

Annemette Andersen Claus Bue

Belinda

A Film by Maureen Payne-Hahner
Written by Fergal O'Byrne

WRITERS INNOVATIVE NETWORK PRESENTS "BELINDA" IN ASSOCIATION WITH SCANDINAVIAN STUDIOS. A FILM BY MAUREEN PAYNE-HAHNER. WRITTEN BY FERGAL O'BYRNE. STARRING ANNEMETTE ANDERSEN AS LINDA AND CLAUS BUE AS HOLGER.
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY TOBIAS HORVATH. 1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR HEINE KAAKSBERG. EDITOR JESPER BÆKDAL. PRODUCTION & WARDROBE DESIGN ALLAN FRAUSING. MAKE-UP & HAIR DESIGN NAJA JENSEN. SOUND DESIGN ALEX PAVLOVIC. POST-PRODUCTION MAGGIE WINTHER HANSEN.
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS WILLIAM PENNELL. CHRISTOPH HAHNER. ANNEMETTE ANDERSEN. MAUREEN PAYNE-HAHNER. PRODUCER ANDERS WÖLDIKE SCHMITH. DIRECTOR MAUREEN PAYNE-HAHNER.

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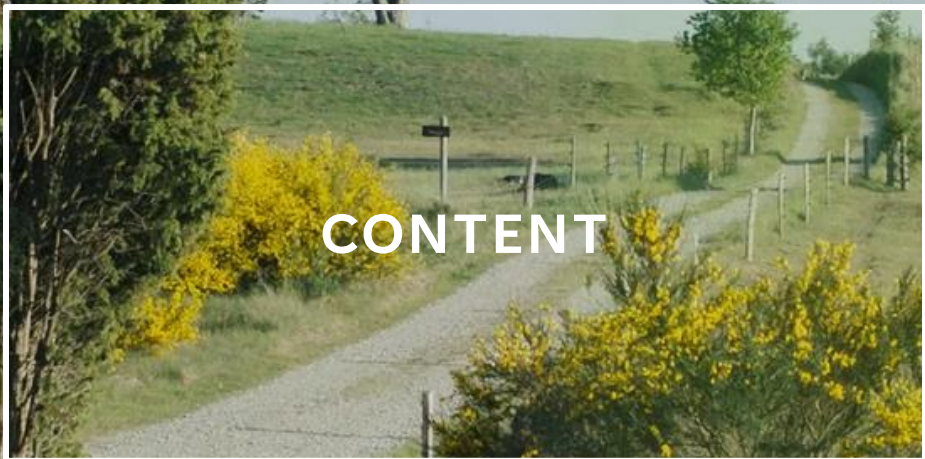


BELINDA

PRESS KIT

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Logline & Synopsis

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LOGLINE & SYNOPSIS

"A WOMAN WHO CHOOSES SINGLE MOTHERHOOD EMBARKS ON A JOURNEY TO REMOTE DENMARK SEEKING THE FATHER WHO ABANDONED HER."

BELINDA (short film): Holger is a renowned astrophysicist who has distanced himself from his relationships, and lives entirely off the grid in remote Denmark. Linda's later-life pregnancy motivates her to make the journey in order to find out whether or not he has any health issues she should be aware of for her expected child.

It becomes quickly evident that they have little to talk about, thus, the two settle on the one subject they have in common: family. They navigate the tension that arises when two people wish to understand each other better, yet their overall difference in character leads to Linda leaving without signifying that they should remain in touch. Ultimately, Holger is forced to reflect on his life's decisions.

Themes: family, loneliness, love, ego, and self-actualization.





SELECTED BIOGRAPHIES



FERGAL O'BYRNE
WRITER



MAUREEN PAYNE-HAHNER
DIRECTOR



ANNEMETTE ANDERSEN
LINDA



CLAUS BUE
HOLGER



ANDERS WØLDIKE
SCHMITH
PRODUCER



TOBIAS HORVATH
CINEMATOGRAPHER

FERGAL O'BYRNE WRITER

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Fergal O'Byrne is an award-winning writer for print, stage and screen. His recent short movie Belinda was produced by Scandinavian Films, directed by Maureen Payne-Hahner. Other award-winning short movie credits include Eyes Wide Open (2017 Silver Screen Award Nevada), Ribeye (2016 PAGE International Screenwriting Awards) and Glass Ceiling (2014 PAGE International Screenwriting Awards).

