

ROBIN DE LEVITA PRODUCTIONS Presents

LOST COS



PRESS KIT

80 min – 2021 – USA – Color – English – Aspect ratio: 16:9

PRODUCERS

CATRIONA RUBENIS-STEVENSON
EVGENIYA RADILOVA

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SYNOPSIS:

Haunted by her tortured childhood and the violent loss of the great love of her life, troubled dental assistant Eni finds escape in Los Cos, a mysterious underground club where cosplay and burlesque intertwine and heroes and villains blur the line between fantasy and reality. But when a cosplayer dressed as "Merman" shows up dead on a New Jersey beach and a mysterious stalker gets up in her DMs, Eni must confront the traumas that have shaped her life and transform herself into an altogether more formidable force.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

Only Fantasy can save us from reality

I've often wondered what drives a person to become a performer; to put on a costume, and stare the audience straight in the face. These men and women transform themselves into a different personality and step fearlessly into a different world.

Who are these people and where would we be without them?

When I set out to make this movie, I was unaware of the depth and complexity of the Cos Play Universe. A world where the players commit wholeheartedly to transforming themselves into fantastic comic book superheroes and villains. They are all performers.

Lost Cos dives headfirst into this intriguing mysterious world where reality and fantasy blur. This underground place is where I love to be, a place for creative minds that to feel at home. I hope you will join the Unique Lost Cos community.

– Director Robin de Levita, New York

Q&A with Producers Evgeniya Radilova & Catriona Rubenis-Stevens

1- What inspired you to make Los Cos?

EVGENIYA: Lost Cos was born from wishful thinking, merely a dream, but it felt like something that was meant to happen. It was charged with energy, and I had to act on it. This is an example of a true manifestation and I do believe that we shape our lives and dreams do come true indeed. So I did turn my dream into a reality that manifested in a feature film with 230 cast and crew members, and the creation of the first cosplay club on film. But in 2022 we hope to bring the club to real life. When I did the cosplay character shoot for Vampirella with Jeffrey Smith Georges three years ago, I saw a different me – brave, adventurous and free, someone I really liked....So I said to myself I have to do something with this character while I still have it. Jeff and I created a break through session of Vampirella and we sent it out into the universe. Long story short Robin De Levita saw the pictures, asked me what my plan was with them and we started thinking. We decided we will do our own version of the character and created the first cosplay movie.

CATRIONA: I was brought onto the project by Evgeniya the month before they started principal photography. It all happened very fast. I was contacted in the afternoon and sent the script, then I met with the team at 7pm for an interview and by 9pm we were all shaking hands and planning our first round of film shoots! It was a whirlwind adventure. I couldn't put the script down when I first read it - and even though the idea of producing a superhero/action film was something completely new to me, I knew I had to take this challenge on. It was important to me that the above-the-line team was represented fairly, and so getting to be involved as a female producer on a film about female trauma and overcoming that, was an easy decision for me to make.

2- What was the most challenging aspect of making this film?

EVGENIYA: The very beginning was a huge challenge already. We started with a 3-page script idea, we expanded it to a 40 minutes' pilot, started filming, and then we decided to complete the project and make it into a film, and after that we would split that into a series.

So we wrote as we went. Not sure I will do this process again as it was very hard and there were moments of doubt of course, but it was an incredibly valuable learning experience, and we managed to finish it all.

CATRIONA: I think one of the biggest challenges, besides what Eni has mentioned, was trying to complete this during a global pandemic. When we started our first round of filming in 2019, we worked for about two months, doing shoots once or twice a week, depending on actor availability. This gave us plenty of time to prep in between big scenes and figure out all the logistics. However, when we went on hiatus in December of 2019 with the goal of resuming and wrapping photography early the following spring, nothing could have prepared us for what was to happen in March of 2020. So our shoot days ended up spanning over 3 years!

3- *The story centers on two female characters. How did you feel about the film being told from a woman's perspective?*

EVGENIYA: I felt that it was necessary. Women are incredibly versatile, layered and complex and we need to tell our side of the story, but most importantly we need to be listened to. And let's be honest, we are tired of being given the same role or to answer to someone's expectations, being told to be nice or that we need to behave in a certain way. These unapologetic brave women who might make you feel uncomfortable do exist but as long as they are not hurting anybody, they are free to be. I find it extremely important to continue making more movies about complex, strong, brave women, but also to support young and upcoming female artists as we all know this business is hard and not always very welcoming and accommodating towards women.

