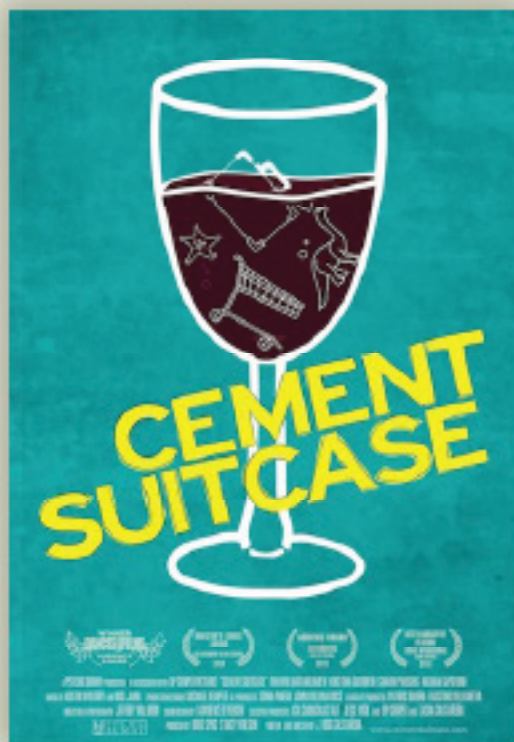


CEMENT SUITCASE





CEMENT SUITCASE is an "anti-romantic comedy" about Franklin, the best wine salesman in the Yakima Valley. He hates his life, his girlfriend is cheating on him, and he doesn't even have the self-respect to tell her that he knows. When he meets the "other guy," who turns out to be terrific, he decides that it might be time to let go of some baggage.

WRITER/DIRECTOR
J. Rick Castañeda

CINEMATOGRAPHY
Jeffrey Waldron

MUSIC BY
Austin Wintory and
Nick Jaina

SOUND DESIGN
Lawrence Everson

PRODUCERS
Doug Spice
Stacey Wilson

CO-PRODUCERS
Sonia Pineda
John William Ross

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
Asa Shumekas Tail
Jesse Vigil
BP Cooper
Tasha Castañeda

CAST



Dwayne Bartholomew (Franklin) is a comedian out of the bay area. He has performed at Improv Olympic, Second City, UCB, and the Westside Comedy Theater. Dwayne's YouTube videos have received over 1 million views.



Shawn Parsons (Brad) work includes *Parks and Recreation*, *Torchwood*, *All My Children*, and the upcoming *Soldiers of Fortune* (starring Christian Slater) and *Twelve Years a Slave* (directed by Steve McQueen).



Kristina Guerrero (Charlene) is a correspondent for E! News. Originally from Sunnyside, WA, Kristina was happy to go back to her hometown to make *Cement Suitcase* with her high school classmate, J. Rick Castañeda.



Nathan Sapsford (Jackford) is an actor from Sydney, where he built an audience as a popular VJ for MTV Australia. He's since been in numerous shorts and features, including *The Dog Walker*, *Water on Mars*, and *Key*.

DISTRIBUTION INQUIRIES
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www.facebook.com/cementsuitcase

www.cementsuitcase.com

SHORT SYNOPSIS

LOGLINE

The best wine salesman in the Yakima Valley is headed for a breakdown and only two people can help him. One just broke into his house. The other is having an affair with his girlfriend.



SHORT SYNOPSIS

Franklin, the best wine salesman in the Yakima Valley, hates his life. His girlfriend is cheating on him, and he doesn't even have the self-respect to tell her that he knows. When he meets the "other guy" – who turns out to be a terrific person – he decides it's time to let go of some baggage.



LONG SYNOPSIS



CEMENT SUITCASE is the story of what happens when a quarterlife crisis goes unchecked. Comedian Dwayne Bartholomew stars as Franklin Roew, a successful wine salesman who is falling apart in the rest of his life. He's dangerously close to losing his job, his house, and his girlfriend Charlene (Kristina Guerrero; *E! News*), who he's discovered is having an affair. But things take a turn when he meets two people who help him realize that it's not too late to take back his life.

Jackford (Nathan Sapsford; *MTV Australia*), a charismatic vagabond, is the first to shake things up. Jackford forces his way in literally and figuratively when he breaks into Franklin's house and convinces Franklin to let him stay. Franklin needs the extra cash, so he ignores his gut instincts and (like many women and truck drivers before him), falls under Jackford's unique charm.