Season One of the sitcom Hipsterverse is being aired on PCEN across North America. His feature movie script, UNSAID, is currently being developed by an Irish-Danish co-production alliance to be produced in late 2024.

His short story, Sweetpea, was a winner in the Colm Tóibin International Short Story Award 2022. Standard Model was shortlisted for the FISH Publishing Award 2022 and another story Ribeye was Longlisted for the prestigious Alpine Fellowship 2020. He has twice been shortlisted for the prestigious John McGahern Award (2021 and 2022).

His previous stage work has garnered multiple awards, including; A Dragon's Tale (Eamon Keane Award Winner 2013), Folie -a-Deux (Listowel 2015), Extremophiles (Eamon Keane Award Winner 2018) . He has also written several radio plays produced by Ireland's national broadcaster, RTE.

MAUREEN PAYNE-HAHNER DIRECTOR



Maureen is an American citizen with German/EU residency status.

She began as a theatre director with a strong history of working successfully with actors and creative teams in Chicago, London, NYC, Cleveland, Vienna and Munich, Germany. During the pandemic, she successfully completed the Women's Leadership Program (2020) through the University of Oxford, Said Business School Executive Program that encouraged her transfer her then current directing skills to her most desired sector: Filmmaking and storytelling for the screen.

She founded WIN: Writers Innovative Network which seeks out writing for the screen, serving as editor and/or co-developer. Other Education includes: The Conservatory at Steppenwolf Theatre, Chicago. Yale School of Drama - Assistant Director, Columbia University New York City (Film Workshops), Core Elements, Screenwriting, Sundance Institute (2023), (2023) Sundance Institute/Collab: From Outline to First Draft Screenplay. Pro-bono work includes: Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled and Blind, Bangalore, India. Adapted and Directed touring musical (London & NYC)

She intentionally chose to shoot her first short film, BRUME (2022) in Denmark as having been long inspired by the Dogme 95 filmmaking principles. BRUME was professionally helmed through Scandinavian Studios, CPH and WIN.

BRUME secured several awards including Best First-Time Director, New York Indie Shorts Awards, live screening (World Premiere) at Cinopolis Cinemas Chelsea & Toronto Women Film Festival: <https://www.torontofilm magazine.com/post/seasonal-winners-of-toronto-women-film-fest>.

Other BRUME awards included Best Ensemble, Best Sound, and several honorable mentions. European premiere Indie Shorts Awards CANNES (2022) Olympia Cinema, Cannes. She is currently preparing for her third short film and first feature.

ANNEMETTE ANDERSEN

AS LINDA



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Annemette Andersen is a native Dane who works in theater, television, and film and lives in New York and Denmark. After graduating from the National Conservatory of Dramatic Arts in Washington, DC, she headed to New York City, where she studied with acclaimed Broadway and Tony Award winning director Vivian Matalon in his theatre master class.

She is proud to have been a longtime member of Tim Robbins's acclaimed theater company The Actors' Gang in Los Angeles, where she appeared in many productions, including *Bury the Dead*, for which she received the Garland Critics List Award for Best Actress. She has a recurring role as Trine on season 3 of the Netflix Original Series, *The Rain*. Other work on Danish television includes *Follow the Money* and *Norskov*. She is the voice of Inga Arvad, longtime romantic companion to JFK, in *Kennedy*, an eight-part documentary series, narrated by Peter Coyote, and appeared recently in the short films *BRUME* and *BELINDA*.

