

**GUEST STARRING**



Nichelle Nichols



Robert Picardo



Tim Russ



Sam J. Jones



John Davey



Michael Gray



Shannon Farnon



Joseph Culp



Bruce Vilanch

*SURGE OF POWER:  
WHERE THERE'S SMOKE*

Format: 4K  
 Aspect ratio: 16:9  
 Running time: 69 minutes (01:08:52)  
 Completed: May 2024  
 Rated: NR (likely PG-13)  
[www.surgeofpower.org](http://www.surgeofpower.org)



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# SURGE OF POWER: WHERE THERE'S SMOKE



## SYNOPSIS



Enjoy the latest installment of the Surge of Power indie superhero movie franchise known for having lots of celebrities from the sci-fi and superhero genres! *Where There's Smoke* follows Surge as he teams up with guest superhero, The Smoke (former pro wrestler **Eric Moran**), as they uncover a mysterious plot of the villain group called The Council.



Welcome returning stars, the late **Nichelle Nichols** (Lt. Uhura from *Star Trek*) and **Robert Picardo** (The Doctor from *Star Trek: Voyager*) sharing the Omen role, **Bruce Vilanch** (comedian and award show writer) as Janus, **Shannon Farnon** (Wonder Woman from the *Super Friends* cartoon) as MAVIS, **Michael Gray** (Billy Batson from the *SHAZAM!* TV show) as Will E. Bee, **Joseph Culp** (Doctor Doom from the 1996 *Fantastic Four* movie) returning as Spade, the leader of The Council.



Who is Falling Apple and what is her role in The Council's nefarious scheme? Struggling from a lifetime of trauma, Falling Apple has discarded her civilian life as sweet and innocent Chai Appuru for a gritty life full of anger and resentment as she seeks to exact revenge on those she believes killed her father when she was a child.



After leaving New York from their last adventure, Surge and MAVIS are heading back to Big City when attacked by Janus, crash landing in Philadelphia. With MAVIS out of commission, Surge is on his own to find The Smoke, learning they have starkly divergent crimefighting styles. Forming an uneasy alliance, they learn about Falling Apple and track her to Chicago, curious about the crystals and chemicals she is stealing, wondering about the involvement of The Council, who have been long-time adversaries of Omen. But is Falling Apple's agenda aligned with The Council's goals? Where do her loyalties lie?



Watch as Omen guides Surge in recruiting more "champions" to form a superhero team to face The Council's threat. Can these unlikely champions find any remnant of the endearing Chai left in the dark and hardened Falling Apple before the entire Chicago area is in ruin?

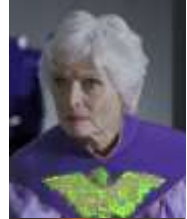


In addition to our returning celebrities, we welcome new stars to the Surge of Power family: **Tim Russ** (Tuvok from *Star Trek: Voyager*) as Mortrigard, **Sam J. Jones** (Flash Gordon from the 1980 *Flash Gordon* movie) as Ace, **John Davey** (Captain Marvel from the *SHAZAM!* TV show) as General Benjamin Washington, **Kevin Caliber** (Superman in season one of the *Supergirl* TV show) as Grok, **Chase Cortese** (Dybsky in the *Play by Play* TV series) as Kid Dynamo and introducing **Stephanie Ahn** as Falling Apple!



Trailer: <https://youtu.be/5qGEaA7Qvy4>

Full movie: <https://vimeo.com/918017315> (request password by email)



## CELEBRITY PERFORMANCES BY



**NICHELLE NICHOLS** is best known as Lieutenant Uhura in *Star Trek* (the original series) but is near and dear to us playing the wise and powerful Omen for 20 years! Nichelle continues her role as the regal Omen in posthumous performances. Omen may seem like she operates behind the scenes, but steps out when necessary to guide Surge, cinema's first out gay superhero, as he finds straight allies.



**ROBERT PICARDO**, *China Beach*, *The Wonder Years*, is best known as The Doctor, the emergency medical hologram on *Star Trek: Voyager*. Robert returns, sharing the role of Omen with Nichelle as the male persona of our sage superhero, adding to the complexity of who and what Omen is and "their" history between the superheroes and supervillains of an earlier generation.