After Jackford's antics push Franklin's proverbial train off its tracks, Franklin starts taking chances – including pursuing long-imagined art projects and bizarrely befriending the one person he hates most in this world: his girlfriend's lover, Brad (Shawn Parsons; *Parks and Recreation*, *Torchwood*, *Soldiers of Fortune*).

Brad, a handsome golf pro, is as carefree as he is clueless. Oblivious that Charlene has a boyfriend, he visits Franklin's tasting room looking for a crash course in wine. As Franklin befriends Brad against his better instincts, he starts to realize more about himself and the life he's made.

With nothing to lose, Franklin agrees to dinner with Brad – at Brad's apartment, with Brad's "girlfriend," Charlene. Before the night is over, Franklin's last supper will change everything –but maybe not in the way that Franklin was thinking.



DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

I was born and raised in the Yakima Valley, and it wasn't until I moved away that I really began to notice how unique it was. The peace and quiet, the beautiful vistas, and the way life interweaves through everybody you know. After living in Los Angeles for ten years, you really get to miss the cows, the ample parking, and the real feeling of spring. I decided to set a movie in the Yakima Valley because no one else has. I wanted to make a movie about a place most people have never seen before, in a place where people still get excited about movies.

So I saved up my pennies for a long time, borrowing movies from friends instead of paying for cable, driving a '97 Honda because it still got great gas mileage, and subsisting on cold cereal and frozen pizza, in order to save up the money to make this film.

I brought the idea of the film and a rough script to the production company I co-founded, Psychic Bunny, and they agreed to help support it. A creative hub that produces short films, features, web series, and even 360-degree interactive experiences, Psychic Bunny has always found a way to sharpen the projects I've directed to make them funnier, more beautiful, and more professionally-made. *Coma, Period.*, a web series I wrote, was produced by Psychic Bunny and went on to praise in the New York Times, and reached over 1,000,000 views on MetaCafe.com. Without the constructive feedback, suggestions, support, and resources of this tremendous group of filmmakers, it never would have been so successful.

The other important ingredient in this undertaking goes by the name of Dwayne Bartholomew, or, as he's often known, "D." I've been making films with Dwayne for about nine years now, from my first film at USC, shot on 16mm, to the 37 short films we made with our comedy sketch group, Six Finger Fist. D has more comedy in his little pinky than most people have in their entire lives. He's so talented, and so hilarious, that I wrote *Cement Suitcase* entirely for him because I know what he's capable of, and there's no one I'd rather work with.

This movie, more than anything else, is about learning to let go. Learning this was something that actually enabled me to make the movie. Instead of worrying that I was making a big mistake, or that I was going to embarrass myself with an epic failure, I had to just let go of all that and trust in my abilities and in the wonderful people working on this film. The result is better than I could have imagined.

DIRECTOR'S BIO

J. RICK CASTAÑEDA - WRITER/DIRECTOR

J. Rick Castañeda is a writer/director/producer of feature films, animations and live-action shorts, and co-founder of Psychic Bunny. His works have been around the world to festivals in Canada, Japan, and Romania, as well as festivals here in the ol' U.S. of A., such as SXSW. He's made over 30 short films with his sketch comedy group, Six Finger Fist, earning recognition from YouTube, Crackle, and Funny or Die. *Coma, Period.*, a 10-episode comedy webseries about a man stuck inside a coma, was given a rave review in the New York Times, and has over 1,000,000 views. He has also directed webisodes for Disney and MSN. A published author, an accomplished director, and a trusted friend, Rick is very excited about *Cement Suitcase*, his first feature film. You can view his reel here: <https://vimeo.com/55810019>

PRODUCTION BIOS

DOUG SPICE - PRODUCER

Doug Spice, former Certified Forklift Operator, is a filmmaker and designer from a small country known as the United States of America. He is a graduate of the USC School of Cinema-Television, and producer/director of a bewildering array of projects ranging from feature and short films to commercials, music videos, games, websites, training aids, theatrical productions, live television, books, and more. Along with Rick Castañeda, he is one of the founders of Psychic Bunny, where his work has won awards (and other times not won awards, shhhhh...). *Cement Suitcase* is the third feature film he has produced, and the first to feature dinosaurs.

If you ever owned a copy of *Titanic* on VHS, it's very likely that Doug personally touched it at some point, and he promises this isn't creepy.

