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2 Gilbert brothers shoot 1st feature film in Valley

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The Arizona Republic
Aug. 16, 2006 12:00 AM

Two Gilbert brothers started shooting their first full-length feature film this week, and they chose the Valley as their backdrop.

Brian Ronalds is producing and acting in the movie called *Netherbeast Incorporated*. His brother Dean is directing and producing the film.

Netherbeast Incorporated is being described as "a quirky twist of the vampire tale, set in modern-day corporate America." The movie is based on a short film the brothers produced and is described as a comedy.

"The film that we're making now is right up our alley," Brian said. "We quit our day jobs last year, and we were given the opportunity to make movies."

Eighty percent of the movie is being shot at Hollywood Phoenix Studios in Avondale, and the remainder is being shot in Phoenix. Brian said he and his brother are hoping for a theatrical release of the movie in January.

The brothers recruited a well-known cast for the film. Robert Wagner, who appeared in the Austin Powers films, joins Judd Nelson from *The Breakfast Club*, Jason Mewes from the *Clerks* movies, Amy Davidson from *8 Simple Rules*, and Darrell Hammond from *Saturday Night Live*.

This isn't the only film being shot in the Valley this year.

Universal Pictures crews have been shooting *The Kingdom*, an espionage thriller starring Jamie Foxx and Jennifer Garner, at Gilbert's Public Safety Complex, Williams Gateway Airport and Loop 202.

Seth Landau, a Gilbert High School grad, recruited former *Cheers* star George Wendt to play a mental patient in *Bryan Loves You*, which was filmed in Queen Creek and at Williams Gateway Airport.

Philip Seymour Hoffman is cast in *The Savages*, a movie partially filmed in Phoenix and Sun City.

Brian said he and his brother were bitten by the film bug early in life. He said that their grandfather took them to movies regularly and that both he and Dean have been acting since Brian was 5. Brian said they're both film lovers and with the move to feature-length films are having to adjust. He said the brothers used to have to do a lot more support work, such as makeup and wardrobe.

"We still want to control all that and realize there's a department for that now," he said. "We really want to continue doing this and having this privilege that's been given to us."

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