

Cancel The F---ing Internet

A Short Film by Ryan Kayet

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LOGLINE

A frustrated husband desperately tries to cancel his internet service without his wife discovering his questionable search history.

SYNOPSIS

After the final infuriating straw, Dan calls his internet provider to cancel the f---ing internet. Surviving the apathetic gauntlet of support staff, he finally reaches the retention department and their star agent: Gerald. Things are finally looking up for Dan. That is until Gerald makes it very clear just how much he knows about Dan's browsing history, and how far he's willing to go to maintain his perfect retention record.



Ryan Kayct (Director/Writer)

Ryan is an up-and-coming filmmaker that excels as a screenwriter, director, and producer. After receiving high praise for his thesis film, *Lurker*, Ryan co-founded Riverlife Productions with a desire to focus on strong character driven narratives. He has directed the bravoFACT funded short film *One Day at a Time*, based on the award winning Canadian play *Cancer Can't Dance Like This*, and several music videos. His previous short *Interview*, a dramatic short about race, power, and the importance of choosing your words carefully, was funded by the Ontario Arts Council and played in several festivals. His most recent project, *Cancel the F---ing Internet*, is a hilarious short about privacy and the universal struggle of dealing with the cable/internet companies. Ryan is currently writing his first feature.



Dave Gibson (Producer/Co-writer)

Dave is an accomplished creative and corporate media producer. His first project was the acclaimed student film *Lurker*, which lead him to co-found Riverlife Productions in 2008 and he has never looked back. His work has gained respect in the community, and has lead to him becoming a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee award recipient in 2012. The leadership and project management skills he has developed have enabled him to produce powerful short films and music videos. His video *Where Would I Be* has been featured in publications like *Urbanology Magazine*. He has also produced for broadcast, such as his bravoFACT funded short film *Cancer Can't Dance Like This: One Day at a Time* for bravo in 2010 and *One in Eleven* for *Much Music* in 2012. More recently, Dave produced the short film *All for Davey* and the Ontario Arts Council funded short film *Interview* which ijust finished the festival circuit.



James R.T. Ervin (Composer)

Originally hailing from Halifax, Nova Scotia James Ervin is a film composer and multi-instrumentalist based out of Toronto, Canada. Taking pride in every note he writes, James strives to create rich and unique music, full of emotional support for each and every project. When not in the studio working on music for films, James can be seen performing around the world with the 2016 Juno winning *Walk Off The Earth*.



Daniel Stolfi (*Daniel* / Co-writer)

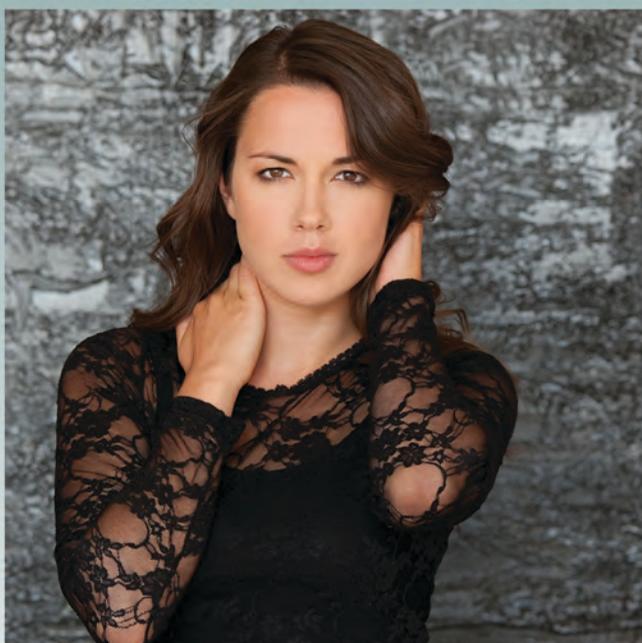
Daniel Stolfi is an Actor, Writer and Canadian Comedy Award Winning Comedian known for his work in the one-person show, "Cancer Can't Dance Like This". Daniel is a Graduate of the University of Guelph Theatre Program, The Second City Conservatory Program and has studied comedy in New York City with the Upright Citizens Brigade. Some of Daniel's comedy credits include: The Anger in Ernest & Ernestine, I Martin Short Goes Home (SCTV), The Dishes (You and Me Ent), Mr. D (CBC), The Amazing Gayl Pile (NBC SeeSo) and most recently, his newest solo show, Finding Funny, which he performed at The 2016 Toronto Fringe Festival. Daniel can also be seen on the TV Dramas, Suits (USA Network) and most recently Orphan Black (BBC America).



