

NORA-JANE NOONE FARSHAD FARAHAT MAURY STERLING

KNOW YOUR ENEMY

Whose side will you be on?



HIGHFLYER PRODUCTIONS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE MALT SHOP PRESENTS "KNOW YOUR ENEMY"

PRODUCTION DESIGNER LINDSEY MINNICH EDITED BY REYNOLDS BARNEY MUSIC BY JOHN VAN TONGEREN

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY QUINN FELDMAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GARY FINDER ROCHELLE FINDER EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ROGER BIRNBAUM

PRODUCED BY HECTOR ELIZONDO RANDY FELDMAN CHAD SCHULTZ WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY RANDY FELDMAN

Know Your Enemy

Logline: A Middle Eastern man invades the home of a young, affluent couple as a result of a road rage incident leading to a tense reckoning.

Director's Statement: In making this film, I wanted to explore the issue of prejudice toward the "other," and to draw attention to the bubble that many of us live in. The female lead has a threatening intrusion into her life that causes her to examine her position of entitlement and forces her to evaluate someone whom she would have ordinarily dismissed. The male lead, in an act of desperation motivated by a desire to be seen for who he is, is also forced to examine his own cultural blind spots. I hope this film achieves an even-handedness that inspires a lively discussion about the preconceptions and misconceptions we have regarding each other.

Filmmaker Bios

Randy Feldman

Writer, Director, Producer

Randy Feldman is a screenwriter, novelist, and television producer. His work has been nominated for the Writers Guild of America Award and the “Goya” (Spanish Academy Award). This film is his first directorial effort.



Roger Birnbaum

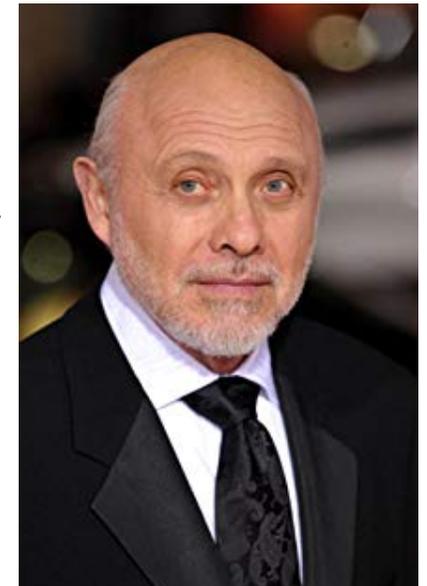
Executive Producer

Roger Birnbaum has produced dozens of films and was Co-Chairman of MGM and Co-founder of Spyglass Entertainment. Among the many films he has produced are *Rush Hour*, *Bruce Almighty*, *While You Were Sleeping*, *The Tourist*, and *The Hustle* starring Rebel Wilson and Anne Hathaway. Currently Roger is the founder of two production companies – Pin High Productions and Cave 76 Productions.

Hector Elizondo

Producer

Hector Elizondo is an Emmy Award winning actor who has appeared in countless television shows and movies including *Chicago Hope*, *All in the Family*, *Hill Street Blues*, *The West Wing*, and *Grey's Anatomy*. Most recently, he starred with Tim Allen in ABC's *Last Man Standing* for six seasons. His most iconic film credit includes his role as a hotel manager in the classic film *Pretty Woman* for which he received a Golden Globe nomination and an American Comedy Award. He is also the celebrity spokesperson for Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA), an avid supporter of Amnesty International, The American Cancer Society and The Elizabeth Glaser Pediatrics AIDS Foundation.



Cast Bios



Farshad Farahat

Lead Actor

Farshad Farahat was a costar in the Academy Award-winning film *Argo*. His acting credits include *300: Rise of an Empire*, *State of Affairs*, and *House of Cards*. He majored in Journalism at the University of Massachusetts and is currently finishing a PhD in conflict resolution.

Nora-Jane Noone

Lead Actor

Nora-Jane Noone can be seen in the 2016 Oscar nominated film *Brooklyn* directed by John Crowley. Originally from Ireland, she moved to Los Angeles in 2015 and has since shot four lead roles in films: *12 Feet Deep*, *I Hate the Man in My Basement*, *The Capture*, and *Know Your Enemy*. She made her feature film debut in *The Magdalene Sisters*, which received the Best Film Prize at the Venice Film Festival in 2002. She continues to do great work in both film and television co-starring in *The Descent* and *Doomsday*.



Maury Sterling

Lead Actor

Maury Sterling's role as Max in *Homeland* has been a true privilege. He was a series regular on the Steven Spielberg-produced CBS drama *Extant*, starring Halle Berry. Other TV credits include: *Girlfriends Guide to Divorce*, *Masters of Sex*, *NCIS New Orleans*, *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia* and numerous others. Over the years Maury has appeared in numerous commercials, guest spots, shorts, films, and tv series. Maury's film credits include: *Veronica Mars*, *Coherence*, *Kung Fu Panda 2* and many more.