CATRIONA: The story being told from a female perspective is the only way this film could be told. During filming, we pushed hard to ensure that the way our characters were portrayed was multidimensional, fair and truthful. On the production side, it was also important for me as a producer to ensure that our crew was diverse as well. We hired female sound designers, art directors, production managers, composers, editors and stylists. Our story both behind and in front of the camera needed to be fair and equal.

4- *How did Tony winner, Robin de Levita, get involved in the project as the film director?*

EVGENIYA: Robin De Levita saw the pictures of my photo session of Vampirella and became very interested. We met 3 years ago and he asked me what I was planning to do with this project. I said I am trying to put it on screen, get the rights, etc. But very quickly we realized that we can join the effort and create a movie about our own self-made superheros. About real people and real cosplayers. And we embarked on this journey.

5- You recently released a book at New York Comic con. How did the idea come about?

EVGENIYA: The idea to add animation to the movie and create our own comic book had actually been a plan from the start and we developed the project with that in mind. We used this artistic medium to tell the often harsh stories and sometimes unpleasant realities in a less aggressive way for the audience. The cartoons that are part of the film are indeed snippets of the world we live in. I was beyond happy to showcase my dear friend Adriano Moraes work as our animator, and to add one more incredible talent to the extraordinary team we already had.

In all my work there is always a meaning and a purpose, and here again with our film we aim to shed light on the cosplay community, their fascinating lifestyle and their art. We wanted to create a welcoming place like home for them where they can resort to anytime they want, showcase their work, make connections and have tons of fun.

We also want to create a real life cosplay venue with the Lost Cos club and create the first home for real cosplayers outside all the Cons out there.

The next step is creating a TV series out of Lost Cos, as initially it was written with this intention and each character and story line deserves their own screen time.

CREATIVE TEAM



ROBIN DE LEVITA | Director & Co-Writer

Robin is a multiple Tony Award-winning producer best known for creating internationally acclaimed innovations: SceneAround and StageAround, modern theatrical performance systems. Both are ground breaking staging concepts that challenge the relationship between the performance and the audience providing a unique and unprecedented theatrical experience.

He is a co-founder with Kees Abrahams of Imagine Nation, a global media content company focusing on Theater, Live Entertainment, Film and Television.

Robin de Levita produced five feature movies, line produced over a hundred TV shows, more than 90 theater productions in 9 different countries across Europe and in the US including four hit shows on West End London and 17 productions on Broadway NY. In Europe he produced: The Lion King, Les Miserables, CATS, Miss Saigon, The Phantom of the Opera, Dance of The vampire, Blue Man Group, Chicago, Sweeney Todd, West Side Story, Mamma Mia, The Lion King, Elisabeth, Cabaret, AIDA, SKY, and many more. For 5 years he was part of the board of Stage Entertainment overseeing all theatrical productions World Wide.

In 2010 de Levita produced Soldaat van Oranje together with New productions, the first production in StageAround which is by far the longest running theater production ever in The Netherlands.

In May 2014 he produced critically acclaimed ANNE – a new contemporary play, based on The Diary of Anne Frank. It's the first authorized stage adaptation since a Broadway production in 1950's and for the first time in history based on the original writings of Anne Frank.

The play was performing at Theater Amsterdam, specially built (by Imagine Nation) to host a single play.. After ANNE the musical SKY was produced by Robin, the first 3D musical. The New York Times: "...Mr. de Levita built the new Theater Amsterdam in eight months." For the play ANNE he invented a new system that seamlessly

integrates 3D visuals, film footages with moveable and rotating stages.

De Levita during his long and successful career has worked with many high profile celebrities including: Ralph Fiennes, Julie Andrews, Raquel Welch, Tina Turner, Liza Minelli, David Bowie and more.

March 2017 Tokyo Broadcasting Systems opened the first Asian StageAround Theatre produced and delivered by Imagine Nation. Robin was executed producer on the opening show Seven Souls in the Skull Castle. In August 2019, West Side Story will Premier in StageAround with a first class Broadway creative team produced by De Levita.

