing the rampage. The detectives now must hurry to solve the mystery to stop this entity's killings...

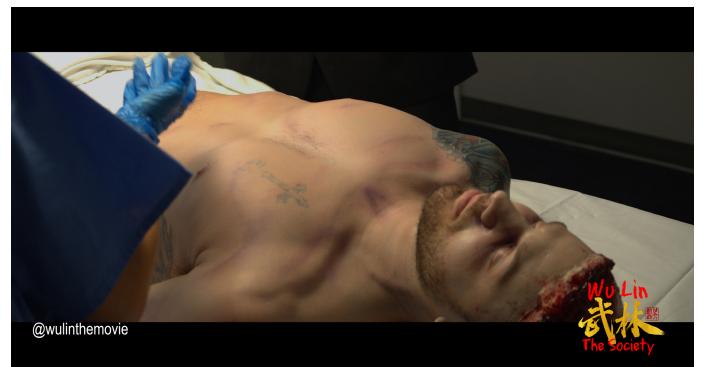
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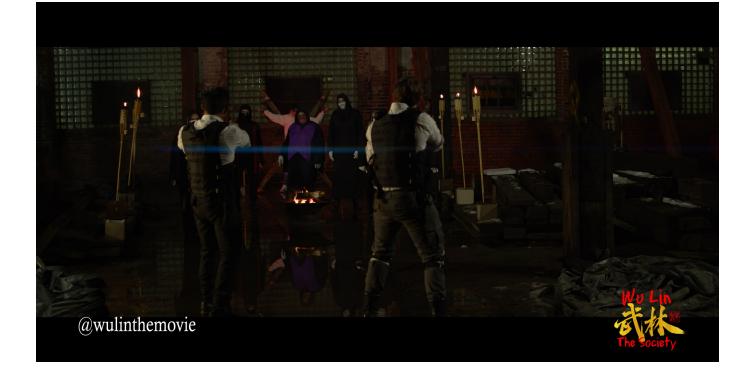


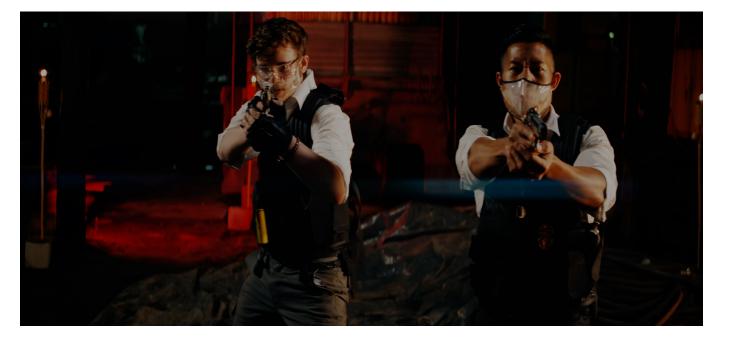












Cast:

Jerry Sur (Detective Mendoza)

Jerry Sur was born into a military family and started his modeling/acting career in 2009 after serving in the U.S. Air Force. His passion for stunts and acting eventually ushered him into a supporting role in MDI Film's martial arts action thriller "Wu Xia - A Martial Arts Tango" and sequel "Wu Xia 2: The Code" (aka "Immortal Combat"), Naples Entertainment's sci-fi drama "M.I.C.E. In The Wall", and 3 Digital Rock's live action anime "Maximillian" (aka "Assassin's Game") currently in stores.

Off set, Jerry enjoys spending time with his daughters, DIY projects, drawing, photography and directing. His first directorial feature film "That Night" was released in 2018 on Amazon Video.

Thomas H.F. Gassaway (Detective Jones)

After doing stage productions in Mansfield, Ohio, Thomas H.F. Gassaway moved to the Cleveland suburbs and pursued screen acting on a number productions ranging from several student films, short films, and feature length films. He hones his craft at the Houde School of Acting, a place that has grown dear to him. Now, Thomas readies himself for his next project, as he plays Detective Jones in Wu Lin, a Johnny Wu feature.



After raising her three sons, at the age of 51, she decided to make this long-awaited dream come true. She took acting along with improvisation classes and began working on Independent Films and a several stage plays before taking the plunge into featured films and commercial work. She is known for her work on Cleveland Abduction (Life Time TV) The Land, and over 70 film projects.







Pauline Nowakowski (Maria Consuela)

Pauline Nowakowski was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1960. Pauline's talents include singing, dancing, playing the piano, writing, producing and directing short indie films with her production company "Dark Horses Productions" but performing as an actress was her true calling. Pauline has been performing since the age of 9 years old.



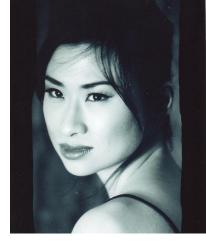
Kyle Houstyn (Carlos Consuela)

Kyle Houstyn is a Kukkiwon certified 5th degree black belt in Taekwondo with 22 years of training. He obtained a Bachelor's of Science in Neuroscience/Psychology from Baldwin Wallace University and completed 2 years at CSU's Film School. His latest short film with Johnny Wu "The Prize" was just accepted into consideration for the AOF Action on Film International Film Festival and many film festivals. He will be portraying Carlos Consuela throughout Wu Lin, kicking ass until the end..



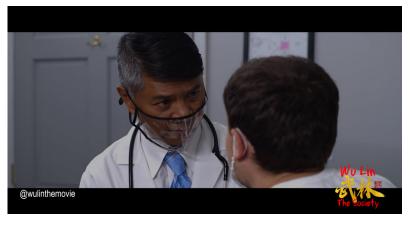
Yvonne Yorke (Katie Lextor)

Yvonne Yorke is an award-winning writer and actor from New York. Her TV credits include NBC, ABC, CNN, E! Network, CTV, BBC and WeTV. She is currently writing her debut novel set in Hong Kong.





