

GOOD BOY

Official Selection

tiff

Toronto International
Film Festival 2018



SYNOPSIS

A K9 officer trainee and his partner train for their first day on patrol. Play, repetition and positive re-enforcement reveal the casual nature of manufacturing violence on command.

A black and white photograph showing a man from behind, wearing a cap and a heavy jacket, interacting with a large, dark-colored dog in an open field. The man's right arm is extended towards the dog's head. The background is a flat, open landscape under a clear sky. The text 'DIRECTORS STATEMENT' is overlaid on the lower left portion of the image.

DIRECTORS STATEMENT

Good Boy is the second instalment in a cycle of shorts exploring the relationships between human and animal minds. To me these are often relationships that transcend spoken language. Dogs are often submissive to human leadership and eager to please, the intimate relationship between dog and K9 officer is an extreme example of this which I became attached to. Over the course of three months I shadowed and interviewed K9 officers through their training process and in the field. All the events and actions featured in the film were either directly observed or described by the officers interviewed. I was fascinated by the training process, simple games, repetition and positive re-enforcement transformed the mind of the dog. The relationship between the familiar archetype of “a guy and his dog” became a way in to larger themes about authority’s use of violence and the hauntingly casual nature of the process of weaponizing a mind. Making the film left me with questions about our societal understanding of force used for protection, how violence is manufactured and the ways we’re taught to trust law enforcement’s use of violence in the name of justice.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Graham Foy was born in 1987, in Edmonton, Alberta. He studied filmmaking in Toronto at Ryerson University where his first three short films were directed under the pseudonym Fantavious Fritz. Tuesday (2012) and Paradise Falls (2013) premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival, his third short Lewis (2015) premiered at Slamdance. His music video for Charlotte Day Wilson's "Work" won the 2018 Prism Prize for best Canadian music video of the year.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

- 2018 - good boy
Official Selection TIFF 2018
- 2015 - Lewis
VIFF 2015, CIFF 2015, Slamdance 2016, New Orelans Film Festival 2016, Memory Presents, Maryland Film Festival 2016, EOFF 2016
- 2013 - Paradise Falls
TIFF CANADA'S TOP TEN 2013, Best Canadian Short EIFF 2013
- 2012 - Tuesday
TIFF 2012, EOFF 2013, BIFF 2013



SHORT CUTS OFFICIAL SELECTION

TIFF 2018

11 min - Color - 1.77 - DCP - 2018 - Canada

CAST

Pat Phillips, Avro, Tim O'Halloran, Marvin Eng

Written & Directed by Fantavious Fritz

Producer Jason Aita

Co-Producer Stephen Cutler

Executive Producers Harland Weiss
Donovan M. Boden
Isil Gilderdale

Cinematographer Bobby Shore

Production Designer Erika Lobko

Assistant Director Daiva Zalnieriunas

Editor Colton Edwards

Location Sound Benjamin Barton, Adam Parsons

Mix Post City Picture & Sound



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