

# DYLAN STUMER

## Electronic Press Kit



**IMDb:** [imdb.me/dylanstumer](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm4018298/)

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/dylanstumer>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/DylanStumerActor/>

**Website:** <https://www.dylanstumer.com/>

### Accolades:

- 2021:** Apex Film Awards - **(BEST Horror)** – “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2020:** Tagore International Film Festival – **Best Actor** “What We Have Seen”
- 2020:** Tagore International Film Festival – Outstanding Achievement award

### Nominations:

- 2021:** Hollywood HottorFest (Semi - Finalist) - “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2021:** Monza Film Festival (Honorable Mention) - “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2021:** Indjex Film Fest (Official Selection) - “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2021:** Onyko Film Awards (Official Selection) - “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2021:** The Action SCI-FI Fantasy Film Festival (Official Selection) - “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2021:** Horror Bowl Movie Awards (Official Selection) - “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2021:** Frostbite International Indie Fest (Official Selection) - “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2021:** MonsterFlix Awards (Official Selection) - “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2021:** Tokyo International Film Festival (Official Selection) - “The Shadow In The Attic”
- 2021:** Canadian International Faith & Family Film Festival (Official Selection) - "Love Unseen"
- 2021:** Christian Family Film Festival (Official Selection) - "Love Unseen"
- 2021:** Global Indie Film Fest (Official Selection) - "Love Unseen"
- 2021:** Official Selection/Best Short Film at the International Christian Film & Music Festival – “Love Unseen”
- 2021:** Gold Coast Film Festival – (Emerge Selection) – “Love Club”
- 2021:** (Honorable Mention) – Women’s International Film Festival – “Love Club”
- 2020:** Brisbane Backyard Film Festival – (Official Selection) – “Isolis”
- 2020:** BIFF | Screen Queensland Short Film Award Nominee – “The Last Day”
- 2020:** Shorties Film Festival – (Official Selection) – “The Last Day”
- 2020:** REEL Music Video Festival – Finalist – “Can’t Help The Way”
- 2020:** Focus International Film Festival – (Official Selection) - “What We Have Seen”
- 2020:** Andromeda Film Festival – (Official Selection) - “What We Have Seen”
- 2020:** Flick Fair Film Festival – (Official Selection) - “What We Have Seen”
- 2020:** DMOFF Film Festival – (Official Selection) - “What We Have Seen”
- 2019:** Lift off Film Festival - (Official Selection) - “Just Like You”



**TAGORE INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL**

*Certificate of Achievement*

THIS CERTIFICATE IS PROUDLY  
PRESENTED TO

*What We Have Seen*

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Acted by Dylan Stumer

*from*  
Australia

FOR BEING MONTHLY WINNER AT  
TAGORE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

**BEST ACTOR  
(OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD)**

PRESENTED BY



THE FILM COMPANY

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR



## *Interviews -*

Star Central Magazine – <https://starcentralmagazine.com/rising-stars/2020/10/10/dylan-stumer/>

### STARCENTRAL

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## Rising Star Spotlight: Get To Know Dylan Stumer

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# STARCENTRAL

Dylan Stumer is an up and coming actor who's definitely on the rise. His recent leading role credits include playing Daniel in "Daniel's Killer Birthday", playing Kay in "I'm Your Fool" and playing Lucas in "The Last Day". Dylan has also been doing stunt work for various films, even recently completing stunt-heavy roles in "Just Like You" and "Primal." He has been working a lot with professional stunt coordinators to legitimise his action sequences and he's also constantly expanding his skill set. A consummate professional, he receives ongoing coaching to ensure his talents are continually improving and always remains relevant. In fact, he has been training with acting coach Kristina Sexton, as well as with dialect coach (US Accent) Denise Woods to ensure that he is well and truly prepared to take on an international market.

Photo credit\_ Mansoor Noor Photography

StarCentral Magazine recently caught up with Dylan to discuss his journey in the entertainment industry and here's what went down:

**Can you tell us more about yourself? How did you get started in the entertainment industry?**

Thank you for having me! My name is Dylan Stumer, I am an Australian actor. I enjoy beach trips, drive-in cinemas, and walking alpacas. In my spare time, I have been known to over-eat and watch way too much Netflix.

I have always known that acting was something I wanted to do – ever since I watched "Zathura: A Space Adventure" (2005). I was already doing school plays, but the film clicked something in me. I realized I wanted to be involved with something like that – to act and tell stories that help people feel and experience something beyond themselves. I want to take people on adventures; and it doesn't have to be films like Zathura – I am passionate about creating that feeling and know I can do it with my craft.

Behind the scenes, footage and interviews are also a big driver for me. I am inspired by the passion filmmakers have, and the process of bringing stories to life is something I have been magnetized to for a long time now. The teamwork is amazing; a shared passion for this multi-faceted beast. Everyone comes with their own skill and desire to make something happen. Something great.

I began training in acting so that I could do more with this craft. I have been involved in many short films, music videos, and web series. It's been a full speed dream chase! We have so many amazing film schools right here in South East Queensland and across Australia – and tonnes of filmmakers with a real passion for creativity. It's beyond incredible. Once I started meeting others with the same passion that's when the magic happened! Networking; you have to keep in mind. Go to festivals, film events, and more – and get networking! Your next project could be a conversation away.



# STARCENTRAL



Photo Credit\_ Lawson Cross



# STARCENTRAL

## **2What do you like most about acting?**

That's such a hard question! I love every aspect of it. From picking up the script, go-getting on set and feeling intense emotion, to connecting with a character, and with the cast and crew...

When I'm on set and I'm acting – I feel alive. It doesn't feel like work. But, as I said above – my goal as an actor is to act and tell stories that get audiences to think and feel and experience something beyond themselves. If I've achieved that then I'm happy.

## **What are your weak points when it comes to acting? How do you try to improve them?**

I used to get really nervous about going to auditions. I'd get stuck in my head and worry about every detail. It's only been the past couple months that I've been able to overcome this; going to class & auditioning more, and learning to just be myself helped.

Another thing which helped me to be less nervous during auditions was realising that casting directors are really on our side and want to see us do well. Now whenever I go into the audition room, I'm able to think so much more clearly and connect with the character to make the scene come alive. Knowing the bigger picture helps. Its all part of the process.



Photo Credit\_ Lawson Cross



# STARCENTRAL

**What are your strong points as an actor?**

Definitely my ability to take direction and immerse myself into a scene. These are skills I've honed in on and prioritized. It takes lots of practice to be able to know what directors want from you as an actor – and how you can provide that extra something that they didn't know they needed. You have to know how to ask them what they want and understand what they say in reply. Learning how to do this has boosted my confidence tenfold – I can bring my complete self to the role on set, deeply understand the character I'm playing, and move them in whatever way is needed.

**What have you learned from the directors that you have worked with throughout your career?**

Every director is different. They all have their stories to tell, and their motivations and passions. They all have a different way to help you connect with the character and environment to make that picture clear. They are all – in that way – different and useful teachers. I've definitely learned something from every director I've worked with and appreciate how each has helped me improve my craft.



# STARCENTRAL

## **What are some of the difficulties of the acting business?**

Rejection. Hands down. It's one of the hardest things actors go through. This industry is so rewarding and incredible to work in but the rejection is constant and intense. You can give an amazing audition but be the wrong height, or the wrong look, or you're maybe not what the writer imagined for the role. There are hurdles you must jump, and those you can't jump at all and you have to learn to accept that. Learning to go, audition, and then move on was so difficult. When you feel 'this is the one' but it isn't... that is crushing.

At the end of the day, we're human and as actors, we should be letting ourselves feel that emotion, that rejection, and learn from it. We've also got to not let it affect our mental health – the right role for us is just around the corner.

The most important thing is to ensure you stay passionate and determined, you've got this! It's difficult and it is hard – but, in my opinion, it's a passion that is worthwhile.