STACEY WILSON - PRODUCER

Stacey Wilson graduated from the University of Kentucky. With a BFA Theatre degree in hand, Stacey headed to LA, where she blossomed in front of the camera, and behind the scenes, while working at 525 Post Production, 3-Ring Circus, Telezign/TZLA, and Weller-Grossman Productions, where she produced shows for The Food Network and HGTV. Stacey's producing experience also includes 2 feature films, as well as numerous theatre and live event shows, including VOXBOX Arts Collective, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the Groundlings' hit, *The Black Version*, and upcoming shows for the Grand Guignoliers.

SONIA PINEDA - CO-PRODUCER

Sonia Pineda is a writer, producer, and multiple-hat wearer. In high school, she co-wrote *The Freedom Writers Diary*, which MTV and Paramount Pictures turned into a movie starring Hilary Swank. After serving as an advisor on that film, Sonia began work on "Stories From An Undeclared War," the follow-up documentary, which recently became an Official Selection at The Newport Beach Film Festival. Sonia continues to produce, most notably at Psychic Bunny, where the projects range from WWI shorts to a webseries for Disney Interactive.

JOHN WILLIAM ROSS - CO-PRODUCER

John William Ross grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He studied at the University of Southern California, earning a degree in Cinema-Television Production, then continued his studies at the California Institute of the Arts, receiving an MFA in Writing in 2004. His short films "The Stress" and "Miss Goldman" have been featured in various film festivals and distributed internationally. His first feature film, *Freaky Faron*, is now available on DVD and Netflix Streaming. He currently resides in Los Angeles where he is hard at work on his ninth feature length screenplay and various other film projects.

CREW BIOS

AUSTIN WINTORY - COMPOSER

Austin Wintory began his obsession with composing back when he was ten years old, when he discovered Jerry Goldsmith's scores to *Patton* and *A Patch of Blue*. After a busy high school career composing for the student orchestras, Austin went on to study at NYU and USC. His score for the video game *Journey* was the first-ever Grammy-nominated videogame score. The score subsequently won an Academy of Interactive Arts & Sciences D.I.C.E. award, two British Academy Awards, a Spike TV VGA, and IGN's "Overall Music of the Year," along with six G.A.N.G. nominations and host of others. Austin has also scored over 40 feature films, and his first major film score, for the Sundance Film Festival-winning film *Captain Abu Raed*, was shortlisted for the 2009 Academy Awards for Best Original Score.

NICK JAINA - COMPOSER

Nick Jaina was born a writer and has always loved music. He has composed three ballets with the Satellite Ballet and Collective in New York City, and has also composed and performed music for a play in New Orleans called *Girls Who Drew Horses*, which was featured at that city's Fringe Fest in 2012. Nick has toured the United States with his band, playing in theaters and on street corners, and has also released five albums on Hush Records. His next album, *Primary Perception*, will be released in April 2013 on Fluff and Gravy Records.

JEFFREY WALDRON - DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Born in the United States, Jeffrey spent his formative years around the world, living in seven cities in four countries on three continents before graduating high school. His career in filmmaking began in animation, completing his first 16mm animated short at the age of ten. His passion for imagery gained further momentum in the years that followed, ultimately leading him to California. He currently works as a freelance filmmaker, photographer, musician and entrepreneur in Los Angeles. Jeffrey was recently nominated for an Independent Spirit Award for his work on *The Dynamiter*.

LAWRENCE EVERSON - SOUND DESIGN

Lawrence Everson is a freelance sound designer and re-recording mixer based out of Los Angeles. Films he's mixed include the critically acclaimed *45365* (Independent Spirit Award Winner and recipient of the SXSW Grand Jury Prize), and *Vanishing of the Bees*, narrated by Academy Award Nominee Ellen Page. His portfolio spans works as diverse as radio theatre engineering to developing sound design for US Army training simulators, and he has recorded location audio around the world from rural Uganda to Mt. Everest base camp. Lawrence is excited to be a part of the *Cement Suitcase* team, and one of these days will think of a wittier way to conclude his biography.

CAST

DWAYNE BARTHOLOMEW • “FRANKLIN”



Dwayne Bartholomew is a comedian out of the bay area. He masqueraded as a cinephile while at the University of Southern California, and while he was there he performed stand-up in such world famous venues as The Ice House, The Improv, Laugh Factory, and many more. Now he focuses on his improvisational talents throughout Los Angeles (at Improv Olympic, Second City, UCB, and the Westside Comedy theater, to name a few). You may have seen his work on TV, from shows like *Manswers* or commercials for the Gold Coast Auto Plaza and Comcast Wireless. All told, videos starring Dwayne have well over 1 million views on YouTube. If only he was sugar-free...

