

Vitaly Sumin
and VM Productions
Present:



SPIDER MAN

and
Crime & Punishment



PRESS KIT

Vitaly Sumin and VM Productions Present:

SPIDER MAN and CRIME & PUNISHMENT



WRITERS AND PERFORMERS Carolyn Ho, Katherine Marie Penney



ANIMATION Corali Ribas, Gerardo Torres

CAMERA, EDITING Farzad Refahi



PRODUCED & DIRECTED
Vitaly Sumin

www.vmpfilms.com www.dostoevsky-bts.com
© 2020 VM Productions



SYNOPSIS

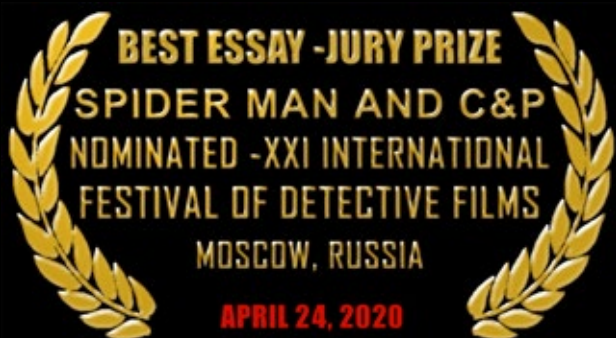
Kate and Carolyn meet Peter Parker (aka Spider Man) and Rodion Raskolnikov, the hero of Dostoyevsky's "Crime and Punishment". They participate in the miracles by Peter and witness the murder by Rodion.

Is Peter the alternative personality of Rodion? Are we experiencing the realization of Dostoyevsky's prophecies? And finally, should we still read the "old" books in order to understand our presence and predict our future?



OVERVIEW

In this documentary essay, two of the most iconic characters in all of fiction appear together for the first time. At first glance they would seem to have little in common. One is a brilliant university student tortured by a nascent conscience after committing a heinous deed. The other is an American high school student who acquires enormous powers after being bitten by a radioactive spider. One is on a mission to prove an asocial theory of morality; the other is on a mission to serve the public by combatting crime. But there's more here than meets the eye. It's a classic case of compare and contrast, and in the process we gain a fresh perspective on these two characters and on ourselves.



IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE:



CAROLYN HO

Possessing a strong background in communications and digital media, Carolyn straddles the worlds of pop culture, classic literature, and folklore, with a special interest in Greek mythology. Her favorite writers include Mary Shelley, Charles Dickens, Oscar Wilde, and E.B. White. Her literary passions also encompass Aesop's Fables, Gary Paulsen's Hatchet, and Harry Potter, to name a few.



KATHERINE MARIE PENNEY

An English literature and philosophy major in college, Kate once memorably described going to class as her "drug of choice." Among her favorite philosophers and authors are Plato, Augustine, Kierkegaard, Dostoevsky, D. H. Lawrence, Flannery O'Connor, Slavoj Zizek, and George Saunders. Her favorite filmmakers include Stanley Kubrick, Martin Scorsese, David Lynch, Charlie Kaufman, and Lars von Trier. In November 2018 she moved to LA to pursue a screenwriting career.



PETER PARKER

While still in high school, Peter was bitten by a radioactive spider at a science exhibit. This caused him to acquire extraordinary powers and subsequently led to a part-time career as a superhero.



RODION RASKOLIKOV

A once-promising law student, Rodion is best known for killing pawnbroker Alyona Ivanovna both for her money and to test a pet theory regarding the limits of conventional morality.

PRODUCER AND DIRECTOR:

VITALY SUMIN

Vitaly Sumin is a producer, writer and director, known for *White Nights*, *Shades of Day*, *Notes from the New World*, *The Missing Screenwriter*, and the plurality of the other titles.

After receiving an M.S. degree in Oceanography, Vitaly Sumin produced ocean-related documentaries (Jacques Cousteau style) which eventually led him to abandon his scientific career to obtain a B.A. degree in film directing. He subsequently worked as a co-writer and producer on numerous productions.

Sumin's award-winning short film *From Womb To Tomb*, which he wrote, directed edited, and produced, made a world tour of important festivals.

Following that initial success, Sumin's path diverged slightly - from filmmaking to game development. In 1988, he received a US patent #4,784,394 for *The World Belongs To You!* - an interactive tourist game (including video, reality TV and other versions)

Resuming his film pursuit, Sumin attended the Sorbonne in Paris under a study grant. His script *The Idiot*, which recast Fyodor Dostoyevsky novel as a contemporary international thriller, received a development grant from The Warner Bros Fund. Later Sumin moved to Los Angeles, California, and created VM Productions to develop and produce quality films based on original stories and masterpieces of world literature.

His project *Crime and Punishment, LA* became the winner of the European Co-Production Matchmaking Program, which was featured during the panel at SXSW.

POST PRODUCTION (2020):

Dostoyevsky Reimagined-BTS (97 min)

IN PRE PRODUCTION (2020):

Crime & Punishment, LA

Nick Investigates Robert Hurley Disappearance

Shades of Blood





ILLUSTRATOR:

CORALI RIBAS

Born in Barcelona, Spain, Corali is an illustrator, comic book artist, and writer. In her work, she seeks to balance aesthetics with irony, mixing realism, pop art, and elements from the fashion world. Corali holds a BA in graphic design and a master's degree in illustration and is currently nearing completion of her first comic book, titled "Back Home."

ANIMATOR:

GERARDO TORRES CARRILLO

A 3D artist with more than ten years of experience in the field of animation, Gerardo has worked extensively with game studios, creating characters from scratch. His portfolio also contains a broad variety of personal projects involving animations, videos, and comics.

CREDITS

Writers and Performers

KATHERINE MARIE PENNEY, CAROLYN HO

Original Idea

VITALY SUMIN

Assistant Director, Camera, Editing, Sound

FARZAD REFAHI

Illustrator

CORALI RIBAS

Animation and Titles

GERARDO TORRES

Produced & Directed

VITALY SUMIN

Poster

ANNA SIVIERO

Press Kit (graphics)

MÁRCIO SERRADO

Artistic Advisor and Press Kit (text)

DAN MARCUS

FAIR USE

[running time: 7 minutes, 58 seconds]

www.vmpfilms.com www.dostoevsky-bts.com

© 2020 VM Productions