## **What's challenging about bringing a script to life?**

Just the steps it takes to fit into it. You tailor your read to you; you find out its measurements and its dimensions and you become what is needed to be the life in that piece. I always do the first read-through of a script to embrace it, then I get to dissect it. I speak with the director and get all the information I need, then fall into research for characters, music, major events – anything that adds depth and context to my performance and the story. Helping my character reach his full potential involves building his world, so that is exactly what I do. I embrace the journey that my character is taking and the wholeness of the first read. The next step is to understand each scene, my character's motivations, relationships, and all that.

Everything just falls into place after that. You build a world, translate it for the screen, then do it. Just do it. Get all your tools in the right place and have them on hand – and embrace the role.

I believe every character has a certain amount of yourself in it too; it's the actor's job to bring that forward and give it life. I also like to try and fill in the blanks in the character's life because the plot in the script is set at that point in time. I like to create a backstory, parents, best friends, and favourite food, anything that I can do to make him as real as possible.

After I do all of this if I'm still unsure about something in the script I speak with the director and we break it down even further.



STARCENTRAL



Photo credit\_ Mansoor Noor Photography



# STARCENTRAL

## **What do you do when you're not filming?**

I work and I love living my life. I believe acting is about bringing your emotions, memories, thoughts, and feelings to the table, and that my experiences help me do that. Go have fun, try something you've never done and breathe in some fresh air while you're at it! That's what I do – and it's what I encourage in others. Love the life you are living, and let those experiences breathe into your creative crafts. Chase life. Even the mundane parts where you have to work to pay rent. That's still an experience. I'm not on camera all the time – but I am living.

## **What has been the most memorable experience of your career so far?**

That's a hard one to answer because each set that I work on has its own unique charm. One thing that does come to mind is stunt work. Also, learning Latin for a scene, and even guitar! I had to do that just five minutes before a take. I also love some of the makeup looks. Acting is an awesome career. It is full of good memories.

## **Who have been the most interesting people you've met so far?**

I have been able to briefly meet Jason Momoa, William Moseley, David Wenham, Dan Fogler & Lochlyn Munro on set, which were awesome experiences.

## **If someone is going to make your life into a movie, who would play you?**

Good question! I'd have to say it would have to be either Finn Cole, Dylan Minnette, or Skyler Gisondo.

## **What are your future plans? Inside your career or out of it.**

I'm working very hard the next month – I've got 3 short and I'm beyond excited to get back onto set and get back to the story-making. I'm also excited to see how the films will be received on the international film festival circuit. I recently won the best actor in the TIFF international film festival in 'What We Have Seen' short film, which was an honour. I can't wait to see what comes after.

My future plan is to branch out to the US and Canadian market – I'd love to work with the creative talent over there and experience the atmosphere, the sets, people, and stories. It's a journey of growth and I look forward to taking it.



A Quiet Street in Pallarenda – Emily Reid

**The 'LIGHTNING FAST' Round:**

1. Last good movie I've seen: Deepwater Horizon
2. What do you consider beautiful and why? The older generation since they have so many lived experiences to share.
3. What haven't you done yet that you wish you could? Travel to the US.
4. Complete this sentence: "If I had no fear, I'd..." Ride more rollercoasters.
5. What is the one "flaw" you wouldn't change about yourself? – I'm an extremely fast eater...but that only helps me to get to dessert quicker.





Viewties

# The Last Day.

A short film presented by Grounded Films

I was quite excited to watch the film when I first knew about its existence. I was at home, still lockdown on this side of the continent, totally attracted by the plot of *The Last Day* short film. Digging more into it, I discovered something very interesting from the production company. They're all a group of young filmmakers and creatives. Reading what draws them to create, made me relate to my own philosophy on why I want to write for. It's amazing what these young people do and I feel very lucky and honoured to have had their permission to share with all of you their amazing project.

An opportunity to spread the message, 'Do what's best for you'. This is what the producer Chun Pong Wong (James) saw about this project.

Written and Directed by Josh Allan, *The Last Day* follows 17-year-old Lucas (Dylan Stumer) who is an aspiring musician, and his best friend Brandon (Hayden Parsons) during a couple of brief moments on their day of school.

Lucas wants to pursue a music career, but due to his mother's apprehension, he wrestles with embracing his vision for the future. When Brandon reveals he is moving away, the two friends experience a moment of conflict. As a result of this confrontation, it leads Lucas to evaluate his own future, all the while school comes to a close and these two friends have to say goodbye.



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Josh says, "Film gives us a window into another's life".  
*"With this in mind, I wanted to create a film which was truthful, honest, and empathic towards our subject matter. I wanted sincere performances, subtle and artful cinematography, character-driven editing choices and an emotionally resonant score. I wanted absolutely everything to enhance the down-to-earth nature of the script."*

Saying this, Josh also wanted to create a light drama, where the film stakes aren't cataclysmically high, but instead true to everyday life.

*"I wanted to give our characters difficulty to overcome, but I also wanted to capture the feeling of two mates connecting, on their last day of school."*, Josh says.

The film begins with a lovely vibe to me that moves my feelings. I don't know if this has something to do with the music written by *This New Light*, or the atmosphere created by the accurate vision from director Josh what allows me to connect with the story so quickly. You simply start feeling it from the first scene. I even think that the delightful photography by DOP Phoebe Green and the actors' performance is what also brought to the story such strong presence. It's an experience I didn't expect to transit. I mean, everyone can truly relate to the story, but what you'll feel emotionally is deep and genuine.

We're all too scared to follow our dreams, aren't we?  
Ah... but what life would be without those dreams...

*The Last Day* made me think about my own situation. About having this crazy dream, I want to fulfil but seems so wrong because it's not what my parents wanted for me and maybe what society expected from me either. But this film gave me the strength to still go for it. Because this is me, this is us. It's our dreams! We are living for this. And we will always inspire, help or benefit someone if we do what we are good to.

The *Last Day* was officially selected and nominate into BIFF Screen Queensland Short Film Award. If you'd like to support the short film, please purchase your tickets here: [biff.com.au/event/short-films-short-beats/](https://biff.com.au/event/short-films-short-beats/)

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Dylan Stumer as Lucas  
in *The Last Day*



Occhi Magazine (New York) - <https://occhimagazine.com/in-conversation-with-actor-dylan-stumer/>



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In Conversation with Actor Dylan Stumer

Dylan Stumer is an actor, known for his portrayal as Harry “Twig” Anderson in the short film “Primal”. Hailing from Australia, Dylan’s resume includes appearances in *The Last Day* (2019), *ISOLIS* (2019) and *A Quiet Street In Pallarenda* (2019). He has been busy over the last year! He now stars in “I’m Your Fool” directed by Alicia Horsfield. We caught up with this rising star to discuss his latest project and his career aspirations.

**Hi Dylan, can you provide a synopsis of your recent project “I’m Your Fool” and what viewers should expect?**

Hi! Great to be talking to you about this great short film. *I’m Your Fool* is a coming of age story that was written and directed by the talented Alicia Horsfield and produced by our amazing producer Abbie Abela.

The film follows Amelia Grey, played by Brady Gray, who is interested in Kay Jamerson, played by yours truly. But, Kay is living in his own world and is thinking about that – not about girls. The pair get stuck volunteering at their school’s carnival-themed concert but a turn of events sees them ditching together and ending up at an eel-filled creek. Car keys get lost, arguments about emotions happen, hearts break, laughs occur – it’s a great ride about what it means to be young, confused, and working all of it out.

The film was extremely well received at our cinema premiere a few weeks ago, and over 50% of our ticket sales were donated to bush fire relief projects around Australia. It is such a devastating time in our country, and with our film centered in some of our country’s beautiful bushland, it was important to showcase the beauty of Australia and do our best to help return our country to a healed state in coming months and years.





## How did this film come together?

As all films are – it took a village. It was a team effort and we had a great team. Alicia Horsfield, our writer, and director created a really beautiful script. It was so easy to see what she wanted to achieve when reading it and I knew I had to be on board. Brady and I also got to engage with Alicia a lot while on set and were able to connect to the story further and explore raw emotion on a variety of levels. Alicia is truly great at what she does, and her work is amplified by our producer Abbie Abela. Abbie locked down our locations, secured screenings, and did all the work producers need to. Producers make sure it all happens! Jacob Shrimpton made sure it all got captured too. As our Director of Photography, he ensured that the script came to life the right way, and our makeup artist Kelly Addison ensured that some of the crazy looks needed for this film were executed perfectly. It took Brady and me over an hour to get ready for our scenes every day, and the costumes were wild! We got to be real-life art thanks to the artists behind the scenes.

