



AETERNITAS

WHAT WOULD YOU RISK
FOR ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD?



AETERNITAS

SYNOPSIS

Lead scientist Lauren Wynne has discovered the secrets to human time travel. Now, as Jack – the first test pilot, risks all to make history, there's just one problem: they've fallen in love.

ABOUT THE FILM

Humans are on the brink of time travel. After successful tests, a team of scientists are about to send the first human back in time.

"It's an idea that has excited me for years: exploring the heroism shown by the historic test pilots from NASA's X Plane and early astronaut days, and the choices they had to make to push the boundaries of discovery," says writer/director, Gordie Haakstad, "but I found it compelling to tell the story from the point-of-view of those that were left to wait for their return. That's where Lauren, the mathematician behind the technology, grew into our protagonist."

It's a simple plan: upon arriving roughly 60 years in the past, Jack will bury a small device in the ground. Once it appears in the present indicating that he made it, he'll get pulled back via the link connecting his capsule to both time periods.

"It was also compelling to develop Aeternitas's own rules of time travel. What if we didn't know exactly when the traveller arrives in the past, just that he's back in time? Having that uncertainty created a multitude of opportunities to raise the stakes of the experiment and the risk to Lauren and Jack's future."

Now Lauren and Jack face an unknown future – and past, and risk all they love to make history.

Producers Chris Beauchamp and Gordie Haakstad wanted to develop a film that was grounded in science and technology, yet had the cinematic flair that sci-fi drama offers. *"The design was achieved with a question always in mind: how would this actually happen?"* said Beauchamp. *"Within this beautifully created set, we had the freedom to explore the wonderful emotions being delivered by our actors."*



DIRECTOR/WRITER/PRODUCER

An award-winning feature film writer and director, **Gordie Haakstad**'s directorial debut, **ABEL'S FIELD**, starring Kevin Sorbo and Samuel Davis, was released by Sony Pictures Home Entertainment. It garnered Best Film, Best Feature, Best Actor, and Best Director at The Attic Film Festival.

Gordie gained his directing background as a filmmaker specialized in cinematography and editing. He began his education at the University of Southern California's School of Cinema and Television where he graduated Magna Cum Laude from the prestigious Production Program.

Following school, Gordie interned under cinematographer Don Burgess (**FORREST GUMP**, **SPIDERMAN**, **CAST AWAY**) on the set of **TERMINATOR 3: RISE OF THE MACHINES**. He kept involved with academia by teaching both cinematography and editing at the New York Film Academy – as well as developing much of the curriculum for those two departments.

He continued his creative pursuits by helping create a number of industrial, short, and feature-length projects. Notably, Gordie directed the award-winning short films **THE SOUVENIR** and **DATING BITES** and was the cinematographer behind the award-winning **11 MINUTES AGO** – a feature-length film that shot entirely in one day. Gordie continues to write in Edmonton, Alberta, while maintaining filmmaking ties in Los Angeles, CA, and Austin, TX.



PRODUCER/CINEMATOGRAPHER

Chris Beauchamp is a filmmaker, photographer and writer based in Grande Prairie, Alberta. His background includes journalism, communications and marketing.

His photography work has included corporate, public-sector, and personal clients, as well as leading Canadian editorial publications.

Since 2012, he has written, directed, and produced several short films and commercial video projects. His film work has screened at festivals in Brooklyn, Houston, and Alberta.

Chris is an active member of the Alberta media arts community, serving on the boards of the Peace Region Independent Media Arts Association (PRIMAA), Alberta Media Arts Alliance (AMAAS), and the Reel Shorts Film Festival.





CAST

Selected Credits

Paul Bailey (top left)

Stan & Ollie (2019)
Chewing Gum (2017)
Denial (2016)
Kingsmen: The Secret Service (2015)
Doctor Who (2013)
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2 (2011)

Dawn Nagazina (top right)

Root of the Problem (2018)
Sex, Lies & Murder (2018)
Gertrude and Her Plant, Steve (2018)
Gone Again (2018)
From Hell With Love (2017)

Koreen Perry (middle)

Placebo Love Story (2018)
Gone by Dawn 2 (2018)
The Creep (2017)
Breaking Spirits (2016)
Gone by Dawn (2016)

Lee Savage (bottom)

Thousand Yard Stare (2017)
Bagman (2018)
Stepping Back (2014)





THE SET

Each space was designed to feel custom to the time-travel facility within the story. The production designer, Laura Beauchamp, took over a warehouse and led her team to *"fully realize as many details as possible. Anything we could do to help the actors fully immerse themselves into their roles, we did."*

