

**KINO LORBER**  
i n c o r p o r a t e d

# PATCH TOWN

A FILM BY CRAIG GOODWILL

Canada | 85 minutes | 2014 | In English

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A Kino Lorber Release  
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**Synopsis**

Jon is just another mindless laborer on an assembly line, but at no ordinary factory. Day after day he and his fellow drones harvest kids from cabbages – kids that will go on to become the beloved toys of little boys and girls in the land outside this dreadful factory.

But when Jon discovers the awful secret that he and all the indentured workers are actually grown-up and discarded toys, he'll have to take on a villainous corporation to reunite with his long-lost mother, protect his newfound family, and finally find freedom.

### **Long Synopsis**

Inspired by the award-winning short film of the same name, Patch Town tells the story of Jon, an abandoned toy who has lived a sad life as an oppressed worker at a factory where hundreds of cabbage babies are born. Work on the assembly line is a thankless task of shucking, picking, and processing newborns to go out into the world and to their new adoptive mothers.

Each new birth gradually takes its toll on Jon and he slips deeper into sadness, lamenting the days when life was good and he was loved. Yuri, the evil child catcher who rules over Patch Town and the factory, discovers the baby that Jon and his wife, Mary, have stolen, which forces Jon to make the decision to escape the authoritarian city and find a safe home for his family.

### **Director's Statement**

Patch Town. It is a dark comedy, adventure. Asked if he thought his first feature film directorial debut was ambitious, director Craig Goodwell replied “I’d rather die on a fence too high than live under one too low.” He was not afraid to try something bold and shoot for the moon with this film, and he can confidently admit he believes he has successfully done that.

Recognizing that Patch Town is unlike anything else out there, producer David Sparkes concurs and says, “We really wanted to push the limits. We like high concept, something that is interesting and that engages people of all ages.” The idea for Patch Town had been incubating for eight years before going to camera. It was born out of a conversation about where babies come from that Craig had on set with a script supervisor.

In North American folklore the stork delivers babies but in Eastern European folklore, babies are born in the cabbage patch. It was that idea that propelled Craig to explore the notion of nostalgia and ponder the idea of abandonment and hope. All along Craig’s hope and intention was to make a feature film on the Patch Town story. He acknowledges that making the short film for BravoFACT! helped to get the story out there and was the encouragement he needed to pursue making the feature. “It’s such a crazy interesting story that we wanted to tell, that we needed to give it a sense of what the story was before we dove into it,” he said about making the short first.

Patch Town, the short film, won the Director’s Guild Award for Best Short in 2012 and screened at the Cannes Short Film Corner and premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2011, and went on to premiere at the Sarasota Film Festival and the Palm Springs International Film Festival. The feature film has allowed Craig to explore the story and the characters and elaborate with more in-depth development.

### **About the Cast**

Zoie Palmer (Bethany) has become one of Canada’s most recognizable actors in the last couple of years, thanks much in part to her role of Dr. Lauren Lewis in

the hit sci-fi series, *Lost Girl*, (Showcase). She has appeared in an array of television productions, notably starring as Ronald Reagan's daughter, Patti, in *The Reagans*, the critically acclaimed MOW that was nominated for a slate of Emmy Awards and a Golden Globe. She also appeared in the Emmy Award-winning TV movie, *Out of the Ashes*, costarring alongside Christine Lahti and Beau Bridges.

Julian Richings (Yuri/Gregor) is one of Canada's most versatile and unique stage and screen performers. Based in Toronto he has been a familiar presence in the Canadian entertainment industry for over two decades. He recently wrapped the next installment of the Superman series, *Superman: Man of Steel* directed by Zach Snyder, and coming up, is Jean-Pierre Jeunet's *The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet*.

Rob Ramsay (Jon) started his career with a role in *It's a Boy Girl Thing* and the American hit series, *Blue Mountain State* merging his two passions – football and acting. Born and raised in Toronto, Rob performed in countless community theatre plays and musicals, and has played for several football teams in his hometown. *Patch Town* is Rob's first lead role in a feature film.

### **About the Director**

Craig Goodwill solidified his status as an emerging filmmaker-to-watch when his short film, *Patch Town*, won the Director's Guild of Canada Award for Best Short. The film premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival later that year in 2011 and was invited to be a part of the Festival de Cannes Short Corner Program in the spring of 2012. *Patch Town* also won the "Best in Show" category at Best Shorts Festival in Los Angeles, and had its US Premiere at the Palm Springs Film Festival.

Goodwill's passion for filmmaking and storytelling comes to life in his work, *Artist: Unknown*, which recently won the CSC Award for Best Cinematography. It is a unique glimpse into the life of iconic artist Tom Thomson.

His 2013 film *The Spirit Game*, premiered at Cannes as part of the Telefilm "Not Short on Talent Program". The film is based on the true story about the three infamous Fox sisters. It takes place in the mid-nineteenth century, when the sisters astonished the world with their ability to speak to the dead. The film is executive produced by Michael Konyves and stars Liberty Ross, Charles Shaughnessy, Chantal Kreviazuk, Katie Boland and Kathryn Isabelle.

Goodwill has traveled the world from Haiti to India directing and producing for National Geographic, CBC, Alliance Atlantis, Bravo, and HGTV.

### **Credits**

**Crew**

Directed by.....Craig Goodwill  
Screenplay by.....Christopher Bond, Trevor Martin, Craig Goodwill  
Produced by.....David Sparkes, Craig  
Goodwill  
Executive Producers.....Mark Montefiore, Alfredo Contreras, Steve  
Kaszas  
Director of Photography.....Guy Godfree  
Production Designer.....Matt Middleton  
Costume Designer.....Georgina Yarhi  
Composer.....Silvio Amato  
Edited by.....Jeremy Lalonde

**Cast**

Zoie Palmer.....Bethany  
Julian  
Richings.....Yuri/Gregor  
Rob Ramsay.....Jon  
Suresh  
John.....Sly  
Stephanie Pltsiladis.....Mary  
Kayla Di Venere.....Avery  
Alan C. Peterson.....Boss