

Cheap and Dirty Productions Presents

A SAFER SEX TRADE

Directed by Carolyn Allain

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A SAFER SEX TRADE

ONE LINER

A Safer Sex Trade is a documentary that explores the stigma of prostitution through the eyes of three women who work in the sex trade.

TWO LINER (SHORT)

A documentary that explores the stigma of prostitution through the eyes of three women: a former survival sex worker, a highly paid escort and an established Madam. They share their experiences while working in the City of Vancouver, where Robert Pickton stands trial for the alleged murder of 26 women, most of whom were working in the sex trade.

TWO LINER (LONGER)

A documentary that explores the stigma of prostitution: Jennifer returns to the streets she used to walk to meet basic survival needs; Simone, the independent escort, offers "girlfriend experiences" to business executives; and Madam Scarlett opens up the doors to her boutique styled brothel. They share their experiences while working in the City of Vancouver, where Robert Pickton stands trial for the alleged murder of 26 women, most of whom were working in the sex trade.

LONG SYNOPSIS

A Safer Sex Trade explores the double standard prostitutes experience today. By getting to know three women who have intimate, yet different experiences in the field, we shed light on this elusive and pressing issue. The first woman is Scarlett Lake, a successful boutique-style brothel escort agency owner and prostitute; the second is Simone, a high end independent escort who sells "girlfriend experiences" at \$300 an hour and markets her business entirely on the internet; and the third is Jennifer Allan, a former drug addicted "survival" sex worker, who now walks the streets to feed street level prostitutes living in poverty.

Vancouver's Downtown Eastside is no stranger to the trails and tribulations of the sex trade. A pioneering frontier town, it drew the thirst and sexual appetites of legions of migrant workers to the pubs and brothels of its seedy underbelly. A bustling port only added to its international reputation, with the likes of Errol Flynn and the Rat Pack going out of their way for the good times to be had there.

What is new is the increased public notoriety prostitution has garnered. In recent memory, Canada's antiquated sex trade laws, combined with an increasingly marginalized street walker, have made the women at the front lines particularly vulnerable - a danger that made headlines around the world last year with the arrest of Robert Pickton. The allegation that he murdered dozens of prostitutes at his pig farm while the police ignored evidence finally forced the issue into the light of day. While the public clamors for answers, the problem is becoming painfully clear.

Not everyone in the sex trade is at such high risk. The yellow pages are filled with ads for escort agencies. High-class prostitutes continue to perform their services in the penthouses of the downtown core. Taxed and operating under the tacit approval of the police, they have no reason to draw attention to themselves, while the often the impoverished and drug addicted sex trade workers are driven to the vacant warehouses and alleys of skid row.

A Safer Sex Trade explores this double standard at work by putting faces to the women who share different and unique perspectives. Their lives, spent up to now hidden far from the camera's gaze, will reveal contradictions, confidence and even humor, in the world's oldest – and least understood – profession.

the subjects (in order of appearance)

- Madam Scarlett Lake
- Derek, Photographer / Madam Lake's Assistant
- Simone, Independent Escort
- Jennifer Allan, founder of Jen's Kitchen and Former Survival Sex Worker
- Linda Mogden, Volunteer for Jen's Kitchen, Former Prostitute
- Alix Bacon, student and Radio Host CITR FM
- Julia Saunders, student and radio Host CITR FM
- David Lake, Scarlett's Lake's Brother
- Quentin Lake, Scarlett Lake's Father

the filmmakers

Director CAROLYN ALLAIN
 Writer CAROLYN ALLAIN AND DAVID RAY
 Executive Producer SYLVIE PELTIER
 Producer CAROLYN ALLAIN
 Producer DAVID RAY
 Cinematographer KIRK TOUGAS
 Film Editor SARAH HEDAR
 Composer MONICA LEE

KEY BIOGRAPHIES

CAROLYN ALLAIN

Producer / Writer / Director

Carolyn was born in Montreal. She graduated from the University of Ottawa with a degree in Political Science and a certificate in Communication. Carolyn has gone on to write, produce and direct for Bravo, LIFE, Discovery, TLC and PAX. She directed eleven episodes of the French version of *Bell Making the Cut* for RDS. Carolyn was Executive Producer and Producer of the Award Winning feature film *Fetching Cody*, which premiered at the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival, and garnered Best Feature Film at the Sedona International Film Festival and a Gold Remi Award for Science Fiction at the World Houston Festival. She also shares a story credit with writer/director David Ray on *Fetching Cody*. Now President of Cheap and Dirty Productions Inc. in beautiful Vancouver BC, Carolyn continues to develop unique and poignant ideas for both film and television. Her latest project is the enticing and challenging documentary *A Safer Sex Trade* for CBC The Lens, APTN and RDI. The film premiered at the 2006 Whistler Film Festival and is scheduled for Broadcast on CBC The Lens and RDI early January 2007.

