

**"For never was a story of more woe than this of Juliet and her Romeo"**



**A pair of star-crossed Lovers take their lives in this beautifully reimagined adaptation of one of William Shakespeare's most beloved works.**



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## FACT SHEET

Director: Joel Petrie	Studio: Parking Garage Pictures
Producers: D. Terry Petrie, Christopher Clark, Joel Petrie and Raymund Delmar	
Screen Format: Widescreen 16:9	Audio: English Dolby Digital 5.1
Total Runtime: 101 minutes	Film Country of Origin: USA
Subtitles: English	Closed Captioned : Yes
Mature Content: Suicide, Blood, Violence, and Implied Drug-Use	



<http://www.romeoandjuliet.film/>

<http://facebook.com/romeojulietfilm>

<http://twitter.com/RnJ2017>

[http://www.imdb.com/title/tt3827726/?ref\\_=nm\\_filmg\\_act\\_5](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt3827726/?ref_=nm_filmg_act_5)

[http://www.imdb.com/company/co0187650/?ref\\_=fn\\_al\\_co\\_1](http://www.imdb.com/company/co0187650/?ref_=fn_al_co_1)

## SYNOPSIS

Romeo and Juliet, troubled youths from similar backgrounds, meet at a party where Romeo falls hard for Juliet, who in return sees in Romeo an escape from her violent home life. Convincing a local parishioner that it may soothe tensions between the two teen's families they are married in a secret ceremony.

Shortly after, in an act of vengeance, Romeo kills Juliet's cousin, Tybalt. As a result, he is banished- sentenced to death if he should return to the city of Verona. In a bid to raise their station in life, Juliet's parents inform her she is to marry another man. She refuses, but later agrees after arranging with Friar Lawrence to fake her death and escape Verona to be with Romeo.

Juliet takes a sleeping potion that will make it appear as though she is dead. Benvolio, not knowing of the plan, informs Romeo that Juliet is dead. Bereaved, Romeo goes to Juliet's tomb and kills himself. Juliet wakes shortly thereafter, finding Romeo dead beside her. Seeing no other way out of her old life now, she kills herself.

*"For never was a story of more woe than this of Juliet and her Romeo."*



## PROLOGUE

Verona, a sprawling metropolis tense with animosity between rival gangs, the Montagues and Capulets, who jockey for prominence and territory. The Chorus, (Trenton McKean) an acoustic street performer lays out the scene providing a beautiful musical arrangement as he sings the lyrics of the original Shakespearean verse.

## ACT I

A lovesick Romeo (Dallin Major) finds minimal condolences for his broken heart from his rowdy friends group. Instead, they insist on distracting him with mischief and crashing the Capulet's masquerade ball in the form of a warehouse rave. Once inside, Romeo meets and falls hard for a beautiful young woman, Juliet (Devin Neff). They share brief a moment of intimacy, which leaves Romeo yearning for more. Escaping the party and his friends, Benvolio (Topher Rasmussen) and Mercutio (Maddy Forsyth), Romeo steals away to Juliet's house for the famous balcony scene.



*Rewind.* Young Juliet spies her father, Capulet (Christopher Clark), in deep discussion concerning marriage with his friend Paris (Jacob Squire). Indeed, summoned by her stepmother Lady Capulet (Kaitlyn Dahl) and her Aunt/Nurse (Laurie

Harrop-Purser), it is revealed their desire for her to find a husband and marry. She meets Romeo, a sweet and passionate young man intent on sweeping her off her feet. Later, when Romeo arrives at her balcony, he is a welcome relief to the constant bickering between of her father and stepmother. He pledges his undying love and devotion.

## ACT II

The next morning, having devised an escape from this unwanted betrothal, Juliet sends her Aunt to see if Romeo's intentions are to marry her. While a bit of a surprise, ever the eager romantic, Romeo jumps at the opportunity to make Juliet his bride. Romeo promptly goes to the Friar Lawrence (Brian Kocherans) and asks him to officiate the secret wedding. Thinking Romeo and Juliet's union may lead to peace between the gangs, the Friar agrees. Romeo and Juliet are wed. But, their happiness is short lived. In a confrontation with Juliet's cousin, Tybalt (Shawn Francis Saunders) kills Mercutio. Enraged, Romeo avenges his slain friend, killing Tybalt. For his crime, Romeo is banished from the city of Verona.



