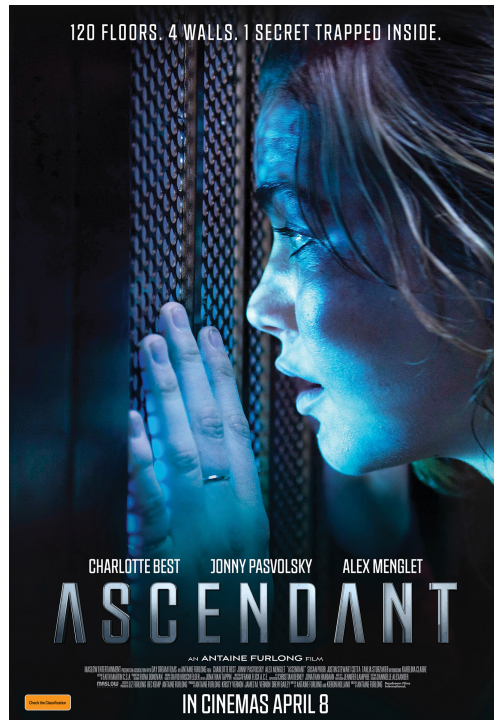


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ENTERTAINMENT



Maslow Entertainment and Daydream Films International to partner on the Australian theatrical release of the visually thrilling feature film, Ascendant.

Sydney, Australia, 2 February 2021: In partnership with Daydream Films International, Maslow Entertainment is excited to announce the release of the highly inventive and visually impressive feature film debut from Australian based filmmaker Antaine Furlong. **Ascendant** will be released wide and exclusively in cinemas across Australia on 8th April 2021. The international release is slated for second half of 2021.

Ascendant tells the story of young environmentalist Aria Wolf (Charlotte Best) who finds herself kidnapped and held hostage in a high-speed elevator in a 120-floor building in Shanghai. Aria holds a secret that makes her a valuable asset to many. However, she has no memory of her past, who her captors are or what they want from her. While being pushed to her physical and psychological limits, she begins to discover that what has been hidden within her for so long is what will ultimately be her salvation.

Filmed at Sydney's Fox Studios and on the Northern Beaches during the pandemic, **Ascendant** stars Australian actress Charlotte Best (Tidelands, Puberty Blues) who gives a breakthrough performance in her first leading role in a major feature film. The cast also includes Jonny Pasvolsky (Westworld, The Front Runner, Mortdecai) and Susan Prior (The Rover, The Gloaming, The Commons). In addition, to help create the amazing world and compelling production values of **Ascendant**, Daydream Films assembled an incredible crew, including Producers Kristy Vernon (Drive Hard, Sweet River, Gabriel) and James M. Vernon (In Like Flynn, Hacksaw Ridge, Predestination),

Cinematographer Frank Flick (Aquaman, Alien Covenant, Hacksaw Ridge), Editor Jonathan Tappin (The Lego Movie, Peter Rabbit) and Oscar and BAFTA nominated Composer David Hirschfelder (The Dressmaker, Shine, Elizabeth).

Maslow's Managing Director, Marc Wooldridge commented, 'Antaine is clearly a very interesting person and a new filmmaker to watch. With **Ascendant**, he demonstrates he is the rare triple threat of writer, producer and director and has delivered something that looks, sounds and feels incredible on the big screen. Like Maslow, Antaine is a huge advocate for the theatrical experience, and he has clearly made this movie with that in mind'.

Writer, Director and Producer and CEO of Daydream Films, Antaine Furlong added, 'Making a film is all about collaboration, and completing a film during a pandemic was a mountain to climb, especially with this being my first feature film. However, I was so fortunate to have such an amazing cast and crew to support me, and we've created something together that I'm incredibly proud of and keen for people to see in a cinema. **Ascendant** is an original, intense, suspenseful thriller that centres around a young woman coming into her power. It packs a punch and has a lot of heart. With Marc's experience and the entrepreneurial spirit of Maslow he champions, we have found a perfect partner for this release'.

Founding Daydream Films marks a significant new chapter in a varied and highly successful career to date for Furlong. He was a scholarship-winning film student and assistant director in the late 1990s, studying at the Institute of Art, Design and Technology (IADT) in Dublin, Ireland until he dropped out to continue working on set. He then became a respected finance executive and business entrepreneur, including playing a key role in the phenomenal growth and eventual sale of the global content services company, Massive Interactive in 2018. Furlong comments, 'I've always loved the filmmaking industry. My father was part of it, and he got me involved and interested in it at an early age. However, a career in finance took me away from my true passion for a long time. Now I'm thrilled to be back into it and I'm really optimistic about the creative and commercial opportunities ahead for the business and local creative talent, and it starts with our first movie, **Ascendant**.

To view the trailer, click here: https://youtu.be/P6vOhD_fl2I

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About Maslow Entertainment

Maslow Entertainment is a film distribution and production development company based in Sydney. We aim to contribute to a varied and vibrant film industry across all screens in Australia and New Zealand, by being forward thinking, audience orientated, results driven and a trusted partner for compelling content and creative talent.

About Daydream Films International

Daydream Films International is a Sydney based independent production company focused on delivering strong returns for investors and making high quality, high-concept and hugely entertaining films for global audiences.