DAVID RAY

Producer / Writer

David Ray combines an original voice with years spent working in the film and television industries of Vancouver, Toronto and New York. His directorial debut on the feature *Fetching Cody* (starring Jay Baruchel) is a dark comedy about a street kid who uses a time machine to save his girlfriend's life. It premiered to a sold out audience at the 30th Toronto International Film Festival in the fall of 2005 before going on a theatrical run. In addition to collaborating with other writers and directors, Ray was hired by Electronic Arts as their lead writer on the video game *Need For Speed*. His latest production is the documentary *A Safer Sex Trade*, which will premiere on CBC in early 2007. Co-founder of Cheap and Dirty Productions Inc, he continues to develop projects on a wide variety of subjects. David was born in Montreal, and now calls Vancouver home.

SYLVIE PELTIER

Executive Producer

Sylvie was born in Ottawa and grew up in Quebec. After graduating from UBC she wrote and directed the feature *Endangered Love* and the short *LouLou: Prisonnière de ses Passions*. The latter won best experimental at Yorkton and was nominated for Best Short Film at the New York Festivals. She then directed for the NFB what became one of Canal D's highest rated programme: *Autopsy of an Erotic Film*.

Sylvie went on to produce and direct the historical piece *The Legend of Cataline* which received an honorable mention at the 52nd Columbus Festival. Sylvie has produced and directed documentaries for SRC, The New VI, Bravo!, Life, SCN, CBC and W Network. She is currently producing a crime docu-drama for Canal D, a mini-series for SRC and RDI, a musical journey for TV5 and an investigation into the aftermath of genocide for Tele-Québec. She is the executive producer for *A Safer Sex Trade*, which premiered at the Whistler International Film Festival and will air on CBC, RDI and APTN.

Sylvie is a graduate of the prestigious Alliance Atlantis Banff Executive Leadership Program, a past board member of DOC-BC and a board member of the *Alliance des Producteurs Francophones du Canada (APFC)*. She has made her home in Vancouver since 1987.

CREW BIOGRAPHIES

KIRK TOUGAS

Director of Photography

Kirk has worked as a Director of Photography for over 20 years on such award winning films as *The Corporation*, *A Place Called Chiapas* and *Fix: The Story of An Addicted City*. Kirk's shooting sense goes beyond the lens, looking intimately at the story as it unfolds. Kirk lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.

SARAH HEDAR

Editor

An up and coming Editor, Sarah Hedar has a natural patience and sense of humour that lends itself to the ebb and flow of the creative process. With a strong technical and artistic background, Sarah focuses her attention on visual storytelling, drawn to projects that promote empowerment for women and critical thinking. Her recent credits include editing and co-producing the feature documentary *The Open Road*, with award-winning filmmaker Kim Hogan.

MONICA LEE

Composer

An Alberta girl, run away to the west coast to do what she loves most, make music. She might have started singing from the word go... only her mother knows, but she does say she sang all the time. First piano, then choir, cello, and viola, then no more cello, then clarinet, trumpet, base clarinet and flute, recorder and kazoo's too, then a guitar and back to piano... She loves them all and has made better friends with some. Starting at open mikes in Victoria in the early 90's and then the big move to Vancouver in 1998 and began gigging with her CD, *Feeling Fences*. Several incarnations of The Monica Lee Band have come and gone all the while honing her skill as a band leader and song writer. Then jazz school opened a whole new way of thinking. A new woman, in 2003 Monica started what is today the voice and sound of Monica Lee.

SUBJECT BIOGRAPHIES

MADAM SCARLETT LAKE

Scarlett has been in the personal entertainment business for over 25 years. Many years ago she got started working as an exotic dancer in Vancouver. Her specialty is role plays and custom fantasies for her clients. Scarlett likes to speak publicly to raise awareness about the positive aspects of the escort business. She has appeared in Vancouver Magazine, The Vancouver Sun, and the Vicky Gabereau Show, working closely with activists to increase the level of awareness about the sex trade. She is presently writing her memoir "Frankly, Scarlett" and also gives occasional talks about the very private world of escort and entertaining. Her Role Models and Heroes are Miss Piggy, Mae West, Dame Edna, Hugh Hefner, Helen Gurley Brown and Richard Branson.

JENNIFER ALLAN

Jennifer Allan is originally from the Yukon. She moved to Vancouver from Calgary when she was 24. Jen is an energetic entrepreneur with an interest in social advocacy, empowering those around her. Having spent some time on the streets of Vancouver and Calgary herself, Jen is responsible for many projects that have benefited the community of the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. She has been an active proponent of women's safety issues, working in conjunction with many Vancouver based sex trade worker advocacy organizations as well as her own project "Rekindling Your Spirit", which is an empowering and self discovery course for incarcerated youth. Jen has worked with the Downtown Eastside safety office in developing survival sex workers' safety kits, as part of her outreach interests and is an active proponent in DTES safety issues. Jen has also been involved with other organizations such as Salvation Army 614 and Union Gospel Mission. Jennifer founded Jen's Kitchen in the summer of 2004. Jen is a former survival sex worker who saw a need for direct communication and outreach to the survival sex workers of the DTES.