CLAUS BUE
AS **HOLGER**

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Claus is an esteemed Danish actor and director, originally educated at Statens Teaterskole and has, among other things, appeared in "Richard III" at Grønnegårds Teatret and "Bunbury" at the Royal Theatre. He has also directed "Familien Andersen's Christmas Secret", as well as being a director at "Vikingspil" in Frederikssund. He has spent over 50 years working in Radio, Film, Television and Theatre.

He was co-founder of the Danish version of TheatreSports, which developed into the successful improvisation team "Så Hatten Passer" that toured the country for several years, and was a popular program on TV.

ANDERS WØLDIKE SCHMITH PRODUCER



Anders Wøldike Schmith was born in 1983 and graduated from high school in 2004. He completed his studies in economics at Niels Brock Business School in 2007. That same year, he enrolled at Copenhagen Film & Photo School, where he produced his first short movie, "Pjerrot," in 2008. In 2009, he began working as a student at Zentropa Productions and graduated in 2012.

Over the course of three years, he served as a producer's assistant for Meta Foldager, Louise Vesth, Sisse Graum and Lars von Trier, contributing to films such as "Antichrist" (2009), "The Truth About Men" (2010), "Melancholia" (2011), "Clown" (2011), and "A Royal Affair" (2012). In 2010, Anders initiated a small company within Zentropa named Zentropa Stormtroopers. Through the concept of producing films on small budgets, he has produced 8 music videos for renowned Danish music bands and 6 short movies. In 2012, Anders gained admission to the alternative film school Super16 as a producer. There, he produced his first-year movie "Touch of Magic," the second-year movie "A Doll's House," and his graduation movie "Planes in the Night," all under his company Zentropa Stormtroopers. In 2022, Anders established his own production company named Scandinavian Studios. Since its inception, the company has produced two of its own short films and has served as a local production company for international projects with HBO, Apple Plus, Amazon Prime, and National Geographic.

TOBIAS HORVATH CINEMATOGRAPHER



Tobias Horvath, a Copenhagen-based cinematographer, traces his cinematic journey back to his formative years at Media College Denmark, where he honed his craft and nurtured his artistic sensibilities. With over a decade of experience, Tobias has become synonymous with captivating short films that resonate deeply with audiences.

His collaborations speak volumes about his dedication to the craft, notably his recent work on "Adrift" with Director Pernille Lund, a project that wrapped in April 2024.

From 2016 to 2021, Tobias worked as a Camera Technician and Phantom Flex operator at Storyline Rental in Denmark. It was here that he refined his skills, laying the groundwork for his future professional endeavors in the world of Cinematography. Tobias is drawn to projects that stir his emotions, he mostly work with Fiction - Drama but has a big love for Arthouse Cinema. His selection process is deeply personal, driven by the desire to connect with the story and its characters on a profound level. "Light is everything," Tobias asserts, underscoring the important role it plays in shaping narratives. For him, each camera movement is a deliberate choice, a silent storyteller that breathes life into the film. Tobias Horvath continues to captivate audiences with his emotional cinematography, offering a poignant reflection of the human experience through the lens of his camera.

FILM CREW

PRODUCTION DESIGN – Allan Frausing
EDITOR – Jesper Bækdal Jensen
SOUND DESIGN – Alex Pavlovic
FIRST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – Heine
Kaarsberg
CONTINUITY – Laura Almstrup
MAKE UP DESIGN – Naja Jensen
GAFFER – Casper Bülow
SOUND RECORDIST – Nick Palsdorf
A CAMERA ASSISTANT – Emil Wad Jensen
RUNNERS – Emil Løppke & Daniel Sønderriis

DIGITAL POST PRODUCTION –
Nordisk Film Shortcut
IN-HOUSE POST PRODUCER –
Maggie Winther Hansen
COLORIST – Jeppe Nim Jørgensen
DIGITAL MASTERING – Thomas Caspersen
ONLINE – Jesper Mark Hansen
TITLE DESIGN – Rune Søndergaard

CAMERA EQUIPMENT – Storyline Rental
LIGHT EQUIPMENT – Gaffers

CAMERA & LENSES –
ARRI ALEXA MINI
Zeiss Super Speeds MK III

SPECIAL THANKS –
Michael Quaade
Henrik Broerson



CAST & FILM CREW



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why was the film shot in Denmark?

