

# HIP MOVES

## LES MOUVEMENTS DU BASSIN

FRANCE | 2012 | 90' | DCP | 1.85 | 5.1

A HPG FILM

RACHIDA **Brakni**  ÉRIC Cantona JOANA PREISS JÉRÔME **LE BANNER** 

HPG

#### **INTERNATIONAL SALES**

Capricci Films Julien Rejl - julien.rejl@capricci.fr Tél : +33 (0)6 61 65 88 79



## **SYNOPSIS**

Hervé is a lonely man who lives only for his self-defense courses. Fired from the zoo where he works because he depresses the animals, he becomes a night watchman in a factory. To pass the time, he watches the comings and goings of a strange pair of lovers: his colleague and his wife who sells her body with her husband's blessing.

Marion is a young woman who desperately wants to have a child. One evening, she meets a nurse who falls for her. She promises her love and pregnancy (by robbing a sperm bank).

The fates of these two individuals in search of happiness will intersect in a hospital corridor...

### INTERVIEW WITH HPG /

## THE TRANSITION TO FICTION

**Question:** This film marks a new stage in your film career for several reasons. The first is the transition from auto-fiction to real fiction. You chose to tell a story with invented characters and left the hardcore aside. Do you want avoid the "intimate diary" label?

*HPG:* I think reality is far more deluding on film than fiction. Too much scripting does not interest me. I tried to stay close to reality without hesitating to fantasize. This is probably a consequence of my long career in the porn industry. I've been a porn actor for 25 years and a director and producer for over ten years. I have a tendency mix reality and fantasy and not separate private and public life.

"Well-known or not, I do not care. I like Eric Cantona and Jerome Le Banner, period. We're big children in brutish bodies."

Q: Also, it is your first portrait of a woman. Was it a challenge?

*HPG:* It starts with a woman who loses her child because of a stranger and nobody comes to help. She decides to look for the guy herself. She finds him and makes him get her pregnant with another child. This solution appears incredibly courageous to some. To others it is monstrous and illogical. What interested me were the means taken by this woman to find a balance. She is the heroine: her and her journey. Writing the story of a pregnant woman was a thousand miles from what I was experiencing in my own life. But I tried to put myself in her place.

**Q**: You didn't plan on playing the main character originally. Did you want to remove yourself from your work, not be in the center? When did you decide to play the role?

*HPG:* I wanted to get away from this frenzied self-absorption. Though I listened when people advised me to play the leading role: flattery got the best of me. I think my main hesitation was not feeling I was a good enough actor. I hope I'm less extreme than this character. Some say this is not the case and they may be right.

