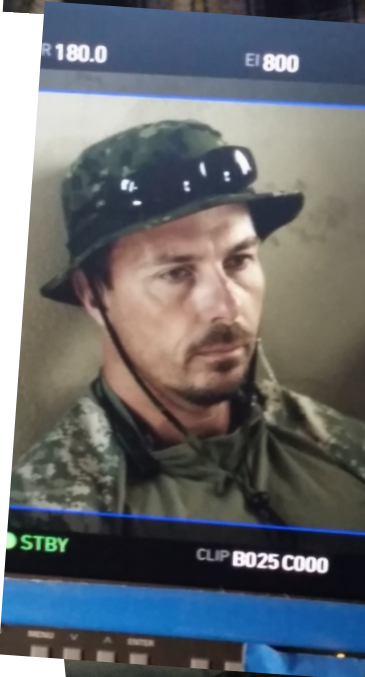


# Tino Von Struckmann

ACTOR – WRITER – PRODUCER - DIRECTOR



**Tino Von Struckmann**, formerly known as “Bodyguard –to-the-Stars”, is now living the American dream. He was born in Denmark where he attended college and earned his degree in business management and History; he also studied Military history and wrote about it. He came to Los Angeles filled with enthusiasm and aspirations. He slept in his car for months while he learned the ropes of personal protection while competing in fitness and martial arts. After a few years Tino joined the ARMY and served several deployments and later finished as an instructor to the US ARMY SF in Germany, he also served as a civilian contractor internationally worked as a bodyguard and tour manager for many international artists, before returning to Los Angeles where he is now lives, by the beach and yet no longer in his car.

It is interesting to note that the one thing that set off Tino’s motion picture career in was the military. He was the lead in a national recruitment commercial that won year’s best commercial award. Soon after returning to LA he started as a consultant on a TV show, soon after to be cast as actor on TV series as *E-ring*, *Numbers*, *CSI* and *Crossing Jordan* followed by more acting roles in *Red Belt*, *Reno 911*, *The Race to Witch Mountain*, *Evan Almighty*, *Ardennes Fury*, *Mega Shark*, *Chained*, *Normandy*, *Last Rescue* and just finished the lead role in *Expendable Assets* with *Jake Busy* and *Ted McGinley*. He’s also appeared as a security and military expert on many cable news shows and networks including *CNN*, *Fox*, *Geraldo*, *ABC News* and *Entertainment Tonight* speaking on women’s safety issues.

In 2006 Tino teamed up with renowned writer Warren Lewis (*Black Rain* and *The 13th Warrior*). They have produced several films and TV pilots together since and their films have won awards and an Oscar nomination and their feature film; *Brothers War*, where Tino played his first lead role, was released in 2007 worldwide and has been performing higher than expectations earning Tino now enjoy a blank distribution deal for all his future films, Tino currently produces several feature films every year, with several in development and various stages of production. He specializes in War and Action films as his motto is: *Produce what you have and write what you know*, and Tino have access to an amazing array of Action Assets; Tanks, Weapons, Planes ect and is often hired to produce the big battles for other producers. In 2016 Tino is also looking to Europe to produce several films there, starting with a Viking Saga set on original location. Tino: “Its time people remember where the Vikings came from, Danish culture is more than a pastry!”

Before retiring from the world of protection Tino wrote a book called *Stalked, What You Can Do About It*. This informative book is meant to be his legacy and a guide for those women wanting to learn how to better protect themselves and deal with stalking issues. The book is being released in a second updated edition in 2016 and will be published in Europe also. For years since Tino spoke of these matters on TV and hundreds of national radio shows and has now founded the Struckmann Foundation in order to raise funds and create awareness to help rape victims and to help victims of sex slavery, it is worth noting that of all the films Tino produce parts of the profits are donated to charities for women.

In his spare time is working on a PhD in Military history and tinkers with custom Harley Davidson’s he trains mixed martial arts and sword fighting. He is an active diver and parachutes and always keeps in shape for the next feature adventure.



## PROFILE OF AN INDIE FILM

By Paul Windslow

# BROTHER'S WAR

Indie World War II film Has Unique Twist of Masonic Secrets

# W

hen Tino Struckmann finally made his move to LA, he had no idea that his previous service with the army in the military police would serve as the platform for producing his first feature film and starring effort in *Brother's War*.

