

-US Narrative Competition-

# **WORLD PREMIERE**





# A PSYCHOSEXUAL BLACK COMEDY

# **Press Contacts:**

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Narrative Feature – USA/FRANCE - 2017 83 Minutes - HD - COLOR

#### LOGLINE

While on layover in Paris, a grieving American flight attendant has a rendezvous with a seedy nightclub bartender and becomes tangled in a web of miscommunication, masochism, and unrequited amour fou.

#### SHORT SYNOPSIS

Alone and depressed after the suicide of her lover, American flight attendant Gina (Lindsay Burdge, A TEACHER) travels to Paris and hooks up with nightclub bartender Jerome (Damien Bonnard, STAYING VERTICAL) on her layover. But as Gina falls deeper into lust and opts to stay in France, this harmless rendezvous quickly turns into unrequited amour fou. When Jerome's ex Clémence (Esther Garrel) reenters the picture, Gina is sent on a downward spiral of miscommunication, masochism, and madness. Inspired by European erotic dramas from the 70's, THIRST STREET burrows deep into the delirious extremes we go to for love.

### **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

THIRST STREET brings together two of my longest-standing, most nagging obsessions: France and Don Quixote. I spent my junior year of high school as an exchange student in France, in a foolish attempt to live out my dream of being a French poet. I realized within days that I wasn't French (and never would be) and that poetry wasn't for me, but nearly two decades later, I still find myself just as obsessed with the place. Our protagonist Gina is my Quixote, unflinching in her quest to find that most important (and ridiculous) thing: love.

The emotions of THIRST STREET are just as hysterical as those in my last few movies, but the style here is much more fluid and deliberate, with surreal lighting increasingly threatening to devour the picture. Instead of the chaos of an ensemble cast, we zoom slowly in on the chaos of one character's mind. Some of my biggest inspirations — like Borowczyk and Zulawski — were outsiders drawn to Paris to tell perverse stories of amour fou — I felt I had to do just that.

### **CAST**

Gina Lindsay BURDGE
Jérôme / Paul Damien BONNARD
Clémence Esther GARREL

Charlie Lola BESSIS

Franz Jacques NOLOT
Landlady Françoise LEBRUN
Lorraine Cindy SILVER
Faye Valerie LAURY

Sophie Alice DE LENCQUESAING

The Bum Christian CHAUSSEX
Tarot Card Reader Abella BATIENKO

Female Bartender Gaëlle MALANDRONE

Waitress Lubna PLAYOUST Micky Zoé PHILIPPOT

Ginger Laure HENNEQUART-TURNER

Nadia Nadia MOUSSA
Shuttle Driver Beatrice MICHEL
Taxi Driver Sofiane TIGRINE
Doctor 1 Isabelle UNGARO
Doctor 2 Jacques SIBONI

Hospital Desk Clerk
Bridal Store Clerk
Hotel Clerk
Hotel Supervisor
Countryside Hotel Waiter
Camille NOGUES
Christophe FAVRE
Christophe R. TEK
Harvey L. SILVER
Manuel HUSSON

Bouncer Adama SARR Karaoke DJ Alexis MANENTI

Jérôme's Friend 1 Ayana FUENTES UNO Jérôme's Friend 2 Christophe REVEILLE

The Pharmacist Diane LANYI
Narrator Anjelica HUSTON

#### **CREW**

Directed by Nathan SILVER

Written by Nathan SILVER and C. Mason WELLS

Produced by

IN VIVO FILMS
Louise BELLICAUD
Claire CHARLES-GERVAIS

INDUSTRY STANDARD FILMS

Josh MANDEL

MAUDIT C. Mason WELLS

PAPERMOON FILMS
Ruben AMAR

WASHINGTON SQUARE FILMS
Katie STERN
Joshua BLUM

YELLOW BEAR FILMS Matthew ELLISON

TTM FILMS
David SOLAL
Elsa LEEB

THE THIRD GENERATION
Jordan GOLDNADEL

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Executive Producers
Jason DREYER
Todd REMIS
David MOSCOW
Armin TEHRANY
Valerie TEHRANY
Andrew MORRISON