From writing to shooting to screening, we needed everyone to pull their weight and do what they came to do – and more. Everyone went above and beyond and the result is something I am extremely proud of.

## So how did you get into acting?

I knew this was something I wanted to do from a very young age. It started with school plays, and then, one day, I watched “Zathura: A Space Adventure” (2005). Something in me clicked and I realized I wanted to be involved with something like that – to act and tell stories that get audiences to think and feel and experience something beyond themselves. To take people on an adventure. It didn’t have to be a film like Zathura, but I had to be part of creating that feeling. And, I wanted to create it through acting.

Behind the scenes, footage and interviews also drew me in. The passion filmmakers have is so inspiring and the process of bringing stories to life is something I have been magnetized to for a very long time now. The teamwork is amazing; we’re all here for the same reason and all have the same passion to make great things. It’s such a multi-faceted beast, but everyone is working together with their unique skills to make something great.

I began training so that I could help bring this passion to life and got involved in short films, music videos, and web series. It’s been a full-speed chase for this dream! We have so many amazing film schools right here in South East Queensland and across Australia – and tonnes of filmmakers with a real passion for creativity. It’s beyond incredible. Once I started meeting others with the same passion that’s when the magic happened! Networking is also a very important thing you have to keep in mind. Go to festivals, film events, and more – and get networking! Your next project could be a conversation away.



**To date, what has been the biggest challenge you've faced as an actor?**

Rejection. Hands down. This industry is so rewarding and incredible to work in but the rejection is constant and intense. To get onto the set, you have to face so many hurdles. You can give an amazing audition but be the wrong height, or the wrong look, or you're maybe not what the writer imagined for the role. Learning to go, audition, and then move on was so difficult. Hanging on to that hope that your audition was '*the one*' can be soul-crushing. But, sometimes we hang on and we hope we book a certain project because it's so close to our hearts and how passionate we are for making stories and it's that project you've been waiting for, for so long. At the end of the day, we're human and as actors, we should be letting ourselves feel that emotion, that rejection and learn and take from it. But, not to let it affect your mental health as the right role for us is just around the corner.

Learning to learn from it – yeah. That's hard. It means letting your barriers down and letting yourself feel rejected, and understand that maybe it wasn't you, and if it was, that you can grow and do better.

**Are there any actors, directors, and producers you would like to work with?**

Oh, this is so difficult. There are so many talented people out there – some of whom I haven't even heard about yet! But, if I had to pick... Sandra Bullock, Sarah Paulson, and Leonardo DiCaprio. In no particular order – of course! The way they treat their craft is so inspiring and I'd love to work with them! I'd also love to work with the director Alfonso Cuarón. The way he tells his stories is breathtaking and he really knows how to connect to the audience. That would be a dream come true.

Do you have anything else in the pipeline we can look forward to?

I've got a few projects on the go, but I can't mention anything just yet! It's busy, but it's good. There are some great scripts and teams, and I can't wait to update you when the time is right!



So where can we keep up to date with your activities?

Thank you so much for having a chat with me if anyone would like to keep updated with my future projects you can see the updates at the following –

Instagram Facebook IMDb and <https://www.dylanstummer.com/>

We wish him the very best with his career!

Poster Credit – Jacob Shrimpton



Indie activity - <https://www.indieactivity.com/interview-dylan-stumer-on-the-last-day-as-lucas-high-school/>



## Interview: Dylan Stumer on ‘The Last Day’ as Lucas in High School



Dylan Stumer (Lucas) and Hayden Parsons (Brandon) in “The Last Day”. Photo by Ian Ducao

“The Last Day” is a short film from directed by Joshua Allan. The film is about Lucas (an aspiring musician) and his best friend Brandon at a brief moment on the last day at high school. We seat with Dylan Stumer who plays Lucas, and talk to him about his role in the film. Enjoy!

**indieactivity:** Hello Dylan, it is great to talk with you?

**Dylan Stumer:** Guys! It is my pleasure actually!

**indieactivity:** How did you get connected to the project? Did you have to audition? If you did, would still have got the part?

**Dylan Stumer:** I came across the casting call online, and after reading the story and each character – I knew I had to be part of this film. I auditioned, and about two weeks later did a chemistry test with another actor. We both ended up booking our roles!

**indieactivity:** As main cast on the film, how did this ‘choice’ work for you?

**Dylan Stumer:** I loved the audition process for “The Last Day”. It was so rewarding. From audition to chemistry test... finally getting the email saying I had the role was amazing. It brings me so much joy and happiness to hear that I’ve booked something – not just because I get to be bring this character to life, but because I also get to be involved with the story.



Dylan Stumer (Lucas) and Hayden Parsons (Brandon) in “The Last Day”. Photo by Ian Ducao



**indieactivity:** What part of the story challenged you when you read it? What drove you to get on the project?

**Dylan Stumer:** There's a very big reflection scene. I really wanted to show the audience what Lucas – my character – was feeling and experiencing at that point. He is holding onto some things, and letting go of others. It was this point that really drove me into the script.

"The Last Day" follows Lucas, an aspiring musician, and his friend Brandon in the last few brief moments of their last day in high school. Lucas wants to pursue a music career, but due to his mother's apprehension with that path, wrestles with embracing what his vision for the future actually is. When Brandon reveals that he's moving away, the friends experience a moment of conflict. Brandon calls Lucas out on his indecision, which leads to him eventually deciding to embrace the path that's right for him – even if that means saying goodbye to all he has known for the last 17 years.

**indieactivity:** You're not new to indie films. What do you enjoy about the work that keeps you working?

**Dylan Stumer:** For me, personally, it's the ability to create and collaborate. From other cast to crew and every process in between – we get to experience so much. I want people to learn something from the stories we tell and walk away having discovered something new; to think and feel differently to before. We get to do that ourselves as we make the film. It keeps us coming back again and again.

**indieactivity:** Give an example of a direction you received from the director during the production?

**Dylan Stumer:** Joshua Allan, our director, was awesome. Before we got stuck into an emotional scene, he would talk to me about it and really set what his intention was for it in my head. He was clear, but also gave me room to explore Lucas and what he meant to me.



GROUNDED FILMS  
*The Last Day*



**indieactivity:** How did you create your character from ground up?

**Dylan Stumer:** I took everything I had about him – parents, friends, school, music, guitars, lifestyle... I collected it and built Lucas's shoes. I got to walk around as him and thought about the steps he was having to take – and the ones he was thinking about. BIG decisions but great ones too.

The film touches on some pretty universal things, ones that are very relatable for those in the 'in-between' of their life. Where seasons are closing and new ones are beginning. We are discovering who we are in those moments, and creating Lucas, experiencing that through him, was awesome.

Joshua also created a playlist for us – and that helped so much! Especially, since Lucas is driven by music.

**indieactivity:** As main cast on the film, describe the feeling of responsibility that you shouldered. Where you scared? Or did it fire you up? What scenes were difficult to shoot?

**Dylan Stumer:** Lucas is an interesting character. He's someone I wanted to explore. Being a lead can be daunting, but I just want to make sure I know what the character is going through and do justice to that experience. I want to give him 100% – to give the whole cast and crew my 100%. You have to when you work in this industry. It's all or nothing. I get so fired up by it! It really drives me. Other cast members, Hayden Parsons and Katy Ferguson, were incredible too. That helps so much.

**indieactivity:** Explain one creative choice you made on set during production?

**Dylan Stumer:** There were lots of little things that I got to do. One day, I got to toy with a golf ball between takes and got to use it during shooting. It added an extra layer, some new texture to the character. Something Lucas was doing – some fiddling for inspiration and thought.

