## **MEDIA RELEASE**





## How far would you go for a second chance?

Defiant Screen Entertainment is proud to present the acclaimed sci-fi drama *The Gateway*, from Australian writer and director John V. Soto and starring popular Aussies Jacqueline McKenzie and Myles Pollard.

McKenzie plays Dr. Jane Chandler, a particle physicist working in a small but highly advanced laboratory and very near to a scientific breakthrough that could change the world as we know it. Her experiments in teleportation are about to succeed...but when tragedy strikes, she finds herself willing to cross a very dangerous line to put things right. Do parallel worlds exist...and if she can travel there, what will she discover?

Director John V. Soto is best known for his feature film *The Reckoning*, starring Luke Hemsworth, for which he won Best Director at 2014 The British Independent Film Festival. He also directed the horror film *Needle*. John explains that as *The Gateway* came to be, it was originally intended as a time travel exercise. But feeling that those kinds of films have recently saturated the market – decided to spice things up a bit by making it a tale about parallel universes – and the trouble they can cause the characters. "I'm super proud of my cast and crew and what we have achieved on a modest budget." says Soto.

John co-wrote the film with British writer, Michael White. A globally bestselling author of 43 books, he has the unique distinction of being the only person in the world who has appeared in three Top 10 charts – as a novelist, as a non-fiction writer and as a pop musician. Michael has been a science editor of British GQ, a science lecturer at d'Overbroeck's College in Oxford and, in a precious incarnation, he was a member of the '80s pop band, The Thompson Twins.

Classically trained film and theatre actress Jaqueline McKenzie is well known for her roles in *Deep Blue Sea* (1999), *Romper Stomper* and *Angel Baby*. In *The Gateway* she explores the film's soulful consideration of grief, desperation and compromised principles with maturity, warmth and insight. Supporting McKenzie is Myles Pollard, best known for his roles in *X-Men Origins*: *Wolverine*, *McLeod's Daughters* and *Looking for Grace*.

**The Gateway** was selected for several film festivals including; Utah's noted genre festival FilmQuest (2017), the 2018 London and Boston Sci Fi Film Festivals, the 2017 Sydney Sci Fi Festival, and the Austin Revolution Film Festival (2017) - where it won Best Feature Film, Best EFX, the Audience Award for Best Film and John V. Soto won Best Director.

Following its May 2018 cinema release, *The Gateway* launches on DVD & Digital Wednesday September 5th, 2018

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