Co-Executive Producer
Diane LANYI

Co-Producer Matthew SMAGLIK

Associate Producers
Vincent CHARLES-GERVAIS

SOLAB PICTURES Edouard CHASSAING Romain CHASSAING Nicolas TIRY

Director of Photography Sean Price WILLIAMS

Production Designer Anna BRUN

Costume Designer Camille NOGUES

Editors
Hugo LEMANT and John MAGARY

Sound Design and Re-Recording Engineer Arjun G. SHETH

Music Supervisors
Melissa CHAPMAN & Annie PEARLMAN

Original Score by Paul GRIMSTAD

Color Correction
Stewart GRIFFIN / FINAL FRAME

Graphic Design GARY CHAN

Title Design Teddy BLANKS / CHIPS

#### **CAST BIOS**

# Lindsay BURDGE – GINA

Ms. Burdge studied acting at NYU and the Strasberg Institute before making her film debut in Ben Dickinson's FIRST WINTER. Recently, Lindsay starred opposite Melanie Lynskey in XX, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival 2017. XX has the unique distinction of being the first horror anthology directed by 4 female filmmakers. Lindsay also starred with Peter Vack in director Harrison Atkins' film LACE CRATER, Miguel Arteta's DUCK BUTTER, and in Karyn Kusama's dinner party ensemble THE INVITATION. Lindsay is best known for her breakthrough performance in the Hannah Fidell film, A TEACHER, which premiered in the NEXT section at the Sundance Film Festival and screened at the SXSW Film Festival. Lindsay's performance was highlighted by both IndieWire and Verge Magazine as one of "10 Actors to Watch in Park City." Lindsay has also worked on the other side of the camera as well, as both a producer and casting director on festival favorites such as GIMME THE LOOT and LILY.

### Damien BONNARD – JÉRÔME

Damien Bonnard is a Cesar-nominated French actor known for his starring performance in Alain Guiraudie's STAYING VERTICAL, which premiered in official competition in Cannes in 2016. He received the "Most Promising Actor" award at Les Prix Lumières. Before acting Damien studied art at l'Ecole Nationale des Beaux Arts. While doing theater in Paris, he started acting in short films. Soon after he started appearing in feature films directed by Bertrand Blier (THE CLINK OF ICE), Virgil Vernier (MERCURIALES), Brigitte Sy (L'ASTRAGALE), Delphine and Muriel Coulin (THE STOPOVER), and Sylvain Desclous (VENDEUR). He also acted in Fred Scotland's TV show LOIN DE CHEZ NOUS. Damien is the lead male character in Nathan Silver's movie THIRST STREET and will also seen be soon in Pierre Salvadori's REMISE DE PEINE, Roman Polanski's upcoming film, FJ Ossang's 9 DOIGTS and Christopher Nolan's DUNKIRK.

### Esther GARREL - CLÉMENCE

Esther Garrel comes from a cinema family: she's the daughter of director Philippe Garrel and actress and director Brigitte Sy, and the sister of the actor Louis Garrel. After studying acting at the Conservatoire de Paris, she acted in her brother's short film LOUIS in 2008. That same year she was cast by Christophe Honoré to play alongside Lea Seydoux in THE BEAUTIFUL PERSON. In 2011 she acted in Bertrand Bonello's HOUSE OF TOLERANCE, the Moulin sisters' 17 GIRLS, Noémie Lovsky's CAMILLE REWINDS and Valérie Donzeli's MARGUERITE AND JULIEN. In 2013, she acted in LA JALOUSIE directed by Philippe Garrel and L'ASTRAGALE directed by Brigitte Sy. In 2017, she can be seen in Philippe Garrel's latest movie L'AMANT D'UN JOUR, Luca Guadagnino's CALL ME BY YOUR NAME and Nathan Silver's THIRST STREET.

#### Lola BESSIS - CHARLIE

At age 12, Lola was street cast to play the lead in a short film. At 14, she directed and starred in her first short film. A few years later, while studying acting and filmmaking, Lola wrote and produced the award-winning short film CHECKPOINT.

