

Tom Heard as George Lehman

Tom Heard has been acting since the age of ten when he played Lucius in a University of Texas production of *Julius Caesar*. Growing up in Austin, he appeared in many civic theatre productions which honed his deep love for acting. After college Tom began acting in professional theatres across the U.S. and in Canada. He has lived and worked in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, living and loving the actor's life. While in LA, writer/director Meg Thayer cast him in her film satire, *True Rights*, in which he played the unscrupulous wannabe actor, Drew Stein. The movie won awards in several film festivals and was called an indie masterpiece by *Guerilla Filmmaker* magazine. Tom also played an E.R. Doctor on the critically acclaimed *Friday Night Lights* TV show, and in 2012 he penned his first feature film *Resurface*, a romantic comedy with original songs he wrote for the story. He considers writing this film his greatest accomplishment.

How did you approach or develop the character you played?

I wanted George Lehman to be very real and believable. I kept him very controlled and measured so as to not over play him. George is such a rich character with mountains of subtext. The smaller you play him the scarier he becomes.

What was your most memorable experience in making the film?

Getting struck in the mouth by my adversary's fist during one of the fight scenes was very memorable indeed! There was a medic on-hand and I was okay other than some soreness and swelling. But in a way it had a positive effect: it made the violence more real and sharpened my mindset for the action.

What was your reaction when you first viewed the finished movie?

I was very taken by the performance of Chad Halbrook. His delivery was impeccable and his use of minimal facial expressions was superb. Also, I loved the rapport between Chad's character, Detective Coxon, and his sidekick Kang. The two actors played off of one another beautifully and pulled off the humor very well in a predominantly dark movie.

Do you see the film as being socially relevant, or is it primarily entertainment?

A little of both. The movie takes audiences on quite a ride, but also offers a strong, empowered female character. And that's always great to see!