He is a recipient of the numerous prestigious international awards including Tony Awards for: Titanic (1997, Best Musical), 42nd Street (2001, Best Revival), Into the Woods (2002, Best Revival), Laurence Olivier Award in 1996 for The Who's Tommy, Outer Critics Circle Award for Victor/Victoria (1995), 42nd Street (2000) and Urinetown (2001) and more.



CATRIONA RUBENIS-STEVENSON | Producer

Catriona is an Academy Award Nominated filmmaker, director and producer. She recently directed several award-winning short films for the Easterseals' Disability Film Challenge that have screened at Slamdance, Hollyshorts Film Festival and Heartland. Her film e.ro.sion, noun screened at festivals worldwide, including The Sci-Fi London Film Festival and SoHo International Film Festival receiving numerous wins including Best Director and Best Film. Other credits include over a dozen short films, music videos for Broadway Cares, BrainPOP, Maestro's Magical Music Box and Houdini's Secrets for the BBC. Catriona was recently commissioned by Speak.a Technology in Hangzhou China to write, direct and produce over 50 videos for an English language learning app.



EVGENIYA RADILOVA | Producer/Actress

Evgeniya was named "TV's Bond Girl" by the International Tribune and listed as one of the hottest exports to come out of Bulgaria. TV credits: Law and Order:SVU, Limitless, Elementary, and countless others. On the stage she played opposite Ellen Burstyn in The Cherry Orchard which was covered by prestigious publications such as the Hollywood Reporter. A lifetime member of The Actors Studio in the acting and directing departments. She is the co-founder of "iDareProductions", where she has been steadily producing, writing and directing award winning content. "The Spotlight" selected her as one of the best filmmakers for 2019 and 2020.



KEES ABRAHAMS | Executive Producer

Kees Abrahams is joint owner of international media production company Imagine Nation, which he co-founded in 2012. He has over twenty years experience in the entertainment business and has worked in a range of management functions. From 1995 to 2003, he was executive director at Endemol. In 2004, he set up 2WayTraffic: a media company that developed and operated various multimedia and TV formats, including the internationally successful Who Wants to be a Millionaire concept. After Sony Pictures acquired a majority holding in 2WayTraffic, in 2009, Kees became CEO of Sony's international TV production company. Kees has studied law at the University in Utrecht.



STEVAN KEANE | Producer

A Yorkshireman, Keane moved to London to begin a career in journalism at City Limits magazine and the Guardian. Moving to New York City he edited for Interview magazine while working on Internet media starts ups. Returning to London he ran nighttime broadcasting for Channel 4, formed a production company, Privateer, and commissioned, produced and

directed hundreds of hours television in every genre. Back in NYC he works with the producers of Sleep No More on epic, immersive experiences for international clients. He is delighted to help produce his old friend Robin de Levita's directorial debut, Lost Cos.



TAYLOR BRAASCH | Editor

Taylor Braasch is a Los Angeles native video editor and colorist. Throughout her career, she has collaborated with a number of companies across the US and around the world. From editing feature length films in the sunny offices of Los Angeles, to dramatic documentaries in the dimly-lit edit bays of Melbourne, Australia, her work spans the spectrum from branded social campaigns to movie trailers to episodic. She enjoys cutting long walks on the beach, piña colodas and getting caught in the rain.



SHARON VION | Production Designer

Born and raised in the French Alps, Sharon found her love for Film at the age of 10 while watching Tim Burton's Big Fish. After graduating from the renowned French Cinema School, ESRA in Paris, she moved to NY to pursue her dream. She found a really deep connection with the art of Production Design by realizing how an object, a room or set could convey the story all by itself. Since her debut as a Production Designer she has worked on many projects ranging from music videos, commercial projects, and narrative films.



PATRICK SAINT JEAN | Costume Designer

Patrick Saint Jean is an Academy Award Nominated filmmaker, having designed costumes for the film Feeling Through. (Nominated for Best Live Action Short Film, 2021). The film has been shown at over 150 film festivals worldwide including Slamdance and Hollyshorts. Other recent films include Here After starring Christina Ricci and Michael Rispoli, Clean starring Adrien Brody (Tribeca Film

Festival selection), *The God Committee* starring Kelsey Grammer and Julia Stiles (Tribeca Film Festival selection), and *A Bread Factory Pts 1&2* starring Tyne Daly and Glynnis O'Connor (two Independent Spirit Award Nominations).