**BRUCE VILANCH**, standup comedian who is best known for his years on *Hollywood Squares* is also a 6-time Emmy Award-winning writer for the Tonys, Grammys and Emmys. Bruce returns as Janus, the snarky artificial intelligence virus and member of The Council that took control of the Surgemobile. This elusive and mischievous electronic virus adds to the chicanery when heroes and villains clash.



**SHANNON FARNON** is best known for her portrayal of Wonder Woman on the *Super Friends* cartoon from 1974 to 1983, but also has a long career in TV and commercials. Shannon returns as M.A.V.I.S., the spunky yet motherly artificial intelligence of the Surgemobile. Unbeknownst to Surge, MAVIS has a deep connection with Omen that is unwittingly revealed because of Janus' attack.



**MICHAEL GRAY** is best known as Billy Batson from the *SHAZAM!* TV show and the adult animated spy sitcom, *Archer*. Gone are his days of yelling "SHAZAM" to summon magic lightning to become Captain Marvel, but Michael has a spark in his presence as Will E. Bee, field reporter for Big City News, who also has a past life with Omen, this time revealed to have powers of his own.



**JOSEPH CULP** is best known as Doctor Doom from the 1996 *Fantastic Four* movie. Joseph returns as Spade, rigid leader of The Council, a supervillain community becoming more active, with each confrontation revealing more history between The Council and Omen's former life with a hero team called The Sentries. Spade unwaveringly prods Falling Apple along their plan.



**SAM J. JONES** is best known as Flash Gordon from the 1980 *Flash Gordon* movie and his hilarious performances in the recent *Ted* movies by Seth McFarland. Sam joins us as Ace, seen for the first time as a member of The Council, stepping out and joining forces with Spade. Ace has been developing Falling Apple as a protégé of The Council, with high hopes Falling Apple will make him proud.



**JOHN DAVEY** is best known as Captain Marvel from the *SHAZAM!* TV show having worked side-by-side with Michael Gray for two seasons. John joins us as General Benjamin "Benny" Washington, the wise godfather to The Smoke in his alter ego as Corporal Aaron Volpacchio. Benny joined Aaron on the fields of battle in earlier years unwittingly leading to Aaron's start as a superhero.



**TIM RUSS** is best known for his role as Tuvok, the stoic Vulcan bridge member from the TV show *Star Trek: Voyager*. Tim joins us as a new character, Mortrigard, who also has history with Omen on their former hero team, The Sentries. After eons of conflict, there are but a few Sentries left, with their powers waning, hence enlisting Surge and other new "champions" to join the fight for truth and justice.



**ERIC MORAN** is a former United States Marine known for his years as a professional wrestler and more recently his recognition in the cosplay community as The Smoke. Eric joins us as guest superhero, The Smoke, a tough and charismatic superhero not afraid to kill his adversaries – a trait that causes friction with Surge. Can they overcome their differences to confront The Council?

**KEVIN CALIBER THOMSEN** has many movies under his belt but joins us for portraying Superman during the first season of the recent *Supergirl* TV show. Kevin portrays Doctor Raymond Richards, the homophobic half-brother of Professor Ronald Richards who assisted Surge in his first adventure. Raymond is clearly perturbed at Surge due to Surge's history with his half-brother, yet Raymond steps in, fashioning his Grok persona.

CAST  
(in order of appearance)