DEREK

After almost 20 years in the sleazy world of legitimate film and television production, Derek decided to clean up his act and get into porn. Derek has worked in adult entertainment for six years: initially with the Sweet Entertainment Group, then with AOV "Adult Only Video" as their British Columbia film editor, and later as production manager and camera operator for Mask TV.com. He presently freelances shooting both stills and video, for the adult film industry and other productions. In addition to working as Scarlett's right hand person, Derek

specializes in erotic photography for escorts and dancers, while continuing to build and manage websites.

SIMONE

An independent escort who offers her services in the main cities of Western Canada.

CHEAP AND DIRTY PRODUCTIONS INC. Company Profile

Cheap and Dirty Productions Inc. is a corporation formed in 2001. It is a partnership between Carolyn Allain and David Ray who both write, produce and direct.

The intent of the corporation is to develop and produce independent-spirited high concept films and television, both dramatic and reality-based, for the domestic and international marketplace. The corporate mission is to instill market-driven projects with vision and intelligence, whether they be features, series or documentaries.

Over the past several years, two of their projects in development have come to fruition. In 2005, the feature length drama/comedy/fantasy "Fetching Cody" starring Jay Baruchel ("Million Dollar Baby") premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. It went on to win Best Picture at the Sedona International Film Festival before a five city theatrical run in Canada. In 2006, their 1-hour documentary "A Safer Sex Trade", an exposé of the sex industry in Vancouver through the eyes of three prostitutes at various levels, premiered at the Whistler Film Festival, before being televised on CBC, RDI and APTN in 2007.

A SAFER SEX TRADE***End Credits***

Produced and Directed by	CAROLYN ALLAIN
Producer	DAVID RAY
Executive Producer	SYLVIE PELTIER
Written by	CAROLYN ALLAIN DAVID RAY
Editor	SARAH HEDAR
Director of Photography	KIRK TOUGAS
Production Manager/Coordinator	JESSICA MCCANN
Sound Mixer & Additional Camera	JOE BABCOCK
Field Director	JESSICA MCCANN
2 nd Unit Director	DAVID RAY
2 nd Unit Director of Photography	ROBIN LINDALA
Researcher/Assistant Coordinator	WAYNE CROSBY
Stills Photographer/Transcriptions	ELAINE WALKDEN
Development Advisor	NETTIE WILD
Production Assistant	ODESSA JOYOUS SHUQUAVA GENEVIEVE CLOUTIER MIRIAM REID
Post Consultant	JANET KENDRICK
Dialogue Editor	EWAN DEANE
Sound Effects Editor	DORIAN PAREIS
Assistant Editor	GORDON SPROULE
Technical Support	ROBERT HUNTER PETER ELIUK
Post Audio Supervisor	AMY GIAMMARCO
Post Audio Coordinator	CANDICE JOINER
Sound Re-recording Mixers	DEAN GIAMMARCO EWAN DEANE
Music Recorded at	MONICA LEE MUSIC
Score Performed by	MONICA LEE
Assistant Engineer/Electric Guitar	JESSE WALDMAN
Score Performed by	MONICA LEE
2 nd Assistant Engineer	CHRIS BIZZOCCHI
Vocalist	MONICA LEE
Titles	GREG ALLEN
Color Timer/Online Editor	LORNE WRIGHT

“Anticipation”, “Fall Away” and “Judy Lea”
Written and Performed by Monica Lee

“City Scape”
Written and Performed by Monica Lee,
Marc L’Esperence and Jesse Wladman

“Le Paradis” and “Samba De Meu Coracaon”
Written and performed by Red Room
Courtesy of Endearing Records

Filmed on location in Vancouver, BC

**For CBC Newsworld
Andrew Johnson
Commissioning Editor**

For RDI (Le réseau de l'information)
Robert Nadeau
Director

Production Executive
For APTN
Monique Rajotte
Jean LaRose, CEO

Gestionnaire de la programmation
APTN
Monique Rajotte
Jean LaRose, Directeur general

Produced with the participation of the



Canadian Television Fund

created by the Government of Canada
and the Canadian Cable Industry

CTF: Licence Fee Program
Telefilm Canada: Equity Investment Program

Produced with the assistance of
Canada 
The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

Developed with the participation of
BRITISH COLUMBIA FILM

*With the Participation of the Province of British Columbia
Film Incentive BC*

Produced in association with



RDI

**LE RÉSEAU DE L'INFORMATION
DE RADIO-CANADA**

www.rdi.ca

Produit en collaboration avec le Réseau de télévision des peuples autochtones



Réseau de télévision des
peuples autochtones

Produced in association with Aboriginal Peoples Television Network



Produced by Cheap and Dirty Productions Inc.
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