**indieactivity:** What did you take away from the film production?

**Dylan Stumer:** I came away feeling very happy. The story is extremely important to me – everyone in the world experiences what Lucas does at some point, in their own way. I want the audience to be able to relate to it. Change is hard and taking the first steps toward them is even harder.

But – we have to follow our dreams, learn from our pasts, and let go of comfort zones. I hope the audience sees part of their own journey in that, and can appreciate how far they themselves have come with many of their own decisions. I came away feeling so inspired and I want others to feel it too.

**indieactivity:** What do you like most about the director, and his/her collaboration with his/her team?

**Dylan Stumer:** The team was amazing on this crew. Joshua Allan was spot on with every move he made and every creative decision he implemented. You could see the team work at all times! The crew had worked together previously, and the flow on set was easy. James Wong our producer was also incredible! And our DOP Phoebe Green was outstanding, capturing them beautiful shots!

Joshua also kept talking about the character, how Lucas might be feeling, and what he might do next. The clear direction made exploring the story much easier. It let me appreciate the journey just that much more.

**indieactivity:** What is next for you?

**Dylan Stumer:** Another film! I start in just a few days. I am so excited to begin a new project and bring another story to life alongside some wonderful, creative, talented people.

**indieactivity:** What advice do you give actors regarding what you learnt on the project?

**Dylan Stumer:** Don't be scared and take those steps! Suggest the little changes you think suit your character better. Most directors, if not all, want to hear your input and understand how you read the character – and how you feel and interpret within a scene. Communicate and collaborate – creative things happen when those things combine!

Joshua let me explore Lucas and add my own bits and pieces to him. It brought the scenes to life and made filming that much better. I appreciate it so much.





## Film helps fund fires

An offer from New Farm Cinema to screen short film *I'm Your Fool* allowed its lead actor Dylan Stumer and his team to donate half of the proceeds from the premiere to rural fire services in Victoria and New South Wales.

"When New Farm Cinemas reached out to us, we were in shock," Mr Stumer said.

*I'm Your Fool* premiered on January 20 and Mr Stumer said it went well.

"We're so happy with how the audience reacted to the film.

"It is such a privilege to be there to see the responses live and enjoy the film with fans."

He said the decision to support the fires was a no-brainer.

"Our country has undergone some major traumas with the fires and we've lost so much – but that doesn't mean we can't gain something too," Mr Stumer said.

"We can choose mateship and to stand together in the face of tragedy, regardless of what industry we're in.

"I can't fight a fire, but I can lend a hand in other ways and encourage others to do the same."

Mr Stumer said the team behind the movie will be pitching the project to film festivals internationally, but it will be available on the *I'm Your Fool* Facebook page after submissions close.

PICTURED: Behind the scenes of *I'm Your Fool* starring Dylan Stumer and Brady Gray.  
Photo Credit: Brodie James-Brown



## Interview: Dylan Stumer's High School "Comedy-Horror", Daniel's Killer Birthday is HOT



Dylan Stumer plays "Daniel" in Daniel's Killer Birthday – Photo by Cassandra Warner

Daniel's Killer Birthday is a short film that can be placed in a genre somewhere between high-school comedy and zombie horror. The story is about friendship, fitting in, acknowledging past mistakes and hordes of the undead. It explores the themes of friendship, through the main character Daniel, a lonely high schooler who fakes an interest in the occult to make friends, and the eventual spell he cast that actually worked.



Dylan Stumer stars in the lead role of “Daniel” in Daniel’s Killer Birthday. This short film is written and directed by Robert Shields, produced by Cassandra Warner. We talked to Dylan about his work making the film.

**indieactivity:** Hello Dylan, it is great to have you?

**Dylan Stumer:** Hey guys, it is great to be here. It is such a pleasure.

**indieactivity:** How did you get connected to the project? Did you have to audition? If you did, would still have got the part?

**Dylan Stumer:** These roles have a way of finding me! I came across this one from a friend with regards to a test-shoot. I helped with that, and after wrapping I mentioned to the director that I’d love to audition for the role too. A few weeks later and I had the part!

The lesson for me here was to always try help out wherever you can, and get in front of as many creative people as you can – show what you can bring to the table and be authentic and yourself.



On the set of Daniel’s Killer Birthday Photo by Rylee Martinsen

**indieactivity:** As one of the main cast on the project, how did this 'choice' work for you?

**Dylan Stumer:** It didn't really – in this case! I was just lending a hand and had the extra time to work with the director. It was an insider bonus! I put myself out there and it worked out.

**indieactivity:** What part of the story challenged you when you read it? What drove you to get on the project?

**Dylan Stumer:** Languages! There's this particular scene in the film where we had to speak Latin. I remember reading it and was worried that I wouldn't be able to get it right. In the end, we got it though – it came out great! I loved the script from the first time I read it – it was like watching it play out on screen as I read it the first time. I knew I had to be involved.

**indieactivity:** You're not new to indie films. What do you enjoy about the work that keeps you working?

**Dylan Stumer:** Personally, it has to be the cast, crew, and story. The fundamentals of a good film experience! I am an actor – I want to create and be creative. I want people to learn something from the stories we tell and to walk away having discovered something new; to be thinking and feeling on a different level than before. Film lets us do that – indie and otherwise.

**indieactivity:** Give an example of a direction you received from the director during the production?

**Dylan Stumer:** Robert was an amazing director – and so clear about what he wanted. He knew how to speak to the cast and crew and was so respectful and knowledgeable. There was not one direction that stood out – he was consistently wonderful. He would breakdown scenes and make sure we were connected to our characters and their journey. We also got some amazing rehearsal days, and that helped a lot!



Daniel's Killer Birthday – Photo by Cassandra Warner

**indieactivity:** How did you create your character from ground up?

**Dylan Stumer:** I always start with a thorough read. I just sit and go over the script and experience it from the first time. From there, I took what I knew about the character, my parents, my “friends”, interests, my goal, my past and everything in between and shaped him from there. Throughout the film, Daniel has incredible growth. I loved the difference of the character from the beginning to the end. I just let myself experience that evolution with him and appreciate each component that led to it.

**indieactivity:** As main cast on the film, describe the feeling of responsibility that you shouldered. Where you scared? Or did it fire you up? What scenes where difficult to shoot?

**Dylan Stumer:** Being a lead is definitely a big responsibility. I wanted to be sure I brought my A-Game every day and do justice to the character and the story. I made sure every cast member, crew member, and everyone else felt welcome. I wanted us to be able to work together, communicate, and collaborate. We had a difficult scene in a car; or, not difficult but definitely a turning point. Emotion is high and we had to be able to trust each other on the set. To be true to the filming experience. I had to have that relationship with everyone to make sure it came out the way it needed to.



**indieactivity:** What did you take away from the film production?

**Dylan Stumer:** I now understand a little Latin! Haha. But, film makes family. I have so many new friends and an appreciation for the teamwork involved in this production. It has to be one of the best shorts I've ever worked on. I got so much confidence from the team and my fellow cast members – Bethany Stewart, Nick Perrin, Niam Mayes, and Colleen Johnston-Devin were incredible to work with. It was a great shoot, a great team... and that is what makes a great short.

**indieactivity:** Explain one creative choice you made on set during production?

**Dylan Stumer:** I can't give too much away on this one! There's a library scene, and I had an idea to add an action at the end that fit perfectly. The director loved the addition.

**indieactivity:** What do you like most about the director, and his collaboration with his team?

**Dylan Stumer:** Robert knew what he wanted and he explained his vision clearly. He helped us understand our characters perfectly and the team effort he inspired was incredible.

**indieactivity:** What is next for you?

**Dylan Stumer:** I have another short film beginning within a few days! I am so excited to be on another project – it's filled with talent and creativity

**indieactivity:** What advice do you give actors regarding what you learnt on the project?

**Dylan Stumer:** When reading a script, if there is something you think you can't do – don't be afraid of it. Talk to the director, and start learning. Express your concerns honestly, but also express that you want to work through them and utilise your team so that you can bring your A-Game to set.

Once I spoke up about my concerns about speaking Latin, Robert talked us through what each word meant, how to approach it, and how to deliver it. Never have doubt – push yourself and trust the process. It is a process! You've got this!