*Rewind.* Juliet anxiously awaits the return of her Aunt, whom she has sent to inquire about Romeo's intentions. Her Aunt returns with the pleasant news. Romeo and Juliet are wed later that day. While pining for her love and the wedding night to come, Juliet's Aunt arrives with terrible news. Romeo has killed her cousin Tybalt and has been banished from the city. A final secret rendez-vous is arranged for the Lovers to consummate their union . In the morning, Romeo departs for Mantua and Juliet is informed she has been given in marriage to Paris. In a violent confrontation, she refuses and and threatened to be disowned by her father.

## ACT III



Juliet meets with Friar Lawrence to discuss her future. Plainly stating she'd rather die than be with Paris and not her Romeo. The Friar concocts a plan wherein Juliet will inject herself with a sleeping agent that will cause her to appear dead. Once laid in her family's tomb, she will awake and be free to escape to Mantua to be with her new husband, Romeo. He will send word to Romeo of the plan.

Juliet does as the Friar plans; however before the Friar's correspondence can reach Romeo, Benvolio arrives in Mantua to deliver the horrific news that Juliet is dead. Grief-stricken, Romeo goes to a drug den where the a drug-dealing Apothecary (Ryan Templeman) provides him with the poison to kill himself. Returning to Verona and the tomb where Juliet lay "dead", Romeo is confronted by an aggrieved Paris. The two men come to blows and Romeo kills Paris in self defense.

Entering the makeshift tomb, Romeo professes his love and kills himself with the poison. Juliet awake from her deep slumber and discovers Romeo dead. True to her word, rather live without Romeo, or stay tethered to her grievous life, Juliet commits suicide, stabbing herself with a dagger. Over this tragic final tableau, the Street Performer plays a melancholic adaption of Shakespeare's epilogue. "For never was a story of more woe than this of Juliet and her Romeo."

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION



## A Shakespearean Odyssey



In 2004, while working as an instructor at the Heber Utah campus of Utah Valley University, Joel first began to develop what would eventually become this film adaption of “Romeo & Juliet”. With an understanding of video

production utilizing a miniscule budget, Joel mounted a mixed media production of William Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet”, where significant portion of the play would take place on a video screen alongside the stage. As the actors would leave the stage into the theater wings-- they would appear on the screen as though they (and the audience) had been transported to an entirely different location all at once.

This mixed media concept was adopted again by the school in a 2008 with an original production of ‘Nosferatu’. And once again, the behind scenes competencies were a credit to Joel, who created, in tandem with Christopher Clark (who would later portray the role of Capulet), a shot-for-shot remake of the 1922 film with student actors weeks before the curtains were ever lifted. The production gained national attention and was showcased for the American College Theater Festival (ACTF) in February of the following year.

In 2012, when asked by the school to remount his 2004 production of ‘Romeo and Juliet’ on main campus for the 2014 theater season, Joel had taken his skills and transitioned them into a small video production company in Salt Lake City. With the support of the University and the backing of a network of film professionals in the area, Joel agreed to the project. Thinking big, Joel asked that rather than simply shoot the video segments

being used for the mixed media production, for the same budget, they'd shoot the entire film using professional department heads with students as cast and crew.

And so in early 2014 pre-production and casting began with Joel as the film director and his father, D. Terry Petrie, a tenured faculty member, as the stage director. For years, Utah Valley University had steadily been producing among the top theater programs in the nation. Behind Exeter-trained Shakespearean actor and department chair Christopher Clark, the talent pool of trained actors was deep with talent. Among them, exuding youthfulness and natural chemistry, were Dallin Major (Romeo) and Devin Neff (Juliet).

With the largely inexperienced cast and crew in place, a rigorous 3-week of principal photography began. Already stretching the modest budget, with Joel at the helm, the production was a think-tank for bold artistic creativity and stylized problem solving.