Akira Appuru	Duy Beck
Young Chicchai “Chai” Appuru	Angela Mananquil
Martha	Lindsey Hawkes
Surge / Gavin Lucas	Vincent J. Roth
MAVIS	Shannon Farnon
Janus / SIRIUS	Bruce Vilanch
The Smoke / Aaron Volpacchio	Eric Moran
Killr (Thug #1)	Ray Acevedo
Jenko (Thug #2)	Jenko Childs
Vyper (Thug #3)	Sean McNabb
Falling Apple / Chicchai Appuru	Stephanie Ahn
Omen	Nichelle Nichols
Raymond Richards / Grok	Kevin Caliber Thomsen
Will E. Bee	Michael Gray
Big City Mayor	Jeff Rector
Military Soldier #1	Rocio Ibara
Military Soldier #2	Justin Vancho
General Benjamin “Benny” Washington	John Davey
Military Soldier #3	Aleksei Romanov
Young Gavin Lucas	Cade Ziolkowski
Evelyn Lucas	Pamela Beheshti
Bouncer / Security Guard	Damarr Jones
Drag Queen 1 – Lydia Chlamydia	KJ Leuthauser
Drag Queen 2 – Kitty Kitty Meow	Nathan Smedley
Cody Brewer	Michael Bajor
Gunman	Shane Morrisun
Bartender Drew	Jason Ruffoni
Kid Dynamo / Kyle Donovan	Chase Cortese
Ace	Sam J. Jones
Spade	Joseph Culp
Lucy Donovan	Josie Hawkes
Young Kyle Donovan	Jagger Woolstenhulme
Omen (Male Persona)	Robert Picardo
City Councilwoman	Jane Doe
Infectia – Protégé of The Council	Tempast Wulf
Mercha – Protégé of The Council	Abraham Justice
Summit Chairman	John Henry (Jay) Richardson
Dr. Wong	Lily Patel
Dr. Anthony	John Lambertson
Dr. Ukanda	Clynell Jackson
Dr. Scott	Cie Allman
Metal Master	John Venturini
Ace Body Double	David Turner
Spade Body Double	Justin Vancho
Sentry (Omen stand in)	Chris Spinelli
Omen Body Double	Anthony Ray Morales
Mortrigard	Tim Russ
Mortrigard Body Double	Jordan Michael
Dark Huntress	Jamie Knight Mason
Knight Seeker	Eric Cooper

## CAST Continued



Voice of COMPASS  
Ace Redfire  
Understudy for Cody Brewer  
Professor Ronald Richards  
Young Man  
Dawn  
Blackout

Andy Mangels  
Michael Mason  
Shane Dorriz  
Robert Hurt  
Joey Bourgeois  
Victoria Amber  
Michelle Bernard

## CORE CREW



Executive Producer  
Directors

Director, Principal Unit  
Producer  
Associate Producers

Casting Director  
Director of Photography  
Production Designer  
Editor  
Post-Production Supervisor and Assistant Editor  
Original Music Composed and Mixed by  
Music Supervisor  
Sound Design by  
Visual Effects

Visual Effect Supervisor  
Additional footage by  
Music selections courtesy of  
Additional sound effects by

Screenplay

Additional Dialogue by

Vincent J. Roth  
Mario DeAngelis  
Vincent J. Roth  
Jeff Rector  
Vincent J. Roth  
Mario DeAngelis  
Jeff Rector  
James Ward  
Jeff Rector  
William Greenberg  
Mark Fenlason  
Kinetic Video Productions, LLC  
Devin Hamilton  
Penka Kouneva  
Vincent J. Roth  
Bill Corkery Productions  
BFX Imageworks  
Charlie X  
Steven D'Alo  
Jason Falasco  
Kinetic Video Productions, LLC  
Vincent J. Roth  
Vimeo  
Artlist.io  
FREESOUND.ORG  
Matias Romero  
Timbre  
Dr. Zhnn  
JGR Zinich  
Pitched Senses  
Nacht Mahr TV  
Blake Casselman  
Vincent J. Roth  
Enoch Scott





Story by

Vincent J. Roth  
Mario DeAngelis  
James Ward  
Jordan Michael  
John Lyons  
Enoch Scott  
Michael Hicks  
Jeff Hall

Special Consultant to Executive Producer  
Creative Consultants

James Ward  
Russel Stepan  
Gary Ahmed

Director of Pre-Production  
Pre-Production Planning for Cinematography  
Custom Leather Jacket for Grok by Ryder Gear, LLC  
Specialty Masks for Kid Dynamo  
Custom Surge Emblem Earring for Surge

Tony Bracalente  
Chris Hanson  
Diamonds Forever  
Terry Grossman  
David Tapia

Specialty Props for Janus  
Custom Wigs

Alexandria Sanders  
Richard Hernandez

Script Supervisor  
Art Department Lead

Joe Phillips  
Enoch Scott

Master Artist  
Concept art for Kid Dynamo, Falling Apple and Grok

Joe Anderson, ClickOnPC  
Mike Michalik, Cirrus9

Web Design

Kostedt Design & Marketing  
John Venturini

Web Host Provider

Natalie Larimer

Graphic Designer

Ardagnas Tax & Bookkeeping

Office Administrator / Paralegal

Law Offices of Vincent J. Roth, Esq.