Seth Belinger (Jim Lextor)



Kyle Znamenak (Arthur Hoster)

Kyle began studying acting in high school, in which he earned his membership to the international thespian society. He performed onstage for several years until he was invited to work on the short parody fan film "A Joker's Card". Since then Kyle has acted in several short and feature films such as "Immortal Combat: The Code", "Innerself", "The Rapture", "Jean Claude: The Gumming Zombie", and "The Tell-Tale Heart". He has an educational background in psychology and diversity and integrates his knowledge of subject into any role he performs.



Matt Kane (Doug Forenski)

Matt Kane is a Cleveland-based actor, stuntman, and fight choreographer. He started his acting journey at the age of 9 when he joined his elementary school's drama club. That journey has led him to act on stage, in short films and features. Matt has been studying martial arts his whole life and has carried those skills over to the world of stunts and action. He is the founder of the stunt team, Kane Action Team. He works full time as a martial arts instructor at The Academy of Self-Defense and Kent State University.



Seth Bellinger grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. After graduating from college, Seth moved to Los Angeles to pursue an acting career. In just a few months, he began booking roles in independent films, commercials, and television shows. Seth is known for his roles on Shahs of Sunset, Dead of Night, Scandal, and Superstore. He spends his time off-screen playing tennis and writing music.

Ern Gerardo (Dr. Alex Chen)

Ern Gerardo is an Actor (Cherry), Writer (Child's Play), and Producer (Hometown) who has been on the Cleveland film scene for some time now. He is looking forward to his first film collaboration with Johnny K. Wu





Cleveland Scene Magazine

July 13, 2021

FILM

Johnny Wu To Screen His New Sci-Fi Film in September at Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7

Posted By Jeff Niesel on Tue, Jul 13, 2021 at 11:17 am



A scene from Johnny Wu's new film.

Courtesy of Johnny Wu

Using social distancing and masks and complying with all CDC and government rules, local filmmaker Johnny Wu and his team somehow managed to complete their latest movie, *Wu Lin the Society*. Wu even incorporated mask wearing into the script.

Three film festivals have already accepted the movie, and Wu just signed a distribution deal.

On Saturday, Sept. 18, the film will screen at Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7. Locals can attend the in-person screening from 7 to 10 p.m. There will also be a 30 minute Q&A session. And if you can't make the in-person event, there is a virtual option.

Set in the year 2050 when pollution and viruses are rampant, the film focuses on the search for the culprit behind a string of mysterious deaths.

"Filming during the pandemic was a challenge, but we were able to create an exciting film and keep the cast and crew safe," says Wu in a press release. "Now, it's time to share it with the world."

Wu says diversity played a role in casting, and Pauline Nowakowski, who's Mexican, has a major role in the flick.

"It was a great experience every time I was on set," she says. "It was like walking onto a Hollywood set. My favorite time was when I got to do the flashback scene and was thirtysomething and pregnant."

Prior to the screening of Wu's film, there will be a showcase of local filmmakers' trailers and the debut of a short film from Nowakowski called *Genie of the Bottle*.

Tickets for the in-theater screenin livestream are on sale now.

Sign up for Scene's weekly newsletters to get the latest on Cleveland news, things





Tickets for the in-theater screening of Wu Lin the Society and for the



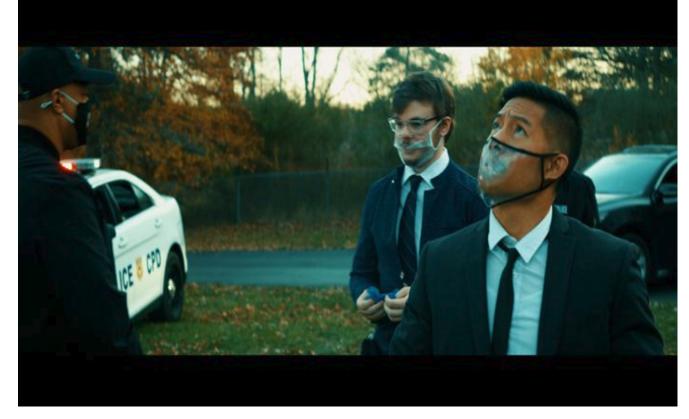
Cleveland Plain Dealer Cleveland.com July 13, 2021

Entertainment

Cleveland filmmaker Johnny Wu's latest film 'Wu Lin The Society' to premiere locally in September

Updated: Jul. 15, 2021, 10:53 a.m. | Published: Jul. 15, 2021, 10:47 a.m.

Cleveland filmmaker Johnny Wu's latest film 'Wu Lin The Society' to p... https://www.cleveland.com/entertainment/2021/07/cleveland-filmmaker-...



In a scene from "Wu Lin The Society," Detective Mendoza (played by Jerry Sur) and Detective Jones (Thomas Gassaway) investigate a crime scene.

445 shares

By Joey Morona, cleveland.com

CLEVELAND, Ohio -- Cleveland filmmaker Johnny Wu's latest movie, "Wu Lin The Society," will premiere locally later this summer. The sci-fi action thriller, filmed in Cleveland during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, is currently making the rounds on the festival circuit.

"Filming during the pandemic was a challenge but we were able to create an exciting film and keep the cast and crew safe," the director said. "Now it's time to share it with the world." Wu is holding a VIP screening at the Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7 in Euclid on September 18 with a Q&A to follow. "Wu Lin The Society" has already picked up awards at last month's Hollywood Gold Awards in Los Angeles and the upcoming Indie Gathering Film Festival in Westlake. The movie will also be screened at the Action On Film International Film Festival in Las Vegas later this month and the Tri-Cities Science Fiction Film Festival in Washington State in October. He recently signed a distribution deal for VOD, physical media, and, potentially, theatrical release.

Wu is one of Cleveland's most prolific independent filmmakers, not to mention the owner of Media Design Imaging and co-founder of the Cleveland Asian Festival. "Wu Lin The Society" is the 13th feature he has produced, directed, or edited since 1998. The movie features a diverse cast led by Jerry Sur, Pauline Nowakowski, Thomas Gassaway and Yvonne Yorke.

