

*Hans..*

*The past has a voice.*

a short film by Rory Mitrik

Two brothers find a roll of 8mm film, a WW2 era pistol and a set of keys, all pointing to clues of their grandfather's murder.

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Hans..

## *Short Synopsis*

Two brothers watch their grandparent's old and deteriorating 8mm film. They find a piece of footage of their grandfather, Hans, that has never been seen before: Footage of his covered-up murder. Ambition to know more about his life, story and death drive the brothers to explore what they saw in the film, with only one place to start—Hans' tavern—the very place he was killed.



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### *Long Synopsis*

While cleaning out their grandmother's attic, two brothers discover a lost trove of 8mm film. Upon looking through the film, they find mysterious footage of their grandfather, Hans, in his tavern. Footage of his covered-up murder. They find a purloined fragment of 8mm film, a WWII-era pistol issued by the Austrian secret police and a key. They search for answers to uncover the mysteries that surround their grandfather's story. In another mysterious scene, Hans holds a metal strongbox that the key presumably opens. In their search, they meet Vera, the current owner of the tavern -- who may be their only hope in finding the truth of Hans's murder. She recounts a traumatic event that happened to her when she was a young girl that fills in some of the story. Only one thing can help the trio discover the truth -- the last missing strongbox.

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*Hans..*

*Production Stills*



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## *The Cast and Crew*



### **Mandy Slowey** - *Vera Jameson*

Mandy Slowey is a senior at Saint Vincent College, studying psychology and music. She actively participates in theater companies and shows, and enjoys all the business has to offer. Her hobbies include tap dancing, sign language, reading, and singing *Sia* with her four year old sister.

### **John R. Mitrik** - *John*

After publishing poetry in the *Generation Magazine*, senior Computer Information Science major, John Mitrik has turned his attention towards computer programming at *Snap Retail*, located in the Strip District of Pittsburgh. He has also performed in several theatre shows at Saint Vincent College.



### **Dr. Robert Mitrik** - *Hans Staudenbauer*

Dr. Mitrik is a writer and an English studies scholar, a teacher who is an Assistant Professor of English for the West Virginia University Institute of Technology. Dr. Mitrik's teaching at three major universities and three small colleges since 1988 has focused on literary semiotics, interactive storytelling, and composition and rhetoric for first-year college students.

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## Thomas R. Skoff - *Tom*

Tom Skoff is currently a junior at Thomas Jefferson High School near Pittsburgh, PA. He is involved in the band, swimming, and volleyball. He recently found an interest in theater and acting, and performed in 3 plays his sophomore year. Tom is excited to move forward into college and is thinking of a career in the medical field. Tom also works as a lifeguard in the summer.

## James P. Mitrik - *Bar Patron*

James Mitrik is currently a sophomore at Saint Vincent College, studying Engineering and Computer Science. With minimal acting experience, James wanted to get some on set experience before participating in theatre productions, so he decided to take on a minor role in the production of *Hans*.



## Robert Mitrik Sr. - *John's father*

With many great saying like, “what does that gotta do with milkin’ ducks?,” and “you gotta call a spade, a spade” it’s no wonder Bob was very interested to come out of retirement and be a part of *Hans*. He does remain active however, as the Vice-President of the Pittsburgh Employee’s Activities Association and in the Greek Catholic Union.



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**James P. Mercurio** - *Script Supervisor Executive Producer*



Jim grew up in, New Castle, a small town north of Pittsburgh in a blue-collar Italian family which might explain why his favorite film is *Bicycle Thieves*. He met Max Von Sydow in Ann Arbor and regrets not asking him for a cameo in his dream project: a sequel to *Three Days of the Condor* starring Ed Norton. While receiving an MA in Film from University of Michigan, he won a Hopwood Award for screenwriting and his script *Dysfunction Junction* was a quarter-finalist in the 2011 Nicholl Fellowship.

Jim fell in love with movies as an adult and confesses to having seen *Annie Hall* before *Star Wars*. He produced *Hard Scrambled*, starring Kurtwood Smith and Richard Edson, which premiered at *Cinequest* and won Best Drama Feature at Garden State Film Festival. His films have played at fests around the world including Ann Arbor, Australia (*Night of Horror*), Mexico (*Macabro*) and Brazil (*Cinefantasy*). He wrote for Creative Screenwriting in its early years and he interviewed filmmakers like Allison Anders, Paul Schrader and John Sayles. He and Creative Screenwriting founder Erik Bauer teamed on an unproduced web series based on the work of H.P. Lovecraft and were producing partners on the indie drama, *Hard Scrambled*. Erik produced Jim's latest directorial effort, *Last Girl*, a thriller which satisfies their love of genre movies and higher-minded films. As a story analyst, he works with Oscar-nominated and A-List filmmakers. He writes material for a few professional comedians and wrote a poker comedy column for the national magazine, *All In*.



