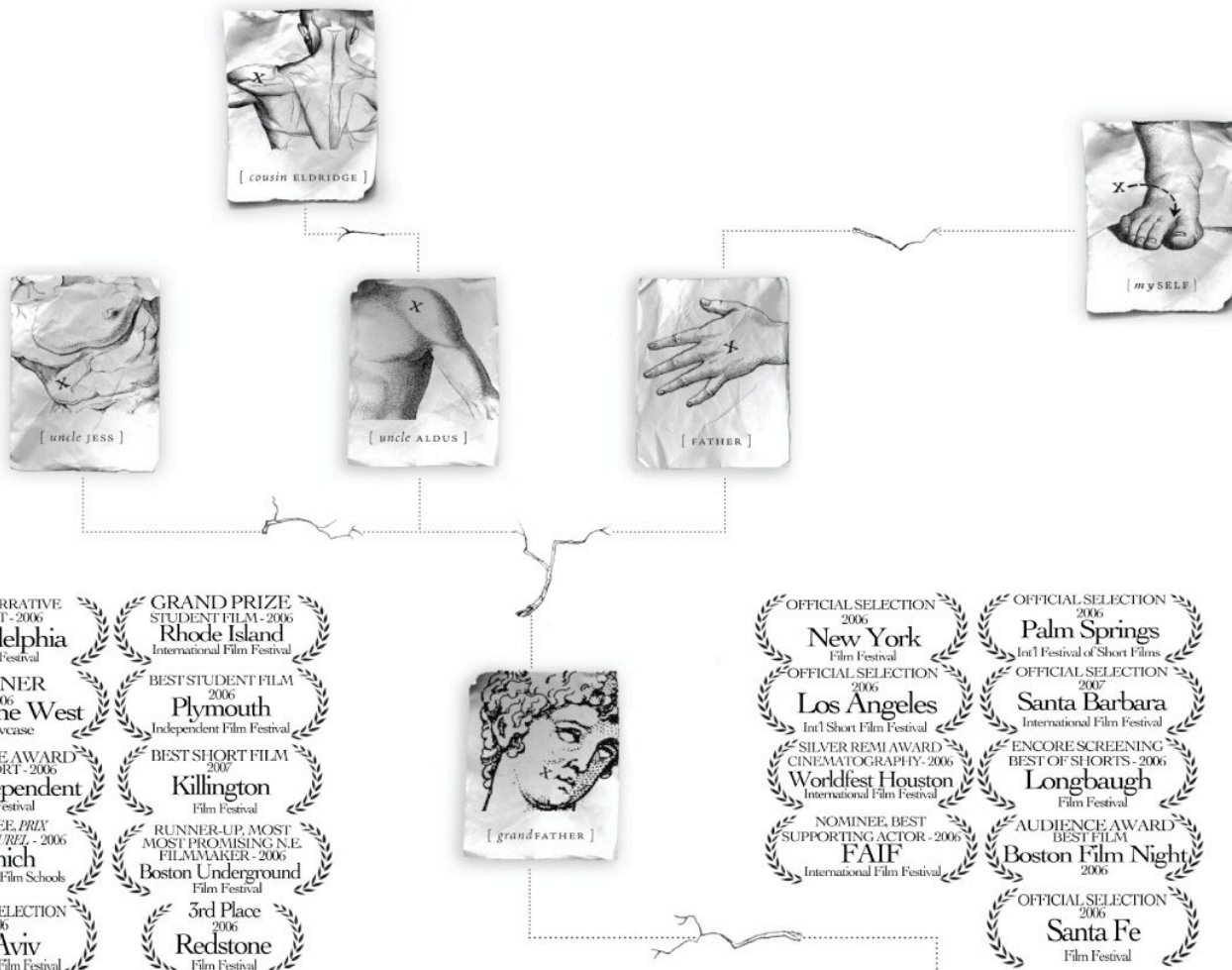


# orLater PRODUCTIONS



Todd Davis, Owner/Filmmaker  
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508-596-5912  
toddhdavis@hotmail.com

Running time: 15 minutes

For additional publicity materials  
and artwork, please visit:  
[www.orlater.com](http://www.orlater.com)

# IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

## THE FILMMAKERS

Directed by Todd Davis  
Produced by Todd Davis and Cody Baker  
Director of Photography Austin de Besche  
Edited by Michael Berenbaum, A.C.E.  
Screenplay by Todd Davis  
Based on the short story by Phil LaMarche  
Production Designer Jenny McCracken  
Costume Designer Rosa J. Colón  
Makeup Effects Jeremy Oneail  
Original Music by David Grimes  
Executive Producer Patty Davis

## THE CAST

*Billy* Paul Kmiec  
*Benjamin* Jim Loutzenhiser  
*The Mother* Rachel Harker  
*Billy at 21* Jason Ferriter  
*Aunt Elize* Kippy Goldfarb  
*Uncle Aldus* Mick Hoegen  
*Aunt Tina* Joanna Herrington  
*Uncle Jess* Chris Conte  
*The Grandfather* Chuck Brinig  
*Cousin Eldridge* KC Christian  
*Cousin Jeremy* John Rebello  
*Cousin Kate* Stephanie Simonoff  
*Cousin Charles* Richard Rogers  
*Cousin Martha* Alexia Rogers

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# IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

## SYNOPSSES

### Tag Line

Family scars.

### Log Line

Billy wants a better scar than the one his father gave him.

### Short Synopsis

A tradition of violence that goes back generations is threatened when one father hesitates to indoctrinate his son into the insanity.

### Long Synopsis

*In The Tradition of My Family* is a gothic family saga. This seemingly normal, middle-class family has a unique tradition. When a son reaches his thirteenth birthday, his father wounds him with a gun, honoring both the long-standing family tradition and the boy, who is now a "new man."

The more dangerous the shooting and the more ghastly the scar, the more the recipient is honored by the family. That is, if he actually survives his wound. The film follows a young boy named Billy as he prepares for and experiences his new man ritual.

*In The Tradition of My Family* examines what happens when these concepts of tradition and honor are questioned and the subsequent effect on the father's relationship with his son.

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# IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

*In The Tradition of My Family* was directed by and adapted for the screen by **Todd Davis**, and was shot on Super 16mm film by cinematographer **Austin de Besche** (*Return of the Secaucus 7*, *Lianna*). Emmy award-winner (*Desperate Housewives*) and two-time ACE Eddie award-winner (*Sex and the City*) **Michael Berenbaum** edited the film. Michael is a member of the American Cinema Editors Society.

*In The Tradition of My Family* is based on the short story by **Phil LaMarche**. "In the Tradition of My Family" was published in the Spring/Summer 2005 edition of *Ninth Letter* ([www.ninthletter.com](http://www.ninthletter.com)), a literary journal produced by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Phil's first novel, "American Youth," was published by Random House in April of 2007, and has been nominated for a Quill Award for General Fiction.

Many other experienced professionals were on-set, including: **Phil Darrell** (gaffer), **Geoffrey Rockwell** (key grip), **Mario Cardenas**, **G. John Garrett**, and **Stewart Adam** (sound mixers), **Jenny McCracken** (production design), **Jamie Companeschi** (1st assistant director), **Jeremy Oneail** (makeup effects), and **Rosa J. Colón** (costume designer). **David Grimes** composed the music.

The cast includes experienced Boston-area Screen Actors Guild members **Rachel Harker** (*The Mother*), **Jim Loutzenhiser** (*Benjamin*), **Kippy Goldfarb** (*Aunt Elize*), **Mick Hoegen** (*Uncle Aldus*), **Joanna Herrington** (*Aunt Tina*), **Chris Conte** (*Uncle Jess*), and **Chuck Brinig** (*The Grandfather*). *In The Tradition of My Family* introduces **Paul Kmiec** in the role of *Billy* and **Jason Ferriter** as *Billy at 21*.

The film was shot in Boxborough, Massachusetts, about 30 miles west of Boston, June 3 through June 8, 2005.



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# IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### TODD DAVIS - DIRECTOR

Todd Davis has extensive directing, editing and producing experience with short film projects, contributing to numerous festival-selected and award-winning short films. He was named runner-up for the Most Promising New England Filmmaker award at the 2006 Boston Underground Film Festival, and has taught graduate-level digital editing at Boston University. *In The Tradition of My Family* was produced by orLater Productions LLC, Mr. Davis's production company. Davis holds an MFA in Film Production from Boston University, where he was a teaching assistant in master's level courses on directing theatrical and television films. He was 1st Assistant Director on "Roller Palace," a sitcom pilot produced by mtvU, MSN, and Boston University. In addition, Davis has edited over 60 short narratives and documentaries. Mr. Davis also holds a BS from the University of Pennsylvania and an MS from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.