Filming during a pandemic wasn't always easy, but Wu found a creative way to incorporate mask-wearing into the script. The story is set in the future in 2050 in a world where mutated viruses and pollution are so out of control, people must wears masks even indoors to survive. But paranoia turns into fear when people start turning up dead, leaving police to wonder if a serial killer is on the loose or if something more mysterious is at play.

Tickets for the screening can be purchased for \$15 at <u>bit.ly/wulinthemovie</u>. A virtual option is available, too.









WorldFilmGeek

It's All About the Movies

20 JUL 2021 / WORLDFILMGEEK / LEAVE A COMMENT

You Have a Chance to See "Wu Lin: The Society" in a Theater...or Virtually!

If you are in the Euclid, Ohio area or plan to go there this Fall, you may have a chance to see a screening of **Johnny K. Wu**'s latest film, **Wu Lin**: The Society.

In the future, two detectives who are solving a string of murders discover it is not the work of a serial killer, but something far more dangerous.

Houstyn.

The film recently won the Silver Award at the Hollywood Gold Awards and has been accepted at three film festivals. So where and when can you see **Wu Lin: The Society**?

On **Saturday, September 18, 2021** there will be a special screening at Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7 at 22624 Lake Shore Blvd. in Euclid. OH 44123. Locals can attend the in-person screening from 7-10 PM at the theater which includes a 30 minute Q&A session. For those not from the area, you can watch virtually at the same time as well ask be part of the Q&A.

For in person tickets, go to: screening-tickets-160218799743

For virtual tickets, go to: https://watchbeem.com/cowatch/wu-lin-the-society-special-vippremiere-showcase

And look out for a review for this film shortly, thanks to **Johnny K. Wu**, who provided WorldFilmGeek a chance to see the film!

The film stars Jerry Sur, Thomas H.F. Gassaway, Yvonne Yorke, and Kyle

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https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wu-lin-the-society-special-vip-
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Two detectives get more than what they bargained for in this indie martial arts sci-fi flick from the director of **Wu Xia: A Martial Arts Tango** and **Wu Xia 2: The Code**.

It is the year 2050. A pandemic has hit extremely hard and as a result, everyone is forced to always wear masks. When Andrew Weber, a businessman, is found dead after a welfare check, Detectives Mendoza and Jones are on the case. They discover that Weber has been beaten up, but his brain seems to be somehow fried as if he was on drugs. They don't understand what has happened but are determined to find out what's happened.

As two more victims fall prey, they soon discover that local man Jim

Bellinger could be the next target. When Mendoza questions Jim, he learns that a mysterious ninja with powers may in fact be the one responsible for the string of deaths. With the help of Jim's girlfriend Katie, they soon discover not only who the mysterious killer is, but the fact he may be connected with a dangerous cult. It is up to Mendoza, Jones, and Katie to put an end to the killings one way or another.

Meshing the recent COVID-19 pandemic with sci-fi and martial arts, Johnny K. Wu's latest is a wild ride that holds well and is actually a step up from his previous films, the short film **Wu Xia: A Martial Arts Tango** and its feature length sequel, **Wu Xia 2: The Code** (aka **Immortal Combat: The Code**).

There are some good performances on part of the two detectives, Mendoza and Jones, played by Jerry Sur and Thomas H.F. Gassaway. They provide the buddy action-comedy aspect of the film. Mendoza is a tough as nails detective who is determined to solve the case while Jones, his rookie partner, provides some of the comic relief to show how green he is. This is evident with the coroner scene after the first victim is found.

Kudos has to go to Kyle Houstyn, who plays the mysterious ninja in question. He has impeccable kicking skills and with the sci-fi aspect, he can disappear and reappear like Scott Adkins' Weapon XI in **X-Men Origins: Wolverine**. Of course, what is very interesting is the addition of Yvonne Yorke's Katie, who many have a connection as to why these killings are going on, fearing her beloved is next. The victims in question, do attempt to put up a fight with the ninja killer with the best being that of Matt Kane's Doug against Houstyn. The final moments, where everything is revealed, features a nice **Lethal Weapon 4**-style finale in which Mendoza and Jones takes on the ninja is guite fun to watch for an indie production.

Wu Lin: The Society is a pretty good mashup of martial arts action, sci-fi, cults, and the pandemic. It is clear that the idea of masks is the most prolific and good use of filming during a time where most films were shut down. An indie gem worth checking out.

WFG RATING: B+

An MDI Film production. Director: Johnny K. Wu. Producers: Keith Collins II and Scollard Reinhardt. Writer: András Zöld. Cinematography: Shawn Adams. Editing: Johnny K. Wu.

Cast: Jerry Sur, Thomas H.F. Gassaway, Yvonne Yorke, Pauline Nowakowski, Kyle Houstyn, Kyle Znamenak, Ern Gerardo, Matt Kane, Seth Bellinger.



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Three Film Festivals have already accepted the movie and Wu just signed a distribution deal. Soon, the public will be able to attend a special VIP Screening of Wu Lin The Society On Saturday, September 18, 2021 there will be a special screening at Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7 at 22624 Lake Shore Blvd. in Euclid, OH 44123. Locals can attend the live screening from 7-10 PM at the theater which includes a 30 minute Q&A session. For those nor from the area, there will be a virtual watch party at the same time.



'In the future... Revenge has no limit.' Wu Lin The Society is set in the year 2050 when pollution and viruses are rampant. People need to wear masks to be able to

Wu Xia 2 The Code - Johnny Wu's latest feature film premiere

Wu Lin The Society Johnny Wu's latest Indie Sci-Fi Feature Film **VIP Movie Premier** Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7 September 18, 2021

Johnny Wu has done it again.

The award-winning filmmaker did not let a global pandemic stop his latest creation. Using social distancing, masks and complying with all CDC and Government rules, Wu and his team completed Wu Lin The Society, an Indie Sci-Fi feature film. In fact, he cleverly incorporated mask wearing into the script.