At the young age of 21, she wrote, directed and starred in her first feature film, SWIM LITTLE FISH SWIM, which would soon become an indie hit in France. This success brought Lola a great deal of media attention and exciting acting opportunities. According to The Hollywood Reporter, "Bessis has a natural screen presence," and Interview Magazine featured her in their top 15 most promising Hollywood actors in 2016. Lola then starred in numerous French films and TV shows. Her upcoming projects include Nathan Silver's THIRST STREET, Ruben Amar's next project and a role lead in Australia TV series PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK alongside GAME OF THRONES star Natalie Dormer. On top of this, she is about to direct her second feature film in Los Angeles. She lives between Paris and Los Angeles.

### Jacques NOLOT – FRANZ

Jacques Nolot is a French actor, screenwriter and film director. In the 1980s and 1990s Nolot took small roles in some of Téchiné's films beginning with HÔTEL DES AMÉRIQUES (1981. He performed in many other films including LONG LIVE LIFE (1984), SCENE OF THE CRIME(1986), LES INNOCENTS(1987) and NENETTE AND BONI (1996). As an actor, he is best remembered for his role as Charlotte Rampling's lover in François Ozon UNDER THE SAND (2000). In 1986, Nolot wrote, directed, and acted in the short film MANÈGE that would be the genesis for his later feature film PORN THEATER (2002). He wrote and starred in a second short: LE CAFÉ DE JULES (1989), directed by Paul Vecchiali. Nolot made his first feature film HINTERLAND (1998). Nolot's second film PORN THEATER screened in the Un Certain Regard section at the 2002 Cannes Film Festival.

# Françoise LEBRUN – THE LANDLADY

Françoise Lebrun is a French actress. She has appeared in many movies, best known for her role as Veronika in Jean Eustache's THE MOTHER AND THE WHORE (1973). She has also acted for, amongst others, Paul Vecchiali, Marguerite Duras and Lucas Belvaux, and is the subject of the documentary FRANÇOISE LEBRUN, LES VOIES SINGULIÈRES (2008). In a Variety review of the 2004 Vecchiali film A VOT' BON COEUR, Lisa Nesselson called her "a supreme master of the sustained monologue."

#### Cindy SILVER - LORRAINE

Cindy Silver, proud mother of Nathan Silver, has appeared in several of his films, including the role of Carla in UNCERTAIN TERMS, Cindy in EXIT ELENA, and as herself in the short film RIOT.

### Valerie LAURY - FAYE

After having the privileged experience of rehabilitating burn survivors, Valerie started her acting career. She completed the program at William Esper studio and studied improv at UCB. She has gone on to book numerous national commercials and PSA's. Her PSA on gun control was viewed by over 3 million people and was endorsed by Michael Bloomberg and Julianne Moore. In addition to her supporting role in THIRST STREET premiering at TriBeCa, she can be seen in the ACCIDENTAL WOLF TV series staring Keli O'Hara. She is currently in preproduction on an upcoming series where she will be seen playing the role of the US Attorney General. She continues her studies at the Studio with Brad Calcaterra and works with her mentor Richard Kline. She is repped by UGA talent and her manager

Jenevieve Brewer. She would like to thank her husband and family/dog for their continued support.

#### Alice DE LENCQUESAING - SOPHIE

Alice studied modern literature at the Sorbonne. She's been seen in movies such as Mia Hansen-Love's THE FATHER OF MY CHILDREN, Maïwenn's POLISSE, François Ozon's FRANTZ and Katell Quillévéré's HEAL THE LIVING. She currently has a role in a play in Paris and is co-writing and co-directing a play with Inès Loizillon.

