

“GIRL” director opens “THE VINEYARD”; casting begins

Written by Michael Gingold
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Synthetic Cinema, the Connecticut-based team behind *BANSHEE!!!*, *WEREWOLF: THE DEVIL'S HOUND* and the upcoming *ASSAULT OF THE SASQUATCH* and *OPPONENT*, has announced its latest horror production, *THE VINEYARD*. A casting notice has been released, seeking both union and non-union actors for the film, and Fango got the early line on the creative talent involved.



THE VINEYARD is about a father and son who move to the title location in a rural area, hoping it'll be a bonding experience—but instead, the son is taken over by an evil supernatural force. Producer Andrew Gernhard let us know that Gregory Wilson (pictured), who helmed the Jack Ketchum adaptation *THE GIRL NEXT DOOR*, will direct from a script by John Doolan, with *BANSHEE!!!* and *OPPONENT* director Colin Theys serving as cinematographer. “It’s a dream team,” Gernhard tells Fango. “It’s very exciting—this is a bigger production than usual.” The film will shoot in late August/September on Connecticut locations, produced under SAG’s Ultra Low Budget Agreement, with compensation to performers including pay, on-set meals and lodging. The following roles are being cast:

Johnny: Male, must be 18 or over but look high-school age. Charismatic and outgoing, he’s able to adapt to new situations extremely well. Like most red-blooded American teenagers, he has two things on his mind: girls and cars. This is a very dynamic character that serves as the most direct outlet for the entity’s interaction with the family. (Partial nudity required)

Renee: Female, must be 18 or over but look high-school age. Naturally pretty, she’s extremely confident and self-assured, while at the same time has an air of mystery about her. Has a close relationship to her family. (Partial nudity required)

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Mark: Male, early to mid-30s. A lenient and laid-back kind of father with a good sense of humor. Would rather spend time in the kitchen than have anything to do with the vineyard, aside from drinking the wine. (Partial nudity required)

Matt: Male, early 20s. Very mature for his age, especially when suddenly faced with new responsibilities, but also has a dry, sarcastic personality that seeps through.

Louis: Male, mid-40s. Has two concerns in his life: family and work. Very goal-oriented and diligent, while always trying to do what’s best for his children.

Father DiSpirito: Male, late 20s. Very dedicated to his faith and adamant about the belief of God, but also youthful with a modern-day sensibility and understanding.

Joan of Arc: Female, late teens. The legendary martyr who was burned at the stake for never abandoning her beliefs. French-speaking a plus.

Auditions will be held in New York City by appointment only June 12-13, with sides provided prior to readings. To apply, e-mail a headshot (as a .jpg) and résumé (as text, hyperlink, .pdf or .doc) to auditions@syntheticcinema.com ; the subject line must be the name of the character you want to try out for (choose only one), followed by your own name. You can find out more about Synthetic Cinema at its [official website](#) .

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