With the multi-media stage production looming, Joel worked tirelessly to have those elements ready. The live production of 'Romeo & Juliet' was performed in November 2014. During its sold-out, 2-week run, the production attracted critical praise for its ingenuity and performances, yet again proving itself a strong contender in the American College Theater Festival (ACTF) and showing the mixed media production as more than a trendy gimmick.



Over the next several years, Joel worked in his spare time to complete the robust and lengthy post-production process; including a couple of reshoots, the compilation of an original score, and all the necessary audio engineering and mixing required. The end result is a bold and beautiful homage to the Bard's work, and a testament to more than a decade's worth of institutional artistic pursuits. As such, 'Romeo & Juliet' is receiving national recognition, with its Theatrical premiere as part of *National Arts in Education Week*, September 16th, 2017.



The film has already secured an educational distribution deal that will see it available to high schools, colleges, and public libraries, and across North America in the coming months. Additionally, audiences may watch 'Romeo & Juliet' online through Amazon Video and other Video-on-Demand sites.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS



## JOEL PETRIE

His expertise over the past 15 years in filmmaking is a critical component to any film production. In addition to being an accomplished director of photography, editor, and visual effects artist, Joel is an entrepreneur. In 2009 Joel formed Parking Garage Pictures; bootstrapping from the ground up, a debt-free Corporate and Industrial



video production company in Salt Lake City. While continuing day-to-day operations of Parking Garage Pictures, Joel directed, produced, and a sold two feature films. Joel is a natural storyteller, artistically, visually, and on the page. He is known by his peers for his insensate work ethic, diligence to learning new skills/techniques of the craft, and keeping arduously long business hours. Joel is a 21st century filmmaker. Operating outside the bureaucracy of the Hollywood studio structure, he has still managed to amass a collection of impressive industry credits across various positions within the industry, both in Television and Film. Joel's wealth of knowledge, experience, and access to like-minded artists, ensures that the value of any production under his charge, will be realized with a quality final product substantially greater than the sum of its parts.

## CHRISTOPHER CLARK

Christopher serves as the chair of the Theatre Department and the executive producer for Robert Redford's Sundance Summer Theatre. Chris has studied with the Royal Shakespeare Company, Shakespeare's Globe Theatre (London,) Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Second City Chicago, and Theatre Biomechanics (Italy and Austria). He has directed for the Utah Shakespeare Festival, Hale Center Theatre Orem, Hale Centre Theatre West Valley, Utah Valley University, Northcoast Repertory Theatre, Sundance Summer Theatre and Brigham Young University. He recently won the 2013 National Outstanding Director Award from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival for his production of Vincent at Brixton. He has produced and traveled eight productions to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Chris has a BA and PhD from Brigham Young University, and an MFA from the University of Exeter (UK.)



*Christopher Clark as (Lord) Capulet*

## D.TERRY PETRIE

For the past almost fifty years, D. Terry Petrie has dedicated himself to theatre and film. He has a PhD in Theatre and Cinema – Directing. He is a Professor and past Chair of the Department of Theatrical Arts at UVU. He has directed or produced over one hundred productions. He was a Founder/Artistic Director of two successful community theatre organizations in Western Canada – Carriage House Theater and Cardston Community Theater. He was the State representative and member of the National Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Theatres (AACT). He loves football, dirt biking, canoeing, golfing, and horseback riding. He loves to direct for one good reason: “It’s due to my fear of being on the stage!”

He was awarded the *Commemorative Medal of Canada* in recognition of significant contribution in theater to compatriots, community, and country. He was also awarded the *Best of Festival - Directing* and the *Excellence in Theatre Education Award* -- from Region VIII Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and the *Ragan Theatre Showcase Merit Award* for contributions in the Arts.

His recent credits as Director include: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Sundance 2017; *The Last Train to Nibroc* at the Covey Center 2017; *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* at Utah Valley University 2106; *The Romeo and Juliet Project* at Utah Valley University 2015; *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller at Utah Valley University 2014; *Elephant’s Graveyard* by George Brandt (award winning new play 2014); *Thé à la Menthe ou Thé Citron* by Patrick Haudecouer, a French farce 2012; *Something Wicked This Way Comes* by Ray Bradbury 2011.