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breathe easy. But when people start to die mysteriously, the police thinks it is the work of a serial killer. Rumors are whispered about a demon that is actually behind the rampage. The detectives must hurry to solve the mystery to stop the killings.



Johnny Wu says, "Filming during the pandemic was a challenge but we were able to create an exciting film and keep the cast and crew safe. Now it's time to share it with the world."



Prior to the feature film the evening will include a showcase of local filmmakers' trailers and the debut of a short film from Pauline Nowakowski called Genie of the Bottle.

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WKYC / NBC September 14, 2021

ENTERTAINMENT

Cleveland filmmaker Johnny Wu to premier latest project locally September 18

The screening of "Wu Lin The Society" will take place at Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7 at 7 p.m. Watch interview at : https://bit.ly/wkycwulin

Cleveland filmmaker Johnny Wu previews screening of late...

Author: Kierra Cotton Published: 6:47 PM EDT September 14, 2021 Updated: 6:57 PM EDT September 14, 2021 70

CLEVELAND — Cleveland Filmmaker Johnny Wu is just days away from releasing his 13th feature film, "Wu Lin The Society."

To celebrate the film's release, Wu is hosting a private screening at the Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7 on Saturday, September 18 at 7 p.m.

The movie takes place in the year 2050, which looks a lot like the current year, 2021.

"Pollution and viruses are rampant and people need to wear masks breathe more easily. When people die mysteriously, police think it is the work of a serial killer. However, rumors about a demon that is doing the rampage surface. Detectives now must hurry to solve the mystery to stop the killings," a synopsis for the film reads.

So far, the movie has been well received, appearing at nearly a dozen film festivals, and receiving awards at several of them.

Wu began his filmmaking career in 1998, and with every new movie, he aims to improve his skillset.

"We also find a way to challenge ourselves. every time we make a movie, we want to make sure we can do a better job," he explained.

And with the task, also comes a self-assigned responsibility to shed a positive light on the talent and diversity that the city of Cleveland has to offer.

"For me, it's very important that diversity is involved because Cleveland is a diverse city and we're working together as a group so we're going to showcase what we can offer to the community as a whole," said Wu.

The movie was filmed throughout Northeast Ohio in the thick of the pandemic in 2020, from September through December.

"We had all the cast and crew working hard together and made sure they were protected and safe... and we decided to incorporate masks in front of the camera," Wu told 3News.

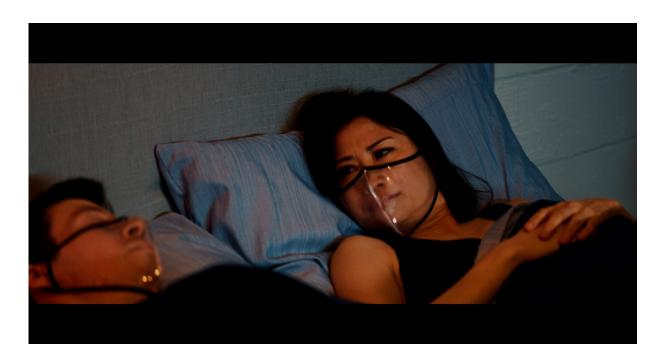
It was a decision that he was hesitant to make at first, but they pushed through and with strict guidelines and protocols, the cast and crew were able to wrap production without any positive cases.

"It was very scary, just because we didn't want anyone to get sick, we didn't want it on our consciences that people are getting sick or die because of it. So, I had to go through a lot of training and course about the COVID-19--learning how to be safe," explained Wu.

The screening with feature a question and answer session with members of the film's cast and crew, Atlanta filmmaker, Darion D'Anjou will provide a stand-up comedy set, and a distribution expert will be in attendance to answer any questions on the topic and to network.

Tickets for tickets to the private screening are still available, click here to purchase. And if you purchase online with Eventbrite and use the code, "WuLinFriend," you can save five dollars on your order.

You can watch the full trailer for "Wu Lin The Society" in the player below. And you check out Johnny Wu's full interview with Digital Reporter Kierra Cotton at the top of this article.





5 Things To Do In NEO: Celebrate Hispanic Heritage, 'Cirque Us' And Jazz



Artist Hector Castellanos-Lara paints a mural along the fence at Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center in Cleveland. [Nahomy Garcia]

AUTHOR Dave DeOreo

PUBLISHED September 16, 2021

Hispanic Heritage Month begins in Northeast Ohio with an artistic celebration and theatrical production while a rag tag circus comes to town. Here are five arts and culture events to enjoy in these waning days of summer.

¡Celebrando!

The Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center on Cleveland's Near West Side hosts ¡Celebrando! for Hispanic Heritage Month Saturday from 4 to 8 p.m. Featuring dance, art, food and a concert by members of the Cleveland Orchestra, ¡Celebrando! also includes a performance by Grammy-nominated Afro-Rican jazz artist William Cepeda.

"The House of Bernarda Alba"

Cleveland's Spanish language theater company LatinUs hosts the first production at its new Blackbox Theater, Federico García Lorca's final play "The House of Bernarda Alba." The play's Cleveland debut runs September 17 - October 3 in Spanish with English supertitles inside the Pivot Center of Art, Dance and Expression located in Cleveland's Clark-Fulton neighborhood on West 25th Street.

Cirque Us

WizBang Theatre in Cleveland Heights presents Cirque Us featuring a group of circus ragamuffins from Boston, Thursday through Saturday. The high-fying production weaves acrobats, jugglers and musicians into its traveling show, "RagTag: a Circus in Stitches."

Theron Brown Trio

Akron Civic Theatre's Knight Stage hosts Akron jazz pianist and composer Theron Brown with his trio Friday at 8 p.m. Brown, the founder of the Rubber City Jazz and Blues Festival, performs original tunes from his trio's debut album, "No Concepts."

"Wu Lin - The Society"

Award-winning Cleveland filmmaker Johnny Wu filmed his latest movie during the pandemic using social distancing and masks while complying with CDC guidelines. The result is the sci-fi feature film "Wu Lin - The Society," which gets its premiere Saturday at 7 p.m. at Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7 in Euclid.