**Indie Activity** – <https://www.indieactivity.com/dylan-stumer-aussie-actor-talks-craft-staying-relevant-ready/>



## **Interview: Dylan Stumer Aussie Actor talks Craft, Staying Relevant and Ready**



Carrie McLeod Photography

Dylan Stumer got his first taste of acting in school plays, but he'd say that the real turning point for him was when he watched "Zathura: A Space Adventure" (2005). It made him say in his heart 'Yep, this is what I want to do for the rest of my life. I want to make movies'. Dylan Stumer wanted to be involved in something like that: to act and tell stories that get audiences to think, feel, and experience something beyond themselves.

Since then, Dylan has never looked back. he's been involved with so many amazing productions and been able to meet some truly incredible and talented people. He have loved the process and fallen in love with the process. From acting and dialogue coaching, to castings, and everything in between. This industry has provided me with so many invaluable experiences.

**indieactivity:** Did you study acting?

**Dylan Stumer:** I am constantly training in my craft. I have had the pleasure to work with Kristina Sexton (On Set Coaching), who is beyond incredible and knows how to talk to an actor to get them into the right frame of mind for a role. I've also trained with Denise Woods (Speak it clearly) on my US accent, and she really knows her stuff!

I've also been lucky to train with coaches and casting directors, and am always learning on set! Training in acting is so important – no matter how you do it. It's good to be up-to-date and it doesn't matter what level you're at – you should always be growing. Every successful actor will tell you this.

My advice to other artists is to always keep learning. It doesn't have to be expensive training – find what works for you and do it. Hone your craft. Short films, scene practice with friends, watching scene breakdowns online, behind the scenes clips, weekend workshops, yearlong studies... there are endless opportunities to grow. So grow!



PRIMAL - Phoenix Wilson

I like the example that I was given that acting is “like a sport. If you want to play for the Queensland Maroons, you need to train to get there. Professional sport players can't stop training for months and then go into a big game”. It just doesn't work. The same applies with acting. You need to train to get better and work your way up in the industry.



**indieactivity:** What acting technique do you use?

**Dylan Stumer:** Personally, I don't really have a technique, per-say. But, when I get a script I like to take a deep breath and just read it. I take it all in and embrace the journey and the story my character is participating in. You can only read a script for the first time once, so it's important to enjoy it and experience its wholeness.

**indieactivity:** Do you take courses to improve our craft?

**Dylan Stumer:** Absolutely! I'm about to begin an 8 week workshop which I'm really looking forward to. I also do private coaching on the side when I'm not working on projects. This includes workshops with casting directors – which I think are really important because you get to put yourself in their shoes. You get to understand what casting sees and go beyond a simple “Males 16 – 25” brief.

You also get to imagine how many people are going to get submitted to the CD. Your headshot is on this little box on a computer screen with 100's if not 1000's of other actors. Doing workshops with Casting Directors helps by letting them know who you are and your acting ability, and helps them notice you automatically. It also gives you those insights that you need to thrive in an audition.



A Quiet Street in Pallarenda – Emily Reid

**indieactivity:** What acting books do you read?

**Dylan Stumer:** Acting in LA (Author, Kristina Sexton) – I highly recommend this book! It's your go to place for answers.

**indieactivity:** How do you keep fit as an actor?

**Dylan Stumer:** This industry is very fast-paced and there's weeks where I can have up to 8+ auditions and it can become very hectic. Mental health is so important. I find time to meditate and take a deep breath before I have to go – then I'm ready! I think it's also important for all actors to be reminded that they should learn to cope with rejection. Don't let it affect you too deeply. Don't take it personally. Just go to your audition with confidence and really make sure you understand the story, character, relationships ect. Even if you think you made a mistake or stuffed up. Be prepared! And DON'T let your inner critic control you or how you perform. Keep your head high and walk out with the same amount of confidence that you walked in with. You did your best. Accept. Train. Repeat.

**indieactivity:** How do you prepare for a role, when you get it?

**Dylan Stumer:** I always do a first read-through of a script to embrace it, then I get to dissect it. I speak with the director and get all the information I need, then fall into research for characters, music, major events – anything that adds depth and context to my performance and to the story. Helping my character reach his full potential involves building his world, so that is exactly what I do.

**indieactivity:** How create a character from a script into a person?

**Dylan Stumer:** As mentioned above, when I get a script I just take it and I read it and sit in that story. I embrace the journey that my character is taking and the wholeness of the first read. The next step is to understand each scene, my character's motivations, relationships, and all that.

Everything just falls into place after that. You build a world bit by bit and then have to translate it onto the screen.



Foley – Can't Help The Way – Layla Hutchins

I believe every character has a certain amount of yourself in it too; it is the actor's job to bring that forward and give it life. I also like to try and fill in the blanks in the characters life because the plot in the script is set at that point in time. I like to create a backstory, parents, best friends, and favourite food, anything that I can do to make him as real as possible.

**indieactivity:** Explain one creative choice you took on set?

**Dylan Stumer:** I had to make some very creative choices on the most recent film I wrapped "A Quiet Street In Pallarenda". The Director Erin Huber wrote my character more than perfect. I understood her vision and her goal of "Dan" (My Character). While at rehearsals I improv a line as it suited my character and the situation perfectly. It was then used in principal shooting. We worked creatively together, making choices to bring the full intention of the story to life. In other films, sometimes it's just the slightest added movement which brings more life to the character. I got to make a few on another short film "The Last Day".



**indieactivity:** Describe one memorable character you played?

**Dylan Stumer:** So far, the most memorable character I've played would have to be 'Daniel' in "Daniel's Killer Birthday" (2019). Writer & Director Robert Shields created a beautiful story; you can feel the passion in it when you read the script. Daniel was such an exciting character to explore and play around with, and the cast and crew made the whole experience so memorable.

It is a coming of age story that explores friendship, fitting in, and how to get through both while dealing with hordes of the undead. It is so interesting – and the team was amazing.

**indieactivity:** What do you want most from a director?

**Dylan Stumer:** Collaboration! I love it when I can work with a director and really nail what they're after. If we can align a vision for a scene and character, and explore plots as a unit – that's just amazing. Teamwork is key!



The Last Day – Ian Ducao

**indieactivity:** What actors do you long to work with?

**Dylan Stumer:** This is so hard! There are so many talented actors out there – and so many that we don't know about yet! But, if I had to pick... Sandra Bullock, Sarah Paulson, and Leonardo DiCaprio. In no particular order, of course.