KRISTINA GUERRERO • “CHARLENE”



Kristina Guerrero is a correspondent for E! News covering all things Hollywood. She's interviewed everyone from Sandra Bullock to Jennifer Aniston, Denzel Washington to Jim Carrey and yes, even Justin Bieber (gasp!). She has always had a love of the entertainment business, “old Hollywood” and Lucille Ball, so going from hosting to acting seemed like a natural transition and a cool way to follow in her idol's footsteps. A chance encounter with her former high school classmate, writer/director Rick Castañeda put the ball into motion. Kristina always knew her drama queen ways would some day pay off, this is Kristina's second movie, she appeared in *The Bookie* in 2007, but is beyond thrilled to be joining the cast of *Cement Suitcase* because this time she has lines!

NATHAN SAPSFORD • “JACKFORD”



Nathan Sapsford is an Alien of Extraordinary Ability, according to the US Department of Immigration, which is a rather time consuming and expensive title to obtain. An actor from Sydney Australia, he has been in the States for 2 ½ years, starred in his first feature film, numerous short ones and a Blackberry campaign. His most interesting past life was that of a TV host for 5 years, otherwise known as a VJ for MTV Australia and Network TEN, where he interviewed hundreds of artists and very famous people all over the world, loved doing live TV, hosted award shows, won a couple and proudly still has a poster or 2 on teenage bedroom walls. If only without that haircut.

SHAWN PARSONS • “BRAD”



Shawn Parsons is thrilled to be a part of this promising little indie! Originally from Alabama, Shawn moved to New York in 2003, where he began to train and work in theatre. Shawn has appeared in television on *Parks and Recreation*, *Torchwood*, *All My Children*, and on SpikeTV's Entourage promotional series as “The Agent.” Shawn will appear in MGM's 2012 film *Soldiers of Fortune*, starring Christian Slater, as “The Pitchman.” Shawn plays the lead in the feature *In the Darkness* available on HULU, and the “Ghost” in the festival-bound feature *Qualia*. Shawn will also be filming *Delusion* later this year written and executive produced by Larry Cohen (Phone Booth, Captivity, Cellular).

CAST

JOSE	Jesus Sandoval
KATIE	Corrin Evans
MR. CARPENTER	Dannul Dailey
CHIEF DIAZ	Adam Diaz
PLEATED SKIRT	Danielle Stinnett
NORA	Stacy Lee Robinson
ROBERT	Ruben Hernandez
BUFF TRUCKER DUDE	Christian Berghoff
PICKUP TRUCK DRIVER	Doug Spice
FRANKLIN'S MOM	Carolyn Isaac
BETTY	Floy Thorington
BANK TELLER	Laura Ibarra
DESK CLERK	Stacey Wilson
CAR SALESMAN	Faustino Villanueva
BRUNETTE WINERY CUSTOMER	Faith Martin
WINERY CUSTOMER HUSBAND	James Robinson
GROCERY STORE MANAGER	Angel Garcia
TRAIN STATION BOOK GIRL	Valerie Stewart
TRAIN STATION STRONG MAN	Daniel Knight
TRAIN STATION BACKPACK GUY	Jeffrey Knight
BIKER IN WINERY	Hector Garza Sr.
GOLFER ON COURSE	John Ross
PARKING LOT GOLFER	Daniel Wyknenko
RADIO DJ	Todd Lyons
RADIO AD VO	Stacy Lee Robinson

PRODUCTION CREDITS

DIRECTOR	J. Rick Castañeda
WRITER	J. Rick Castañeda
PRODUCERS	Doug Spice Stacey Wilson
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS	Jesse Vigil Asa Shumskas Tait BP Cooper Tasha Castañeda
CO-PRODUCERS	Sonia Pineda John William Ross
ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS	Patrick Ibarra Faustino Villanueva Barry Green Julia Waters Humpherys Bob Stevens
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	Jeffrey Waldron
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	Michael Kemper
EDITOR	J. Rick Castañeda
1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	John William Ross
1ST ASSISTANT CAMERA	Mark Legaspi
2ND ASSISTANT CAMERA	Jeffrey Knight
GAFFER	Rory Emmons
BEST BOY ELECTRIC	Matt Bunker
KEY GRIP	Michael Sudmeier
GRIPS	Christian Berghoff Angel Garcia Steven Chi
ADDITIONAL PROP DESIGN	Lawrence Everson
PRODUCTION SOUND MIXER	Ben Oliver
SOUND UTILITY ASSISTANTS	Bianca Labrador Doug Spice
2ND UNIT DIRECTOR	Scottie Minshall
2ND UNIT DIR. PHOTOGRAPHY	Patrick Ibarra
ADDITIONAL FOOTAGE	Ben Oliver
SCRIPT SUPERVISOR	Jesus Sandoval
MAKEUP ARTIST	Carol Matthews
WARDROBE SUPERVISOR	Jesus Sandoval
WARDROBE ASSISTANT	Dolly Peña
PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT	Emily Rickard Jasmine Moeller
DIGITAL IMAGING TECHNICIANS	Scottie Minshall Doug Spice