# Anjelica HUSTON – NARRATOR

Academy Award-winning actress and director, Anjelica Huston continues her renowned family's legacy in film, which began with her grandfather, Walter Huston and her father, John Huston. Throughout her career, Huston has received a multitude of awards for her work, including many honors from the National Society of Film Critics, two Independent Spirit Awards, the Los Angeles and New York Film Critics Awards and an honor from Women in Film. Huston received a Best Supporting Actress Oscar® for her role as Maerose Prizzi in the black comedy PRIZZI'S HONOR, in which she starred opposite Jack Nicholson and Kathleen Turner. In 2005, Huston received a Golden Globe Award® for her role in HBO's original movie IRON JAWED ANGELS, in which she starred opposite Hilary Swank and Julia Ormond. Other film credits include memorable turns in Summit's feature film 50/50, alongside Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Bryce Dallas Howard, and Seth Rogen as well as Wes Anderson's THE DARJEELING LIMITED, THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU and THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS. Additional credits include Frances Ford Coppola's GARDENS OF STONE, Woody Allen's MANHATTAN MUR-DER MYSTERY and CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS, Paul Mazursky's ENEMIES: A LOVE STORY, Nic Roeg's THE WITCHES, Stephen Frears' THE GRIFTERS, Barry Sonnenfeld's ADDAMS FAMILY and ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES, Mira Nair's THE PEREZ FAMILY, Sean Penn's THE CROSSING GUARD, Vincent Gallo's BUFFALO '66, Andy Tennant's EVER AFTER, and Clark Gregg's CHOKE. Huston continues to voice the role of Queen Clarion in Disney's TINKER BELL franchise. She also collaborated with her director/father on his final film, THE DEAD. Huston can next be seen in the independent film TROUBLE opposite Bill Pullman and David Morse, written and directed by Theresa Rebeck. Huston also executive produced the film. She currently appears in season 3 of Amazon's acclaimed series TRANSPARENT.

#### **CREW BIOS**

#### Nathan SILVER - Director/Co-Writer

Nathan Silver graduated from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in 2005. Since then, the filmmaker has written and directed four short films and eight feature films: THE BLIND (2009), EXIT ELENA (2012), SOFT IN THE HEAD (2013), UNCERTAIN TERMS (2014), STINKING HEAVEN (2015), ACTOR MARTINEZ (2016, co-directed with Mike Ott), THIRST STREET (2017) and THE PERVERT (2017, co-directed with Jack Dunphy). His films have played festivals and venues around the world, including New York Film Festival, Tribeca, Mar del Plata, AFI, Locarno, Rotterdam, Viennale, MoMA and the Cineteca Nacional, Mexico. The New Yorker recently called Silver "a modernistic master of melodrama," and The New York Times did a profile on him.

#### C. Mason WELLS – Producer/Co-Writer

C. Mason Wells is a film writer, producer, and the Director of Repertory Programming for Manhattan's revitalized Quad Cinema. He was called "one of NYC's best programmers" by MUBI and has curated series and retrospectives for the IFC Center, Anthology Film Archives, and BAMcinematek. He has also acted in the films LOL (2006, Joe Swanberg), THE COLOR WHEEL (2009, Alex Ross Perry), and FOURTEEN (2018, Dan Sallitt), produced Gina Telaroli's HERE'S TO THE FUTURE! (Migrating Forms 2015), and directed the short film JUDY JUDY JUDY (BAMcinemaFest 2015). Alongside his production partner Nathan Silver, he produced the forthcoming TWO PLAINS & A FANCY (2017, Lev Kalman & Whitney Horn). He graduated magna cum laude from Columbia University and lives in Brooklyn.

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#### PRODUCERS (in alphabetical order):

### Ruben AMAR (PaperMoon Films)

Ruben Amar is a multi-award movie screenwriter, director and producer. He is best known for the independent feature film SWIM LITTLE FISH SWIM and his two last short films CHECKPOINT and A GIRL LIKE YOU WITH A BOY LIKE ME. After attending business school and spending a few years within flourishing digital startups and television production companies, Ruben quickly returned to his first love: the cinema. This lead him to attend intensive filmmaking workshops in London. Between 2007 and 2011, he directed several short films, shot in Paris, London, New York and on the Israeli-Palestinian border. These films were crowned with success in more than 300 renowned international festivals including SXSW, Tribeca, Clermont-Ferrand, Rotterdam, Palm Springs, CPH:PIX and Sao Paulo. In 2014, he released his first feature film, SWIM LITTLE FISH SWIM, shot in New York. The film received great critical acclaim in festivals and during its subsequent public release. Ruben lives between New York, Los Angeles and Paris where he is currently developing several feature film projects.