**indieactivity:** Why?

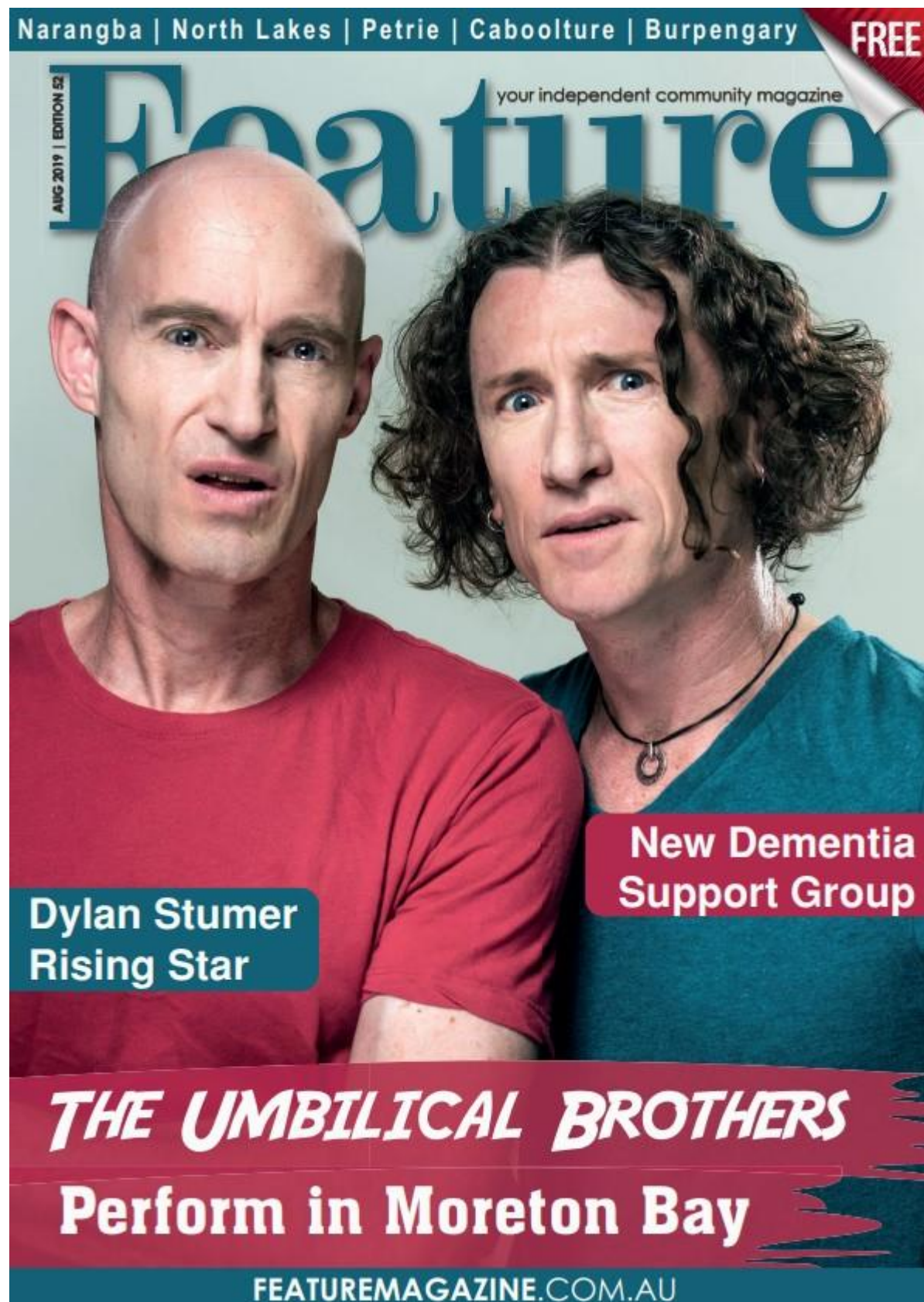
**Dylan Stumer:** They have talent, range, and their performances are always consistent and mind blowing. Their dedication to their craft is inspiring.

**indieactivity:** What advice do you give actors around the world?

**Dylan Stumer:** Have fun, train, laugh, and enjoy it! We have the opportunity to make something beautiful and should respect that process. Don't climb too fast – and don't climb over anyone else. Take the small steps you need to advance in your own way in your own time. There is no stopwatch or set plan. Just believe in who you are, what you can do, and what you want to do. Stop comparing and start remembering why you began.

**indieactivity:** Briefly write about your career?

**Dylan Stumer:** I am auditioning, self-taping, and testing for lead, supporting, and guest-star roles. Recent leading roles include Daniel in "Daniel's Killer Birthday", Dustan in "Countdown", and Lucas in "The Last Day". I have also been working on a few web-series' and have been involved in stunt work for films like "Primal" and "Just Like You". I worked with professional stunt coordinators to legitimise action sequences and am always working to expand my skill set with coaching, accent training, and more. I am staying relevant and ready!





# RISING STAR

## DYLAN STUMER

Words: Nadia Chapman Photo: Carrie McLeod Photography

After recently obtaining his port of entry for a 2-year open work permit into Canada, Dylan Stumer has made Kallangur proud with his achievements as an upcoming actor.



Knowing that he wanted to be an actor from a young age, Dylan first started performing in school plays, where he found a passion for performing. One day, after watching the film *Zathura: A Space Adventure* (2005), Dylan began to realise that he wanted to be involved in something more than just a play.

"I wanted to be a part of something like that – to act and tell stories that get audiences to think and feel and experience something beyond themselves," said Dylan about his remembrance of the movie. "I also really love watching behind the scenes bits too, along with interviews. The passion filmmakers have is so inspiring, and the process of bringing stories to life is something I have been drawn to for a very long time now."

Dylan's passion for acting continued to grow until he landed his first film role, which also happened to be his first lead. The learning curve was something that he was grateful for, as it helped him build on and improve his acting over time.

"It was a silent short film, so no dialogue, which was a great experience for me," he said. "Talented director Oliver Crofts worked with the amazing producer Izac Brodrick to tell that story. The entire crew and cast brought such life to the set and it was an incredible experience."

Dylan is currently working on a few projects that explore diverse themes, which in turn, helps push him to his greatest potential. Every project continues to shape Dylan as an actor, while also expanding his horizons in the acting world.

"My next project is as a lead in the short film *Daniel's Killer Birthday* directed by Robbie Shields and produced by Cassandra Warner," he said. "It's a coming of age story that explores themes of friendship, fitting in, and hordes of undead. Right after that, I get to play the role of D-1338 in a short film called *ISOLUS* with Sean McParland producing, and Liam Straw directing."

For Dylan, it's all about being yourself and making sure that you stay true to yourself. Even as an actor who takes on the role of another persona, he makes sure to tap into his own life experiences and emotions.

"That's how I bring characters to life, and I hope audiences can feel that and really take something beautiful away from it."

If you want to see more of Dylan, visit [www.dylanstumer.com](http://www.dylanstumer.com)

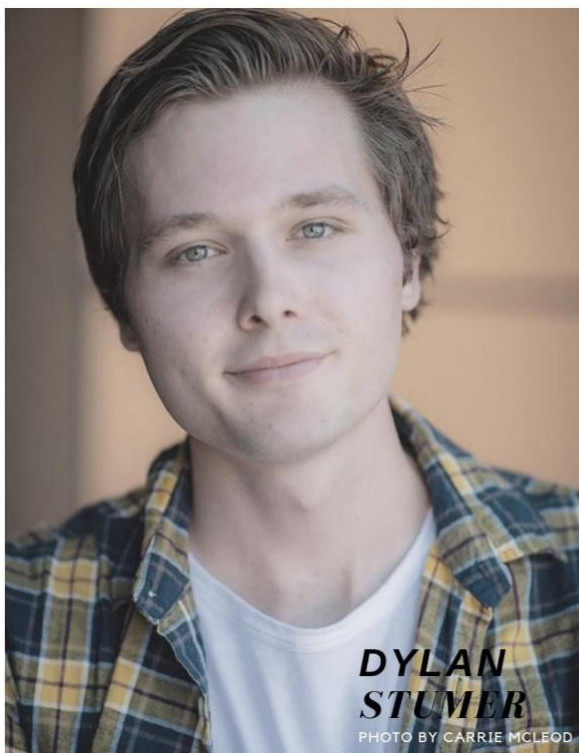
# FREAK STALKER

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ALEXZ JOHNSON



## INTERVIEW WITH Dylan Stumer

With a clear vision in his mind, holding dreams in his hands, Dylan Stumer is ready to get things started because he's capable and he can do it!

Characterized by his professionalism, Dylan is a serious and committed actor who has set his steps with maturity and confidence about his career achievements. His constantly effort and hardworking have made of his job a spectacular experience to enjoy. You'll see versatility and a particular technique that makes his performances very special.

His recent leading role credits includes Philip in "Just Like You", Dunstan in "Countdown" and Joshua in "When Time Collides". Dylan has also involved himself by doing stunt work for films, recently completing stunt heavy roles in "Just Like You" (2018) and "Primal" (2018). Dylan worked with professional stunt coordinators to legitimize action sequences. He's also constantly expanding his skillset. A consummate professional, he receives ongoing coaching to ensure his talents are continually improving and always relevant. He has been training with acting coach Kristina Sexton, as well as with dialect coach (US Accent) Denise Woods to ensure that he is prepared to face an international market.



@dylanstumer

Q You are a fabulous actor! You remind me to medieval times with your British look, I don't know, I simply think you work brilliant and really keen on following your steps from now on. Before exploring closer and deeper your past and present works, I would like to know a little bit about your beginnings. When did you say that you wanted to become an actor? What exactly attracted you to this industry?