Administrative Assistant

Supple-Merrill & Driscoll, Inc.

Accounting Services

Legal Counsel

Insurance



## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS



### **VINCENT J. ROTH** (Executive Producer / Producer)

Apart from his penchant for the superhero genre, Vincent is a business attorney with a big creative side expressed in writing scripts, designing costumes, making props, acting, and managing all aspects of film production and distribution including SAG productions. Since 2004, he has applied his business acumen and creativity to the entertainment industry through Surge of Power Enterprises. Vincent managed 125 cast and crew, including 20 celebrities, to produce and distribute our first feature film, *Surge of Power: The Stuff of Heroes*, which enjoyed a limited theatrical release, home video, DVD and streaming distribution. He ambitiously managed 271 cast and crew, including 50 stars, to bring our anticipated sequel to the big screen, *Surge of Power: Revenge of the Sequel*, which also enjoyed a limited theatrical release followed by distribution in 2018.

Vincent has continued to expand the star-studded Surge of Power universe with the *Surge of Dawn* and *Doctor Who Tribute* films and ongoing web programs, *Big City Chronicles* and *Code of Heroes*, with dozens more celebrities joining the Surge of Power family. With the help of 250 cast and crew, Vincent is proud to present *Surge of Power: Where There's Smoke* bringing even more of his creations to life.

### **MARIO DEANGELIS** (Director)

Mario has been a producer, director and cinematographer since 2001 out of Salt Lake City. Mario's experience has come from years of producing feature films, music videos, short films and commercials, particularly three feature length documentaries about SWAG. He has been a film instructor at East Hollywood High School, Broadview Entertainment Arts University and Salt Lake Community College. Mario currently makes film projects under the production company Tiny Giant Pictures and will have multiple world premieres in 2024. Mario wore several hats on *Surge of Power: Revenge of the Sequel* including director of photography, sound, gaffer and post-production supervisor. Mario stepped up even further on *Where There's Smoke* as the director and produced on some of the production, also shot some of the film during pick up shoots to help us complete our best Surge of Power movie yet.

### **JEFF RECTOR** (Director, LA Unit; Casting Director; Associate Producer)

Jeff Rector is an award-winning writer, director, producer, and working actor that has appeared in over 150 hit television shows, feature films, and commercials. As a communications major, Jeff honed his talent as a writer, director, producer, and editor of his own video productions, which now serves him as a multi award-winning filmmaker. Jeff produced and Hosted *SFN: Science Fiction News*, a popular news/entertainment series on PBS which led to producing and hosting his own Podcast, *Out There* with Jeff Rector. Jeff is also a proud member of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

## **PENKA KOUNEVA** (Music Composer)

Penka Kouneva is a composer of “exquisite talent” (NPR) who began her career in film and television in 2000. She had a big break scoring video games as a co-composer for Steve Jablonsky on *Prince of Persia*, *Transformers*, *Gears of War 2, 3* games. Penka has released two award-winning orchestral albums, *The Woman Astronaut* (on Universal Music Group) and *A Warrior’s Odyssey* (on Sumthing Else) which have received 5-star national press (“luminous, original, innovative, groundbreaking, fantastic.”) Classically trained, Penka was born and raised in Bulgaria, and is a winner of Sundance Composers Lab, Game Audio Recognition Award and many other awards. Her most recent scoring was for the US Astronaut Hall of Fame exhibit complex at the Kennedy Space Center. Her indie feature credits include the breakout films for Chloe Moretz (*The Third Nail*) and Josh Duhamel (*Dorian Gray*), the cult horror film *Midnight Movie* and *Surge of Power: Revenge of the Sequel*. Penka was also the first woman Lead Orchestrator (since Shirley Walker) on studio blockbusters and biggest game franchises (*Ninja Turtles 2*, *Elysium*, *Ender’s Game*; *Overwatch*, *World of Warcraft*, *StarCraft II*, *Sims*).

