



Festival del film Locarno
Piazza Grande

Baptiste Gilliéron • André Wilms • Julia Faure



PAUSE



A film by Mathieu Urfer



★ SYNOPSIS

Sami, a laid-back songwriter, is shocked when Julia, a brilliant lawyer with whom he's been living for the last four years, decides to put their relationship on hold. Coached by his old friend Fernand, an alcoholic country musician living in a nursing home for the elderly, he tries to achieve the impossible to prove to her she's the only woman for him.



★ TECHNICAL INFORMATIONS

Language: French
Subtitles: English / German
Duration: 82 min
Shooting format: HD Cam
Screening format: DCP HD 2K, 5.1, color
Year of production: 2014
Production country: Switzerland

Director: Mathieu URFER
Original script: Mathieu URFER
Co-writer: Joanne GIGER
Producers: Elodie BRUNNER, Thierry SPICHER, Elena TATTI
Director of photography: Timo SALMINEN
Sound operator: Masaki HATSUI
Art direction: Régis MARDUEL
Costumes: Anna VAN BREE
Editing: Yannick LEROY
Sound mixing: Gabriel HAFNER, François MUSY
Sound design: Gabriel HAFNER, François MUSY
Music: Mathieu URFER, John WOOLLOFF, LUFT – Marcin de MORSIER and Ariel GARCIA



★ CAST

Sami
Julia
Fernand
Lionel
Marc Rivette
Sarah
Céline
Bobby
Virginie

Baptiste GILLIÉRON
Julia FAURE
André WILMS
Nils ALTHAUS
Roland VOUILLOZ
Nicole LETUPPE
Margherita COLDESINA
Baptiste COUSTENOBLE
Hélène BARBRY

Rudi
Eric
English musician
Sikh 1
Sikh 2
Priest
Waiter
Bibi
Biboune
Guardian in art gallery

Jean-Michel DISTEXHE
Olivier YGLESIAS
Pierre-Antoine DUBEY
Sanjiv HAYRE
Anthony GOPAUL
Monica BUDDE
Thomas SCHILD
Simon GUÉLAT
Michèle BREU
Tomas GONZALEZ



★ MATHIEU URFER INTERVIEW

WHY DID YOU WANT TO MAKE A ROMANTIC COMEDY FOR YOUR FIRST FEATURE FILM?

At first, I just wanted to tell a couple's life story, but the classic structure of a romantic comedy or, more specifically, the comedy of remarriage, brought me to develop a scheme and build a plotline. I used the scheme as a template and gradually added all elements I was interested in.

ARE THERE ANY AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL ELEMENTS IN YOUR STORY?

Of course. At first, I wanted to express the feeling of being (left) alone. I'm very fascinated by bad-ending love stories, which was the case of all my stories. Break-ups fascinate me in real life as well as in fiction. For PAUSE, I wanted to talk about this typical musician's fantasy which makes us believe it's possible to heal broken hearts with music. This means relationship problems could be solved thanks to Art in

an ideal world. So, if Sami's songs would be good enough, he could simply win Julia back. Since I've been playing music for several years now, the story is largely based on biographical elements which helped me write the movie.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR SCREENWRITING.

I have a little notebook, where I put down scenes from everyday life, out of the ordinary things that happen to me or things I hear about; I insert them into a narrative structure and then I shuffle them around, arrange and make improvements on them.

HOW DID YOU CHOOSE YOUR ACTORS SAMI (BAPTISTE GILLIÉRON) AND JULIA (JULIA FAURE)?

The toughest part was to find the main actor who would be able to carry the whole story. He appears in every scene, and I knew the movie would become a portrait of him. I took a lot of decisions in regards to the character. It was only after I found him



that I began looking for who would be playing Julia.

The actresses had their casting audition in the presence of Baptiste. I finally chose Julia Faure whom I had previously seen in Philippe Garrel's *WILD INNOCENCE*. This movie was a great inspiration (and I even borrowed the quote: "You look stunning in this light"). She's a great actress, very funny without overdoing it and we quickly came to a mutual understanding on how Julia's character would be played.

BAPTISTE GILLIÉRON IS REALLY REVEALING HIMSELF IN HIS VERY FIRST MAIN ROLE ON THE BIG SCREEN.

I was very happy to work with someone from my region (Canton of Vaud) and who was a beginner like me. We shared the same experience, since it was his first main feature as well. I was very happy to work with him, not only because he's a very talented actor, but also because he's unknown. Audiences don't have any representation of him in their minds before seeing him playing his part.

WHY DID YOU WANT TO WORK WITH ANDRÉ WILMS?

I love his rough appearance. I also wished to collaborate with cinematographer Timo Salminen, who worked many times with Finnish director Aki Kaurismäki, as did André Wilms; they are like a link to a different world I appreciate very much.

THE LIGHTING AND SETTINGS GIVE THE MOVIE A RETRO-STYLE; THE SKATED COLORS AND OLD OBJECTS SEEM AS IF SAMI CAN'T REALLY FIT INTO OUR MODERN SOCIETY.