Arts & Culture

TOPICS Arts & Culture



Cleveland Plain Dealer Cleveland.com September 16, 2021

Entertainment

Festivals, concerts and more: 20 things to do in Cleveland this weekend, Sept. 17-19

Updated: Sep. 16, 2021, 6:02 a.m. | Published: Sep. 16, 2021, 6:00 a.m.

By Joey Morona, cleveland.com

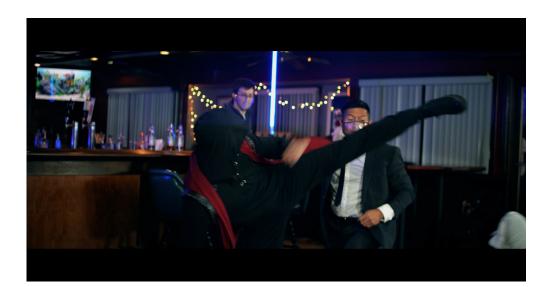
CLEVELAND, Ohio -- We've arrived at that part of the year where summer is winding down and fall events are just getting started. That means you've got the best of both worlds this weekend with concerts, festivals, theater shows and more.

So, if you're in search of plans, here are 20 ways to spend your weekend.

"Wu Lin The Society" VIP Premiere Screening

Fresh off the festival circuit where it won several awards, Cleveland filmmaker Johnny Wu's latest sci-fi action thriller holds its local premiere plus a Q&A with the cast and crew to follow. In-person or virtual screening options are available. Tickets, \$10-\$15.

Atlas Cinemas Lakeshore 7, 22624 Lake Shore Blvd., Euclid



WCPN 🥝 1 September 16 at 1:25 PM · 🕄

Award-winning Cleveland filmmaker Johnny K. Wu debuts his sci-fi feature film "Wu Lin - The Society," Saturday at 7 p.m. at Atlas Cinemas #ArtsandCultureBreak https://bit.ly/5ToDoNEOv75



14 C Love Comment A Share



Greater Cleveland Film Commission is at Lakeshore Cinema.

September 18 at 9:20 PM · Euclid · 🕥

We want to congratulate Johnny K. Wu and his cast/crew on his latest film Wu Lin- The Society which had its premiere tonight! #filmincle #clefilm





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12 Shares



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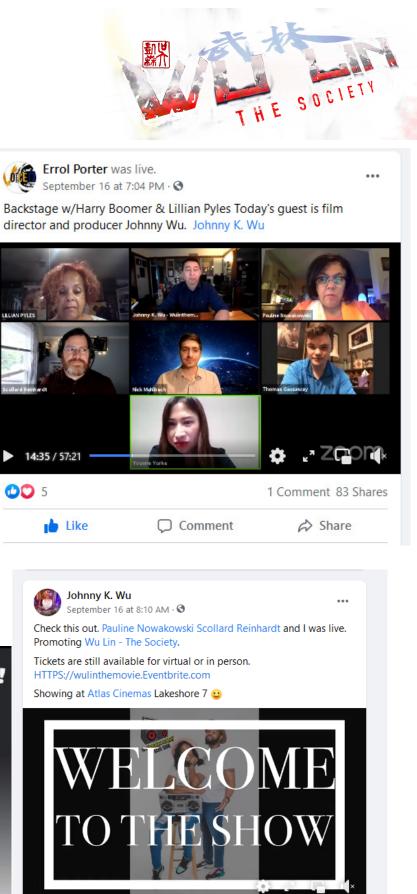
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2021年09月15日



"BACKSTAGE" Lillian Pyles and Harry Boomer COVERING film, theater and the arts WEEKLY Airs Thursdays 7PM-8PM CALL IN # 216-694-8910 CLILIAN PYLES (O) : H# THE REAL





NO Static RADIO LLC was live. September 15 at 6:22 PM · ③ Hosted by Rawn & Tae with Guest Johnny Wu



WU LIN: THE SOCIETY is a must see a brief film review by Peter Anthony Fields

After Johnny K. Wu's award winning film, IMMORTAL COMBAT: THE CODE, I was eager—more than eager—to see what Wu would come up with next. That question has been answered with his latest film, WU LIN: THE SOCIETY, and it does not disappoint.

First off, I have to say that this film certainly has the eeriest opening scene of any Johnny K. Wu film. It then moves quickly to a very cleverly orchestrated fight sequence that blends special effects with real world martial arts skill.

The opening credit sequence also serves as an opportunity to effectively give backstory which sets the audience up for the world they are about to enter, which is thirty years into the future (and that's not very long from now—remember when BACK TO THE FUTURE went ahead to 2015?).

The script successfully "follows a line" and doesn't stray, making for a cohesive screenplay which offers moments of humor, suspense and mystery with a backdrop that cleverly incorporates the ramifications of the pandemic that we are currently living through. I give high marks for the performances from the diverse cast of actors, especially considering that all the actors had to perform with face masks and face shields, as well as incorporate martial arts and the tedious precision of special effects elements. The characters are likeable, and I soon found myself caring about what their individual and collective fates would be.

The cinematography is solid and establishes an atmosphere that is mostly contemporary with a hint of futurism that emphasizes technology and dynamism. This makes the experience of seeing the film feel more real and tangible. The lighting design is especially effective during the final fight sequence. The filmmakers should also be applauded for maintaining consistency throughout the film in all of the crafts: acting, production design, sound design, stunts, visual effects and cinematography.

One of the best aspects of this film is that the fight sequences and visual effects exist to serve the story, not the other way around. Technically and artistically, this film builds on the accomplishments achieved in Wu's previous films and it does so to great success. I tip my hat to the entire cast and crew.