Dylan: Thank you! I was very young when I knew I wanted to be an actor. I started with school plays and then one day while watching "Zathura: A Space Adventure (2003)", I remember realizing that this is what I want to do with my life. I want to act and tell stories that really get the audience to think. That start conversations and that give people something that they can enjoy.

I love watching behind the scenes of films and TV shows too, and interviews. The passion everyone has is inspiring. They bring stories to life - cast, crew, and the audience themselves. That teamwork really draws me in. Were all here for the same reason and have the same passion. We should make great things with it.

Q Training is very important to you, you take the time to improve and are in constant learning which is awesome! Why would you recommend it to other artists?

Dylan: Acting is a craft. It doesn't matter what level you're at or how long you've been doing it - there is always room to grow and improve. Every successful working actor will tell you this. My advice to other artists is to keep learning. It doesn't have to be expensive training - there are plenty of ways to hone your craft. Short films, some practice with friends, watching some breakdowns and behind the scenes on YouTube, weekend workshops, years long studies... there are so many opportunities to grow. Everyone is different and resonates with different things, you just need to find the approach that works for you.

I like the example that I was given that acting is like a sport. If you want to play for the Queensland Maroons, you need to train to get there. The same applies with acting. You need to train to get better and work your way up in the industry.

dylanstumer.com

"I want to act and tell stories that really get the audience to think."

Q At the moment of creating a character, what do you base on? What does inspire you in your process of building it?

Dylan: When I get a script, I like to take a deep breath and just read it. Take it all in and embrace the story and understand the journey my character is taking. You can only do that once - you only get to experience a story for the first time one time. It's important to experience it in its wholeness. Then, I read the script a few times to explore the emotion that is coming from a character and begin to break it down. Who is in the scene, what are my relationships, how am I seen, what I'm trying to get from this? I ask these questions and find specific relationships to people, places, and things. It all falls into place after that. You build your world bit by bit and then recreate it on screen. I believe every character has a certain amount of yourself in it too. It is the actor's job to bring that forward and give it life.

Q You had a role in "Aquaman", a very huge production that for sure left a bunch of experiences in your career. What was the challenges of working on this sort of productions that also requires physical routine?

Dylan: Working on such a big budget film was truly an eye opener! It was a wonderful experience and I did learn so much. The challenge was to get into the headspace of fear for the scenes I was in. I was in a sinking submarine, and my character is facing the truth of life and death - and a truly terrifying death too, one mile beneath the surface of the ocean and so far from light and loved ones. But I had time to prepare for it and the scene went smoothly. You get into a routine of preparing, shooting, resting, preparing, shoot, rest. Always being ready to be physically, mentally, and as a team player.

Before we shot, I remember walking through the studio yard and seeing the sets and the amount of detail and work that goes into making them. It was incredible going from short films to a multi-million-dollar DC movie. It gave me the inspiration to work harder and tap into my training. To focus on the dream and set the goals to get there. I had an incredible experience and learned something new every day I was on set. Being able to take part in that means a lot to me, and taking those experiences forward is something I am forever grateful for.

Q Other of your recent works is "Just Like You", that's doing the festival circuit at the moment. How did people receive this film? What can you tell me about the experience working on this project?

Dylan: I feel like audiences are really experiencing what we tried to say with the film. The focus is on the "Cycle of Violence" within a family - and that's a heavy topic. The film has a lot of heart and I am excited to see how well it does. Not all films are going to be easy to watch, but that doesn't mean they lack meaning or power. Writer/Director Patrick Evans had a beautiful and clear vision for this story and that made things so easy.

Playing Philip, the lead role, I got to explore a character who is encountering high school and coming to terms with being the "baby" of the family. He's often a target, but he is smart and scrappy. He wants his voice heard. It was incredible to dive into the emotions required to bring Philip to life properly. It was also the second film I have done where stunts were involved, and I got to work with Stunt Coordinator Darin Turcan. We got to legitimize action sequences and really give the film a physical meaning, and not just an emotional one.

My first stunt heavy film was "PRIMAL", and I was so nervous for it. You should be nervous doing stunt work! But, once you get into the swing of things and are doing it safely, you have a lot of fun. I was amazed by the amount of choreography that goes in to make it look perfect. I am so glad to have had such great stunt coordinators teaching me and ensuring that my skills were safe and convincing.

Q Let's talk now about your most recent project, "Countdown", which is still in post-production. What can you tell me about the story and your character? How was it like working on this short film?

Dylan: COUNTDOWN is a Sci-Fi Romance that is set in a world where, at the age of 18, a countdown appears above a person's head. I play the role of Dunstan and, whenever he speaks, his numbers count down further. He becomes confused and lost, and he's in this state when he meets Leanne. Their romance is affected by their numbers and by time and they have to explore what it means to be together when "together" may not be forever. Dunstan is hopeless, selfish, and shy. He had lost his meaning for life but then he found this great love. Dana April McLeod plays Leanne so beautifully, and it was such a dynamic story to explore.

Sally Zhang, our writer and director, really created something amazing with COUNTDOWN, and our DOP Malcom Wai had exactly the eye needed to capture this story. I am very fortunate to have worked with such a great team - and to have learned so much from them and Dunstan.

Q Do you plan to work overseas?

Dylan: Absolutely! I just got my Canadian 2-year visa and am planning to go over in 2020. I am constantly submitting and am ready for when the opportunity arises.

Q To me, you're doing a spectacular career: there's versatility, talent and experiences that enrich each work. How do you see yourself in the future? Where does your aspiration go?

Dylan: Thank you! Your kind words mean a lot. For me, I would love to focus on the Australian market, but also want to adventure out to Canada and the US. There are so many opportunities abroad for actors over there than there are here in Australia. I want to represent Australian actors overseas and work on my craft. With a good agent, a good team, and amazing opportunities - there is no limit. I can bring my skills back home with me, and I can use them anywhere to represent the awesome talent we have Down Under.



"Sally Zhang, our writer and director, really created something amazing with COUNTDOWN, and our DOP Malcom Wai had exactly the eye needed to capture this story."

Q What's next for you, Dylan? What can you anticipate us?

Dylan: You're going to be seeing me with new accents! I have been working with dialect coaches to hone my craft at an international level. I am currently working on my Q1 Visa paperwork for the US and have everything I need to move to Canada.

I am auditioning, chemistry testing, and filming a lot over the next few weeks - all for beautiful stories that I can't wait to share with you.

I also just wrapped "Out of Thyme" and am excited to see the finished product!

There is a lot going on - and that's exactly what you can anticipate!

Q To think, why do you think you are an actor for? What's the message you would like to transmit to the world through your art?

Dylan: I am an actor because I want to create. I want people to learn something from the stories we tell and to walk away having discovered something new to be thinking and feeling on a different level than before.

The message I want to transmit in my art is to "just be yourself". With all the characters I play, I always try to tap into my life experiences - real emotions, real movement, real passion. That's how I bring characters to life and I hope audiences can feel that and really take something beautiful away from it.

If you want to keep updated on me, check out my social media!



# Dylan has set his sights on the US ahead of Aquaman release

*There are so many intricacies that go into making a movie – so many pieces built by so many amazing people*

by WENDY CREIGHTON

AS DC Comics fans eagerly await the impending release date of the long-awaited blockbuster, *Aquaman*, there's one actor who has hopes it will launch his international career.

Dylan Stumer was on a short rest break with his mother, Boonah resident Jacqui Dunstan, when he spoke with the *Guardian* about his experiences in working on the set of a Warner Brothers' film.



While Dylan is not a newcomer to acting, *Aquaman*, will represent his big screen debut.

"Working on *Aquaman* was a massive eye opener," says Dylan.

"I've never worked on such a big production before and just seeing all the fine detail that goes into the production design, costumes, equipment and every facet of every scene was mind blowing.

"There are so many intricacies that go into making a movie – so many pieces built by so many amazing people.

"Everyone brings their craft and their talents to a project like this and everyone is passionate about doing their best to make it a success."