BELINDA came to me as a result of my first short film, BRUME, which was shot in Denmark. I wrote down 15 years ago that I would make my first film in Denmark because I had long been inspired by the Dogme 95 filmmaking principles. I literally went there knowing very few people. My husband Googled "Production Houses in Copenhagen," and Scandinavian Studios returned our phone calls! In the end, I secured a meeting, pitched the concept of BRUME to Anders Wøldike and since then, I continue working in Denmark. I have been blessed with wonderful crews, strong organization and smooth processes. My third short film has come to me as a result of BELINDA, which will also be shot in DK.

What characterizes you as a film director, what inspires you?

I believe the most critical part of any story for the screen is the script. Fortunately, the writers with whom I have worked have trusted me as script editor, as well as, envisioning the world of their story. I love script editing and digging deep into any writing where I see traces of a strong narrative.

What did you find challenging making the film?

The filming of BELINDA went very smoothly; however, we had to depend on good weather since I had decided to set most of the film outdoors. With only three days to shoot, we had to juggle our shoot on one very rainy day which was rather demanding; however, I also had a strong First AD who kept everyone on track and we were able to successfully cover our entire shot list for that day.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How was your collaboration with the writer?

The collaboration with the writer, Fergal O'Byrne, was great. It helps that he has a friendly, Irish sensibility. He was very open to all my suggested script adjustments and the moving of some of his originally interior placed scenes to outside. I believed that the natural surroundings of this film played an important role to two characters that struggle to engage and that nature has a quiet way of bringing two strangers together within a short period of time. O'Byrne was on board with this idea and working together as a team, respecting the writer's writing is essential.

Who influenced you as a filmmaker?

The work of filmmakers, such as, Joanna Hogg (The Souvenir Trilogy), Sarah Polley, Alfonso Cuarón, Barry Jenkins, Sophia Coppola, Laura Mora Ortega (Kings of Their Land), David Lean, Alfred Hitchcock, Killing Eve creators, Paul Thomas Andersen, Terrence Malick, Zentropa Films, and HBO's CHERNOBYL created by Craig Mazin are just a few of those whose meticulous and honest work inspire me as a filmmaker.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What projects interest you, what is next on your agenda?

Next on my agenda is a climate change premised feature film called BRUME. The short film version is a snapshot of this world-building story. It differs from other ecological disaster films in its proactive voice of a small community working through their past histories together while facing a present that is in some ways sadly more predictable than one might expect. It also shows a different perspective of how climate change could look like and how we, as humans, respond to it.

I am interested in scripts that center on human nature and its struggles, challenging global and political scenarios, dark humor, unexpected bright spaces, stories that go straight to the human heart challenging an audience's interpretations, that might require a little more patience, but ultimately, are drawn into a world that feels truthful, unexpected, that is always moving forward. And I love working with casts and crews who commit to the same.





TECHNICAL INFORMATION

FILM CATEGORY: SHORT FILM
ORIGINAL LANGUAGE: ENGLISH
SUBTITLES: ENGLISH AVAILABLE
RUN TIME: 23 MIN 07 SEC
COMPLETION DATE: OCTOBER 17TH, 2023

FRAMES PER SECOND: 24
SHOOTING FORMAT: DIGITAL - HD CAM ARRI
FILM COLOR: COLOR
ASPECT RATIO: 16:9

AVAILABLE FILE TYPES: .MOV .MP4
CODEC: H.264/AVC OR PRORES 422
QUALITY: HD 1920X1080P

MORE SUBTITLES UPON REQUEST
DCP-FORMAT UPON REQUEST



EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

WILLIAM PENNELL

ANNEMETTE ANDERSEN

MAUREEN PAYNE-HAHNER

DR. CHRISTOPH HAHNER



SHORTCUT
EGMONT

GAFFERS

Storyline



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