Inspired by actual events, the film is set during the final days of World War II against the bitter fighting on the Eastern Front as the Soviet and Allied armies battled their way into a defeated Germany. After a British officer, attached to the Red Army, uncovers secrets that could destroy the Allies' unity, he is imprisoned by Stalin's notoriously lethal intelligence service. There he is aided by an unlikely source – a German officer – after they discover they share a common bond in Freemasonry that unites them by honor, oath and secrets.

Soon after, the two escape from the Soviet prison camp, and Anna (a beautiful nurse) joins them as they flee from the savage battles that surround them. These three unlikely adrift cohorts are pursued from both sides because the secrets they carry could alter the outcome of the war and seal the fate of millions in the future.

"With it all, I didn't want to make just another war film," admits Struckmann. "It is basically a classic war film with the added twist that the two leads (despite being on opposite sides) are both Freemasons – thus bound by this fraternity to join together in the cause to save Europe from a new war." Struckmann and his co-writer and producer Warren Lewis (*Black Rain*, *The 13th Warrior*) wanted to tell the real events that unfolded in war-torn Poland as the world stood by as Stalin exterminated its government, and how Germany was unraveling under the daily bombings by the Allies.

"I always believed that period films should be entertaining and informative and give rise to debate and spark the viewer's interest to study the time period and the history behind it," states Struckmann. "When I started writing *Brother's War*, I had both in mind. There is a



great deal of interest in Freemasonry today as evidenced in films such as *National Treasure* and *The Da Vinci Code*. There is also a lot of untold history surrounding World War II, especially the brutal fighting on the Eastern Front between the German and Soviet armies. It was with these two themes in mind that led me to the creation of the film as well as the Nazis' persecution of European Freemasons which forced some to hide in the German army."

The film began production on December 10, 2006 in northern California under the helm of award winning director Jerry Buteyn. Besides Struckmann, with his outstanding portrayal of the German Captain, the cast also included American horror icon Michael Berryman

and the European action star Olivier Gruner. The film also stars a great up and coming actor Jack Dimich giving an exceptional performance as the NKVD Major. Jack recently had the lead in the short film *In the Name of the Son* directed by Harun Mehmedinovic. The film has qualified for an Oscar™ nomination and is Co-Produced by Tino Struckmann. Beautiful Hayley Carr performs the female lead in *Brother's War*.

When asked if she was intimidated being the lone female character for most of the film, Carr gave a surprising reply. "I liked being the lone female in the film! I'm a tomboy at heart so I'm used to hanging with the boys. I just hope I did the role justice. The lead characters were so great and they gave me a lot to work with."

Michael Berryman, known for his role in the original 1977 film *The Hills Have Eyes*, brings a great deal of nuance to his role of Petrov, a ruthless Soviet intelligence officer committed to the USSR's manifest destiny. He commented about playing such an avaricious character, "I felt up to the challenge. The most compelling aspect of my role was the conflict between his loyalty to 'Mother Russia' and to his own family. Petrov surely was distressed over the choice: Kill the civilians or I send your family to the gulag."





**Surprising US locations and WWII weaponry brings the past to reality**

**F**ilming in Petaluma County was a unique experience. “It rained half the time,” Struckmann recalls, “then it was either hot and sunny or freezing cold. It seemed that everything that could possibly go wrong for us weather-wise happened.” They shot the battle scenes in Petaluma, then at Fort MacArthur in Los Angeles. When more battle scenes were needed later on, the company moved to Michigan and then did the final shoots at Angeles Oaks.

For veteran actor Olivier Gruner, the northern California location and battle scenes were his most memorable aspects of the production. “Filming up north, looking at the set, I thought I was in Europe. The extras did an amazing job portraying German or Soviet soldiers - the way they held their guns and carried themselves was very impressive. You actually felt you were on that battlefield.”