### PHIL LaMARCHE - AUTHOR

*In The Tradition of My Family* is based on the short story by Phil LaMarche, a former writing fellow in the Syracuse University Creative Writing Program. "In the Tradition of My Family" was published in the Spring/Summer 2005 edition of Ninth Letter ([www.ninthletter.com](http://www.ninthletter.com)), a literary journal from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and was selected as a finalist for the Robert Olen Butler prize from the Del Sol Press. LaMarche was the Ivan Klima Fiction Fellow in Prague and completed the Summer Literary Seminar in St. Petersburg, Russia. His first novel, "American Youth," was published by Random House in April of 2007, and has been nominated for a Quill Award for General Fiction.



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The logo for orLater Productions features the word "orLater" in a stylized font, with a film reel icon integrated into the "o". Below the word "orLater" is a film strip graphic that curves around the word "PRODUCTIONS".  
[www.orlater.com](http://www.orlater.com)

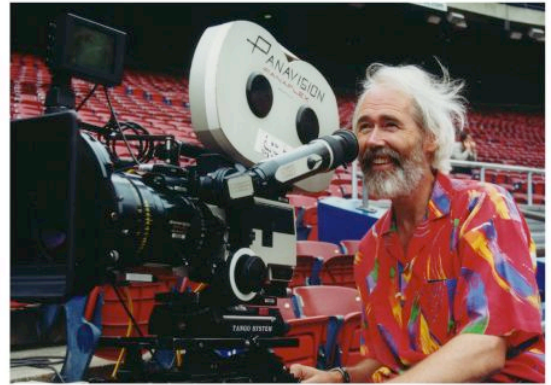


# IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### AUSTIN de BESCHE - DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Austin de Besche has been a cinematographer for over thirty-four years and a director for half that time. His cinematography credits include: the feature films *Return of the Secaucus 7* and *Lianna* (both directed by John Sayles); *On Thin Ice*, an Emmy-winning anti-drug documentary; *I'm a Stranger Here Myself*, a feature-length documentary about Nicholas Ray (director of *Rebel Without a Cause*, etc.); second-unit television work for *Cheers* and *St. Elsewhere*; and corporate films and commercials numbered in the thousands. He co-photographed *Voices of the Children*, a documentary on Holocaust survivors, which won a National Emmy in 1999. *Return of the Secaucus 7* was chosen for the "10 Best Films of 1980" list of the Los Angeles Times and Time Magazine. As a director, de Besche works in many styles and formats—from cinema-verité documentary to large studio production, miniDV video to 35mm film. He has served as director/cameraman on numerous promotions for The Discovery Channel, A&E Networks, The History Channel, and many other television and cable networks. Another noteworthy project is *A Taste of Chanukah*, a concert special directed and co-written by de Besche, starring Theodore Bikel.



de Besche served for three seasons as the primary director of photography and as a segment producer/writer/director on *The Wild Web*, a nationally syndicated weekly television magazine show about the internet, distributed by CBS/Eyemark. He was also the senior director of photography on the national PBS children's show "Postcards from Buster." de Besche's *Pilgrimage into the Past*, a documentary he produced, directed and photographed, tells the story of a Holocaust survivor who was, with thousands of others, part of a forced "death march" just before the end of the Second World War. It premiered at the 2002 Boston Jewish Film Festival and won a Gold Remi Award at WorldFest Houston 2003, where he also won a Silver Remi Award for Cinematography for *In The Tradition of My Family* in 2006.

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# IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### MICHAEL BERENBAUM, A.C.E. - EDITOR

Michael Berenbaum has over twenty years of editing experience for both feature films and television. He is a member of the American Cinema Editors Society (ACE), and received an Emmy award for the pilot episode of *Desperate Housewives*. Berenbaum has collaborated with an array of directors including Joel and Ethan Coen, John Turturro, Al Pacino, Julian Schnabel, and Martin Scorsese. He edited the HBO series *Sex and the City* and won two ACE Eddie Awards for his work on that show. His recent projects include *Hollywoodland*, starring Ben Affleck, Adrian Brody, and Diane Lane and *War, Inc.*, with John Cusack, Marisa Tomei and Ben Kingsley. Michael will next edit the feature film version of *Sex and the City*.