### Louise BELLICAUD (In Vivo Films)

Louise Bellicaud graduated from the Institute of Political Science and from the Media Business School with a Post Graduate Training in European Audiovisual Management. She started her career in French film distribution in Mexico with Nueva Era Films. She then went to London to work in development and feature film financing at Future Films. Upon returning to France, she worked for four years at Sacrebleu Productions.

# Josh BLUM (Washington Square Films)

Joshua Blum is the founder and president of Washington Square Films a production and management-company with offices in New York and Los Angeles. In recent years the company's films have been nominated for four Academy Awards, two Emmy Awards (winning one), Seven Independent Spirit Awards (winning one), received two Peabody Awards, and been nominated for and won dozens of other awards and honors. WSF's films have premiered at every major film festival including Cannes, Berlin, Toronto, New York and nine at Sundance. New projects include the 2017 Sundance Competition premiers of Matt Ruskin's CROWN HEIGHTS (Sundance Audience Award) and Alex Ross Perry's GOLDEN EXITS starring Chloe Seviany, Mary Louise Parker, Jason Schwartzman, Adam Horovitz and Emily Browning. Also premiering this year is Dash Shaw's MY ENTIRE HIGH SCHOOL SINKING INTO THE SEA (Toronto, NYFF & BEerlin), and Colette Burson's PERMANENT starring Patricia Arquette and Rainn Wilson. Other recent and notable projects include JC Chandor's A MOST VIOLENT YEAR, ALL IS LOST and MARGIN CALL, Alex Ross Perry's QUEEN OF EARTH, and LISTEN UP PHILIP, Steven Soderbergh's documentary about Spalding Gray AND EVERYTHING IS GOING FINE, Emmy and Peabody Award winner BILLY STRAYHORN: LUSH LIFE, Brian Cassidy and Melanie Shatzky's FRANCINE, Kelly Reichardt's OLD JOY and WENDY AND LUCY, and the PBS series THE UNITED STATES OF POETRY. Work in development includes an historical adventure/romance film, a period musical TV series, a dramatic TV series, and a staged musical targeted for Broadway in the Spring of 2018.

# Claire CHARLES-GERVAIS (In Vivo Films)

Claire Charles Gervais graduated from EDHEC Business School and from the Media Business School with a Post Graduate Training in European Audiovisual Management. She started her career at Canal + then worked in production and acquisition for the sales agency Ondamax based in Miami. Upon returning to France, Claire worked in business affairs for Fidélité Films (the company behind Gaspar Noé, Emmanuelle Bercot, and André Téchiné's last movies) for a year in business affairs then was a CFO for the sale agency and production company Urban Distribution International / Factory for four years.

#### Matthew ELLISON (Yellow Bear Films)

Matthew is a 2014 graduate of Hamilton College and the co-founder of Yellow Bear Films. He began his career in investment banking and spent time in both NYC and Boston before transitioning into film. While THIRST STREET is Matthew's first feature, he has numerous films in post-production and several others in development. Last spring he produced THE PERVERT, directed by Jack Dunphy and Nathan Silver. Matthew also produced Thom Wyatt's GOOD PEOPLE starring Shane Coffey and Peter Vack. Later this summer he will move into production on

another collaboration with Thom Wyatt and will shoot Charlotte Glynn's THE GYMNAST next fall. Furthermore, he is financing a play with Washington Square Films and has started production on SUCCESSFUL, which he is set to direct. He currently resides in NYC.

# Josh MANDEL (Industry Standard Films)

Josh Mandel studied at UCLA's School of Theater, Film and Television and received an MFA from the Producers Program. He began his filmmaking career in music videos with artists like Eminem and Sean Paul before sequeing into features and commercials. Josh's films have screened at dozens of festivals worldwide, including The New York Film Festival, Rotterdam, Locarno, Edinburgh, London BFI, True/False and Deauville. Josh's first feature was the "Lord of the Rings" documentary, RINGERS, released worldwide by Sony Pictures. Josh produced Nathan Silver's ensemble drama, UNCERTAIN TERMS, which was released worldwide and named one of the Best Films of 2016 by outlets like The New Yorker and Indiewire. Josh produced the first two films from Humphrey Bogart's revived production company: THIS LAST LONELY PLACE which was released theatrically Summer 2016, and WHITE ORCHID, which is currently in post-production. Josh executive produced WITHOUT, which won an Independent Spirit Award and will be released theatrically in 2017. Josh recently produced NATALIE, starring Kate Dickie, premiering Summer 2017. In between films, Josh produces TV commercials and online content for Mattel, Warner Bros, Disney, Universal, Marvel, DC, Dreamworks and WWE. Josh is also a Senior Programmer at the Slamdance Film Festival. As a producer and festival programmer, Josh works year-round to support independent film.

