

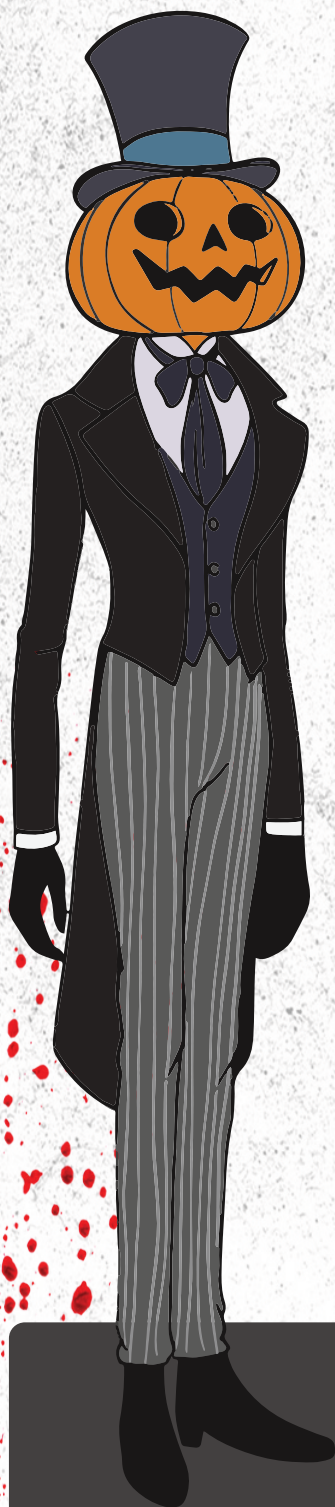


THE
CANDY CANE
PRE-PRODUCTION PRESSKIT *hit*

When holiday mascots unite against the encroaching dominance of Christmas, Jack, the charismatic trickster, orchestrates a daring plot to take out the one and only Big Red himself!

With the fate of the festive season hanging in the balance, they'll need cunning tricks and clever treats to succeed...so you better watch out!

ABOUT THE HOLIDAYS *and the Hit*



For centuries, the Holidays have coexisted in harmony; United—and sometimes divided—by the love of chocolate.

Yet, among vibrant landscapes where each holiday has its own unique charm, a fragile peace is shattered as Christmas seems to dominate the calendar a little more, year after year.

Enter Jack; The charming trickster who's had enough of Christmas hogging the spotlight. With a few tricks up his sleeve, he unites his fellow holiday mascots - Cupid, Bunny, St. Patrick and others - in a daring plot to take out the growing threat.

Featuring an original score that pulsates with nostalgic holiday energy, *The Candy Cane Hit* brings this colourful world to life with a hand-drawn animation style reminiscent of classic 90s films, Film Noir and cult classic Saturday-morning cartoons.

Join Jack and the gang on their wild journey, where laughter reigns supreme, and remember, in a world of holiday cheer, sometimes it takes a little trickery to bring back the balance;

...So, you better watch out!

THE
TWISTED
details

genre: *crime/comedy*

duration: *25 - 30 min*

release: *holidays '25*

country: *Canada*

audio & sound: *stereo*

ratio: *widescreen/1080p*

closed captions:

English (original)

*French, Spanish, Polish,
Gaeilge/Irish (available '26)*

audio languages:

English (original)

additional languages pending

FEATURING THE VOICES *and talent of*

Noel Leboeuf

as Jack

Misha Bakshi

as Bunny

Ali Gohar

as Baby

Anna Cherkaeva

as Cupid

Pol Seoige

as St. Patrick

with special appearances from:

Margaret Ferreira

as Gobb

Renata Ona

as Gobble

and:

Richard Martin

as Big Red

with additional vocals from:

Selby Pratt, Austin Aylwin & others

Picked from a pile of throw-away ideas, Executive Producer & Director, **Maher El Hares**, knows a great plot when he hears one - commissioning the script for further development after reconnecting with the writer.

Frequently popping up in the background of film & TV programs made in Canada, screen credits include *Blackberry (2023)*, *Ruby & The Well (2023)* and *A Last Push for Love (2023)*; The latter being Maher's latest short-film Producer's credit, filmed in association with the *Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists (ACTRA)*.

An avid fan of theatre, Broadway and musicals, Maher is excited to incorporate an all-original soundtrack to underscore the emotional impact that music and sound plays in storytelling. Don't worry, it's not a "musical"...

DOING WHATEVER *it takes*



INTRODUCING THE MASTERMINDS *behind the hit*



Drawing from an eclectic mix of inspirations – an obscure 9GAG meme reimagining fast food mascots as crime bosses and an anti-capitalist critique of holiday commercialization – writer, **Austin Aylwin** embraces the absurdity of the holiday landscape with clever wordplay and well-timed visual gags in this refreshingly brutal tale that promises laughter and intrigue.

Currently completing a post-graduate teaching practicum, Austin also features in a fun little cameo as our story's bartender...drawing on years of experience!

A regular contributor to trailer music and production libraries, classily-trained French composer **Hubert Razack, SCGC**, brings over 20 years of music experience to Canadian stages and screens; Commissioned to compose an original soundtrack & score, Hubert's orchestrations uniquely tie the worlds of the Holidays with a driving pace. Previous credits including *The Boy Who Became A Legend* (stage) & *Once Upon A Rose* (dance show) among others.



Based in Birmingham, UK, Animator & Digital Artist **Junior Thomas** brings his uniquely dark animation style with a hint of Film Noir flair to this holiday hit-piece; Known in Canada for the award-winning animated short, *Never Shake the Devil's Hand* (2022), Junior is passionate about animation and looks to draw up another cult-classic with this tale full of lush worlds, vibrant characters and twisted minds.

HOW TO WATCH *the preview*

Scan the QR code or visit our crowdfunding website to watch a 5-minute animatic preview with original sounds & score!



WE NEED
YOUR HELP
to save the Holidays

Every filmmaker relies on a little bit of luck finding production funding. Seeking to complement our public crowdfunding campaign, this film provides a vibrant and unique canvas for brands to shine as featured corporate sponsors.

By partnering with us, you're not just funding a new short film; You're engaging with an audience eager for a relatable experience, and willing to engage with like-minded brands.



LET'S
INTEGRATE
your brand

Our story takes place in a bistro or a bar - an opportune way to ingrate location naming into an exciting holiday hit-piece, aimed at an international adult audience.

With a fun gag sequence planned for the end-credits, we suggest integrating our animated gags for your own international advertising campaigns, along with our original orchestrations by French composer, **Hubert Razack**, or voiced by our cast!



The Candy Cane Hit
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Scan the QR code to
visit our website or email
production@thecandycanehit.com

HOW TO
CONTACT
the production

www.TheCandyCaneHit.com