

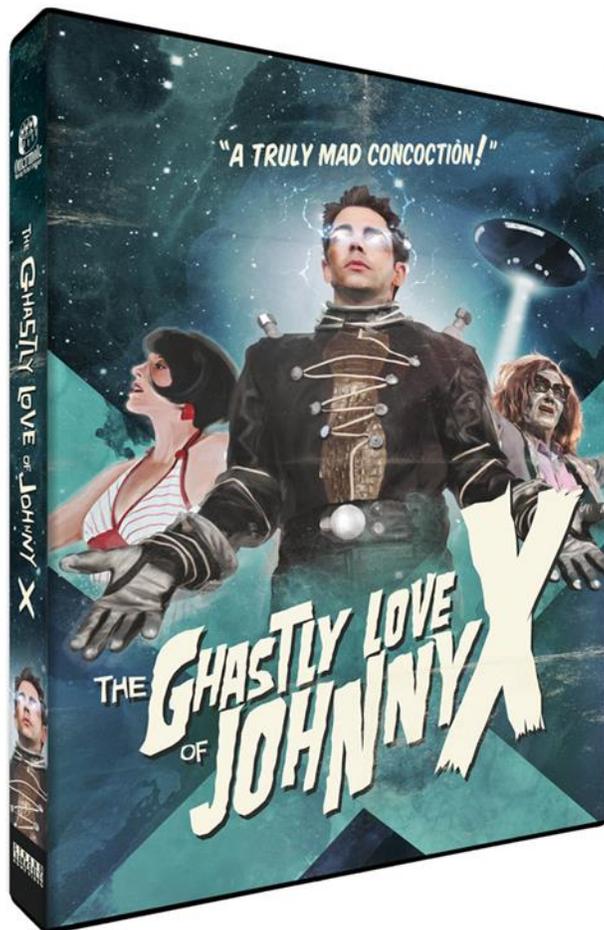
**STRAND  
RELEASING**  
HOME ENTERTAINMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Strand Releasing proudly releases on DVD on **June 18, 2013**

***THE GHASTLY LOVE  
OF JOHNNY X***

A film by Paul Bunnell



**THEY SING! THEY DANCE!**  
**THEY'RE JUVENILE DELINQUENTS FROM OUTER SPACE!**

**Synopsis:**

Banished to Earth for intergalactic juvenile delinquency, Johnny X and his gang of Ghastly Ones set off in search of a piece of alien technology that could change the fate of the universe forever — the so-called “resurrection suit.” Soon, the extraterrestrial no-goodniks are embroiled in a wacky scheme involving a femme fatale named Bliss, a shifty concert promoter with schemes of his own, and a recently deceased musician who won’t let a little decomposition stop him from rocking.

THE GHASTLY LOVE OF JOHNNY X is a truly mad concoction, blending 1950s sci-fi melodrama, song-and-dance, and a touch of horror to create a mesmerizing big screen spectacular with highly stylized musical numbers, tons of genuinely humorous dialogue and wacky plot twists.

Starring

**Creed Bratton**

*(The Office TV series, Liz & Dick TV movie)*

**Kate Maberly**

*(The Secret Garden, Rites of Passage, Finding Neverland)*

**Paul Williams**

*(Phantom of the Paradise, Valentine's Day, Georgia Rule,  
The Muppet Movie, Mokey and the Bandit)*

**Kevin McCarthy**

*(Invasion of the Body Snatchers, Death of a Salesman)*

**Reggie Bannister**

*(action-horror series Phantasm I-IV)*

**DVD Street date: June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Pre-book date: May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2013**

**Country of Origin:** USA

**Language:** In English

**Format:** DVD

**Stats:** B&W / Closed Captioned

**Sound Format:** 2.0 Stereo Sound / 5.1 Surround Sound (Optional)

**Running Time:** 106 Minutes

**Genre:** Sci-Fi / Comedy / Musical

**Product #:** 3311-2

**UPC:** 7 12267 33112 3

**Suggested Retail Price:** \$24.99

Not Rated

## **Loaded with Bonus Features!**

- Trailer
- "Paul Bunnell's Ghastly Vision" - Featurette
- Commentary Track with Director Paul Bunnell, Composer Ego Plum & Actress De Anna Joy Brooks
- Deleted Scenes
- Outtakes
- Other Strand Releasing Trailers

THE GHASTLY LOVE OF JOHNNY X is a 35mm independent motion picture presented in GhastlyScope – an exciting retro-style hybrid about a gang of juvenile delinquents from outer space!

