

the world of the end

PRESS KIT

GUY IN HIS BASEMENT PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
"THE WORLD OF THE END"
CAROLYN SIEGEL EMILY MARK ADAM BERTOCCI
MUSIC BY VAN KAPEGHIAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY KENT SANDERSON
WRITTEN, DIRECTED, PRODUCED AND EDITED BY ADAM BERTOCCI



ABOUT THE FILM

The World of the End is a drama about a young woman's first few hours after being fired from corporate America. Madison Shuster (Carolyn Siegel) is in her twenty-fifth year, out of a job, left to fend for herself and right on target for disaster. The film chronicles her journey home and the perspective she gains on maturity and what it means today.

If the shame of asking her parents for a bail-out wasn't enough by itself, Madison knows the first thing she's going to hear is comparisons to her older sister Sofie (Emily Mark), and not the positive kind. Sofie is a successful business owner with a doctor husband and an impressive Manhattan address; Madison's last accomplishment was summoning the courage to stop crying about losing her mindless clerical job.

Her parents aren't in when she reaches the small suburb of Chadbrook, so Madison bums around a bit in the home she grew up in, coming across a few relics of happier, more hopeful times. Suddenly, she's interrupted by a phone call from her father. High-strung Sofie's apparently been under more pressure than she's let on, and has crashed on the job; she's recovering at a nearby hospital, and needs Madison to rally round.

While waiting in a parking lot to be picked up to visit Sofie, Madison comes across a mysterious young man (Adam Bertocci) in a red convertible. They get to talking. He, too, is on the threshold between adolescence and adulthood, and he, too, has few successes to show for his age. But he has wisdom and comfort to offer Madison, and she gradually comes to accept that, as bad as the day has been, it's not the end of the world... but something else entirely.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

The first postcollegiate film from award-winning filmmaker Adam Bertocci, *The World of the End* was conceived specifically as a vehicle for Carolyn Siegel, a young actor with both considerable talent and a special ability to connect with audiences. Moreover, it was written very carefully around specific, available props, locations and schedules in order to maximize limited resources and create a movie that looked like it had a much bigger crew and budget than it actually did.

Sporadic shoots took place from March into May of the year 2006 in Manhattan, the Bronx, suburban Westchester and the little town of Pawling in Dutchess County, New York. High-definition post-production was accomplished on a standard-issue Macintosh desktop computer.

STATEMENT FROM THE DIRECTOR

They go by many names—thresholders, twixters, the boomerang generation, adultescents. Sociologists, anthropologists, journalists and everyone in between have been eager to chronicle the new trend of American youth’s long, drawn-out passage into true adulthood, wondering if the transition will be successfully breached by all. The country is headed for a crisis; more and more young people need money, room and board from parents to survive, the job market grows more dismal with each passing year, a college degree has gone from advantage to luxury-priced necessity, credit card debts are accumulating left and right and seemingly no one, young or old, is able (if even willing) to save for the future.

Every year, diplomas in hand, an eager, fresh-faced crew of newly minted liberal arts majors goes out in the world with nothing more than optimism and student loans. Whatever fantasies they may have held about landing a good, safe job with a big corporation—retiring in their sixties with a gold watch, a pension check and Social Security, of course—are quickly replaced with bouncing from job to job and parental bailouts on the auto insurance bill. And you can’t boldly change the world for the better from a cubicle.

When I first began creating *The World of the End*, I was focused on the story of one young person, in the intent to create a role for Carolyn Siegel to shine. With every book and article that came my way, I realized I wasn’t just telling Madison’s story of her struggles against life in “the real world”. Nor was I telling just my own story of disillusionment and trying to make it in the film biz. I was telling the story of thresholders everywhere. I had to offer them hope. I had to pat them on the shoulder and say, “Someone understands. Someone cares.”