Amish Patel (*Gerald* / Co-writer)

As a Comedian and Entrepreneur, Amish loves writing, producing and performing comedy. He's put on live shows for thousands of people and has YouTube videos that have garnered hundreds of thousands of hits and a loyal online following. His comedy has gained him the attention of local media like NOW Magazine, national coverage on the CBC and funding to shoot an original sketch comedy show for Rogers Television.

Amish's original comedy show was recently chosen out of thousands to pitch at the Just for Laughs festival in Montreal and was green-lit by Kevin Hart for the LOL Network. Amish is pumped to write, produce and perform this show while continuing to do stand-up comedy and produce original videos for his online following. Check out his original videos at: [Facebook.com/FadeToBrown](https://www.facebook.com/FadeToBrown) and [YouTube.com/AmishUnleashed](https://www.youtube.com/AmishUnleashed).



Jennifer De Lucia (*Susie*)

Jennifer is an award winning producer (Cancer Can't Dance Like This – 2011 Canadian Comedy Award) and an actor in TV, Film, Voice and Theatre. Selected acting credits for film, television and theatre: Watch Dogs 2 (Ubisoft); 12 Monkeys (Syfy); Mr. D (CBC); Mayday (Cineflix); The Amazing Gayl Pile (LaRue Ent); The Dishes (You & Me Ent./LaRue Ent); Trashy Affair (BizMedia); Kill (Troma Films); If a Tree Falls (Black Fawn Distribution/High Flier Films); The Anger in Ernest and Ernestine (You and Me Ent.); Crack in the Ceiling (pivotal (arts)*2009 Best Performance at The Toronto FringeFestival); Mayham and the Naked Knee (Theatre Columbus). You can hear Jennifer's unique voice on advertisements across the country. Most recently Jennifer directed a new comedy web series Calm Down Paul, which she created with Daniel Stolfi.

Jennifer was born and raised in the city of Toronto and is a graduate of the theatre program at the University of Guelph.

Q & A with the Director, Ryan Kayet

Where did you come up with the idea for this short?

Well, I actually did have to cancel my internet and deal with a ridiculous gauntlet of staff to do so. It was quite absurd. They kept trying to throw things at me to stay with them. It's exhausting. And I guess it works enough of the time that they keep doing it.

So, combined that experience with the alarming trends of internet privacy and data collection, and figured the next step for these companies to keep their clients would be to outright blackmail them.



So, it's partially a true story?

(Laughing) Well, I wouldn't go that far. All the stuff with Gerald never happened. I wasn't blackmailed or anything like that. However, a few parts are true. They did refuse to transfer me, so I had to hang up and call a number that they provided. They also did call it the retention department... which seemed odd.

I do think if there was a way for the agents of these companies to blackmail you with your internet history to keep you as a client, they would do that in a second. And they would totally make it appear as an exciting new feature like the Transparency Plus Program.

The script was co-written by the two lead actors (Dan Stolfi, Amish Patel) and the producer (Dave Gibson). How did this process come about?

We originally wanted to do a 48 Hour Film Project, but that fell through because of scheduling conflicts. Then we figured we would just get together one weekend and film something for fun to put online and on our reels. I had an idea and brought the group together a few times to work out the beats and some jokes. I wrote a draft and we got together again to edit it. It was probably the most fun I had writing a project.

The cast did a stellar job, how was it working with them?

They were great and a lot of fun! I've worked with them all before, so we knew what we were getting ourselves in to. I've actually known Amish since high school and Dan since the early Fade to Brown days. So, we've done quite a bit of stuff together. Jen is the "newest" cast member to me and we go back seven years. We had her on set for our short film *One Day at a Time* which was based on Dan's award-winning play, *Cancer Can't Dance Like This*. Each of them are hilarious on their own, and this was our first time to have all three on set together, so we had a really fun time with it.

You said it was originally just going to go online, why did you decide to go the festival route first?

We set out to make a solid demo piece and after the response from the first edit, bringing James on board with his killer score, and the colouring by Grant... We realized we should take it to festivals first We'll definitely put it online afterwards!

Your budget for this project was really low, how did you manage to put it together?

Micro budgets are completely misleading. The dollars out of pocket pale in comparison to the opportunity cost generously provided by the incredible talent involved. We're just so grateful that our colleagues shared our passion and vision for this project, and believed that it was worth their time. That means so much to us, and we've been so glad to see that the results have lived up to their high expectations.

