

Clandestine

A film by Gideon C. Kennedy & Marcus Rosentrater

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Links:

Clandestine – <http://www.clandestine-movie.com>
Clandestine Blog – <http://www.clandestine-movie.com/blog>
Clandestine Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Clandestine/52491697245>
Clandestine Twitter – <http://www.twitter.com/climenolellc>
Climenole LLC – <http://www.climenole.com/>

Film Details

Film Summary:

Governments around the world broadcast encrypted messages via shortwave radio to secret agents in enemy territory. These publicly accessible yet indecipherable messages provide the framework for two stories, intertwining fact with fiction.

Clandestine documents the history of the spies caught possessing these coded messages. Juxtaposed with the stories of their capture is the fictional tale of a man's relationship with his father, a shortwave hobbyist, and his legacy of familial secrets.

Using freely available archive material, the film seamlessly re-contextualizes ephemeral cinema into a story of espionage and adultery, communication and miscommunication, and the relativity of good and bad.

Film Specs:

34 min / Black & White / 4:3 / USA

Cast & Crew:

Directors:	Gideon C. Kennedy & Marcus Rosentrater
Male Narrator:	Jess Lang
Female Narrator:	Nathalie Nahai
Writer:	Gideon C. Kennedy
Editor:	Marcus Rosentrater
Original Score:	Scott Jolly
Sound Recording:	Amanda Murdick, Nathalie Nahai, Albert Robinson

Genres:

Documentary / History / War / Crime / Espionage / Drama

Production Company:

Climenole, LLC – <http://www.climenole.com/>

Funding:

Less than \$500 by Climenole, LLC

Completion Date:

November 2009

Cast & Crew Biographies

Gideon C. Kennedy

Gideon C. Kennedy has died in urban legend, been worshiped by a fraternal organization of which he was not a part, and had a single barrel scotch that he can't afford named after him. Interested in exploring other such factual fictions, he writes and co-directs with co-director and editor Marcus Rosentrater and their independent production company, Climenole LLC. Their last film "Dick-George, Tenn-Tom," a sardonic look at the rivalry between President Richard Nixon and Governor George Wallace centered around Nixon's visit to Mobile, AL, won two festival awards and played in over 30 cities in the Southeast. They are currently in the touring with their third short (a doc/narrative hybrid entitled "Clandestine"), writing their fourth, and arranging for the production of their first feature. See their work online at climenole.com.

Marcus Rosentrater

After moving to Atlanta in 2004, Marcus quickly got accepted into the local film community by taking on three, long-time abandoned, editing projects. One of which was a project filmed two years prior by Gideon Kennedy. This project provided the most fertile ground for long term creative collaboration. Since then, they have formed a production company, Climenole LLC, and have directed three short films, six commercials, and one music video. These films have played worldwide winning two awards.

Nathalie Nahai

Born in London to her half Iranian/half French mother, and Gibraltarian father of Scottish descent, Nathalie has been developing her musical talent all her life. Having been classically trained in violin and self-taught on guitar (which leads to a rather unique plucking style), she writes her own music and has been performing in the UK and US for the past three years, both solo and with her band. Whilst studying at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design (London), she travelled to the States to record her debut album with multi-platinum Grammy award winning producer Don McCollister. It was released in 2006 on her label, Fuzzy Muskrat Records (FMR), and received critical acclaim. In August 2009, Nathalie Nahai released her much-anticipated second album, Fortune Teller.

Screenings & Premiere Status

Premiere Status:

World Premiere

22nd International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam

Amsterdam, The Netherlands on November 20th 2009

American Premiere

3rd Thin Line Film Festival

Denton, Texas, USA in February 2010

California Premiere

20th Cinequest Film Festival

San Jose, CA, USA in February 2010

Screenings:

22nd International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam

- Friday November 20 2009 20:15
[The Tuschinski Theater screen 6](#)
- Saturday November 21 2009 16:00
[The Tuschinski Theater screen 5](#)
- Monday November 23 2009 14:45
[Pathé De Munt 13 \(industry\)](#)
- Saturday November 28 2009 19:00
[Pathé De Munt 12](#)

[3rd Thin Line Film Festival](#)

- TBA

29th Black Maria Film + Video Film Festival

- TBA

20th Cinequest Film Festival

- TBA

Synopsis Variations

Logline:

Half documentary and half fiction, 'Clandestine' intertwines the history of spy radio broadcasts with the story of a man's relationship with his father to show how childish fantasies can lead personal heroes to public villainy. Made with almost entirely public domain materials.