Brandon Jester is with Pauline Nowakowski and 5 others. September 19 at 12:53 AM · 🖧

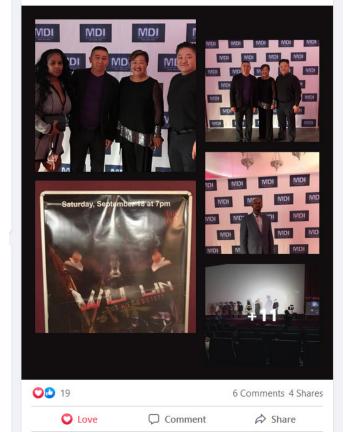
Just got back from the Johnny K. Wu premiere of Wu Lin The Society. Awesome film with an amazing cast and crew. So many I can't even name them all. Congratulations on a great film.

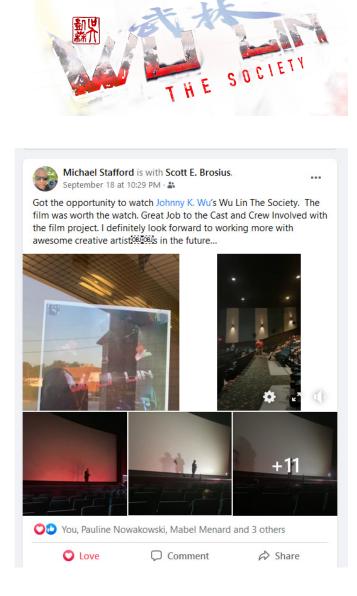
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Congratulations Johnny K. Wu, cast and crew members. The movie premiere and after party was a success. Thank you for such an amazing opportunity. I am truly grateful to work with such amazing human beings. If you missed this premiere be sure to catch it next time. Stay tuned because there is much more to come \cong $\overrightarrow{n} \rightleftharpoons$









2 Comments



J. Carlos Gonzalez is with Johnny K. Wu. September 21, 2021

I recently was given the opportunity to watch and give my honest review of Johnny K. Wu's "Wu Lin: The Society." What follows is my take on the film experience.

Websters Dictionary defines the word "Art" as the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power. I'll add the words Film or Movie to the visual form list. Like all art, film is subjective. You either like it or hate it. What one person finds great someone else may not and thus the film debates begins; debates that last for hours on end.

There's an old saving that filmmaking is hell. Well, there are actually three hells in filmmaking. Pre-production, production and post production. Each one comes with it's own set of rules and challenges. Lots of problem solving takes place in all stages of filmmaking. What makes or breaks a production is how well you handle those obstacles as they present themselves. As I watched WU LIN: THE SOCIETY, I couldn't help but think of the many hours spent pouring over preproduction to prep for such an undertaking. The costumes, the stage combat rehearsals, the cast and crew scheduling, craft services, location scouting, the ever changing shot list. Production - scheduling conflicts, weather, lighting, permits, acting, logistics. Editing - Making the film yet again. shaping and molding the story. Chipping away at the script via the images so that the characters come alive, pacing and timing; the end product.

My review has a filmmakers take on the final film. Johnny Wu and his team created a work of art. I mean that. It's beautiful to watch, has a ton of production value, action and I get the feeling that everyone involved really cared about the production. It shows in the final product. I'm not going to give a synopsis of the film. I believe the film has a Facebook page with that info but what I will say is that WU LIN: The Society is a film that everyone should see if they have the chance and see what local filmmakers in Northeast Ohio are doing.

If I had to say anything that I didn't like, it would be three edits that could use a little tightening up and the Spanish could use a little polishing. These are all personal preferences and does not in any way take away from the story or the message of the film. I felt the story was good and the acting was just as good. If I had to pick out one actor that stood out in the film, I would have to say Kyle Znamenak's performance. I felt those scenes were electrified when he was in them. Though I do have to admit that Kyle's character should seriously start looking both ways before crossing the street.

The fight sequences are very good and last long enough that you don't get bored. These scenes are well rehearsed. They take place in areas that are beautiful and that look expensive. The camera work is great! Lots of coverage and well lit; like a painting. The costumes look great and this is one of the first early pandemic productions. Johnny took great care in creating a believable setting and since there were no guidelines for filming during the pandemic, everyone wore a masks in front of the camera. It worked and it worked very well. Very believable in the world of the film. (I made the hero and stunt ninja mask for the main bad guy in the film)

All in all I was very pleased with WU LIN: The Society and what Johnny Wu and his band of filmmakers have created. It is truly a fun film. Out of all of Johnny's films, I believe this one is my favorite. So if you get a chance to watch it, you won't be disappointed. If you're able to purchase a copy, do so. Not only will you be helping these filmmakers in their filmmaking journey, but you'll be supporting a community of storytellers. If this film were graded on a 5 star system, I would give it a 4.75.

Congratulations to Johnny K. Wu and the WU LIN: The Society team on winning several awards on the film festival circuit.

Wu Lin: The Society movie review by Kenny Carpenter

Directed & Concept by Johnny K. Wu, Written by Andras Zold

As usual, whenever I do movie reviews, I try not to spoil things and I don't focus on every person involved in the movie, even if I'd like to. I am positive in my reviews with a little criticism for objectivity. That said, let's get my only pet peeve completely out of the way.... The movie is set in 2050, Cleveland....and there are still gasoline vehicles. No new Teslas. It's actually fine, though, as the world condition does go less "green" in Johnny's virus & polution set scif-fi franchise, as this is a prequel to an even further dystopian world through the movie Immortal Combat: The Code. It is like how Ridley Scott's Blade Runner is set in the same uiniverse as the Alien franchise. Hints are all throughout Wu Lin: The Society, that relate to the future based film. It is another solid martial arts sci-fi film, deeper into Johnny's universe.

How do I give something away without giving much of anything away? Ah... Picture being on a hallucination trip to merge A Nightmare On Elm Street into powers of Mortal Kombat, all under the controlled vengeance elements of AHS's Coven/ Apocalypse....all while riding along with a police investigation. Here is the irony...IT ALL MAKES SENSE for the movie.... it just does! Even with a few purposeful smoke-n-mirror style mis-directions to throw you off, if you are a fan of most of those films/shows mentioned, you will highly enjoy how this was played out. Even if you barely know any of those, you can follow this film and get enough answers to be satisfied.