Paul Bunnell's idea for the film came about in 1997 after watching Tom Graeff's 1959 cult movie *Teenagers From Outer Space*. This was the inspiration behind wanting to produce and homage to 1950s sci-fi films. A shooting script (originally titled *The Ghastly Ones*) was in development for a few years before a final draft would be approved by Bunnell.

Interestingly, the initial concept was not planned as a musical – this element was added shortly before production. Six original songs were composed by lyricist Scott Martin – combined with whimsical orchestrations by musical impresario Ego Plum – for what can only be described as a fresh spin on an old style Hollywood musical!

With dark humor and music throughout, THE GHASTLY LOVE OF JOHNNY X delivers a unique blend of hip genre moviemaking and timeless entertainment for what is sure to become a motion picture classic.

## **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

THE GHASTLY LOVE OF JOHNNY X is Paul Bunnell's first 35mm feature film. In 1994 Bunnell released his cult film THAT LITTLE MONSTER which features a cameo appearance by the legendary comedian Bob Hope. His next project is a big screen adaptation of the classic Victor Hugo novel THE MAN WHO LAUGHS.

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

THE GHASTLY LOVE OF JOHNNY X is a very personal project which encompasses many of the things I love about the movies. I started working on the project in 2002 and would not rest until I saw it through to completion in 2011. If I had listened to what the naysayers thought I should do, the movie would not have gotten started, let alone finished. Thankfully, persistence paid off and I completed my dream project with no major compromises. It is my wish that its images will become a lasting part of your film vocabulary – the stuff that dreams are made of.

- Paul Bunnell

## **ABOUT THE CAST**

### **WILL KEENAN (Johnny X)**

Keenan was born in Philadelphia and attended New York University while majoring in theater and studying psychology, philosophy and dance. He started his career in underground and cult movies, performing lead roles in *Tromeo and Juliet* and the first fully digital feature film, *Love God*. Keenan believes JOHNNY X will go down in history as the very last 35mm black-and-white widescreen musical. Some of his other starring and producing credits include *Politics of Love*, *Chop*, *Terror Firmer*, *Margarita Happy Hour*, *The Love Machine*, *Hoofboy*, *Hisss* and *Trick*.

### **CREED BRATTON (Mickey O'Flynn)**

Creed Bratton became a professional musician during his high school and college years and went on to become a founding member of *The Grass Roots* where iconic hit songs like "Midnight Confessions" cemented their standing as major contributors to the rock music scene in the 1960s. Creed is currently gearing up to film his ninth season on NBC's Emmy award-winning TV show *The Office*, where he plays a fictional version of himself. In 2011 he co-starred opposite John C. Reilly in the theatrically released independent film *Terri*.

### **DE ANNA JOY BROOKS (Bliss)**

De Anna Joy Brooks won the coveted role of "Bliss" from among 300 competing actresses. Some of her past projects include *The Strand* with Katherine Helmond, as well as featured roles in *Neighborhood Watch* and *Studio House*, alongside such notables as Ruta Lee and Debra Wilson. Brooks has recently written and starred in several hilarious one-woman shows to rave reviews. Director Paul Bunnell believes JOHNNY X will be De Anna's breakthrough film project and hopes to work with her again.

### **REGGIE BANNISTER (King Clayton)**

Bannister reunites with director Paul Bunnell, having previously worked together on *That Little Monster* (1994). A favorite to horror fans far and wide, Reggie is best known for his work in Don Coscarelli's *Phantasm* films, *Bubba Ho-Tep*, and other cult favorites. An accomplished musician and singer since the 1960s, Reggie was a member of *Stone Country*, *Greenwood Singers* and *The Young Americans*, appearing in many stage and television shows alongside such greats as Red Skelton, Robert Goulet, Bing Crosby, Carol Channing, Sonny and Cher, and Stevie Wonder.

### **JED ROWEN (Sluggo)**

Jed Rowen has had credited parts in nearly 80 films, and considers his part as "Sluggo" in JOHNNY X to be his best role to date. In recognition of his wide array of movie roles over the years, Rowen was awarded the Golden Halo Film Achievement Award by the historic Southern California Motion Picture Council. His film career was also the subject of a featured article in *The Atlantic Magazine*. Rowen had a great time working with Paul Bunnell on JOHNNY X and has high hopes for the film.