Synopsis (Medium):

Governments around the world broadcast encrypted messages via shortwave radio to secret agents in enemy territory. Known as Numbers Stations, these publicly accessible yet indecipherable messages provide the framework for two stories, intertwining fact with fiction.

Clandestine documents the history of the spies caught possessing these coded messages. Juxtaposed with the stories of their capture is the fictional tale of a man's relationship with his father, a shortwave hobbyist, and his legacy of familial secrets.

Using freely available archive material, the film seamlessly re-contextualizes ephemeral cinema into a story of espionage and adultery, communication and miscommunication, and the relativity of good and bad.

Synopsis (Long):

Governments around the world broadcast encrypted messages via shortwave radio to secret agents in enemy territory. Known as Numbers Stations, these publicly accessible yet indecipherable messages provide the framework for two stories, intertwining fact with fiction.

Clandestine documents the history of the spies caught possessing these coded messages. Juxtaposed with the stories of their capture is the fictional tale of a man's relationship with his father, a shortwave hobbyist, and his legacy of familial secrets.

Using freely available archive material, the film seamlessly re-contextualizes ephemeral cinema into a story of espionage and adultery, communication and miscommunication, and the relativity of good and bad.

Made almost entirely from ephemeral films (news reels, movie serials, industrial and educational films, etc.) existing within the public domain, this approximately 30 minute short is the third project from Gideon C. Kennedy and Marcus Rosentrater.

On The Directors Collaboration

If you had walked into the Atlanta based Highlands video store Movies Worth Seeing in 2004, chances are filmmakers Gideon Kennedy or Marcus Rosentrater would have been your helpful clerk, organizing titles or studying their future career on the countertop T.V.

It was here, in fact, in Anne and Jerry Rubenstein's decades-old neighborhood institution, where the two met each other, forming a collaboration that has produced three short films, six commercials, three special event videos, and one music video under their production company, Climenole LLC. Their works have played in over 30 cities worldwide and have won several awards.

The two began work on "Clandestine" in 2005, after first being given the idea by another Atlanta filmmaker, Matthew Owensby, then a video store clerk at that other Highlands film hub Videodrome. Before "Clandestine" would be completed, Kennedy and Rosentrater finished another short film, six commercials and a music video. But, in March of 2009 an inquiry about the project from the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) would crack the whip. The two would race to have the film completed in time for its world premiere at IDFA, the world's largest documentary film festival, in November of 2009.

Since then, "Clandestine" has shown at the Cinequest Film Festival in California, the Thin Line Film Festival in Texas, the Black Maria Film + Video Festival, where it received a Jury Prize (1st Prize), the South Alabama Film Festival, the Indie Grits Film Festival in South Carolina, the Atlanta Film Festival, and is due to play in Spain as part of the Huesca Film Festival.

Production Images & Film Stills

Film Stills:



Numbers Stations cyphers pass under foot of American soldiers storming Berlin during WWII in Clandestine by G. Kennedy & M. Rosentrater



A group of children peer over the Berlin Wall as men across the world listen to spy broadcasts in Clandestine. By Gideon C. Kennedy & Marcus Rosentrater



Clandestine is told by re-purposing various types of free online ephemera, through meaningful visual effects. By Gideon Kennedy & Marcus Rosentrater



The faces of many men are used to represent the father, the spies, and sometimes the narrator in Clandestine. By Gideon C. Kennedy and Marcus Rosentrater



Two children communicate through the use of tin-can phones in *Clandestine*, directed by Gideon Kennedy and Marcus Rosentrater.