Wearing his “producer hat”, Struckmann decided to start backwards, shooting the more difficult footage first. “A war film needs soldiers, tanks and authentic looking battlefields, so I started to look for them first.” When he began searching for tanks, Struckmann deduced that if he could find an actual tank collector, there would surely be fields nearby. It happened that one of

the film’s producers knew of a man, Hans Beerbaum, who collected tanks and World War II equipment. Fortunately for the production he had a running T-34 Russian battle tank. On a scouting trip to look at the tank, Struckmann found out that Beerbaum owned ten acres in Petaluma that had terrain similar to Europe and he even owned one of the famous German 88 guns. Originally an anti-aircraft gun, Rommel discovered during the invasion of France, they could knock out tanks from over 2,000 meters, and so its function was changed to serve as the primary gun on the German Tiger Tank. “We were lucky to find one in existence at all. They are very rare today.

Both Beerbaum and Producer Mike Phillips knew of re-enactors with German and Russian uniforms. This re-enactor’s society was a film producer’s dream, as participants came from all over the country to be in the film. They knew their history. They also owned all of their own equipment and knew tactics and weapons. For them, it was like being back in the Army. “All I had to do was give orders,” adds Struckmann.

In Clio, Michigan, another one of the film’s locations, they uncovered a trove of German memorabilia as well as a German “unit”. The men in Clio had a German Hetzer tank destroyer that the filmmakers used in the production, as well as one of the few remaining German amphibian jeeps, a swim-wagon and many other WWII “toys.” [more >](#)



**“Brothers War is our pick for the Best War Film of the Year!”**

*Paul Winslow, In Hollywood Magazine*



More than fifteen different types of Russian, German and US World War II vehicles were used including tanks, jeeps and trucks. Great attention to historic detail was adhered to. A highly experienced group of technical advisors from film and television provided the film's army with over 100 different uniforms and authentic World War II era weapons. Over eighty "special ability" extras worked throughout the course of the production.

These extras were pre-trained in weapons handling and stunts and served as German, American and Russian soldiers.

**Cutting edge technology and accomplished crew bring highest quality to *Brother's War***

**A**dditionally, Struckmann takes pride in the high-level production value in all aspects of the film. *Brother's War* is the first feature film to use the Red Rock M2 cinema lens system. This new technology allows High Definition cameras to use 35mm cinema lenses, giving *Brother's War* the same look as film but with the advantages of HD. The film also digitally captured all of the production's audio. These digital recordings were captured straight to a hard drive allowing for unparalleled audio clarity.

Over 160 computer generated shots are incorporated into the movie including multiple fully rendered 3-D environments as well as "genuine" muzzle flashes from the actual weapons and composited into the battle scenes - all created and supervised by Ryan Carter whose previous credits include *Spiderman*, *The Day after Tomorrow*, *Sky Captain and The World of Tomorrow*, *The Helix*, *Dune* and *Cities of the Underworld*.

To bind the entire film together is a "world class" soundtrack created for the film by Chris Ward, composer of the score for films such as *Waterworld*, *Pearl Harbor*, *Speed*, *Con Air*, *Bad Boys*, *Twister* and *The Lion King*.

As for the film's unique perspective "including a German soldier as one of the heroes", director Jerry Buteyn feels the film is really about people who are forced to work together. "In

war," he states, "there is no black or white. There is good on all sides and bad on all sides. We had a challenge in this movie because we took a German captain and made him the hero. But then we learn that he is actually a gentleman who cares for his men and also cares about doing what is right. He is not a typical Nazi. And, being a Freemason, he was persecuted by the Nazis. Like a lot of Germans, he was just getting by - not towing the party line."

And, it is that aspect of Struckmann's character, the Freemason that allows him to join with his British "brother" and transcend his mission beyond the border of his fallen homeland.

Along with the talented cast and crew who banked on the success of *Brother's War*, Scott Jones, President of Artist View Entertainment is another believer. "Artist View is very pleased to add *Brother's War* to our Fall 2008 line-up. The film has real potential in the worldwide market boosting

great writing, solid acting and a first class, high quality sound track. The EFX are exception and I can honestly say it is one of the best independent films I have seen this year."



**"...I didn't want to make just another war movie..."**

**TINO STRUCKMANN**

# Bodyguard to the Stars on the Rise as Leading Man

Hollywood Reporter



When Tino Struckmann set out to Hollywood to pursue his dream, little did he know that his past would be his calling card or that his knack for going against the grain would enable his first feature film production, *Brothers War*, to rise against the competition.

Based in part on a true story, set against the brutal fighting on the Eastern front between the Soviet and German armies, Struckmann set out to make a film that was both entertaining and informative and, of course, give rise to debate. Obviously this was a winning formula, as *Brothers War* is the premiere attraction of Artist View Entertainment at the international film markets.

