

SVEENER AND THE SHMIEL
A Totally Bitchen and Disturbing Rock 'n Roll Comedy

Synopsis:

Social misfits, Sveener and The Shmiel are building a giant machine to take them back to their "planet". But their plan gets murky when The Shmiel falls in love with an emotionally-troubled girl. Totally bitchen soundtrack and over 130 FX shots – you'll laugh so hard your sides will ache watching this strange, micro-budget, rock 'n roll comedy.

SOME INFORMATION YOU WON'T FIND IN THE PRESS RELEASE

by Writer/Director David B. Sharp

I can tell you that the film was a labor of love. We started at Christmastime, 2004 with an idea and a double-dog dare. Four years and approximately \$75,000 later, we screened the finished film in August 2008. Most of the live action was shot at my brother Daniel's house during Summer 2005. It took nearly six months to repair all the damage to his home. For the car in the film, we purchased a 1978 Cadillac on Craig's List for \$500.00. This allowed us to cut holes, mount cameras and lights, etc. without having to worry. Once we had all the live action in the can, we rigged the car with six 8mm film cameras (bought on Ebay), we replaced Sveener and The Shmiel with their lovely mannequin counterparts, and then crashed the car for the nightmare sequences.

Visual FX and post production took nearly three years. The miniatures, water tank shots, and most of the green screen elements were shot in our garage or in the backyard. Freehand animations of Aaron Sharp (Sveener) and Gavin Woodward (The Shmiel) were created by a team of 25 students at Valley Art Institute in Woodland Hills, CA for the nightmare sequences. Richard Malzahn at PMP digitally composited nearly 130 shots - more than the first Star Wars movie! All the elements in the film were created in analog with the exception of ONE element in ONE shot!

The majority of the film was shot in HDV on the SONY HDR FX-1 camera. However, a number of film cameras were also used. Here is a partial list:

- 1 Bolex P1 8mm camera
- 1 Bolex P2 8mm camera
- 4 Bell & Howell 414 8mm cameras (same model camera Abe Zapruder used to capture the Kennedy assassination)
- 1 Beaulieu 4008 super8mm camera
- 1 Krasnogorsk-3 16mm camera

Film processing and telecine was done at Spectra Film and Video, although some of the film was telecined using our own, custom-built telecine machine.