### JENNY McCRACKEN - PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Having recently completed her role as Art Director for the independent film *The Winter People*, Jenny McCracken signed on as Production Designer for *In The Tradition of My Family*. McCracken has also been a member of the Art Department for the feature films *The Blue Diner*, *State and Main*, *Outside Providence* and *The Crucible*. Her debut directorial effort *Water From The Moon* was featured in the shorts program at the Slamdance Film Festival.

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## IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

### ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

#### ROSA J. COLÓN - COSTUMER DESIGNER

Rosa J. Colón has worked as costume designer and assistant wardrobe on several short and feature films in the Boston area including *Turntable* and *Crippled Creek*. She received her degree from Emerson College and would eventually like to continue her work in New York and Los Angeles.



#### JEREMY ONEAIL - MAKEUP EFFECTS

Jeremy Oneail resides in the Boston area and has been doing makeup and special effects since 2000. His expertise made for spectacular gun shot wound and scar effects for the film. Additionally, Jeremy has worked the films *Detour Into Madness* and *Disappearances*, and many local theatrical projects. In his spare time, Oneail practices and teaches historical European medieval martial arts.

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# IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### PATTY DAVIS - EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Patty Davis held many titles during production of the film. In addition to executive producer, Patty was the location manager and legal advisor, and also contributed as a driver, 2nd assistant camera, script supervisor, painter, stonemason, and 1st blood and bandages. She is a Registered Patent Attorney and has over ten years of legal experience. As General Counsel to Palomar Medical Technologies, Patty is responsible for legal functions including intellectual property protection and licensing, contract negotiation, litigation, and labor issues.



### PRAISE FOR *IN THE TRADITION OF MY FAMILY*:

"A gem of a short film, *In The Tradition of My Family* tells its story, in the tradition of Shirley Jackson's 'The Lottery,' of the rite of male passage in an extended New England family. The clean, crisp acting, lighting and editing, and taut direction communicate a surprisingly deep and rich insight into male psychology. This film explores the warrior spirit beneath the surface of domestic order to suggest a vast labyrinth of unspoken higher truths. This little film will haunt its viewers, its vivid and striking images lingering long after the final blows have fallen."

**Les Wright, film critic for CultureVulture.net**

"A terrific adaptation of the short story, and an excellent use of its cast's talents."

**Scott Johnston, Philadelphia Film Society**

"*In The Tradition of My Family* is very well made – and quite disturbing. Todd demonstrates his individuality as a filmmaker not only in the manner in which he creates the film, but in the decision to film this story in the first place. I applaud him for both. ...I would love to see [his other films]."

**Arthur Allan Seidelman, director, *The Sisters***

"[Davis] effectively portrayed the tension that family members feel about this tradition. Cult-like, it felt eerie and scary..."

What I enjoyed about the film was that I was bewildered, shocked, scared and fascinated all at the same time.... effective storytelling, shots - full attention to details...

Acting was subtle but real.

Remember the name, Todd H Davis, he has showed us what he can do. I got mesmerized by his work. I look forward to his first feature film.

Why should you watch this short film? The film is a winner, effective storytelling par excellence!"

**Luis Pedron, FanClubX.com**

"...riveting..."

**Palm Springs International Festival of Short Films program**

"...the same gritty feel as the recent *13 (Tzemeti)* and hits just as hard with its depiction of a gruesome family tradition that must be seen to be believed."

**ReelReviewer .com**

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## IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

### ABOUT THE CAST



#### JIM LOUTZENHISER - BENJAMIN

Jim Loutzenhiser has appeared in numerous stage, film and television roles throughout his career. His stage credits include Chris Keller in *All My Sons*, William in *As You Like It* and John Proctor in *The Crucible*. Additionally, Loutzenhiser has been featured in a variety of independent short films such as *Interrogation of Abby Clayton*, *The State's Conception* and *Something or Nothing*.