## TRENTON MCKEAN

Trenton McKean was born in Bountiful Utah, the second youngest of five siblings. He married his best friend Petra McKean in May of 2014 and moved to Salt Lake City with his wife, and their two children. McKean has been an artist and musician by trade and decided to broaden his perspective by getting a degree in Public Relations and Advertising at Weber State University. As a musician he has performed with artists such as Andy Grammer, Presten Creed, Anna Kaelin, Terence Hansen, and Jimmy Newquist of Caroline's Spine. Although he prefers to stay neutral in the political world, he has performed for the nation's governor's convention, Jeb Bush, Mitt Romney, and many other political candidates. He was featured in a Mountain Star commercial that aired during the Olympics with his band 'Son of Ian'. His band was also nominated to play at the 2013 Grammy's titled "Gig of a Lifetime" and his band has aired on continuous commercials since then. McKean plans to hone in on his skills as an artist, husband, and father while continuing his passion for art.



*Trenton McKean as (Chorus) Performer*

## **Christopher Doucet**

Chris's family's background is rooted in Musical Arts, which influenced him to begin playing music at an early age. He is the grandson of Roger Doucet, best known for singing the Canadian national anthem, "O Canada", on televised games of the Montreal Canadians, and Geraldine Doucet, an actress, philanthropist and Broadway singer. Chris was born in Montreal, Canada, but was relocated to Hawaii shortly after when his family moved their business to cater big music concerts on the main island. It was there that Christopher spent the majority of his childhood backstage of hundreds of legendary shows including Michael Jackson, Elton John, Prince, Metallica, The Police, Paul McCartney, Bon Jovi and many more. These artists had a huge impact on Christopher.

As a young adult, Christopher began writing his own songs, playing drums, piano and guitar in several bands and eventually, recording cuts with fellow musicians at local studios. While Christopher enjoyed songwriting, playing in bands and performing, he discovered the most impactful emotional response music could achieve was while married to pictures. His focus shifted to film and film scoring, studying new ways to serve an impactful experience and refine his musical craft as a composer as well as a filmmaker.

In 2010, Chris teamed up with sound designer Jacob Proctor and formed Strawberry Sound Studios, A Composer / Sound Designer Team who strive to create a closer integration between sound and music, by being hired on projects as a team. Christopher has written the music for countless television spots and commercials in addition to composing the scores for many award-winning films. He has also worked as a session musician and arranger for many artists in the record world.

## ABOUT THE MUSIC



As would have been the case during Shakespeare's staging of the play, the decision was made early on to integrate a strong musical component into the film. The most prevalent choice being to transform the narrative 'Chorus' character in the original work into a travelling street 'Performer' (Trenton McKean), who panhandles while serenading the audience with the lyrics of the play's Prologue.

This was not the first artistic collaboration between the director Joel Petrie and Trenton McKean. In 2006, Joel reached out to Trenton with a short film project, 'Jolene', which was in need of a musical accompaniment. Trenton, a well respected Utah musician with his sincere and soulful voice, seemed a natural fit. Within a week, Trenton returned with a moody and melancholy original song, "Smoked My Last Cigarette" which inserted seamlessly into the film which circulated the festival circuit for a time in 2007-08.

It was another smooth partnership between the two artists on 'Romeo & Juliet', with Trenton producing the original music to underscore the Shakespearean verse, and Joel gently coaxing a performance from the, oft camera-shy, McKean.

Hidden within the beautiful original score provided by composers Christopher Doucet and Kagan Breitenbach is another personal touch from director Joel Petrie; an original song by DJ NC-17 (Jordan Petrie), his brother, a club DJ, who passed away a few years prior. The song, as well as the grim references to drug use, were part of a personal homage to his late brother, an artist himself, who encouraged Joel's lofty pursuits and dreams.



