



P.O. Box 35 High Rolls NM 88325  
Phone 575-682-3240

**“HORROR IN THE WIND” SYNOPSIS**

**TITLE:** HORROR IN THE WIND

**GENRE:** SCIENCE FICTION COMEDY

**DIRECTOR/WRITER:** Max Mitchell

**LOGLINE:** Two biogeneticists invent an airborne formula that reverses the whole world’s sexual orientation.

**SHORT SYNOPSIS:** Two scientists have been best friends all their lives. Colleagues at a biogenetics lab, they discover a formula that is meant to simply suppress sexual drive. But when Formula 4708 gets into the hands of a religious fanatic President of the United States, nobody is prepared for what happens. The entire world’s sexual orientation reverses in the course of a week. Everyone in the movie is overwhelmed by an outrageously personal change. But it’s how they deal with it that’s fun. When an antidote is finally found, you’d think everyone would be first in line to take it. Wouldn’t you?

**LONG SYNOPSIS:** Yesterday you were a regular, normal heterosexual with a wife and kids just like your neighbors and most people in your town. But today you’re genetically modified. It came in the night and you breathed it in your lungs. It got into your bloodstream and manipulated your identity. Its airborne biogenetic engineering agent (Formula 4708) is splicing your RNA messenger cells without your permission. Your edited RNA messengers tell your brain what cells to supercharge and what cells to deactivate. Yes, your hypothalamic cell cluster is getting smaller. Your anterior commissure growing larger. And there’s absolutely nothing you can do about it. You’re gay. That’s right. Queer as a three dollar bill.

You knew you felt different when you woke up but you didn’t quite know what it was. When you got to work, you stared at your best friend’s ass all morning. And when he noticed, he asked you out for a drink after work. How are you going to deal with this horror? Will it go away? And when it doesn’t, how will you be able to deal with it?

Your wife fixing the fence for that cute blonde babe next door. Yup, she’s gay too. And so are your friends, neighbors, and (oh my God) your kids. Everyone, that is, except the gays. They’re all straight now. Still in the minority. In a few short days, the whole world becomes gay. Atlanta to Shanghai , Sidney to Moscow .

Now that gays are the majority, life looks different. Those horrible slums across town? Designer redos. And, hey, isn’t it about time your main squeeze enjoyed sports as much as you. But the military refuses to fight. The guy who cuts your hair quit the business. You can’t let this happen. Scientists will find an antidote for sure. Won’t they? How long will it take? A year? Two? And when an antidote is finally found, you’ll be first in line to take it. Won’t you?



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## **“HORROR IN THE WIND”**

Category: Narrative Feature  
Director: Max Mitchell  
Producers: Max Mitchell, Dick Weber  
Writer: Max Mitchell  
Country of Origin: USA  
Running Time: 89 minutes 32 seconds  
Year of Completion: 2008  
Budget: \$52,863.98 US  
Language: English  
Original Format: HDV 720p 24p  
Screening Format: HDCam, Blu Ray, DigiBeta  
Sound: Stereo  
Aspect Ratio: 1.85 16X9  
SAG: Ultra Low Budget Contract

**LOG:** Two biogeneticists invent an airborne formula that reverses the whole world’s sexual orientation.

### **DIRECTOR & PRINT SOURCE CONTACT**

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## “HORROR IN THE WIND”

### STARS

Perren Hedderson  
Morse Bicknell  
Courtney Bell  
Jiji Hise  
Monica Helm  
Dennis Foulkrod  
Robert Puryear  
Katie Mehrer  
Erin Miller  
Gabe Morrison  
Misty Moberly  
M. Scott Hembree  
Andy Maiorano  
Trevor Cooper  
Bruce Harders  
Ernest Stuydevant  
Mike Miller

### PRODUCTION TEAM

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Max Mitchell     | Writer/Producer/Director                  |
| Dick Weber       | Executive Producer/Proder                 |
| Dennis Mach      | Production Coordinator/Associate Producer |
| John Graham      | Director of Photographer                  |
| Andy Maiorano    | First Assistant Director                  |
| Katie Mehrer     | Costume Designer                          |
| Dave Partch      | Props Master                              |
| Dominic D’Angelo | Production Designer                       |



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## “HORROR IN THE WIND”