We follow Jerry Sur & Thomas H.F. Gassoway as Detectives Mendoza & Jones, trying to solve practically unexplainable murders that involve what seem to be supernatural activity. As things heat up and characters start to piece together, the murderer and source all get over-confident, like in most films with powerful villains. This has been cinema since the era of silent films. The Detectives play off each other very well. Their antics could lend well to a sequel to this film, where they are involved, if so desired.

Pauline Nowakowski plays Maria, who lost the love of her life 20 years earlier, and is not one to cross. She was a perfect pick for the role. I just can't explain her character, or else you know too much. Kyle Znamenak plays Arthur, a rehab guy who if I saw correctly, you should never hand a gun to while he's freaking out. I felt he was getting the raw end of the deal out of everything happening in the film, considering his character's past. I have reviewed Kyle nearly 2 decades now, and he is alway fun to watch. Yvonne Yorke has smooth acting and is a character with a secret that helps crack open everything.

The martial arts sequences are coordinated by a handful of individuals, mainly Keith Collins II, and while I love watching him do fighting, I don't recall seeing him in this film doing actual fighting, but I did see another martial artist I enjoy onscreen, Matt Kane. He is just brutal and cinematic. Everyone fought quite well, but I have my favorites out of the series of films connected in this universe, and those 2 rule in my book.

The score was composed by 2 musicians this time, with the always great Aryavarta Kumar, and Amer Darwich. The score fit the movie smoothly, complimenting mood. The visual effects were great, as in any sci-fi, there usually are some cool things to look at. I can't describe much, as it will give more away, but it keeps things interesting. James Gappy Burney proves that technology is always a work in progress, as he has to tap his communications interface in his squad car several times to make it work. I like that reality being put in there. Director of Photography, Shawn Adams, kept everything nice and cinematic. The anamorphic ratio for the film is refreshing and every filmmaker's dream to make a film as wide screen as possible, giving that epic feel.

From what I described, this should sound like a treat for someone looking for a movie that is watchable, compared to the countless films streaming that make you shake your head. Once you watch Wu Lin: The Society, you may desire a follow-up sequel, but until then....check out Immortal Combat: The Code to stay in the universe. Enjoy something familiarly different with all this. Best, Kenny







& Associate Co., L.P.A.Attornevs At Lav

成立於 1978 年 黃唯律師有 40 年办案经验被連 選爲全美最佳律師之一并擁有 精通各類移民案件的律師團 新近被選入俄亥俄州名人堂 被選爲全國最具影響力的職 黃唯律師事務所曾被評爲馬丁領 胡拜爾 (Martindale Hubbell)A-V 級最有實力的移民律師 公司,在

華裔得墏人

全美及國際均享有極高的評價 1998 年美國愛麗斯獎得主(唯 刑事緣卡等。 榮任聯邦律師克里夫蘭工會主席

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UNIVERSITY

SMALL SCREENS

September 30, 2021 by Shawn Salamone

While Broadway and live theatre stages around the country are coming back to life, some Baldwin Wallace University grads are also lighting up cinema and television screens in projects filmed during the pandemic.

Here are just a few who are at home behind the camera.

SETH BELLINGER '10: INDIE RELEASE

Finally, Seth Bellinger '10, a Fairview, Ohio, native who graduated from Baldwin Wallace with a film and broadcasting

communications major, is featured in the upcoming feature "Wu Lin: The Society," available on Amazon Prime. Bellinger plays Jim Lextor in the indie martial arts, sci-fi film from director Johnny K. Wu.

Bellinger moved to Los Angeles after graduating from BW and has appeared in films, TV shows and commercials through the years, including films like "Love of Mass Destruction," "Instant Getaway" and "Dead of Night," along with TV series like FX's "Snowfall," ABC's "Scandal" and NBC's "Superstore."

FOUNDATION IN COMMUNICATION

Bellinger credits his BW communications professors, Judi Lakner and Dianne Crossman, with building the skills he needed to make the jump to acting.

"Their classes helped me with public speaking and building confidence when going into auditions," Bellinger says.

A man of many talents, Bellinger creates film, directs, acts and instructs tennis during his free time.

BALDWIN WALLACE GRADS SHINE ON THE SILVER AND





Seth Bellinger '10 at the debut of his film.



ENTERTAINMENT

Cleveland's Asian entertainment industry to boom with new, upcoming films

The Asian entertainment scene in Cleveland is growing at a rapid speed with an abundance of new and upcoming films.

Northeast Ohio's Asian Services in Action working to beco...

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Author: Anna Meyer Published: 1:43 PM EDT October 6, 2021 Updated: 1:43 PM EDT October 6, 2021

CLEVELAND - *Editor's Note: The video in the player above is from a previous report.

The Asian entertainment scene in Cleveland is growing at a rapid speed with an abundance of new and upcoming films.

Johnny Wu's Latest Film Premiere

On Sept. 18, Cleveland Native Johnny K. Wu held a special VIP premiere of his new film, "The Wu Lin Society." The special event was well received as 250 people attended in person and 24 attended virtually.

The night was full of surprises for attendees as they enjoyed a live comedian and surprise films on top of the "Wu Lin The Society" showing. The feedback has been positive from attendees and the movie already has received 10 awards.

CAST

Detective Mendoza **Detective Jones** Maria Consuelo Carlos Consuelo Katie Lextor Arthur Hoster Alex Chen Doug Forenski Jim Lextor

News Anchor Reporter Neighbor Old lady Andrew Weber

Captain Smith Detective Lee Dispatcher Police Officer 1 Police Officer 2 Police Officer 3 Police Officer 4 Police Officer 5 Police Officer 6

Cult Member 1 Cult Member 2 Cult Member 3 Cult Member 4 Cult Member 5 Cult Member 6 Esperanza Cult Member 7 Cult Member 8

Jerry Sur Thomas Gassaway Pauline Nowakowski Kyle Houstyn Yvonne Yorke Kyle Znamenak Ern Gerardo Matt Kane Seth Bellinger

Chris Tanaka Lisa Wong Tyler Thomas Zenobein Adams Billy Freedson Jr.