#### RACHEL HARKER - THE MOTHER

Rachel Harker's acting presence stretches through a variety of genres. On film, she played Martha Keyes, in John Stimpson's *The Legend of Lucy Keyes*, starring Julie Delpy and Justin Theroux. She also starred in Stimpson's short film, *The Winter People*. Other leading roles for Harker include appearances in Michael Cohn's *Song of Leaves* and *Dream Bullet*. In addition, Harker has appeared in several commercials and industrial films. Rachel works onstage in the Boston area, notably with veteran character actor Austin Pendleton in *King Lear* as one of his daughters and in *Quills* as his wife. She also appeared with Sherman Hemsley in *The Odd Couple* as one of the Pigeon sisters. She is a frequent performer at the New Repertory Theatre in Watertown, MA, most recently in *Romeo and Juliet*, as Lady Capulet, *Bill W. and Dr. Bob*, and as Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire*.



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### ABOUT THE CAST

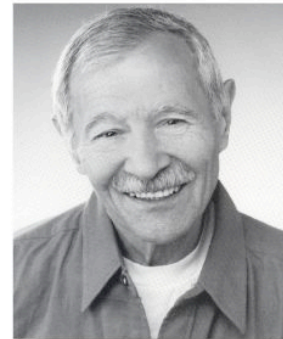
#### PAUL KMIEC - BILLY



Paul Kmiec was nominated for Best Supporting Actor at the 2006 FAIF Film Festival for his portrayal of Billy. His stage credits include Rooster in *Annie*, The Artful Dodger in *Oliver!*, Randolph Macafee in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Jesus in *Godspell*, and Young Daniel in *Once on this Island*. Kmiec's film credits include *Tools for Teaching* and *Turtle Song*. Paul's ambition is to become a filmmaker and screenwriter.

#### CHUCK BRINIG - THE GRANDFATHER

Chuck Brinig has acted in numerous film and television productions, including *Spencer For Hire*, *The Little Rebellion*, *Heart of a Dog*, and *The Blue Diner*. On stage, he has appeared in *Moon of the Caribees*, *No Exit*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Awake and Sing*.



#### JASON FERRITER - BILLY AT 21

Jason Ferriter is just beginning his acting career after receiving a Media Arts/Film degree from Emerson College in Boston. Jason has studied acting under Ken Cheeseman, Carolyn Pickman, Henry Pollack II and Thomas Babson. He has appeared in *Trails* and in the NBC film *I'll Be Home For Christmas*.



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## IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

### ABOUT THE CAST



#### KIPPY GOLDFARB - AUNT ELIZE

Kippy Goldfarb has an extensive resumé in film and theater acting. She has worked before the camera most recently as Francine Doyle in Ben Affleck's film *Gone Baby Gone*. She has also appeared in *The State's Conception*, *Fit for Health*, *Mortimer Street*, and *Shine*. On stage, Goldfarb's roles have included Sharon in *Book of Days*, Regina in *Little Foxes*, and Linda Loman in *Death of a Salesman*. Kippy is also an avid art and arts photographer.

#### MICK HOEGEN - UNCLE ALDUS

Mick Hoegen has been acting since *Meet Joe Black* filmed in Warwick, Rhode Island in the fall of 1997. Since then he has worked in nearly 50 projects including Hollywood films, independent films, television programs, and commercials. He has appeared in the features *Mystic River*, *Stuck On You*, *A Civil Action*, and *The Departed*, and on the television's *Third Watch*, *Providence*, and *Law & Order: Criminal Intent*.



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# IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