### **MAX MITCHELL** (Writer, Producer, Director)

Max Mitchell has written several plays which have been produced in New York, Florida and Los Angeles. His play Life Support was called "a tour de force achievement ... and unforgettable" by the Los Angeles Times during its run at West Coast Ensemble. Life Support is published in The Best American Short Plays of 94/95 (Applause Books) along with plays by such distinguished playwrights as Elaine May, Steve Martin, David Mamet and Thornton Wilder. Mr. Mitchell began his career as a professional actor and has appeared in many plays and musicals across his native Canada. He studied acting with the legendary Uta Hagen in New York City. He was co-founder of the Off Off Broadway theater 500 Theater Row, on 42nd Street in New York City where he produced several plays and cabarets, including Piaf, A Love Song and Marlene, Marlene. Mr. Mitchell is a two time finalist in the prestigious Writers Film Project and has received an Edward Albee Artist's Fellowship. "Get Your Stuff," his first feature film, was honored in North Carolina with best feature and in Portland, Oregon, with the coveted audience award. Max is currently editing a documentary about his uncle, David Maxwell, who invented one of the first cars in 1900. His short film, The Spirit & the Earth," about the mission at Laguna Pueblo, won the top prize at Pahfest, Grants in June 2007. Max's next feature, "Horror In The Wind," a sci fi comedy, will be released in spring 2008.

### **DICK WEBER** (Executive Producer/Producer)

Dick Weber is a successful businessman with advanced degrees in Marketing and Instructional Systems Technology. He has experience with National Education Film Service and has studied film production for many years. He established public television station WNIN-TV in Evansville, Indiana and has had experience in radio broadcasting throughout his life. He began his career in media in 1965 at Ferris State University where he was the lead campus designer of a 2.5 million dollar state of the art communications center. He was awarded Citizen of the year in Detroit in 1984 and in Ruidoso, New Mexico in 2001 for his community service.

### **JOHN GRAHAM** (Director of Photography)

John Graham was born in Alamogordo, New Mexico, where he grew up with a love and fascination for the deserts of his state. He attended the Savannah College of Art and Design where he concentrated in Directing and Cinematography. Since college John has worked on many projects that have won awards including the recent PahFest where his work as Director of Photography helped to win "Spirit and The Earth" first place. Recently John volunteered on a NMFI project, 'Banshee' where he designed the look and style of the film, which will show in Sept. John is co-owner of the small production company, Wicked Kitten Pictures, based out of Santa Fe. In 2006 they shot a music video for an Illinois band, Vivesect, in White Sands National Monument. The video is viewable online and soon to be on MTV and MTV2.



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**DENNIS MACH** (Production Coordinator/Associate Producer)

Originally from Michigan, Dennis relocated to High Rolls Mountain Park New Mexico in 2006 upon retirement from the Ford Motor Company after 33 years of service. At Ford Motor Dennis held many different coordinating positions within the Engineering Center including an 18 month assignment in Koln Germany. Coordinating the efforts of design engineers, purchasing and production plant personnel prepared Dennis for his latest challenge as Production Coordinator for Revision Studios.

**DAVID ZIPPEL's** lyrics have won him the **Tony** (City of Angels) two **Academy Award Nominations** (Hercules, Mulan), two **Grammy Nominations** (City of Angels, Mulan) and three **Golden Globe Nominations** (The Swan Princess, Hercules, Mulan). With Cy Coleman and Larry Gelbart, for City of Angels he also received the **NY Drama Critics Circle, Drama Desk, Olivier and Evening Standard Awards**. "Go The Distance" written with Alan Menken, was his first of **three number one records**. The Goodbye Girl written with Marvin Hamlisch and Neil Simon received a **Tony nomination** for Best Musical. His lyrics for The Woman In White written with Andrew Lloyd Webber, earned him a **Tony Nomination** and an **Olivier Nomination**. David's songs have been performed by many great singers including Stevie Wonder, Mel Torme, Ricky Martin, 98 Degrees, Michael Bolton, Christina Aguilera, Cleo Laine, Nancy LaMott, Sarah Brightman Jeffery Osborne and Boyzone. (see press release)

**MARC CHAIT** Emmy Award winning composer, Marc Chait has performed worldwide for audiences as diverse as the King of Swaziland and Hillary Clinton. Born in Capetown, South Africa, Marc has now become an internationally recognized composer/ songwriter known for his haunting melodies and sweeping orchestrations. His song, The Power of One, sung by Donna Summer, was a billboard hit for 8 weeks on the charts. He is completing his debut CD, "Love is the Antidote," produced by the renowned producers, Ivan Koutikov and Charlie Midnight. (see press release)

**KATIE MEHRER:** When not designing costumes for Horror in the Wind, Katie is a freelance writer who ghostwrites memoirs for people with exciting lives. She is also the fashion editor for Santa Fe, New Mexico's Local Flavor, and a seamstress in the costume shops of major motion pictures. She is currently designing summer dresses for her Santa Fe fashion line, "Bashful Bob," and working on a novel about misguided youth lost somewhere between technology and magic.

