THE LABYRINTH

The Labyrinth is a bold new feature-length project by James Franco and Vince Jolivette, made in partnership with USC’s School of Cinematic Arts.

Eight students were selected to direct eight original short films as part of a class that was taught by Franco and Jolivette. Upon completion, the shorts were combined into a single cohesive, feature-length experience, along with animated interstitial sequences created by USC Animation student, Einar Baldvin.

While the stories of the eight short films are independent of each other, they all share common themes that tie them together. Described as “a compendium of character-based original short stories exploring the unknown, the unexplained and the unimaginable,” The Labyrinth is a uniquely fantastical viewing experience.

The short films were written by Rosanne Flynn, Taylor Martin, Jordan Trippeer, Kristen Davila, Robert Funke, Matthew Sanchez, Anna Musky-Goldwyn, and were directed by Kaushik Sampath, Quyen Nguyen Le, Tarek Tohme, Katrelle Kindred, Victoria Rose, John Berardo, Camila Tanabe, Jessica Kaye.

The film’s ensemble cast features performances by Josh Peck, Jason Ritter, Jim Parrack, Matt Lucas, Beth Grant, Mia Serafino, Nicole laLiberte, Carmen Argenziano, Flavor Flav, Dale Raoul, Gary Bairos, Gina Comparetto, Angela Gulner, George Oliver Hale, Alberto Jorrin, Lindsay Lavanchy, Bob McLean, Cythia Kaye McWilliams, Joseph P. O’Malley and James Franco himself.

An alcoholic father is given a final chance to redeem himself by a mysterious barkeep. A Mandroid (part man, part android) desperately searches for energy before his battery power dies. A new homeowner stumbles upon the secrets of the universe in his very own basement. The stories within The Labyrinth are sure to provoke, inspire and entertain audiences.

Franco and Jolivette worked closely with the filmmakers in developing the scripts, which were all written by students in USC’s School of Cinematic Arts Writing Division, and continued to mentor them through all aspects of production, both in and out of the classroom.

The production crew consisted of recent USC graduates who have been working professionally in the film industry, to ensure a final product of the highest quality possible. The producers were Nicolaas Bertelsen, Gil Marsden & Sev Ohanian.

USC Professor, John Watson, supervised and coordinated the project on behalf of the School of Cinematic Arts.