



#BLACK DRAGON RISING

A FILM BY KING BAU

A music film. A visual album. A modern mythology.

#BlackDragonRising is a 20-minute cinematic work built around five original King Bau songs. A silent man in white crosses a fractured world shaped by greed, surveillance, institutional violence, exploitation and indifference. As humanity forgets its shared identity, an ancient Black Dragon awakens - not as a superhero or simple villain, but as a force of consequence sent to restore the balance the world has abandoned.

FORMAT	Music film / visual album / experimental fantasy
RUNTIME	20 minutes, 42 seconds
ORIGIN	United States · 2026 · English
PICTURE	1920 × 1080 · 16:9 · Color · 60 fps
SOUND	Stereo AAC · five original songs written and performed by King Bau
AVAILABILITY	Festival exhibition, distribution, platform licensing, soundtrack sync and select promotional partnerships

LOGLINE

When a silent divine observer witnesses a civilization consumed by greed, violence, surveillance and indifference, the Black Dragon rises - not to save humanity, but to restore the balance it has forgotten.

Art imitates life - until life begins to resemble the art.

In #BlackDragonRising, a silent man in white moves through a civilization that has forgotten the idea of balance. Around him, power expresses itself in grotesque and familiar forms: a doctor turns human suffering into profit; an insulated man in pink discovers that privilege cannot protect him from consequence; a CPS authority abuses the people she is meant to serve; soldiers fire on innocent civilians; and police mistake mercy for a crime.

Above them, an ancient Black Dragon watches. It is not a superhero seeking praise, nor a conventional villain seeking destruction. It is a force that exists to keep balance. The longer humanity normalizes greed, surveillance, war, exploitation, distraction and indifference, the closer that force comes to intervening.

Built around five original songs written and performed by King Bau, the film moves through music as if through chapters. Sound does not merely accompany the story; it directs its rhythm, imagery and emotional progression. The result is part short film, part music video, part visual album and part dark modern parable.



The Black Dragon rises behind the Ancient - a force of consequence rather than a conventional hero or villain.



THE FILMMAKER

King Bau

Joel Robert Bauman, known artistically as King Bau, is an independent recording artist, filmmaker, composer and visual storyteller working at the intersection of music, mythology and emerging technology.

His work uses original songs as narrative architecture, building cinematic worlds in which sound directs image and philosophical questions become character and spectacle.

#BlackDragonRising - written, directed, edited and scored by Bau - is his most ambitious visual project to date: a 20-minute music film and visual album built around five original compositions. He is also the creative force behind 432Tune, a music platform centered on intentional listening and frequency-conscious presentation.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

What if gods did not exist to be worshipped, but simply existed to keep balance?

I built the film around five of my own songs. The music is not background; it is the narrative architecture. Each song opens a new movement in the story - creation, observation, corruption, judgment and balance - and the images follow the emotional logic of the music.

While making the film, I kept watching fiction and reality overlap. Images conceived as warnings began to resemble headlines. I used generative filmmaking tools to create a world unconstrained by traditional production limits, but every shot, sequence, musical transition and thematic choice was directed through a single human perspective. The technology made the scale possible; the intention, music and final meaning remain deeply personal.

- King Bau

One vision across music, image and edit.

CREATED BY	King Bau
DIRECTED BY	King Bau
WRITTEN BY	King Bau
PRODUCED BY	King Bau
EDITED BY	King Bau
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY	King Bau
SONGS WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY	King Bau
VISUAL DIRECTION AND GENERATIVE FILMMAKING	King Bau

GENERATIVE FILMMAKING DISCLOSURE

Generative AI was used to design and synthesize the film's visual footage. Higgsfield was used for principal shot generation, animation and visual iteration. OpenAI image generation supported concept and reference-image development and creation of the festival poster. King Bau performed the human direction, prompt development, shot selection, sequencing, editorial, pacing, titles and final audio assembly in Final Cut Pro.

The score consists of five original songs written and performed by King Bau. The film's use of generative tools is presented transparently as part of its production method - not as a substitute for authorship, editorial control or artistic intent.

CONTENT NOTE

Stylized violence, images of war and law-enforcement conflict, and mature themes involving corruption, exploitation and social control.

A fractured world observed.



THE DOCTOR



THE DOCTOR'S CELEBRATION



MERCY



SURVEILLANCE

A fractured world observed.



POLICE CONFRONTATION



CIVILIAN IN THE CROSSHAIRS



ISLAND REVEAL



THE BLACK DRAGON RISES

A finished world with room to travel.

#BlackDragonRising is available for conversations concerning festival exhibition, digital distribution, platform licensing, international sales, soundtrack and music synchronization, curated screenings, brand-safe excerpts and select promotional partnerships.

Available materials include the 20:42 horizontal master, a captionless festival screener, a subtitled vertical social edition, poster and key art, high-resolution stills, filmmaker biography, director statement, production notes and this press kit. A theatrical DCP can be commissioned when a confirmed screening requires one.

VIEW & CONNECT

blackdragonrising.com

[FilmFreeway project](#) · [King Bau on YouTube](#) · [432Tune.App](#)

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