

# Revere's ride to Hollywood

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Concord -

Much like Paul Revere – but minus the horse and colonial garb – Hollywood filmmakers will be coming to Concord and surrounding areas in the pre-dawn hours this spring.

In late March, producers Brian Ide and Michael Matsumoto will arrive from Los Angeles to begin filming “The Ride” – a so-called “short film” focusing on the famous late-night adventure of Paul Revere.

After a year of extensive research, the pair has mapped out and secured some of the locations for two weeks of scheduled shooting on location in the Concord area.

The film, which will be approximately 25 minutes in length, is geared towards young people, said Matsumoto.

At the same time, the pair is determined to make the film as historically and regionally accurate as possible. Costumes, architecture and accents are all under scrutiny by younger audiences especially, according to Matsumoto, because today’s youth are not so easily convinced.

“It has to be done well. [Young people] see through that stuff,” said Matsumoto.

The producers will bring only two actors from Hollywood. A key element to the film’s authenticity will be casting local people in a total of 15 speaking roles, said Ide. An additional 40 extras will be needed for non-speaking roles.

“We’re very intentional about using local people,” said Ide. “We don’t want to be just Hollywood coming in [to the area].”

To stage a historically accurate film, Ide and Matsumoto are still searching for five local houses for exterior shots, and three locations to shoot inside. Among sites already planned for filming include Buckman Tavern in Lexington.

To shoot on-location, filmmakers have “a lot of red tape to go through,” said Matsumoto.

Most of the filming done in the Concord-Lexington area will be during the late night and early morning hours, said Ide. To avoid the interruption of any modern-day conveniences, such as street lights and motor vehicles, the police will need to provide assistance by blockading streets and shutting off traffic lights.

For half of the film requiring only generic shots of open fields and wooded areas, the cast and crew will head to a 700-acre farm in Louisville, KY.

The difficult task, so far, has been finding authentic uniforms and clothing. The team has met with a potential designer in Boston, and is relying on paintings and books to design the right tri-corn hats and overcoats.

The film’s script has been checked for accuracy by members of The Paul Revere House and Dan Finn, a member of the Lexington Minutemen.

Production designer, John Goldsmith, has a degree in architecture and is responsible for analyzing the set design’s historical exactness

A majority of the \$110,000 budget – a modest figure by moviemaking standards – has been dedicated to production costs, including high-quality sound and lighting. Members of the cast and crew are receiving minimal pay, said Ide, and a project of this nature is only made possible with the collaborative efforts of local people.

The pair has also sought out donations for lodging, food and property. They have contacted a number of companies and individuals with historical ties and knowledge.

Ide is the principal of the film’s production company, Meriwether Productions. Along with producing, he will also be co-directing “The Ride” and has previously produced and directed short films in Honduras, Germany and Jerusalem.

Matsumoto is also the film’s director of photography and has recently completed his third season on production work for the television show “Survivor.”

According to Ide, the movie will be a “really edgy” feature with “driving music” and “quick editing,” – all part of an effort to show other producers in Hollywood what he said was “the validity of shooting films in this period.”

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