

CARLO ORTU

Writer/Director

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BA Hons First Class Media Production, Bournemouth University
Selected for Think-Shoot-Distribute 2009

Feature Films

2009 **The Killers** (65 mins) Motive Pictures and Sugarspun Pictures

Low-budget feature about two hitmen who first stake out their victim and then attempt to carry out the murder. Things do not go to plan.

Black Comedy. Stars Anna Acton, Ian Attfield, Matthew Jure and Colin Holt.

Distributor: IndieMoviesOnline.com

"The Killers is a fantastic film made for no money that blends incredibly witty dialogue with incredible heart."
Noel Clarke (Adulthood, Doghouse, BAFTA Orange Newcomer Winner)

Please see www.sugarspunpictures.com/the_killers.htm for more details.

Short Films

2010 **The Man Who Stopped** (15 mins) Sugarspun Pictures

Following the death of his wife, Derek turns to the street art of being a living human statue as he attempts to deal with his grief on his own terms. Currently in post-production. Comedy

Please see www.sugarspunpictures.com/themanwhostopped.htm for more details

2007 **Safe Zone** (16 mins) Sugarspun Pictures/Agenda

A soldier returns from the war in Afghanistan and finds the peace he wants is hard to find. Drama.

Winner Audience Award Shortwave Film Festival 2008

Nominated For NPA Best Film 2008

Nominated UK Film Council Award For Best Film

at The London Short Film Festival 2008

Selected For Special Screening Cannes International Film Festival 2008

Shortlisted Top 20 Highly Commended Section For The TCM Classic Shorts Competition 2007

Distributor: Ouat Media for Movieola-The Short Film Channel.

Screened at various national and international film festivals.

Please see www.sugarspunpictures.com/safe_zone.htm for more details.



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2006 **Jimmy's 15 Minutes**

(12 mins) Sugarspun Pictures

Although Jimmy is the subject of an exposé documentary on Satanism it soon becomes apparent his knowledge on the subject is somewhat lacking. Comedy.

Screened at various national and international film festivals.
Please see www.sugarspunpictures.com/jimmys_15_minutes.htm for more details.

2006 **Eyes Wide Open**

(11 mins) Sugarspun Pictures

A documentary film crew follows the progress of Dave Watson from Liverpool as he prepares to travel to America to take part in the World Staring Contest in the hope of being crowned the World Stare Master. Comedy.

Screened at various national and international film festivals.
Please see www.sugarspunpictures.com/eyes_wide_open.htm for more details.

2006 **A Man in the Crowd**

(17 mins) Sugarspun Pictures

Feeling stuck in a rut estate agent Andy has a radical make over and for the first time in years feels revitalised and good about himself. Unfortunately everyone else finds his 'new look' just too radical and Andy is faced with some tough choices. Comedy.

Screened at various national and international film festivals.
Please see www.sugarspunpictures.com/a_man_in_the_crowd.htm for more details.

2005 **Smile**

(11 mins) Sugarspun Pictures

Angered by the drug dealers plying their trade outside his flat, Dave Webster begins his own hidden surveillance operation. Comedy.

Screened at various national and international film festivals.
Please see www.sugarspunpictures.com/smile.htm for more details.

2004 **Constant Battle**

(2 mins) Sugarspun Pictures

An anti-war short focusing on a woman's obsessive need to clean. Drama.

Screened at various national and international film festivals.
Please see www.sugarspunpictures.com/constant_battle.htm for more details.



Selected Press

Think Shoot Distribute

"It was clear from the exceptionally high calibre of applicants this year that over the last few years Think-Shoot-Distribute has evolved into one of the most highly regarded training schemes for emerging filmmaking talent in the UK." - Janine Marmot, Director of Film, Skillset

The Killers

"The Killers is a fantastic film made for no money that blends incredibly witty dialogue with incredible heart. You feel for the hapless wannabe assassins, getting an insight into their loneliness through each other. The writer/director's on point perspective of what being alone can drive human beings to is only outclassed by the performances he pulled from the cast." - Noel Clarke (Adulthood, Doghouse, BAFTA Orange Newcomer Winner)

"The Killers is a real find. An intelligent and witty script that is excellently played by an all-strong cast. The darkly humorous narrative accompanied by Hitchcockian music is entertaining and compelling. Ian Attfield and Matthew Jure's performances as the unlikely hitmen make for a hilarious comedy duo. Jure's portrayal of the hapless Mike is simply brilliant. He is an extraordinary comic talent. A great film brimming with talent and flair. Highly recommended. *****" - IndieMoviesOnline Review

Split Focus at the B.F.I.- organised by Shootingpeople and the BFI this was a series of retrospectives on up and coming writers and directors

Carlo Ortu is the filmmaker who really prompted me to start thinking about this new series of screenings in the first place. Working with very little backing or resource he has persisted in making delightful, heartbreaking, angry and funny films and as you'll see his body of work shows a unique voice that demands more support. What marks him out from the crowd is that, unlike so many, he has a real sense of cinema. His films are all deceptively simple but draw their power from great performances, a central angry passion and an ability to hook you in just at the point where other filmmakers would lose you. His films twist, but are never about twists. His films are funny, but are never simply jokes.

A Man In The Crowd

"It certainly bears all the hallmarks of his previous work: great performances, quietly arresting imagery and the sort of restless and playful imagination that is a rare joy to spend time with. In a world overburdened with television series and soap operas there are too few people working in this industry who are capable of creating moments of real cinema." - Ben Blaine, Shooting People

Smile

"You've made this film that flies by with effortless simplicity and continuity, which will most likely be the envy of all independent filmmakers. Well done." - Mark Brown, Northern Heights Film Festival

"It stood out for me as easily one of the most original and enjoyable pieces of work I'd seen in ages." - Ben Blaine, Shooting People



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