### Katie STERN (Washington Square Films)

Katie Stern is a film and television producer from New York City. Recent projects include Alex Ross Perry's GOLDEN EXITS, which premiered at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival and 2017 Berlin International Film Festival and Nathan Silver's upcoming THIRST STREET, premiering at the 2017 Tribeca Film Festival. Other work includes: Perry's LISTEN UP PHILIP, which premiered at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival, won the Special Jury Prize at the Locarno International Film Festival, screened at the New York Film Festival and was released theatrically by Tribeca Film, Brian M. Cassidy and Melanie Shatzky's FRANCINE, starring Academy Award-winner Melissa Leo, which premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival and SXSW, was released theatrically by Factory 25, and was nominated for a 2012 Gotham Independent Film Award, and Braden King's Laurie Anderson documentary, HOMELAND: THE STORY OF THE LARK which was distributed by Nonesuch Records. Stern is an Executive Producer at Washington Square Films, where she produces films and commercials.

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# Sean Price WILLIAMS – Director of Photography

Sean Price Williams is an acclaimed New York-based cinematographer. He is known for his textured, fluid camerawork (often handheld) and a heightened attention to available light. The New Yorker film critic Richard Brody described Williams as "the cinematographer for many of the best and most significant independent films of the past decade, fiction and documentary." His filmography

includes BEETLE QUEEN CONQUERS TOKYO, FROWNLAND, LISTEN UP PHILIP, GOLDEN EXITS, and the upcoming GOOD TIME.

# Anna BRUN – Production Designer

After being a medieval historian and florist, Anna became a production designer for music videos for artists such as Drake, Taylor Swift, and Lana Del Rey. She also works on features. Her prizes include: best production designer at the UK Music Video Awards, Antville Festival, and Berlin International Film Festival. She was also nominated at the MTV music videos awards. She also helps design video installations, including one by Camille Henrot, which is now in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art in Paris.

### Camille NOGUES – Costume Designer

Camille began her career as a Fashion stylist. She then went on to publish articles in international magazines and collaborate with several artists like Woodkid and Catherine Deneuve on music videos and commercials. In 2010, she began working on narrative films and became the costume designer on several TV shows and feature films, such as MAGIE NOIRE directed by Fanny Ardant.

# PAUL GRIMSTAD - Composer

Paul Grimstad's songs and original scores have been featured in FROWNLAND, HEAVEN KNOWS WHAT, HERNIA, HAPPY CHRISTMAS, THE VANQUISHING OF THE WITCH BABA YAGA, and many other feature films and shorts. His writing on music has appeared in The Paris Review, n+1, Music and Literature, The Brooklyn Rail and The Yale Review.

#### **Hugo LEMANT – Editor**

Hugo has built a distinctive and powerful editing style through working on music videos and commercials. He has recently begun editing feature films, starting with Marie-Hélène Roux's LINKS OF LIFE and Nathan Silver's THIRST STREET.

### Arjun G. SHETH – Sound Designer / Re-Recording Engineer

Arjun G Sheth is an award winning independent production and post production mixer based in New York City. Arjun was the supervising sound editor on "The unexplained," which aired on the Biography Channel and has has worked on films that have gone on to screen in numerous film festivals, including Sundance, South By South West, Slamdance, LA Shorts, NewFest, Rotterdam, Hamptons, Woodstock, Cinequest as well as many more; GOD OF LOVE, a film Arjun helped sound design, went on to win an Oscar in 2011. As someone who works in both production and post production, Arjun helps bring a unique and far reaching perspective to his work.

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