

SAM GOSPER

>>> DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



A lot of people out there crave a good thrill ride. But above all, they want to be entertained. They want to feel. They want impact. And what is that? Impact is a term that I take seriously as a Director. And when viewers watch *Hunt For Hiroshi*, it delivers.

However, can there be more to what people have come to expect from such a genre? Martial Arts action has changed. Some movies have become quite shallow, and I'm afraid that from what I have seen, what I had come to love back in my teen days has started to die out. Don't get me wrong, these kinds of movies have rarely been Shakespeare material. But I grew up in the 80's and 90's era. I was so fascinated by stars like Van Damme and Jackie Chan, imitating their kicks and punches out of pure excitement. But as I got older, and a whole lot wiser, I had an idea. What if I tried to implement some deep layers to a well crafted Martial Arts piece?

I couldn't recall a live action ninja tale that had more than just a typical revenge story. Why the hell not?

Enter *Hunt for Hiroshi*: The first chapter of my feature pitch *Circle of Ninja*. It centers itself in a city, corrupted by Hiroshi, a Yakuza crime lord who has come to own everything it thrives on. When a predatory ninja begins a merciless killing spree in pursuit of him, Hiroshi sends out the most elite SWAT team in his employ to hunt down the mass murderer and put him down for good.

Unfortunately for him, this forces his hand to pick up his Katana blade one final time and face the past that got him to this city in the first place. Worlds collide head on, and the only person standing between him and his assassin is the relentless Dale, the last SWAT member left standing in the wake of the bloodbath. This fight will ultimately push him past his very limit.

Hunt for Hiroshi may come across as a revenge story, but it's actually a seed for something much heavier. These warriors progressively uncover truths buried deep within their scars, challenging the very pain that has driven them their entire lives. This is where *Circle of Ninja* truly begins.

Circle of Ninja aims to bring back the iconic ninja theme, infused with the serious undertones of a Christopher Nolan film. *Hunt for Hiroshi* introduces its raw and gritty characters that will ultimately have audiences leaning to the edge of their seats.

It's Strengths:

The showcasing of ninjas like you've never seen before

- Fight sequences that drive primarily on a fusion of style and unforgiving rawness (*The Raid, Ong Bak, Flashpoint*)
- A well planned and original story that supports all aspects of character arcs, including moral reveals
- Unique music with a strong sense of it's own identity
- Impactful sound
- The use of practical effects for thrilling believability
- Strong performances from a well cast round of actors
- The strong possibility of a cult following from a wide demographic and cultural appeal via a multicultural cast based in the western world

Hunt for Hiroshi is designed to prove it's worth. Every frame has been executed according to my vision, from mind to screen. The only thing holding it back is the runtime, as I have merely introduced only some of the characters and their world. This has been done intentionally, leaving enough mystery to those who need more.

We were a tight team with a tight budget. But this team had a passion to revolutionize the way we see Action in the western world. Combining that passion with quality storytelling can only mean well in all of its aspects and future prospects for those involved.

I seek finance, to bring the full story to fruition, and welcome those to read it's screenplay. The characters are complex, their motives are clear, and audiences will enjoy the depth of a human story of which blurs the lines between good and evil. This is the movie where ninjas are more than just cardboard cutouts... they are victims of their profession. They are the choices we make in each and every one of us. Now we just need to bring them to life.

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