POST CREDITS

EDITOR	J. Rick Castañeda
COLORIST	Aaron Bennett
VISUAL FX SUPERVISOR	Doug Spice
VISUAL FX	Harrison Lee
	David Miess
	Anya Dubble-Olson
	Allan Duso
ANIMATION SEQUENCE	Christopher Poole
ADDITIONAL ANIMATION	Kelly Matten
SUPERVISING SOUND EDITOR	Lawrence Everson
RE-RECORDING MIXER	Lawrence Everson
DIALOGUE EDITOR	Justin Walker
MUSIC SUPERVISOR	Nassir Nassirzadeh
POST-PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS	Valerie Summey
	Steven Chi
	Careen Ingle
	Hallease Clemons
	Juli Klein
POST PRODUCTION SERVICES	Psychic Bunny
GRAPHIC DESIGNER	Ed Tighe
OPENING TITLES	Doug Spice
END CREDITS	Chris Cappilla
SCORE PRODUCED BY	Nick Jaina
	Austin Wintory

RECOGNITION

WINNER, Audience Award
Dances With Films (Hollywood, CA)

WINNER, Audience Award
Ellensburg Film Festival (Ellensburg, WA)

WINNER, Director's Choice Award
Gig Harbor Film Festival (Gig Harbor, WA)

WINNER, Best Narrative Feature
Eugene International Film Festival (Eugene, OR)



DISTRIBUTION

VIDEO ON DEMAND (VOD) RELEASE



Cement Suitcase was picked up by Gravitas Ventures for Video On Demand distribution in the fall of 2013 and went live March 1, 2014. It now is available in over 100 million homes to buy or rent on digital platforms such as iTunes, Amazon Instant Video, Vudu, PlayStation Network, Google Play, XBOX 360, and YouTube, as well as Cable On Demand for those that have AT&T U-verse, Verizon FiOS, Dish Network, Cox, Charter, Bresnan, Shaw, Rogers, Cogeco, Armstrong, RCN, and Mediacom.

For more information on distribution and screenings
please visit www.cementsuitcase.com

THEATRICAL RELEASE

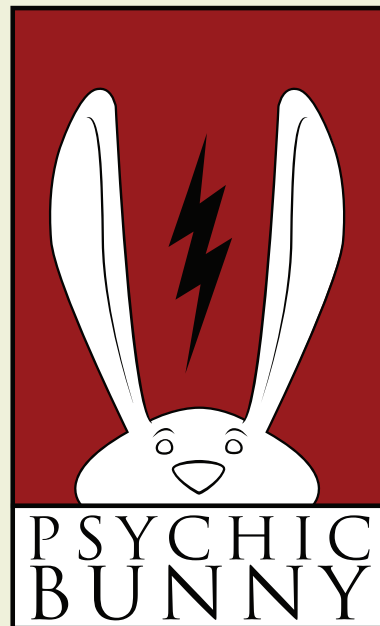


Cement Suitcase is being theatrically released through the web platform tugg.com, which uses crowd sourcing to schedule theatrical screenings across the country. Tugg allows groups, organizations, or individuals to become promoters and to book the movie at their local theater. Tugg coordinates with the theater to screen the movie, and the promoter is responsible for selling a minimum number of tickets to confirm the event. It is a new tool being used by filmmakers across the country that creates space for independent movies among Hollywood blockbusters that typically take priority at large theaters.

Official Tugg Page: <http://www.tugg.com/titles/cement-suitcase>

THE PRODUCTION COMPANY

Psychic Bunny (www.psychicbunny.com) is a content production and post-production company located in downtown LA. With clients including Disney, MTV, MSN, Sony, USC, Harvard, and the US Army, Psychic Bunny is an award-winning studio now branching out into original content. The founders' multidisciplinary experience in film production, screenwriting, motion graphics and interactive design are key to the company's success. Psychic Bunny provided complete production and post-production services for *Cement Suitcase*, including opening titles, end credits, editing, animation, design, screen replacement, color correction, and visual effects.



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