If it’s all I have to offer, at least I can offer it with confidence in a solid film that I can be proud of.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS AND CAST

ADAM BERTOCCI (writer-director-producer-editor-“EMPTYNST”-etc.) is a radio-television-film alumnus of Northwestern University and an award-winning filmmaker. He is the creator of several films, including *Date Double*, *Run Leia Run*, *Sparky*, *Deployed to Scene 4: An Outpost Diary*, *Love: The Movie* and *Pat Gets a Cat*. He has also written for other filmmakers, including *Two Ugly Sisters* (co-written with director Daniel Viney) and *The Dingle* for director Bryan Harley. In the professional world, he has worked on everything from short narratives to feature documentaries to television series.

KENT SANDERSON (director of photography) is an alumnus of the famous film program at New York University, where he created the classic sci-fi homage *Captain Valedor*, currently launching toward the festival circuit. While this film marks his first proper, official director of photography credit, he is no stranger to Guy in his Basement Productions, having co-founded the company in 2000.

VAN KAPEGHIAN (composer), a.k.a. furiousBall, has created unique scores for several films, most notably *Sex* and *Roleplayed* from Pond Productions and *The Dingle* from AMF Productions—written by Adam Bertocci. He has also released a CD, “myself, five minutes ago”.

CAROLYN SIEGEL (“Madison Shuster”) is an alumna of the theatre and creative writing for the media programs at Northwestern University. She has appeared in numerous films and plays, including “The Oedipus Complex” with Oscar- and Tony-winner Frank Galati and the world premiere cast of “The Peckenpaw”, but most notably the Filmmaker in GIHB’s *Love: The Movie*. When not in the Basement, she is both a performer and the head writer for the Odonata Dance Project, whose “Aspiration: Housewife” is headed for the NY Fringe Festival.

EMILY MARK (“Sofie Shuster”) is an NU theatre student, last seen on screen making her film debut as the charming Katrina in GIHB’s *Pat Gets a Cat*. She has graced the stage as Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Miss Strict in *Zombie Prom*, and the Hooded One in an adaptation of the graphic novel *Bone*, with additional credits including *Twelfth Night* and *Les Miserables*. Outside of Northwestern, she has studied with Shakespeare & Company’s exclusive training institute; she has also sung on Grammy-nominated albums and in concert with Tom Chapin and done voice-over work for the miniseries *Gravitation*.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION COMPANY

GUY IN HIS BASEMENT PRODUCTIONS, established in 2000, develops low-budget media with unique independent flair. The company is committed to a vision of personal filmmaking with professional quality at amateur prices. The company is owned and managed by co-founders Adam Bertocci and Kent Sanderson.

www.guyinhisbasement.com

GUY IN HIS BASEMENT PRODUCTIONS presents

the world of the end

written, directed, produced and edited by
ADAM BERTOCCI

director of photography
KENT SANDERSON

music by
VAN KAPEGHIAN

CAST

Madison Shuster	CAROLYN SIEGEL
Sofie Shuster	EMILY MARK
EMPTYNST	ADAM BERTOCCI
Dad	RICHARD BERTOCCI
Boss	KENT SANDERSON
Henry the Cat	ZACH

CREW

production assistants DANIELLE BERTOCCI
RICHARD BERTOCCI

gaffer / additional photography ERIC BRANCO
grip CHAD PETER

boom operators ERIC BRANCO
CHAD PETER
A C-STAND

visual effects / graphic artist ADAM BERTOCCI
end titles assistant CAROLYN SIEGEL

everything not listed: ADAM, CAROLYN, CHAD, EMILY, KENT, RICO

“Young Madison & Sofie” photographs courtesy
ADAM AMARO, ROBERT BERLINER

MUSIC

composed and performed by
VAN KAPEGHIAN
www.furiousball.com

SPECIAL THANKS TO

GOD
JOHN & ELIZABETH DOUGHERTY
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THE GOONS OF SOMETHINGAWFUL.COM
THE BERTOCCI FAMILY

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HDV Camera by Sony
Edited on Final Cut Pro by Apple
Graphic art created with Adobe Photoshop

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