## THE CREW

Directed by	Todd Davis	Set Decorators	Jenny McCracken
Produced by	Todd Davis and Cody Baker		Marleen Bos
Director of Photography	Austin de Besche		Patty Davis
Edited by	Michael Berenbaum, A.C.E.	Video Dailies Editor	Jason Wong
Screenplay by	Todd Davis	Production Videographers	Marla Komocki
Based on the short story by	Phil LaMarche		Ban Ali
Production Designer	Jenny McCracken		Cody Baker
Costume Designer	Rosa. J. Colón	1st Assistant Editor	Todd Davis
Special Makeup Effects	Jeremy Oneail	Telecine Colorist	Stephen Baldwin
Casting	Angela Peri	Press Kit and PR	Ellen Gitelman
Music by	David Grimes		Marla Komocki
Executive Producer	Patty Davis	Weapons Handler	Bryan McKay
1st Assistant Director	Jamie Comaneschi	Transportation Coordinator	Philip LaMarche Sr.
2nd Assistant Directors	Christopher Plummer	Drivers	Cody Baker
	Ban Ali		Cody Baker
Location Manager	Brian Daigle		Chris Messina
Art Director	Patty Davis		Philip LaMarche Sr.
Hair and Makeup Artist	Marleen Bos		Patty Davis
1st Blood and Bandages	Patricia Smart	Production Assistant	Rich Block
Gaffer	Patty Davis	Production Stills	Erin Francis
Key Grip	Philip Darrell		Rich Block
Grips/Electric	Geoffrey Rockwell		Nick Zwinggi
	Michael Kennedy		Christopher Plummer
Sound Mixers	Joseph Catalfano	Caterer	Sara Eller, Sara's Cooking
	Mario Cardenas	Craft Services	Maya Eller
	Stewart Adam	Crane Operator	Tim Saari
	G. John Garrett	Audition Videographers	Micah Hatch
Post-Production Sound Recordist	Chris Anderson		Rachel Zeidman
Post-Production Sound Mix	John Weston		Jason Wong
Boom Operators	Andrea Schuster	Painters	Jenny McCracken
	Jason Wong		Mary Hopkins
1st Assistant Camera	Ben Liu		Jose de Abreu Monturiol
2nd Assistant Camera	Chris Messina		Nilson Lino
	Patty Davis	Titles Graphic Artwork	Chad Kellenberger
Loader	Ben Liu		Marla Komocki
Focus Puller	Ben Liu	Titles Graphic Designers	Jennifer Gunji
Additional Photography	Ben Liu		Todd Davis
	Todd Davis	Storyboard Artists	Tom Pinchuk
Property Master	Marleen Bos		Todd Davis
Script Supervisors	Ashley Kennedy	Legal Advisor	Patty Davis, Esq.
	Patty Davis		

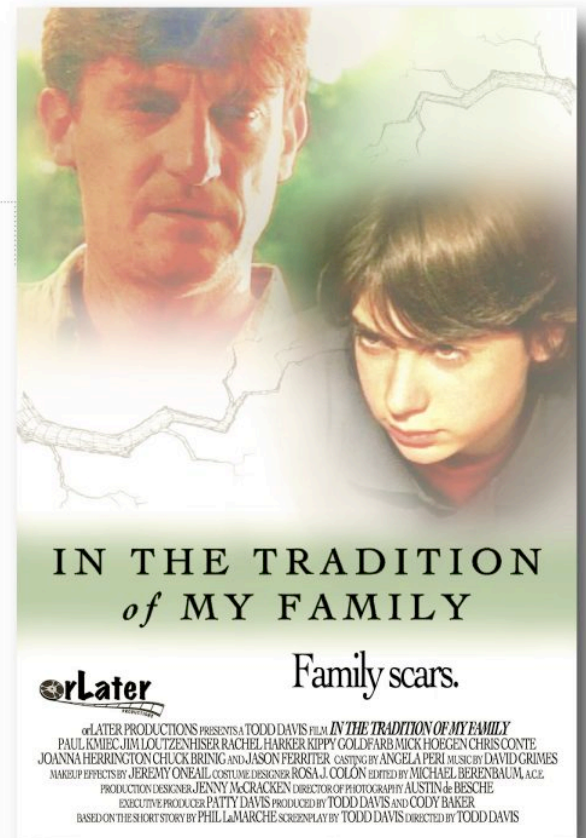
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# IN THE TRADITION of MY FAMILY

## FILM STATS

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FAX: 978-263-8021  
PRODUCTION COMPANY: orLater Productions LLC  
WEB SITE: www.orlater.com  
TITLE: *In The Tradition of My Family*  
LENGTH/TRT: 14 minutes 43 seconds (festival cut),  
15 minutes 41 seconds (DVD)  
ORIGINAL FORMAT: Super16 mm  
DVD/SD TAPE ASPECT RATIO: 4x3 Letterbox  
HD TAPE ASPECT RATIO: 16x9  
COLOR  
SOUND: Stereo/5.1 Dolby Surround (DVD)  
COUNTRY: USA  
YEAR: 2006



Produced at Boston University College of Communication  
Shot on Kodak Motion Picture Film  
Processed by DuArt Film Laboratories, Inc., New York, NY  
Telecine and film transfer services by National Boston  
Sound mix by Futura Productions, Roslindale, MA

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