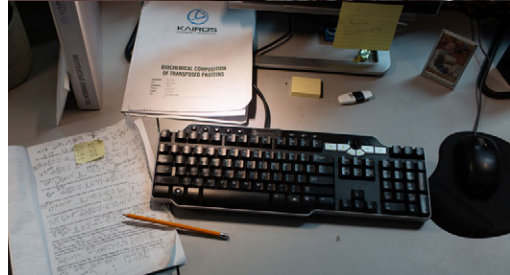
From the grand set-piece of the Launch Room to the smallest details of real quantum calculations in binders with company stationery, it took over four weeks of non-stop work to transform the old machine-parts warehouse into the various sets. A myriad of people from the local community came out in force to help with construction, electrical, painting, and decoration. The work paid off, and the Art Department created a facility that felt right for time exploration.

THE POD

Given the historic time travel machines of past cinema, AETERNITAS set out to create a unique solution within its world. Much like the set, the pod's design was also guided by the concept that the story is set during humanity's early experimental phase of time travel. The director wanted *"custom fabricated elements only when necessary, otherwise it should feel built, and rebuilt, out of real components: as if the pod has been revised from its original plan as more experiments progressed."*

Art Director, Brendan "Binky" Wiese's time capsule concept originated from a block of clay. *"I decided to play with plasticine, and after a dispiriting number of false starts, decided I'd start from a basic shape and work from that. I settled on a dodecahedron, and then started squishing and stretching the clay until it was close to what I was hoping for. Having completed the basic outer shell, I took some pictures of it, traced them in PhotoShop to have a framework for the design, and from those sketches I made a small prototype out of foam board."*

Realism was key. *"The three doors were a key feature that really elevated the design. Making them sturdy enough to not flex while having them seam together tightly when they close was necessary to facilitate the believability of the device. Once that was achieved, our determined team got the gadgets, widgets, and finishing touches in that really made the capsule shine."* The pod came complete with a first-aid kit, specimen retrieval case, isotopic auger, and gardening spade – all in place to help Jack on his mission back in time.





A CREW IN THE MAKING

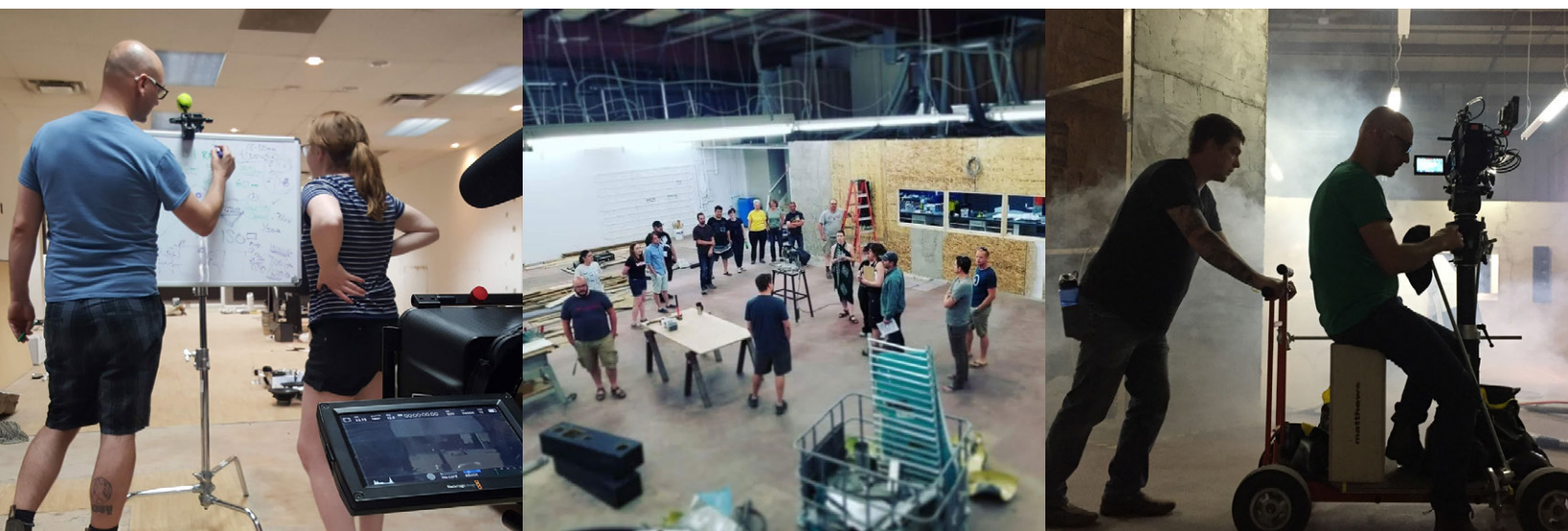
Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada – about 450 km (280 miles) northwest of Edmonton – is not [yet] a major hub for filmmaking; however, that didn't stop filmmaking partners Gordie Haakstad and Chris Beauchamp from finding a myriad of talent amongst the semi-remote northern city.