CAST



Tony Naumovski (Viktor)

Tony is a Macedonian New York based actor. Theatre: Off-Broadway: *Final Analysis* (Signature Theatre), *The Birds* (59E59 Theatres), *Wide Awake Hearts*, (59E59 Theatres), *Retzach* (59E59 Theatres) etc. Film: *Here Today* (currently in Cinemas), *Lena and Vladimir* (Coming 2022), *Run All Night*, *Us a Love Story*, etc. TV: *Big Dogs* (currently on Amazon Prime Video), *Blindspot*, *Madam Secretary*, *The Blacklist*, *In Treatment* (HBO-Europe), *Daredevil* etc. Tony is fluent in five languages and has working proficiency in seven.



Rocco Nevers (Ben)

Rocco hails from Brooklyn, New York and has been acting professionally for 15 years. Graduating from Marymount Manhattan with his degree in Theater, Rocco's film credits include *The Bastard Men of Root Flats*, *Halfway There*, and *Salt*. He has been featured in numerous College Humor sketches as well as appearances in *Boardwalk Empire* and *Law and Order*. Along with his acting, Rocco's artistic skills have allowed him to explore and embrace the wonderful culture of cosplay. Some of his most popular Cosplay's featured at comic conventions and on social media include *Deadshot*, *Taskmaster*, *Punisher*, *Hush*, and *Cable*.



Dena Tyler (Dr. Kristin)

Fans will recognize Tyler from her recurring role as the dynamic, inspirational defense attorney, Liberty, alongside Michael Weatherly on CBS's, *Bull*. She simultaneously recurred on HULU's, 3rd season of *The Path* as Claudia, the devoted follower rising to fire & brimstone Cult Leader. Select TV credits include: *Blue Bloods*, *Chicago Med*, *NCIS NOLA*, *Homeland*, *Orange is the New Black*, *Instinct (Guest Starring opposite Alan Cumming)*, *The Deuce*, *The Path*, *30 ROCK*, & all of the *L&Os*. On the stage she played Charlotta opposite Ellen Burstyn in *The Cherry Orchard* & her portrayal of Emma in *Betrayal* at MST garnered her a nomination for Best Actress in a Drama at Broadway World's Regional Awards. She is a lifetime member of The Actors Studio.



Zoë Vnak (Lia)

Zoë Vnak (she/they) is an actor, model, performance artist, and musician residing in Brooklyn, New York. Hailing from the Midwest with a BA from McGill University in Montréal, Zoë's found their way to the Big Apple and can be found strutting the streets of NY with no shortage of chaotic good energy. Both the devil and angel on your shoulders, Zoë is a sucker for character development, critical theory, and clowning around. She also has a knack for styling and makeup.



Jason Furlani (Chief Frank Dawson)

Jason's film credits include: *Wolf of Wall Street*, *Man On A Ledge*, *American Gangster*. Recent TV: *FBI: Most Wanted*, *The Undoing*, *The Flight Attendant*. Upcoming FILM: *Untitled Julio Torres Project*. Upcoming TV: *Marvelous Mrs. Maisel (Season 4.)* Jason is repped by Talent House in NYC & Realm Talent in LA. Lifetime Member of the Actors Studio.



Samantha Rubin (Zoey)

Samantha Rubin playing the role of Chloe. Los Angeles born actress, singer, dancer. AMDA NY Alumni. Samantha is thrilled to be combining two passions of hers to be able to dive into this story.

CREDITS

Directed by

Robin de Levita

Written & Created by

Robin de Levita

Produced by

Evgeniya Radilova

Catriona Rubenis-Stevens

Jeffrey Smith Georges

Michael Tosner

Stevan Keane

Screenplay by

Robin de Levita & Mike Tosner

Executive Producers

Robin de Levita

Kees Abrahams

Director of Photography

Michael Tosner

Costume Design

Patrick Saint Jean

Production Design

Sharon Vion

Almudena Caminero

Lex LeBlanc

Editor

Tayler Braasch

Lead Animator

Adriano Moraes

Stunt Coordinator

Rob Aronowitz

Composer

Cecilia Lin

1st Assistant Director

Catriona Rubenis-Stevens

Colorist

Tayler Braasch

Chief Lighting Designer

Ryan McCluney

Gaffer

Mike Pacyna

Caleb Weiss

Location Sound Mixing

Michael Wolf Snyder - REST IN PEACE

Mike Presta

Lauren Banjo

Juan Pablo Tramuja

IJ Maksom

Original Cosplay Character Costume Designs

Jeff Smith Georges

Mike Tosner

Patrick Saint Jean

MakeUp Design

Paige Rabinowitz

Ashtyn Thurber

Callie Fillon

Tenisha Billington

SFX MakeUp Design

Bailey Bryce

Holiday Church Haley

Hair Stylist

Kaori Osaki

Choreography

Sarah Miles

CAST:

Eni – Evgeniya Radilova

Lia – Zoë Vnak

Zoey – Sammy Rubin

Dr Kirstin - Dena Tyler

Spidy – Jared Rinaldi

Ben – Rocco Nevers

Aron – Rob Franzes

Jerry – Mark McCullough Thomas

Tom – Ross Degraw

Frank Dawson – Jason Furlani

SGT Cummings - Bryan Hamilton

Don - Manny Aguilar

Vincent - Anthony Ferro

BMX boys - Julian Andre Cimoca & Luca Fiorille

Ben's Mother - Francesca Van Horn

Steve – Christopher Whalen

Victor – Tony Naumovki

Carl - Mo Stark

Mike - Ali Arkane

Lorraine - Laurie Guzda

Door bitch – Anya Winchester

Puffy - Hakim Coombs

Ramses – Bill Johnson

Gemini – Darrell Thorne

Natalia – Natalie Jacobs

Gina - Pixel Witch

Dalip – Shashwat Gupta

Rudra – Siraj Huda

Hungry Elf - Colin Dungan

Hungry Cosplayer - Aaron Cooper

Young Eni – Ashyer Gibbons

Eni's Mother – Rebecca Antsis

Trick-or-treaters - Nathaniel Drake Okpokwasili & Sophia Adannia Okpokwasili

Merman - Garen McRoberts
Merman Body Double - Cameron Rea
Merman Stunt Double - Danny Ray Cabellero
Angel - Jazmin Monee' Brehaut
Redneck - James Bonavia "Malta the Damager"
Dirk De Brey - MK McManus
Mildred - Heather Drew
Taxi Driver - Jeff Georges
Puma 1 - Matthew Durnin
Puma 2 - Trevor Bell
Cowgirl - DeeDee Luxe
Robot - Angel Bauta
Mandy - Mandy Kitana
Ricky Recharge - Ricardo M. Cruz
Minox - Fabian Pulgar
DK ZERO - DK Zero
Bartender - Alia Munsch
Murray Hill - Murray Hill
Bang Bang Luna - Ariel Ash
Perle Noire - Perle Noire
Azulette - Annette Rodriguez
Bodega Creep - Robin de Levita
And Disco the Cat

ORIGINAL COSPLAY BY:

Cecilia Lin
Haley Grace
Julie Green
Caridad Rivera
Diana Paz Takagi
Leona Beretta
Misha-Esmerelda Matos
Stephanie Darius
Brandon Drummer

Kenya Gallegos
Crystal Lane
Nelson D. Martinez
Jeffrey Wright
Rosalie Perez
Konstantin Kahl
Joycelyn Berbec
Electric Emy
Phyllicia Jack
Jesse Von Paratore
Lawrence Asuncion
Tori Smith
Giuliana Werner
Joshua Marchese
Chauncey Ormond
Arie Lee
Dinah Werbel
Hwarak M. Tosaka
Azalea Autumn Fire
Emanuel Sepulveda
Alliz Cosplay
Rasheima Alvarado
Damian De Leon
Precious-Mary Elias
Pixie_Scythe
Annie Lee Cosplay
Kevin G. Leon
Chocobobutt
Matthew Huttle
Laura Ramirez
Renee Frangione
Raiysa Anthony
Demetrius Hart
Christopher B. Dixon

Nadya Martinez
Kaori Osaki
Jamal Johns
Red Reine
Annika Muller
Kisslyn "Lewdydeath" Shermer
Brandon Mellette
Carlie Sulker
Narcissus Key
Gee Javier

Music

"Boom Boom"

Song by DK Zero

Produced by Charles Kallaghan Massabo at Kallaghan Studios Los Angeles

Executive Produced by Kato

"Sand Circus"

beat by Phillip Menzies Siggapon and Vocal Archers.

Courtesy of iAnimal