This scale model of GCHQ, in the U.K., is used to show the home of accused child molester and German Spy, Geoffrey Prime in *Clandestine*. By Gideon Kennedy & Marcus Rosentrater.



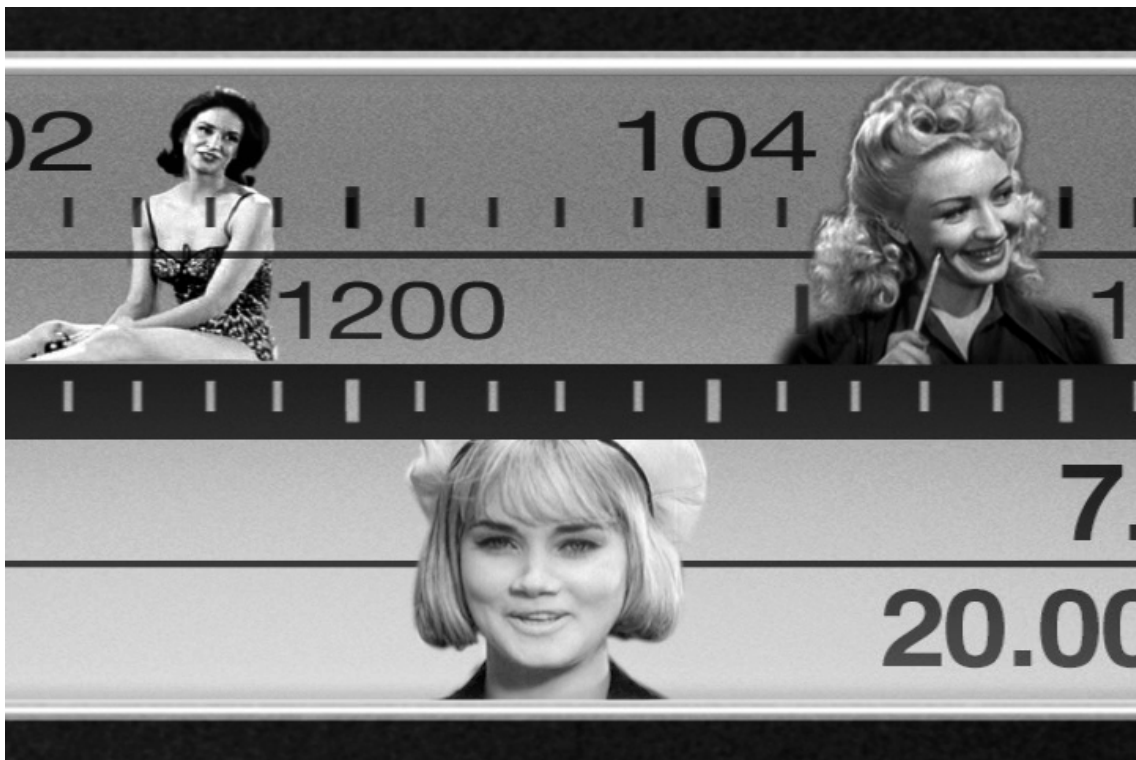
Clandestine alters archival footage to create literal and metaphorical meaning to the narrator's story. By Gideon C. Kennedy and Marcus Rosentrater



Adolf Tolkachev wrestles with KGB officers attempting an arrest. Clandestine documents the captures of nearly 10 different spies. Directed by Gideon Kennedy & Marcus Rosentrater



A woman finds her husband with another man as the narrator struggles with words to describe his fathers actions in Clandestine. By Gideon C. Kennedy and Marcus Rosentrater



Clandestine's narrator wonders about the motives of the women who are the voices of Numbers Stations broadcasts. By Gideon Kennedy & Marcus Rosentrater

Production Images:



Gideon C. Kennedy and Marcus Rosentrater in front of the Tuschinski Theater for the world premiere of *Clandestine* at the 22nd International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam in November 2009.