The foundation of the production came from support of TELUS STORYHIVE in their funding of the 10-minute version of this short film, entitled KAIROS. *"We wanted to portray the full, originally-envisioned story in a more complete way than what was possible within the 10-minute limit KAIROS had to meet; so, with an additional 6 minutes of run-time, AETERNITAS is a significantly different viewing experience,"* said Gordie.

However, due to the scope of the story and the level the production team wanted to reach, Gordie and Chris needed additional resources and Grande Prairie stepped up to the challenge. They formed a partnership with the Reel Shorts Film Festival, the local short film festival in its twelfth year whose mandate is also to grow the local filmmaking community, and created an internship opportunity for eight adult and four youth interns. The paid adult internship was also made possible with the help of Community Futures, the City of Grande Prairie, and the County of Grande Prairie No. 1. The youth internship was sponsored by the Swan City Rotary Club.

Under the mentorship of trained filmmakers, the twelve interns gained hands-on experience whilst working on a professional set. Interns either took turns with specific responsibilities, or found themselves solely focusing on a primary department. What astounded Beauchamp and Haakstad was the dedication and ability of these relatively new filmmakers. By the end of the first day, Gordie and Chris shared a proud smile while saying to each other, *"we found a crew."*

All told, AETERNITAS came to life by the hard work of a cast and crew of over 80, filled by professionals, interns, and volunteers.





Genre: Live action / Sci-Fi / Drama | **TRT:** 15m 52s | **Format:** 2.39 / Color / 5.1 audio | **Release date:** October 1, 2018

FULL CREDITS

A Film by: Gordie Haakstad & Chris Beauchamp

Written and Directed by: Gordie Haakstad

Producers: Gordie Haakstad, Chris Beauchamp

Associate Producers: Laura Beauchamp, Sarah Jane Card, Kirsten "Kiki" Wiese, Terry Scerbak

Principal Cast: Dawn Nagazina, Paul Bailey, Koreen Perry, Lee Savage, Ted Wood

Supporting Cast: Darren Bennett, Wade Fleming, Christine Adrian, Adam Lockhart, Timothy Nesbit, Molson

Animal Wrangler: Warren Kempert

Cinematography by: Chris Beauchamp

Production Designer: Laura Beauchamp

Music by: Mark Lazeski

Post Production Sound by: Iain Pattison

Costume Designer: Gail Schau

First Assistant Director: Sarah Jane Card

Second Assistant Director: Kyler Hart-Moore

Script Supervisor: Sonja Jarrett

First Assistant Camera: Matt (Matty) Levins

2nd Asst. Camera: Jonelle Belcourt, Daylin Chase

DIT: Robin Sissons

Key Grip / Electric: Jake Riddell, Laurenty Evans

Grip / Electric: August Dozorec, Liam Thomson

Rigging Electric: Brendan "Binky" Wiese

Production Sound: Cody Flynn

Assistant Sound: Mike Bouree

Costume Assistant: Hollie George

Costumers: Jordan Giesbrecht, Kimberly Chin

Lead Hair and Makeup: Allison Petteplace

Hair and Makeup: Joy Dunn

Production Assistants: Ezra Wood, Jesper Sorensen

Catering and Craft Services: Kirsten "Kiki" Wiese

Assistant Caterer: Clyde Blackburn

On-Set Editor/Assistant Editor: Patrick O'Connor

Art Director / Pod Designer: Brendan "Binky" Wiese

Key Art Department: Kirsten "Kiki" Wiese, Alysoun Wells, Sheila Briody, Nyssa Mackinnon, Darryl Haugen, Eliza Sorensen

Graphic Designer: Richard Podsada

Greensperson: Shelagh Coy

Construction Coordinators: Karl Vetter, Robert Hart-Moore

Construction Consultant: Cyril Issac

Lead Painter: John Tribo

Art Department: Wade Whibly, Jesper Sorensen, Glenn Sorenson, Tristan Sorensen, Shawna Goodenough, Alex Donovan, Heather Dawn, Adam Lockhart, Jeremy Holland, Kyler Hart-Moore, Jodan Giesbrecht, Vance Boyd, Alexandra Kunz, Emily Gilbert, Jillian Dozorec, Mike Bouree, Marcia Walker, Quinn Brideau, Yax Posas Guzman, Shantel Vermette, Yannic Heinze, Cole Braun, Jakem Haugen, Cassie Lattery, Patrick Nilsson, Tyson Siemens

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