## **KISHMERE ALI CARTER** (Costumer / Seamster)

Kish’s mother, Oloerua Bebbie Dozier, was a costumer for theatre. His father, Roger Lee Carter, was a record label owner and music producer. Kish began sewing at 8 years old, attended art and sewing programs throughout childhood, and went to the prestigious Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City on a scholarship. While in college, he was a fashion fit model for many small designer clothing brands. Kish interned for many designers who worked for Diesel jeans, the Lion King, the Grammys and Tommy Hilfiger. In 2000, Kish got the opportunity of a life time to design clothing for band members of Prince. Kish designed and sewn clothing for WWE, NBA stars, ABC television, Foundation for a Better Life commercials, NIKE, The Bill Gates Foundation, Disney, Flava Flav, Danny Trejo and others. Kish won 8 design awards in New York, LA, Utah and other cities. Kish works in music videos, movies, commercials, ballroom, theatre, ballet and is currently designing clothing for touring music bands.

## **BFX IMAGEWORKS** (Visual Effects Designers)

Founded in 2001, BFX Imageworks provides Big Look, high-quality special visual effects solutions for Producers who are coping with today’s budgets that continue to tighten. From full-blown creature effects to rig removals, from web series to indie films, from book trailers to features, our scalable services mean that no project is too big or too small. BFX Imageworks won the prestigious Telly Award in the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Telly Awards Competition and the Award Of Excellence in the 2004 Videographer Awards. One of the owners of BFX Imageworks is a member of the Television Academy in the Special Visual Effects Peer Group and the Visual Effects Society. BFX Imageworks has a long list of satisfied, repeat clients!

## **CHARLIE X** (Visual Effects Designer)

Charlie X studied visual effects design at UCLA, AFI and landed a VFX internship on *Star Trek: The Next Generation* and *Deep Space Nine*. He then joined Flat Earth Productions doing wire removal and then 2D compositing for the television shows *Hercules: The Legendary Journeys*, *Xena: Warrior Princess*, and *Time Cop*. He likes zapping and blowing things up and continued with feature films such as *Dungeons & Dragons*, *Mr. Deeds*, *Spider-Man 2*, *Behind Enemy Lines*, *Scary Movie 2* and *S.W.A.T.* He then decided to enhance his skills in production, cinematography, editorial and authoring digital media. Charlie X later came onboard with the cool kids on a fun project called *Surge of Power: Revenge of the Sequel*, giving his assigned shots a sense of over-the-top flare and comic book humor in the Surge multi-verse. He fully supports what Surge represents within the LBGTO community and how Surge is a warning to all those diabolical villains still at large.



**STEVEN D'ALO** (Visual Effects Designer)

As a graduate from California State University, Long Beach, Steven D'Alo has demonstrated a wealth of experience through his work at Trailer Park (One of the industry's top advertising agencies), Comen VFX, and Osiris Entertainment. His experience in cinematography, advertising, visual effects, post-production, and distribution have proven to be an asset. He has earned credits in such films as *Gods Of Egypt*, *Hot Pursuit*, and *Twice The Dream*.

**JASON FALASCO** (Visual Effects Designer)

Jason Falasco is a director and cinematographer who studied at the Art Institute in Salt Lake City, Utah. Jason has been working in the independent film world since 2009 and made his directorial debut with the feature length film *Friend Request* in 2012. He is also an accomplished photographer, having his photos published in such magazines as Train and FINE.

**DEVIN HAMILTON** (Editor)

Devin Hamilton was born in Charlotte, NC and attended film school at UNC-Greensboro. His passion for film and entertainment led him to work in video stores and distribution and Redbox until he got his break to make movies. With Full Moon Pictures, he wrote and directed three horror movies. In addition, he has been doing post-production work for Hallmark, Lifetime, Tubi and other streaming networks. In the LGBT space, he directed *Shut Up and Kiss Me* and has been contacted by many people over the years as that film had helped them to accept themselves.