### CAST

**MORSE BICKNELL** The ruggedly handsome Morse Bicknell combines the raw intensity of a young De Niro with the smoldering sex appeal of a young Brando (not to mention the incomparable majesty of a young Olivier) to create a performance that can only be described as "God-like"...Morse is currently completing a double major in theater and music at the University of New Mexico. His checkered past includes the following wacky misadventures: serving in the US Army as a Russian



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linguist; earning a B.A. in Philosophy; working for three years on an ambulance; and jumping twice out of a helicopter at 3,000 feet for no good reason."

**JJI HISE** was born in the small town of Roswell, NM. She has pretty much lived her whole life in New Mexico, although she has spent a few summers in other states. She attended New Mexico State University from 2000 - 2005, where she obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. While attending NMSU she not only acted in several productions, including "The Laramie Project" and "The Skriker", she also constructed costumes for many of them, as well as designing a few. After graduating in 2005, she went to Chatham, NY to work as the Wig Designer/Wardrobe Assistant at the Mac-Haydn Theatre. While working in NY, Jiji realized that there was a growing film community back in her home state. So after finishing the season at the Mac, she came back to NM to attend the Film Tech Training Program. FTTP allowed her to make contacts with several individuals in the film community. In early 2007 Jiji became a member of IATSE Local 480 as a makeup artist and costumer. Around the same time, she gained representation for her acting from A&M Agency in Santa Fe. 'Horror In the Wind' is the first feature length film Jiji has acted in. It was also her first nude and sex scenes (hope it turns out good.) She is currently working as an Assistant Manager in charge of costumes and makeup at Hogle's Theatrical Supply in Santa Fe.



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**ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE PENS SONG FOR FEATURE**

Revision Studios announced today that two time **Academy Award nominee, David Zippel**, and **Emmy Award winner Marc Chait**, have created the closing song for its new feature length comedy, "**Horror In The Wind.**" The song, "Love Is the Antidote," is performed by Marc Chait and will also appear on his new album of the same name to be released this summer.

David Zippel's lyrics have won him the Tony Award, two Academy Award Nominations, two Grammy nominations and three Golden Globe nominations. He is one of few contemporary lyricists to have achieved success on Broadway, in Hollywood and in the world of Pop music. His songs appear on over 25 million CDs around the world. With composer Cy Coleman and bookwriter Larry Gelbart he made his Broadway debut with City of Angels, for which he received the Tony Award, New York Drama Critics Award and Drama Desk Award, London's Olivier Award and Evening Standard Award.

With eight time Oscar winning composer Alan Menken, he wrote the songs for Disney's animated feature film Hercules. Michael Bolton recorded "Go The Distance," from Hercules, which was a #1 record and was nominated for an Academy Award and a Golden Globe. With Matthew Wilder he wrote the songs for Disney's animated feature Mulan, which earned him his second Academy Award Nomination, his second Grammy nomination and his third Golden Globe Nomination. "Reflection" from Mulan was recorded by Christina Aguilera and is featured on her multi-platinum debut album. Christina and David collaborated again with Todd Chapman to write the song "We're A Miracle," which was featured as the end title song for Pokemon, The First Movie, on it's #1 soundtrack album.

David wrote the lyrics to Andrew Lloyd Webber's music for The Woman In White "I Believe My Heart" from the show was a #2 single on the British pop chart and the show was nominated for 5 Olivier 2005 Awards including Best Musical and a 2006 Tony Nomination for Best Score. His Broadway show, The Goodbye Girl, with music by Marvin Hamlisch and a book by Neil Simon, received a Tony nomination for Best Musical and earned him a Nomination for the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Lyrics. His lyrics for The Swan Princess, an animated feature with music by Lex De Azevedo, were Nominated for a Golden Globe Award.





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Many great singers have recorded David's songs including Stevie Wonder, Mel Torme, Ricky Martin, 98 Degrees, David Pomeranz, Cleo Laine, Linda Eder, Nancy LaMott, Sarah Brightman, Barbara Cook, Jeffrey Osborne and Boyzone. With Michael Skloff he wrote the theme song for the hit TV sitcom Veronica's Closet. With Mervyn Warren he wrote the theme song to the Jennifer Lopez film "The Wedding Planner." With composer Wally Harper he has written numerous songs for singer Barbara Cook including It's Better With A Band and the original songs for her Broadway and West End concerts. Off Broadway, Mr. Zippel has contributed lyrics to the A...My Name is Alice and Hal Prince's Diamonds and, Just So. A revue of his songs also entitled It's Better With A Band played Off Broadway and the Donmar in London.