parking garage pictures

# CREDITS

## PRODUCTION

William Shakespeare.....Writer (play)  
Joel Petrie.....Director  
Chris Clark.....Executive Producer  
D. Terry Petrie.....Producer  
Joel Petrie.....Producer  
Raymund Delmar.....Producer  
Bryan Stewart.....Producer  
BrookeLynn Millard.....Unit Production Manager  
Dave Moppert.....Line Producer  
Bryan Stewart.....Cinematographer  
Jake Dickey.....1st Assistant Director  
Lisa Edwards.....2nd Assistant Director  
Ander Clark.....1st Assistant Camera  
David Rogers.....2nd Assistant Camera  
Charles J. Unice.....Gaffer  
Tom Schleiffarth.....Key Grip  
Ben Anderson.....Grip  
Rachel Armstrong.....Grip  
Stelios Xanthos.....Grip  
Jonathan Judeen.....Sound Recordist

Natasha Hoffman.....	Boom Operator
Nancy Cannon.....	Costume Designer
Carla Summers.....	Costume Advisor
Jyllian Petrie.....	Makeup & Hair Designer
Melissa Brinkerhoff.....	Makeup & Hair Artists
Megan Bisbee.....	Makeup & Hair Artists
Ann Thomas.....	Makeup & Hair Artists
Tim Salisbury.....	Art Director/Set Dresser/Props
Nick Lambert.....	Assistant Art Director
Peter Burgess.....	Digital Ingest Tech
Eileen Nagle.....	Script Supervisor
Jenna Petrie-Tuft.....	Assistant Script Supervisor
Elssie Choque.....	Electronic Press Kit
Carissa Hatch.....	Electronic Press Kit
Dennis Lisonbee.....	Student Crew Consultant
Robert Trim.....	Student Crew Consultant
Henrik Patterson.....	Equipment Tech for UVU
Trevor William Newsome.....	Production Assistant
Natasha Hoffman.....	Production Assistant
Tyrell Clement.....	Production Assistant
Rachel Nixon.....	Production Assistant
Amanda Wilson.....	Production Assistant
Kevin Matthews.....	Production Assistant
Tara Mendenhall.....	Production Assistant

## POST PRODUCTION

Joel Petrie.....Editor  
Christopher J. Stewart.....Assistant Editor  
Jake Dickey.....Visual Effects Artist  
Dale Angell.....Sound Supervisor  
Beau Gourley.....Sound Designer/Editor/ADR  
Jason Stare.....ADR Recordist  
Dale Angell.....Foley Artist  
Karyn Angell.....Foley Artist  
Julie Silvestro-Waite.....Continuity Transcripts  
Jared Olson.....Music Editor  
Kagan Breitenbach.....Music Editor  
Trenton McKean.....Original Music  
Jordan “NC-17” Petrie.....Original Music  
Kagan Breitenbach.....Composer  
Christopher Doucet.....Composer

## CAST

Dallin Major	Romeo
Devin Neff	Juliet
Topher Rasmussen	Benvolio
Maddy Forsyth	Mercutio
Laurie Harrop-Purser	Aunt (Nurse)
Brian Kocherans	Friar Laurence
Chris Clark	Capulet
Kaitlyn Dahl	Lady Capulet
Shawn Francis Saunders	Tybalt
Jacob Squire	Paris
Alexander Woods	Sampson
Trevor Newsome	Gregory
A.J. Taysom	Abraham
Tyrell Clement	Balthazar
Ryan Templeman	Apothecary
Rosalinda Lopez	Servant
Trenton McKean	Performer (Chorus)
Heather Ashton	Jogger
Ashley Gephart	Addict
Tim Salisbury	Cop 1
Scott Twitchell	Cop 2

## EXTRAS

Micheal Basom	Bradford Jones	Chelsea Benjamin
Jill Loveridge	Rachel Bigler	Erika Ovuoba
Megan Bisbee	Ruben Perkins	Paige Porter
Elsa Cipolletta	Alex Rettie	Kailey Azure Green
Chantel Ficklin	Kacie Reynolds	Marcus Christensen
Nate Fillmore	Brett Roemmich	Jessie Lynn Pusey
Spencer Ford	Case Spaulding	Laicey M. Gibby-Brown
Cameron Gates	Amy Taylor	Sadie Nagle-Perkins
Anna Harris	Jana Voss	Emery Pamela Hernandez
Tyler Helbing	Rebecca Voss	Aubrey Wilde
Scott Twitchell	Amanda Wilson	Paisley King
Brin Rowett	SiQi Gao	