# OMEN



Nichelle Nichols (1932-2022) has been playing Omen in the Surge of Power movies since 2004. She appears in all Surge of Power projects. While she has an iconic legacy as Lt. Uhura in the Star Trek franchise, she now has two decades in her superhero persona as the mysterious and magical Omen.

Nichelle was always a delight on set, gracious to the crew and other cast members and happy to be part of our projects. Just as she was pioneering in her Uhura role on the bridge of the Enterprise as a black woman respected on the ship's crew, Nichelle appreciated our endeavor to bring cinema's first out gay superhero to the big screen, hence her continuing to reprise her role as Omen with us.

Please enjoy a posthumous performance by Nichelle Nichols in *Surge of Power: Where There's Smoke*. Despite her passing, Nichelle will appear again as Omen one more time in our next adventure.

## INDIE HERO-VERSE

While we have our own Surge of Power characters, we welcomed other independent creators to link their universes with ours, creating a cinematic "Indie Hero-Verse, which began in *Surge of Power: Revenge of the Sequel*, when Nichelle's Omen viewed other potential "champions": Knight Seeker from Seeker Entertainment, The Smoke from XMoore Studios, Photon from Alpha Dog Productions, and Pink Hammer from Baker Comics.



We took our next big step with the crossover event, *Surge of Dawn*, where the magical vampire, Dawn, from the award-winning web series, *Alex Fernandez's Dawn* by Pajarito Productions, joins MAVIS and Surge to fight another protégé of The Council, crossing many characters from Pajarito Productions into the Surge of Power world.

We further our Indie Hero-Verse in *Where There's Smoke* with The Smoke returning, a cameo from Knight Seeker, and characters joining from the Cinemason *WhiteFire* universe – Dark Huntress and Ace Redfire.



## A LITTLE ABOUT OUR PREVIOUS MOVIES



### SURGE OF POWER: THE STUFF OF HEROES

- Light-hearted, all-ages superhero comedy that spoofs the superhero genre
- Cinema's first out gay superhero!
- Feature film (85 minutes) shot on 35mm film wide screen cinemascope
- SAG signatory (low budget)
- Rated PG-13
- **20 celebrities** from the sci-fi, genre: Nichelle Nichols (*Uhura* from Star Trek), Lou Ferrigno (*The Incredible Hulk*), Noel Neill (Lois Lane, *Adventures of Superman*) and many more.
- Screened at film festivals and comic conventions 2004-2005
- Limited theatrical release 2006; home video/DVD release 2006-2009



### SURGE OF POWER: REVENGE OF THE SEQUEL

- Similar light-hearted, all-ages humor as the first movie
- Feature film (running time 90 minutes). High Definition (1080p)
- SAG signatory (low budget)
- Rated PG-13
- **50 celebrities in the sequel!**
- Screened at film festivals and comic conventions 2016-2017 and **won 4 awards!** ▪ Best Comedy ▪ Best Villain ▪ Best Special Effects ▪ Most Inspirational Lead Character
- Distributed by Indie Rights Movies;
- Released January 2018 with limited theatrical release, then home video and streaming.



### SURGE OF DAWN

- Crossover Event with award-winning web series, "Alex Fernandez's Dawn"
- Short film (running time 45 minutes). Shot in 4K
- **Multiple celebrities** from the sci-fi, genre returning: Nichelle Nichols (*Uhura* from Star Trek), Lou Ferrigno (*The Incredible Hulk*), Joseph Culp (*Doctor Doom* from Roger Corman's "Fantastic Four") and more.
- Screened at film festivals and comic conventions 2019-2022 and **won an award for Best Visual Effects!**



### SURGE OF POWER: DOCTOR WHO TRIBUTE

- Parody celebrating over 50 years of the Doctor Who television show
- Short film (running time 29 minutes). High Definition (1080p)
- **30 Doctor Who actors!**
- Screened at comic conventions 2018-2023
- Released November 2022



LOOK AT ALL THIS FUN...