**Jordan Sonnett** - *Production Assistant*

Jordan Sonnett is an alumnus of Saint Vincent College and a former high school Religion teacher. He is currently a Seminarian for the Pittsburgh Diocese. He enjoys music, basketball, reading, and deep conversations.

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**Jessica Petrovich** - *Assistant Director*

Breaking into theatre in her Sophomore year of college, Jess has begun to take an interest in filmmaking as well. She also works full-time at *Kingdom Care Learning Center* in Bridgeville, PA as a toddler teacher. She plans to finish her Early Childhood Education degree at Carlow University and become a Preschool teacher.

**Yvonne A. Mitrik** - *Executive Producer*  
*Photographer*

Yvonne Mitrik has an M.Ed. in Reading. She has been teaching elementary school and at the college level for over twenty-five years. Currently, she is the Fourth Grade teacher at St. Francis of Assisi Elementary School in St. Albans, WV. Yvonne has been married to Robert Mitrik for twenty-nine years. Together, they have four sons, of whom they are very proud! Yvonne enjoys theater, reading, gardening, interior design, and traveling.



**Nathaniel Mitrik** - *Production Assistant*

Beginning his Freshman year of high school this fall, great things are expected from Nathan Mitrik -- the last of the Mitrik brethren. He is the #1 Alto Saxophone at George Washington HS in Charleston, WV. He also loves to read and has been awarded for his reading level and as a tremendous chess player throughout grade school.

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## *From the Director*



My desire to make *Hans* comes from my love of my family and from my love of history. The film indicates a fragmented personal history, a history that sheds light on the life of my great-grandfather. He kept secret his personal connections with World War II and he harbored memories for decades. *Hans* acquires more meaning and dramatic quality with the twists and turns that relay a deeply personal story. I want the audience to feel connected to Hans – just as I do.

[Rory Mitrik](#) is in the MFA Film and Digital Technology program at Chatham University. With a Bachelor's in History from Saint Vincent College, Mitrik has great interest in historical fiction and storytelling. His Undergraduate Thesis researched the assimilation of Eastern European culture during the early 20th Century. Having attended high school in Pocatello, Idaho, Mitrik also has a passion for travel and the outdoors as well as a love for his hometown of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has also worked with the Admissions, Athletics and the Residence Life departments at both Chatham University and Saint Vincent College to develop several marketing videos. He is currently a full-time Resident Coordinator at Pittsburgh Technical Institute with aspirations to become an instructor as well as a filmmaker.

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hans..". The letter "H" is large and stylized, with a horizontal line extending to the right. The word "ans.." is written in a cursive script below the "H".

[www.hans-film.com](http://www.hans-film.com)

<http://igg.me/at/hansfilm/x/7696894>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hans/1498812163670637>

the trailer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SXPPJ6Am0A>



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Cast and Crew for Hans

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Mandy Slowey...     | Vera Jameson      |
| Robert Mitrik Jr... | Hans Staudenbauer |
| John Mitrik...      | John              |
| Thomas Skoff...     | Tom               |
| Abigail Mitrik...   | Young Vera        |
| John Petrovich...   | Syd Jameson       |
| James Mitrik...     | Bar Patron        |
| Bob Mitrik...       | John's Father     |
| Cameron Smith...    | Voice of Hans     |

Pittsburgh Crew

Rory Mitrik - Director, Producer  
Robert Mitrik Jr. - Associate Producer  
Yvonne Mitrik - Associate Producer, Photographer  
James P. Mercurio - Producer, Script Supervisor  
Jessica Petrovich - Assistant Director, Producer  
John Mitrik - Production Assistant  
Jordan Sonnett - Production Assistant  
James Mitrik - Production Assistant  
Nathan Mitrik - Production Assistant  
Anthony Cioltoli - Producer, Script Supervisor  
Nicholas Corletti - Producer

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Special Thanks:

James P. Mercurio  
Anthony Cioltoli  
Yvonne Mitrik  
Jessica Petrovich  
John Byers  
Nancy Wall  
Patty Logan

Don Gabany  
prajna paramita parasher  
Marc Nieson  
Kristen Schaffer  
Max Walters  
Deborah Hosking  
Michelle Creighton  
David Burke

David Safin  
David Collins  
Mary Collins

Jim Hughes  
Anna Gaetano