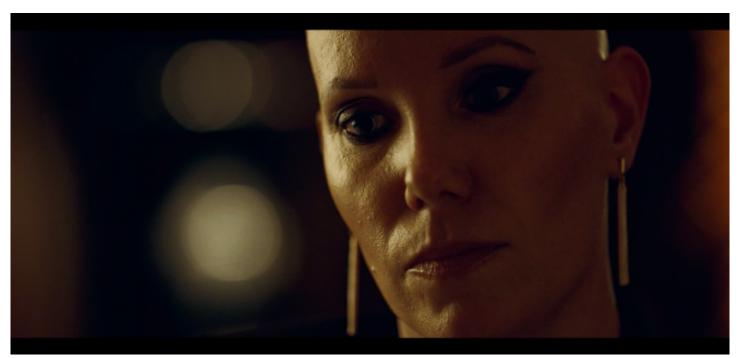
Award-Winning Spy Thriller Bonding Begins Feature Adaptation Journey with 9 Lives Entertainment

Psychologist and filmmaker Luke Rex infuses psychological depth into the espionage thriller Bonding as it transitions from a short film to a feature-length adaptation



Los Angeles, California Nov 7, 2024 (<u>Issuewire.com</u>) - <u>9 Lives Entertainment</u> is thrilled to announce that its award-winning short film, *Bonding*, will be expanded into a feature-length adaptation. Building on the original short's intrigue, emotional depth, and narrative tension, the feature will delve deeper into themes of identity, legacy, and espionage.

After premiering at the **Academy Award-qualifying St Kilda Film Festival**, *Bonding* earned over **70 awards and 70 nominations**, screening at **BAFTA and Canadian Screen Award** qualifying events across multiple countries. <u>Olivia Balington of Indy Reviews</u> stated, "The ten minutes of narrative could easily be placed within a Hollywood blockbuster, leaving audiences longing to join Dr. John on the next phase of his journey." <u>Short Films Matter</u> review praises *Bonding* as a gripping spy thriller, highlighting the film's expertly crafted narrative, noting Luke Rex's charismatic performance and Jannica Olin's captivating portrayal. The review commends the film's direction, storytelling, and cinematography, emphasizing the emotional intensity and intrigue it delivers from start to finish.

The feature will follow **Dr. John Flemington**, a CIA clinical/forensic psychologist, as he uncovers the mystery of his estranged father—none other than **James Bond**. Along the way, he encounters interstellar communication and the **Gateway Process**, a real-world CIA operation developed with the **Monroe Institute** to explore consciousness beyond the physical world.

"We're excited to continue *Bonding*'s journey with a feature-length film," said **Steven Lancaster**, **Executive Producer of 9 Lives Entertainment**. "This is a unique opportunity to expand on the rich world we've created, and we are actively seeking partners to help bring this vision to life."

The project has received recognition for excellence across all areas of production, winning **Best Actor**, **Best Actress**, **Best Cinematography**, **Best Original Music**, and more. It also took home the **Outstanding Proof of Concept Award** at the Pitch to Screen Film Festival in New York.

Updates will follow as the project develops.



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