



Take a revealing look at the search for paradise in America with the lyrical new feature motion picture

# *Sleeping Pills*

Within America's suburbs, the search for paradise takes an unnerving detour through the jammed intersection where love and life collide. One man pursues cutting-edge solutions to modern gridlock, while trying to resolve the human side of the equation. Yet his identity and sense of community are tested in the process.

In his pivotal position at a futuristic civil engineering firm, Tarika Knight seems right at home with jigsaw puzzle design theory. But his boss Charlotte cannot see that his competence belies a displacement from typical patterns of life and love -- drawing him into a misfit cult of perpetual adolescence. Are they the substitute for the family he never had? Will his romantic pursuits jeopardize his career?

Tarika rides the electric rail between the sense of security he needs and the freedom he both craves and dreads.

*Sleeping Pills* is a portrait of America that is both familiar and surreal. A prophetic testament to the readily disposable landmarks of our cities, *Sleeping Pills* is set among building which in less than a few decades have become ancient relics. Is our cardboard dream-city destined to be tomorrow's ghetto?

The characters' discussion of 'ephemeral architecture' is poignant since the majority of buildings and locations seen in the film are now gone -- demolished or otherwise erased from the landscape - making *Sleeping Pills* a historical document of quickly vanishing Americana.

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
**CAIRO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**

## *Sleeping Pills*

(USA, 2003, Color, 35mm, 85 minutes)



STARRING:  
JONATHAN CHALKER  
MELISSA LONDON  
LEA DOWNEY

DIRECTED BY:  
MICHAEL LAUTER