“I didn’t want to make just another war film, “ he admits, “*Brothers War* is basically a classic war film but with the added twist that the two leads are on opposite sides but are both freemasons, and ultimately

join together because of this fraternity to save Europe from a new war.”

From the onset the screenplay was a challenge because the hero, Muller, is a German captain, fighting on the wrong side of the war. For Struckmann, this was particularly precarious, as he was not only writing the screenplay, but also playing Muller in the film. To that end, he and his partner and collaborator, Warren Lewis (*Black Rain*, *The 13th Warrior*) embellished the character’s nuances. “Muller is a gentleman and cares about the well being of his men and doing what is right. He is not a Nazi and being a Freemason, but actually persecuted by the Nazis and did not tow the party line,” adds Lewis.



Struckmann himself never exactly traveled the standard path. As a youth he trained as a bodyguard, training all over the world and gradually became an instructor. He then attained military accomplishment, first in the military police, followed by a stint in the army, serving several deployment, and finally as an instructor to the US Army in Germany. This experience led him to establish his own security company, as well as being a personal bodyguard to celebrities in the US and Europe. His book *Stalked*, published in 2006, advises women how to better protect themselves. With countless TV appearances, Struckmann has become a household name as the “bodyguard to the stars.”

After these many accomplishments, Struckmann decided to get rid of the gray suit and pursue a new career in the film industry. Starting out as a technical consultant he soon found himself in front of the camera in several TV series, and movies. Always proactive in business, starting his first company at age 19, Struckmann formed his own production company, *Almighty Dog Productions*. His first film an award winning short *The Doers of the Coming Deeds*, followed by *Brothers War*. Then the Oscar nominated film, *In The Name of the Son* Currently he is set to produce 3 feature action and war films a TV series about historic events and their possible alternative outcomes, Tino’s latest film *Expendable Assets* will premiere early 2016.

This winter, Struckmann will go into production on *Grave Goods* a thriller written and directed by Warren Lewis. *Grave Goods* is a chilling tale in which the re-opening of the investigation of brutal ritual murders of the recent past the film is best described as *Helter Skelter* meets *No Country For Old Men*.

As proven from his ability to excel in the past, Struckmann’s inherent rebel nature, coupled with his commercial instincts and special acting talent will propel his ascent to stardom.




**Tino Von Stuckmann**

Actor – Writer – Producer - Director

[www.stalkingbook.com](http://www.stalkingbook.com)   [www.almightydogent.com](http://www.almightydogent.com)   [www.tinostruckmann.com](http://www.tinostruckmann.com)





**FORMER BODYGUARD LEADING MAN IN NEW WWII FILM**

Tino Strackmann, former bodyguard to the stars and well known author of the book "I Talked," made the move to leading man in this year's indie war movie *Brothers War*, set to debut in *Artists View Entertainment's* AFM line-up. Against the backdrop of the closing days of WWII, the film tells the story of two officers, one German, one British -- foes who find common ground in fraternization and join forces to save Europe from a new war.

Like many of the characters he portrays, Strackmann never traveled the standard path. As a youth he traveled the world, training as a bodyguard. He joined the army, serving several deployments for the UN and NATO, and served as an instructor to the US Army in Germany. His experience and expertise led him to establish his own worldwide security services company.

When Tino Strackmann decided to pursue his dream in entertainment, he did he realize his past would be his calling card. He founded Almighty Dog Productions, teaming up with Warren Lewis (*200 Warrior and Black Rain*). Over the last few years, Strackmann's production company has produced several films and TV documentaries, achieving high quality for a lower cost and faster turn around, using his military and business world expertise.

Strackmann has been seen in several TV series and films and his performance in *Brothers War* has been hailed as "exceptional" and Tino is thrilled that a project, so personal for him, has rapidly risen above the competition in the marketplace. Regarding the success of *Brothers War*, Strackmann smiles: "We didn't want to make just another war film, so instead we made a little epic one."



”Had it not been for my military service I doubt I would ever have found my way to Hollywood or gotten an Oscar nomination either, I owe it all to the time in uniform, and every day I still miss it and wonder if I should have remained in the ARMY.....but the weather is better here”

Tino