Mike Orandini Wayne Wong Sylka Edmondson James Bellanca Iessica Halas Sandy Ma James "Gappy" Burney Ryan Rip Farley Rob Motoc

> Siu Yan Scott Andrea Morris Krista Dotson Melissa Lynn Bell Julia Kolibab Crissy Kolarik Julie Simon Katrina Pearson



Coroner David Scott (Nurse 1) Fernando Gutierrez (Nurse 2) Daniel Ross (Nurse 3) Nathan Collins (Nurse) Lisa Graham (Nurse/Receptionist) Patient Bartender Ms. Forenski Mr. Juan Consuelo Medic 1 Medic 2 Medic 3 Neighbors 1 Neighbors 2 Neighbors 3 Neighbors 4 Neighbors 5 Neighbors 6 Prisoners Prisoners

Alicia Spurlock Dorjan Scott Will Guillermo Alex Daniels Keith Collins II

Kayla Royko **RJ** Davis

Lou DeNardo Jennifer Anderson Terry Giancaterino

Angela Williams Jessen Brouegman Robert Felmly

Matthew Carter Dan Hensel Larry DiBartolomeo Nick Muhlbach Scott T. Morrison Geno Oradini

Tatiana Bessemer Jeidy Soto

		Camera Assistant	Aaron Kasumic Michael Stafford	Wardrobe (Scrubs and Robes) Pauline Nowakowski
	A LETY	Focus Assist	Matthew Carter Tyler Thomas	Medic / Safety	Todd Metzendorf
THE	SOCIET		Geno Oradini Nick Muhlbach	SFX Advisor Stunts for Arthur	Richard Fike Sr. Garrett Lelapi
	CREW	Key Grip	Scott T. Morrison	Preision Driving	Jerry Sur E Ray Goodwin
Executive Producer Producer Keith	Johnny K. Wu 1 Collins II	Lighting / Grip	Martin Carlton	Wire Safety Coordinator Wire pulley	Andrew Sokol Aaron Kasunic
Associate Producer Associate Producer Associate Producer Associate Producer	ard Reinhardt Dr. Scott E. Brosius Ron George Aryavarta Kumar Mike Oradini	Sound / Boom	Aaron Kasumic Geno Oradini Terry Giancaterino Matthew Carter	whe puncy	Geno Oradini Scollard Reinhardt Matthew Carter Andrew Sokol
Associate Producer Associate Producer Associate Producer	Terry Giancaterino Nick Muhlbach Dan Hensel	Covid Compliance Officer Covid Compliance Assistant	Todd Metzendorf Matthew Carter	Fight Coordinator Assistant Fight Choreographe	
Associate Producer	Scott T. Morrison	Stand-ins	Matthew Carter		Kyle Houstyn Billy Freedson Jr.
Assistant Director	Terry Giancaterino Nick Muhlbach	Production Assistants	Matthew Carter Kayla Royko	Fight Assistant	Jerry Sur Jerrod Primm
Composers	Aryavarta Kumar Amer Darwich	Visual Make Up / Effects	Michael Stafford Ron George	BTS Photographer	Ron George Scott T. Morrison Geno Oradini
Writer Concept/Story	Andras Zold Johnny K. Wu	Prop Master	Terry Giancaterino Mike Oradini	BTS	Jerry Sur Scott T. Morrison
2nd Unit Director 3rd Unit Director	Keith Collins II Scott T. Morrison		Junk Monkey Joe Bell		Ron George Rob Motoc Matthew Carter
Director of Photography	Shawn Adams	Costume / Ninja Mask	Carlos J. Gonzales		Geno Oradini Pauline Nowakowski
Director	Johnny K. Wu	ID Badges Props	Kayla	Poster	Jerry Sur
Script Supervisor	Nick Muhlbach	Set Design	Scollard Reinhardt	Entertainment Attorney	MaryEllen Tomazic
Camera	Dr. Scott E. Brosius Scott T. Morrison Jason L. Wang Jackson Clark Tyler Thomas	Vehicle Sponsor Equipment Sponsors	Dan Hensel Ohio Camera Cars LLC Gudsen Technologies AndyCine PilotCine	Editor Color Correct/Color Grade VFX	Johnny K. Wu Johnny K. Wu Johnny K. Wu Nick Muhlbach
38	Scollard Reinhardt Nick Muhlbach Mike Oradini Geno Oradini Martin Carlton		Synco Audio DF DigitalFoto	Sound Mix	Johnny K. Wu



Craft Services

Location Managers

Raymond Elkin

Scollard Reinhardt Dr. Scott E. Brosius Johnny K. Wu

Locations	Action Ariel I Sur Re Nowak Asia P Shadov Shaolin Hansel Bolz R Metzer Ridge I Forest The Tr Tanaka Wu's R Icon W City of City of City of City of City of	kowski Resident
Stock footages		Pond5 ProductionCrate VideoHive.net
Television Scenes		Keith Collins II feature film Maximillian aka Assassin's Game
Public Relations		Erwashundah Jacobs 39



Dan Hensel

Junk Monkey

Steve Korpos Jr

T'shaka Brown

Cutz N Curves

Kane Resident

David James ImageLab Media

Al Leong

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Jeffrey Pitts

Ohio Camera Cars LLC

Shaolin Gung Fu School

Robert and Lynette Metzendof

Adam & Amanda Bolz Todd Metzendorf

JK Kang's Taekwondom North Olmsted

Midwest Railroad Perservation Society

Thanks

Equipment used

phones

5 x BMPCC4k 2 x GH5

Synco Audio Microphones Sennheiser Wireless Micro-

Manfred Lopez Grem

Amy McCorkle Anthony J. James

Jack Miller Philip May Alonda Shevette Deneen Griffin

Moza Gimbals Andycine monitors PilotFly LED lights DF DigitalFoto LED lights Luxceo LED lights **GVM LED lights**

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