Emmy Award winning composer, Marc Chait has performed worldwide for audiences as diverse as the King of Swaziland and Hillary Clinton. Born in Capetown, South Africa, Marc has now become an internationally recognized composer/ songwriter known for his haunting melodies and sweeping orchestrations. His song, The Power of One, sung by Donna Summer, was a billboard hit for 8 weeks on the charts. He is completing his debut CD, "Love is the Antidote," produced by the renowned producers, Ivan Koutikov and Charlie Midnight.

Marc also recently finished scoring music for Disney (Disney Adventures) and the film Dying to Live which had its worldwide debut in Los Angeles in March 2008. Marc scored and music supervised, Come Away Home starring Paul Dooley and Martin Mull. He is currently working on the film "State of Affairs" directed by Philip McKinley and co-writing with Ann Hampton Callaway (Tony nominated and celebrated song writer and performer) and David Zippel (Oscar nominated lyricist and Tony award Winner).

Marc is currently co-executive producing the movie "Vivaldi" with Michel Shane, Boris Damast and Carlos Melcer starring Joseph Fiennes, Carice van Houten, Gerard Depardieu, Jacqueline Bisset and Malcolm McDowell. Marc recently completed "Little Man" for Showtime which won 12 best film titles around the world 2006-2007. He is also in production of a children's television series to be launched this year.

Marc has completed two BABY SERIES CD's which have become BEST sellers, called Lullabies renditions of U2 and Bob Marley both available in all stores and downloads. Marc





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has just launched Yoga Safari (available on itunes and cdbaby.com/cd/marcchait), a collection of his classical-style music with ethnic percussion and inviting guest artists to perform that benefits the charity of their choosing.

“Horror In The Wind,” a sci fi comedy starring Perren Hedderson, Morse Bicknell, Courtney Bell, Jiji Hise and Gabe Morrison was shot almost entirely in southern New Mexico as well as Canada, Washington, New York, London, Paris and Rome.

Written and directed by Max Mitchell, “Horror In The Wind” is a comedy about two biogeneticists who invent an airborne formula that reverses the whole world’s sexual orientation. It will be released next month.



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### **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

I woke up one morning with the idea for "Horror In The Wind." What would happen if all of a sudden the whole world's sexual orientation reversed. Ninety percent gay and ten percent straight.

My view of the world is comedic. Humor is everywhere but I tend toward the controversial and inflammatory. It's my nature to be political and use satire or parody to provoke.

My alcoholic father was so remote that I learned early on that the only way to get a reaction was to sharpen my wit and go for the jugular. Often it resulted in my getting a beating but at least it was a reaction. It continues to get me into trouble.

When I moved to southern New Mexico I was not sure what I'd find but I met Dick Weber soon thereafter and he has been my producing partner ever since. His positive "can do" approach made this production possible.

Gay rights and family were explored in my first feature, "Get Your Stuff." "Horror" explores gay rights as well as: (1) religious fanatics controlling the US government; (2) the self-serving nature of religion; (3) bigotry switching sides; (4) if sexual orientation were a choice what would people choose; and (5) biogenetics.

I had been aware of biogenetic work on insects for some time. There is lots research out there on how biogenetics manipulates or suppresses the sex drives of insects so they will not procreate. Billions of dollars worth of agricultural crops have been saved this way. I thought it would be interesting applied to mammals (rats) and then, of course, humans.

In spite of the comedic nature of the project, I have to confess that the research scared the hell out of me. Most people are probably not aware of discoveries in biogenetics that may one day, in the wrong hands, wreak havoc on our lives. This story looks at such a scenario run completely amok but with surprising results.

The script was originally written with many more characters for a budget of \$375,000. When it became clear that we were not going to have that much money I did a "slash and burn" rewrite on the script so that we could do it for \$35,000. That meant cutting 37 speaking parts.

In the end, the movie cost less than \$53,000. Miraculous, considering that we have an airplane and a car explosion in it as well as video I got traveling to Washington, New York, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, London, Paris and Rome. My domestic partner is an airline employee so I could travel to those places with the camera for very little money.



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My first feature shot on film. This is my second feature and the first one shot on HD. Technically the learning curve is steep. In addition I am doing all my own post for the first time and that is very challenging. We're living in a rapidly changing technical environment and it requires constant education.

One of the benefits of living in a remote part of New Mexico is that costs are low and people are so generous that they give lots of stuff for free. This allowed us to make "Horror" on an incredibly low budget.