Sami's passion for old objects was already written in the script, but it has been enhanced by Timo Salminen's beautiful cinematography work. For him, it's stupid to show trendy things or new technology which might look outdated only a few months after being shot. Not only is it more beautiful to shoot old-fashioned things such as old cars, but it also means you can't make out the exact time period. In *PAUSE*, other than the use of modern cell phones, you can't tell when the story takes exactly place. This also makes the story seem a little bit like a fairy tale.



DID YOU CHOOSE BAPTISTE GILLIÉRON BECAUSE OF HIS SINGING ABILITIES?

I didn't choose him because of his vocal talents at all; it's only after I chose him for his performance as an actor that I tested his vocal capabilities. Until the first shooting day, we didn't know who would finally sing: him, myself or a voice-over. I put some pressure on him, he sang along and he did great! All songs had been written beforehand and were performed live on set. The songs are found in the script at the right place at the right time; they were an essential part of the storyline. I didn't want to use any non-diegetic music.

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT YOUR MOVIE BEING SHOWN ON PIAZZA GRANDE AT THE LOCARNO FILM FESTIVAL?

I'm very proud, since my very first, ROMANCE MAYONNAISE, a film school short movie with a small budget of 500 CHF was already selected at this same festival back in 2004. The story was very much alike PAUSE's beginning, but its ending was more brutal. I started working on this long feature right after the screening back then, so

I'm very happy it can finally be shown on Piazza Grande!

Interview done by Carine Bernasconi on July, 11th 2014



★ THE DIRECTOR

Filmmaker and musician, Mathieu Urfer got his masters in screenwriting at the Ecole Cantonale d'Art in Lausanne. He wrote scripts for several drama series for Radio Télévision Suisse, before making his first feature film, *Pause*, for which he also composed most of the original score. He is currently working on his second feature film.

★ FILMOGRAPHY

DIRECTOR

2014 *PAUSE*

2006 *QUATRIEME GENERATION* (Short)

2005 *DINOSAURES* (Short)

2004 *ROMANCE MAYONNAISE* (Short)

(2nd Prize Award, Schweizer Jugendfilmtage, Zürich)

2003 *VIGILANTES* (Short)

2003 *CACA* (Short)

WRITER

2009-2010 *CROM* (13 x 26' TSR) CAB Productions

2007-2008 *LA MINUTE KIOSQUE* (100 x 1' TSR) Le Flair Productions



★ BAPTISTE GILLIÉRON

SELECTIVE FILMOGRAPHY

2014 A LIVRE OUVERT (TV) by Véronique Raymond & Stéphanie Chuat
2014 DEUX JOURS AVEC MON PÈRE by Anne Gonthier
2014 PAUSE by Mathieu Urfer
2013 BREAK-UPS (Web series) by Ted Tremper
2012 MYRTILLE (Short) by Floriant Poupellin
2010 LA VIE FACILE (Short) by Julien Rouyet
2009 LE BAISER (Short) by Amalia Becciolini

★ JULIA FAURE

SELECTIVE FILMOGRAPHY

2014 OXI by Ken Mc Mullen
2014 PAUSE by Mathieu Urfer
2014 A COUP SÛR by Delphine de Vigan
2012 CAMILLE REWINDS by Noémie Lvovsky
(Nomination for César Award for most promising actress)
2009 AN ORGANISATION OF DREAMS by Ken Mc Mullen
2006 UNCONTROLLABLE by Raffy Shart
2004 LE FUNAMBULE by Guillaume Brac
2002 LOVE ME IF YOU DARE by Yann Samuell
2001 WILD INNOCENCE by Philippe Garrel



★ **ANDRÉ WILMS**

SELECTIVE FILMOGRAPHY

2014 PAUSE by Mathieu Urfer
2013 SEX, LOVE & THERAPY by Tonie Marshall
2013 A CASTLE IN ITALY by Valéria Bruni Tedeschi
2012 SUPEREGOS by Benjamin Heisenberg
2011 AMERICANO by Mathieu Demy
2010 LE HAVRE by Aki Kaurismäki
2009 RICKY by François Ozon
2009 ROBERT MITCHUM IS DEAD by Olivier Babinet & Fred Kihn
2004 JUST TRUST by Etienne Chatiliez
2004 LE TEMPS D'UN REGARD by Ilan Flammer

★ **NILS ALTHAUS**

SELECTIVE FILMOGRAPHY

2014 PAUSE by Mathieu Urfer
2012 SOMEONE LIKE ME by Xavier Koller
2010 MARY & JOHNNY by Samuel Schwarz & Julian M. Grünthal
2010 DOZE by Johannes Hartmann
2009 THE MURDER FARM by Bettina Oberli
2009 NIGHT RUSH by Markus Welter
2009 ROBBER GIRLS by Carla Lia Monti
2008 HAPPY NEW YEAR by Christoph Schaub
2007 BREAKOUT by Mike Eschmann



★ PRODUCTION

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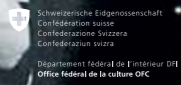
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