Cast Bios (cont.)

Jaime Gallagher

Co-Producer, Casting Director, Supporting Actor

Jaime Gallagher is a talented actress, producer and casting director. She just wrapped a thriller where she plays Selma Blair's best friend and has previously co-starred in films and television with names like Bill Paxton, Luke Perry, Frances Fisher, Glen Powell, Danny Trejo, Johnathon Schaech, David Arquette and Game of Thrones' Alfie Allen among others.



Danny Boushebel

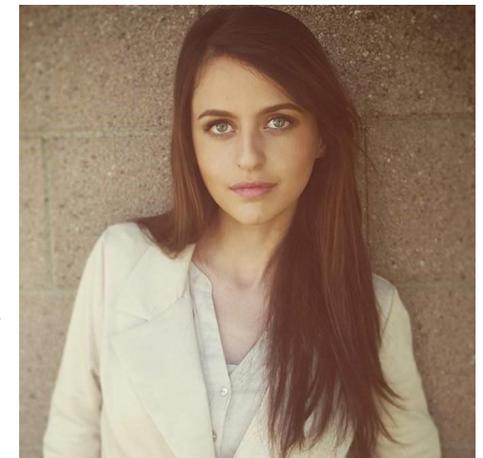
Supporting Actor

Danny Boushebel is an American TV and film actor. He is best known for his latest role as Blythe Sason on HBO's *Vice Principals*. Danny has guest-starred on many other primetime and cable TV hit series: *MacGyver*, *Madame Secretary*, *Stranger Things*, *Quantico*, *Elementary*, *House of Cards*, *The Blacklist*, *Homeland*, *Drop Dead Diva*, *Pan Am*, and *Damages* to name a few.

Naya Abou Mousa

Supporting Actor

Naya Abou Mousa grew up in Syria and came to the US as a refugee at the age of 16. She was always interested in the arts, but was unable to pursue them until she arrived in the states. Since arriving, she has had roles in *Know Your Enemy* and *Morning Dove*. She has discovered a great passion for acting and dove into classes for the craft, honing her skills in improv and dialect.



Production Notes

"Know Your Enemy" was shot in 15 days on a micro budget of under \$250,000. Twelve of the shooting days were spent in one location (the house) and 3 days were devoted to the flashback scenes. The crew consisted of 25 hardworking, young professionals.

Production got off to a rocky start as the house that was initially intended to be the primary location had to be abandoned two days before shooting because of "second thoughts" from the homeowner. After a day of frantic searching, another house was located, and, with a mammoth effort from the production staff, the shooting was pushed back only two days. Despite the fact that this necessitated some on-the-fly changes in production design and scene blocking, the change of location ultimately turned out to benefit the film, as the house, with its whiteness and glass front, fit perfectly with the themes of the movie.



The process of casting the male lead was an extensive one. It was interesting that most of the Middle Eastern men that came to the auditions knew each other from auditioning for the same roles of terrorists and bad guys in other movies and TV shows, and all were very interested in doing this much more multi-faceted depiction of a Middle Easterner. The role of "The Man" (whose name we later learn is Shaheed) was originally to be played by Navid Negahban who played the antagonist Abu Nazir in the first two seasons of *"Homeland."* Navid was involved with the early development of the film, but ultimately went off to costar in the Jerry Bruckheimer produced film *"12 Strong"* alongside Chris Hemsworth. After many casting sessions, Farshad Farahat was cast in the leading role and perfectly embodied the brooding intelligence and pain of the character.



The actress originally cast as the lead (Chantal) announced that she was pregnant two months before the scheduled shooting. This initiated another mad scramble to recast. Many actresses were auditioned for the



role and many would have brought a different flavor to the character. But with no clear front runner, one of the producers, Chad Schultz, suggested an Irish actress he had just worked with named Nora-Jane Noone. The director, Randy Feldman, didn't know who she was. Schultz showed him a picture, and Feldman immediately recognized her from the movie "*The Magdalene Sisters*" which he greatly admired, and a meeting was quickly set up at a restaurant in Los Feliz. Feldman gave Noone the role on the spot and was rewarded with a great performance as well as some insightful perspectives on

the script, particularly when it came to the shifting power balance between the male and female characters.

One major motivation for making the movie was Feldman's desire to work with his son Quinn, who served as cinematographer. Quinn Feldman trained for 2 ½ years on the crew of Steven Spielberg's two time Academy Award Winning cinematographer Janusz Kaminski. The father and son had talked about making a movie together for several years and "*Know Your Enemy*" gave them that opportunity.



The entire process of making "Know Your Enemy" took almost two years and was completed in the summer of 2018.