**KATE MABERLY** (Dandi Conners)

British born actress Kate Maberly is “Dandi Conners” – a bubbly young fangirl who gets mixed up with the legendary rock star “Mickey O’Flynn”, expertly played by Creed Bratton. Maberly’s breakthrough film role came in 1993 when she starred as “Mary Lennox” in *The Secret Garden*. This internationally acclaimed performance paved the way for several subsequent leading roles, including “Wendy Darling” in *Finding Neverland*, opposite Johnny Depp and Kate Winslet. Kate recently completed *Goat Island* with co-stars Val Kilmer and Radha Mitchell.

**PAUL WILLIAMS** (Cousin Quilty)

Academy Award, Grammy, and Golden Globe winner Paul Williams plays the role of “Cousin Quilty” in JOHNNY X. Although most people came to know him as one of Johnny Carson’s recurring favorites on *The Tonight Show*, or as an actor in dozens of films, television comedies and dramas, it is his musical legacy that continues to inspire. His film roles include “Gunther Fry” in Tony Richardson’s 1965 comedy *The Loved One*, “Virgil” in *Battle for the Planet of the Apes*, and “Swan” in Brian De Palma’s 1974 cult classic *Phantom of the Paradise*, in which he not only starred but wrote the Oscar nominated song score.

**KEVIN MCCARTHY** (The Grand Inquisitor)

Kevin McCarthy is most remembered for starring in *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956) directed by Don Siegel, as for the original *Twilight Zone* series, playing the title character in the classic episode “*Long Live Walter Jameson*.” McCarthy was nominated for an Academy Award in 1952 for his portrayal of “Biff” in *Death of a Salesman* and worked with director/actor Anthony Hopkins in the 2007 film *Slipstream*. Sadly, Kevin passed away in 2010 shortly after completing work on JOHNNY X, making it his final feature film appearance.

## **ABOUT THE CREW**

### **FRANCISCO BULGARELLI** (Director of Photography)

Born in Costa Rica, Francisco Bulgarelli enrolled at the Castella Arts School at the early age of nine. He continued his art studies at G.S.U. and UCLA extension. Francisco has shot features, music videos, commercials and short films. Recent projects include *Unraveled* and *Innocence Blood*. Bulgarelli and director Paul Bunnell were featured in the March 2012 issue of *American Cinematographer* – an interview about shooting the last of Kodak's Plus-X 5231 black-and-white film stock on JOHNNY X.

### **EGO PLUM** (Music Composer)

Ego Plum is an American musician and award-winning composer. His unconventional sound and melodic sensibility got the attention of Nickelodeon in 2008 and he was hired to compose music for Amy Winfrey's hit series, *Making Friends*. He was recently presented with an Ovation Honor by the Los Angeles Stage Alliance for his inventive musical score and original songs for the *Gogol Project* (staged at the Bootleg Theater), and most recently completed his first orchestral score for THE GHASTLY LOVE OF JOHNNY X. His next scoring project will be for Richard Elfman's long-awaited sequel to his cult classic, *Forbidden Zone* (1982). *Forbidden Zone 2: The Forbidden Galaxy* will find Ego Plum co-composing the original score and songs alongside the illustrious Danny Elfman.

## CAST

WILL KEENEN  
CREED BRATTON  
DE ANNA JOY BROOKS  
REGGIE BANNISTER  
LES WILLIAMS  
JED ROWEN  
KATE MABERLY  
PAUL WILLIAMS  
KEVIN MCCARTHY

Johnny X  
Mickey O'Flynn  
Bliss  
King Clayton  
Chip  
Sluggo  
Dandi Conners  
Cousin Quilty  
The Grand Inquisitor

## CREW

Directed by  
Written by

Produced by  
Co-Producer  
Line Producer  
Executive Producer  
Executive Producer  
Associate Producer  
Associate Producer  
Director of Photography  
Edited by  
Music Score by  
Music Songs by

PAUL BUNNELL  
STEVE BINGEN, PAUL BUNNELL,  
MARK D. MURPHY, & GEORGE WAGNER  
PAUL BUNNELL  
JOHN DUFFY  
EZRA KEMP  
KRISTINA WEST  
MARK WILLOUGHBY  
RAMZI ABED  
JOE RIOS  
FRANCISCO BULGARELLI  
RUSSELL HARNDEN III  
EGO PLUM  
SCOTT MARTIN

**If you'd like more information about this film please call Samantha Klinger at 310.836.7500 or email [samantha@strandreleasing.com](mailto:samantha@strandreleasing.com).**