

Fort Saskatchewan Record

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CONAL MACMILLAN/FORT RECORD

ON SET

Over 100 hundred residents of Fort Saskatchewan answered the call from Cat's Cradle executive producer Darren Daehlside. Daehlside had asked residents to fill up the local theatre Wednesday night so the feature film could shoot a concert scene. For the full story, see page two.

interest in entertaining the "bubble-gum" crowd. True Star Records refuses to let her break out of the wholesome, youthful program and image."

"When a final straw breaks the camels back, Cat disappears. Small town America and a reclusive stranger (Garrett) harbour the young artist and Cat discovers her genuine place in the music scene."

"Cat is very much like me in a lot of ways," says Cara Albo who stars as Cat. "She (Cat) feels stuck in a world of fame she can't get out of."

"Only thing is, she's famous and I'm not," laughs Cara, "but I identify completely."

Cara goes on to explain that the idea to produce the movie was conceived by well-credentialed Gilbert Allan and herself as a means to promote her music career (singing and song writing), as well as her interest in producing movies, acting and modeling.

"It's also about looking at more woman power," says Cara. Working in a field (movie producing) dominated by males, she is eager to learn and break with tradition.

Cara tells me that she has been singing since she was nine years old. "I can sing anything you want," she says. "Blues, jazz, pop, folk, opera... anything."

To further promote Cara's career, she and Gilbert Allan employed the talents of screenwriter Natasha Harychyan from Vancouver to create a movie script depicting very much what is happening in today's pop culture world. Thus Cat is a very real composite of several persons, but totally fictional.

Brad Kelly as Garrett (male lead actor) is Cat's romantic interest. Both Cara and Brad have grown up in Edmonton and are excited about their roles in "Cat's Cradle". Brad is already established in Vancouver and is open to all kinds of opportunities that may even include Hollywood. "The more you do anything, the better you will get at it," states Brad.

Kelly describes this first lead role as "very daunting and a thrill". He studied the script for 2 1/2 weeks prior to coming to produce the film. "You've got to get into the heads of every character," he says, "especially Cat".

Brad explains that working so closely with the director "makes it feel like it's your own project. Gil has taught me so much," he says.

Brad says that there are always challenges along the

way, but perhaps his greatest challenge was to come on the day of the interview that of actually producing tears in an emotionally charged scene.

Interest in the film has been shown from the CHUM network, but of course, the film must be available first. It will be marketed around the world.

"Not knowing anyone-not even names" and building trust relationships was challenging, but very comfortable for Kelly. "This is an amazing crew and we have lots of fun together."

Cara credits Brad with teaching her patience. "Working with

him has been a valuable experience," she stated.

Pigeon Lake, Fort Saskatchewan, Sherwood Park, Edmonton and Bruderheim have, in the past two months, been host to Cat's Cradle and its crew of actors, producers, photographers and support staff.

The entire crew settled in to a private summer home for two weeks on Pigeon Lake—secluded and quiet with little or no traffic noise. The portion being filmed at the Lake centers around Cat's car breaking down in a small remote town. She requests to stay with Garrett (played by Brad Kelly) until parts for her upscale vehicle can be brought in and it can be repaired.

"It's a perfect location," said Director, Gilbert Allan. He also praised each community they have filmed in noting the gracious and helpful business people, and the cooperative and respectful locals and neighbours.

Altogether a crew of approximately 40 people will be involved in creating what is hoped to be a big hit in the spring of 2008. About 25 persons were at the Pigeon Lake site.

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Cat (Cara Albo) receives a bruise from Joanna Torguson (make-up artist) before going on the set.

Will I recognize local Alberta landscapes and landmarks when viewing the movie? "Perhaps so," says Gilbert Allan, "although that is not the focus of movie." For example, you might recognize a hotel at Dow Centennial Centre in Fort Saskatchewan or see shot on Pigeon Lake if you are a careful observer.

During August 1-10 Cat's Cradle production crew looking for extras. One thousand individuals are needed for a concert mall scene that will be shot on August 11:00 a.m. at Londonderry Mall. All you need to do show up and be a part of the action.

More featured extras (about 12 people) are needed the last portion of the movie. To be part of this group, contact Kristy-Lynn Polowich at 218-4567.

"With first rate creative talent and technological capabilities, our goal is to be one of Alberta's quality film production companies. We strive to tell great stories that well written and told with a level of sophistication and intelligence, appealing to a broad audience.

Great successes to each of you in your careers and you work through the winter to fit the scenes together piece by piece to create a masterpiece!