Dylan adds that he gained a lot of experience while on the set - experience which he will take to his next role.

"It really was an incredible experience and I learned so much while I was on set.

"Being able to be a part of that means a lot to me, and being able to take those experiences with me moving forward means just as much."

Dylan isn't able to give any detail about his role as a member of the submarine crew prior to the release of *Aquaman*, it has already given him a publicity boost.

The Conan Daily List named him as one of the 10 most handsome co-stars in the movie.

"That came as a bit of a shock," says Dylan. "I came across the list while researching a release date for the trailer and was very humbled by it.

"It's not something you expect to see out of the blue, but I'm very grateful to be recognised for my work on *Aquaman* – especially alongside so many amazing actors."

And Dylan has hopes his role in the movie will open the doors to work in the United States and

Canada.

"My acting coach, Kristina Sexton, "has encouraged me to get the process started for my O1-Visa with Pilot Season approaching."

This season normally runs from January to April. It's the time when studios go into production for the pilot episodes of television series. The pilots which get picked up then go into full episode production from July.

"I want to apply for an O1-Visa to the States, but I have to prove I have a job lined up - and of course, the job I want is a role in one of the pilot episodes."

Dylan's resume to the studios is not lacking in entries.

He debuted on the small screen in 'Hoges' last year, when he played the role of a Deli Waiter in the mini series about Paul Hogan's rise to fame.

He also has two short film parts to his credit. He won a role in 'Primal', where he did his own stunt work and recently completed his lead role in the short film 'Just Like You'.

"The film is written and directed by Patrick Evans and produced by Xanthie Milton. It is just getting some finishing touches before hitting the international film circuit."

Dylan plays the central character, Philip.

"It is an interesting, beautiful film that tells the story of a family and their cycles of life. The character I played is often a target, but he's smart, clever and scrappy."

"Just Like You" has a lot of heart, and it's message I think will genuinely resonate with audiences."

Dylan also worked on the documentary, 'Root Cause', which is expected to be released on Netflix in the near future. This year, he played small parts in the movies 'In Like Flynn' and 'At Last'.

Winning acting roles on stage and on screen has been Dylan's motivation for as long as he can remember.

"I think I was actually about six when I started doing school plays and theatre, then I made a shift toward documentary style film making. I also did some community radio and voice overs."

"As I got older, and I received encouragement about my acting abilities, I found myself drawn toward film and television and I've been working to improve my craft in this arena ever since."

"There wasn't really an event or moment that sparked my passion for acting. It was just something I always felt that I wanted to do."

Currently, while auditioning for several roles, Dylan is also adding to his skills by working with dialect coaches in anticipation of his move to the United States.

"I am auditioning a lot, and there are definitely some things in the works that I can't mention."

"I want to be ready for the next step."

"I've got a good agent, a good team and have been offered some amazing opportunities."

"I'm passionate about my career as an actor and I want to keep making good stories."



Dylan Stumer (centre) in a promo shot for the short film, *Primal* - one of the roles he hopes will win him acting work in the United States or Canada.



Conan Daily

CURING CURIOSITY

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ACTORS, MODELS AND REALITY STARS

## 13 most handsome 'Aquaman' actors on Instagram

BY JILLIANINA ESTEVEZ ON 4 DEC 2018 • (LEAVE A COMMENT)



Warner Bros. Pictures will release "Aquaman" in the United States on December 21, 2018 in IMAX, IMAX 3D, Dolby Cinema and Real D 3D. The world premiere of the DC Comics movie took place in London, England on November 26, 2018.

"Aquaman" was written by David Leslie Johnson-McGoldrick and Will Beall and directed by James Wan. Here are the 13 most handsome actors in the cast with a public Instagram account:

7. Dylan Stumer hails from Queensland, Australia. He plays a submarine crew in "Aquaman."





## Close-up: An Interview With Dylan Stumer



BY JAMES PRESTRIDGE  
November 3, 2018



Up-and-coming Australian actor Dylan Stumer joins us on *Close-up Culture* to talk about his role in *Aquaman*, short film projects, ambitions to work in the US and more.

*Q: We are fast approaching the release 'Aquaman'. Can you tell us about your experience working on such a big film and what it meant to you?*

A: Working on *Aquaman* was a massive eye opener. I've never worked on such a big production before and just seeing all the fine detail in the production design, costumes, equipment and all was mind blowing.

There are so many intricacies that go into making a movie – so many pieces built by so many amazing people. Everyone brings their craft and talents together and you can feel the passion that goes into the project. I had an incredible experience and I learned something new while I was on set. Being able to be a part of that means a lot to me, and being able to take those experiences with me moving forward means just as much.

*Q: Can you share any fun or interesting memories from working on the film?*

A: I can't really say too much! But, it was extremely fun working in the water tank. A lot was happening that day and I can't wait to see how it turns out.

*Q: **The Conan Daily List** named you on their 10 most handsome 'Aquaman' co-star list. Do you find that kind of attention flattering?*

A: That kind of thing is always flattering, but it was more of a shock at the time! I came across the list while researching a release date for the trailer and was very humbled by it. It's not something you expect to see out of the blue, but I'm very grateful to be recognised for my work on *Aquaman* – especially alongside so many amazing actors.



Photo by Phoenix Wilson



*Q: It looks like you have some interesting short film projects coming up. What can you reveal about 'Just Like You'?*

A: *Just Like You* is written and directed by Patrick Evans and produced by Xanthie Milton. The film is just getting some finishing touches before hitting the international film circuit.

It is an interesting, beautiful film that tells the story of a family and their cycles of life. I play the leading role of Philip, a young high school student and the youngest in his family. He's often a target, but he's smart, scrappy, and just wants to have his voice heard.

This film has a lot of heart. I think it's a message will genuinely resonate with audiences.

*Q: I heard you did stunt work on 'Primal' as well as 'Just Like You'. How did you find getting involved in this physical work?*

A: I absolutely loved it! I was a bit nervous at first – as you should be when doing something as serious as stunt work – but once getting the swing of things, and make sure it's all safe, you have a lot of fun.

It really amazed me with the amount of fine detail that goes into it – to make it look perfect. It wouldn't have come without the talented stunt coordinators guiding me through every step. So, a big thanks to Yasca Sinigaglia and Darko Tuscan.

*Q: Frazer Bailey's documentary 'Root Cause' is coming to Netflix soon. What was your experience like working on that feature?*

A: It was my first time working with Frazer and I had such a great time on set. I met some great people who I became friends with and I'm absolutely stocked for it to be on Netflix soon!

*Q: Do you have any other upcoming roles you can tell us about?*

A: I am auditioning a lot, and there are definitely some things in the works that I can't mention. I guess I'll just have to say "watch this space".

grateful for all the opportunities that I've been given and excited to see what the future holds.

For next steps, I've been working with dialect coaches to help me take my craft to a more international level. I've also been working on shifting towards the US and taking Australian talent out into the world.

*Q: What are your hopes for the future?*

A: To keep making great stories. As I mentioned, I'm currently putting together my O1 – Visa paperwork so I can work in the States. I've got a good agent, a good team and amazing opportunities. I know I'll be ready for the next step, and the next one, and the one after that.

Title image by Marcus Walters

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For more Dylan:

Instagram – <https://www.instagram.com/dylanstumer/>

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/DylanStumerActor/>

IMDb – <http://imdb.me/dylanstumer>

Website – <https://www.dylanstumer.com/>



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ACTORS

## Jason Momoa's 10 most handsome 'Aquaman' co-stars

BY JILLIANINA ESTEVEZ ON 23 MAY 2018 • ( LEAVE A COMMENT )



Playing DC Comics character Arthur Curry, the title character in "Aquaman," Jason Momoa is the most handsome actor in the upcoming superhero film directed by James Wan. No doubt about it.

But Momoa is not the only member of the cast who is outstandingly good-looking. Here is a list of his 10 most handsome "Aquaman" co-stars:

10. Dylan Stumer



Hailing from Brisbane, Australia, Stumer made his small screen debut in the mini-series "Hoges" in 2017. He plays a submarine crew member in "Aquaman."