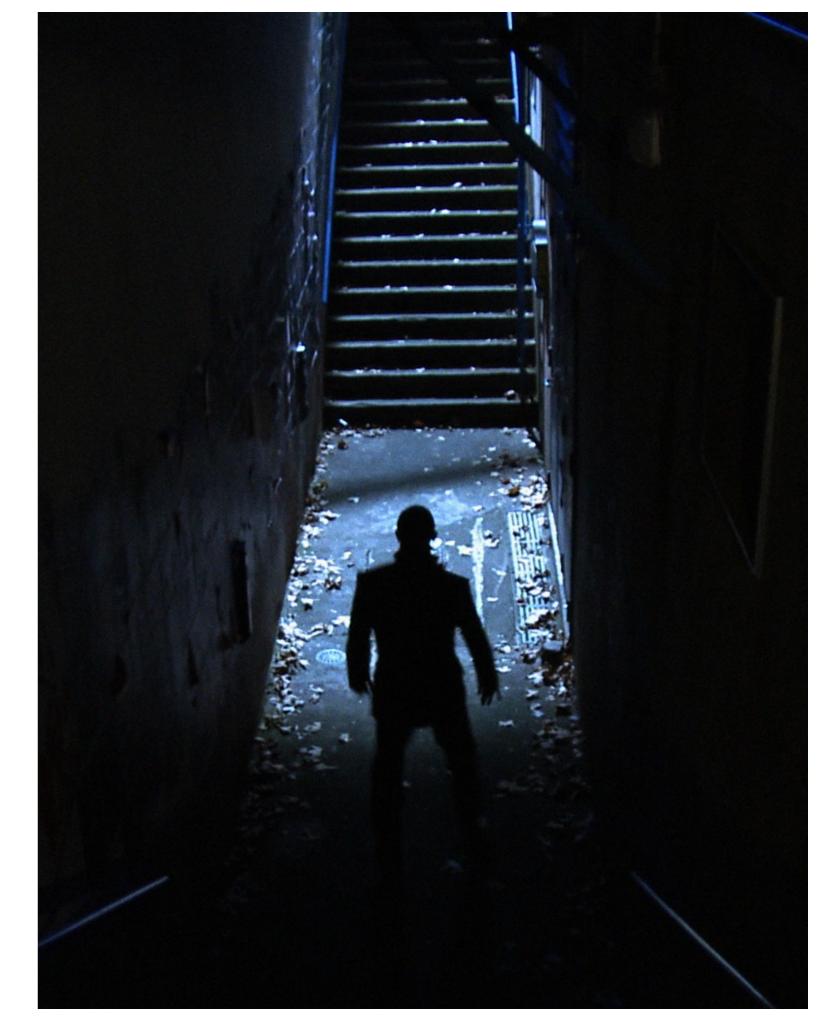
**Q**: Eric Cantona and Rachida Brakni ... you wanted to work with stars?

*HPG:* Well-known or not, I do not care. I like Eric Cantona and Jerome Le Banner, period. We're three guys who do what we can to work after sporting careers. We didn't take any acting classes. We managed as best we could, by instinct. Big children in brutish bodies. I like Rachida Brakni. She has technique like nobody has ever seen. The opposite of me.

Q: The atmosphere of the film is very strange, almost unreal...

**HPG:** The film takes place in urban spaces, factories, hospitals, dark, impersonal rooms, and vague places that resonate with the disorder nestled in each character.

"My character is like me when I was ten years old: a kid who wanted to be a biker but failed because he was antisocial and awkward."



#### **SELF-PORTRAIT**

Q: Your character has nothing. Yet he is so pathetic it becomes moving. How do you see him? As a complete failure?

*HPG:* It's like me when I was ten years old: a kid who wanted to be a biker but failed because he was antisocial and awkward. Like a spectator of other people's lives or a sad clown that moves us and makes us laugh... and disgusts us too.

These defects make a character touching. His sole focus is combat-sports, finding "the right move" to defend himself against an imaginary enemy about to take form. I also wanted his inner turmoil to be reflected in his physical appearance. A metamorphosis of the superhero comics order takes place on my anti-hero.

**Q:** The burlesque body is the link between the character that you play here and what you embody in previous films. There is poetry in the dance steps and the martial arts gestures. Where does the idea for dance come from?

*HPG:* I love Buster Keaton, dancers, the dance of mortal combat, exhibitionists, bodies wandering due to alcohol, madness ... and then finding your balance again. I instinctively express more with the body and spirit when I'm on camera.

Normal for a porn star. Making porn and traditional films is similar, both as an actor than as a director. I try in both cases to play with modesty and to be a good craftsman.

*Q*: Isn't the question at the heart of the film: how do you become paternal? Wouldn't "Hips moves" paradoxically be your most autobiographical film?

*HPG:* It is autobiographical to a degree that I could not imagine at the time; so close to what I'd experienced... I made this film to talk about things that I didn't know yet and to learn how to figure them out. I wanted to watch these people, and contemplate their fragility and their instincts.





#### A WORLD That ISN't So Cruel

 $\boldsymbol{Q}$ : The film is very pessimistic. We witness the loss of masculinity. The guy gets kicked out from everywhere, and is reduced to a vegetable. It is a triumph of femininity: the woman is strong and able to overcome trials. Where does this worldview come from?

"I love Buster Keaton, the dance of mortal combat, bodies wandering due to alcohol, madness... and then finding your balance again." *HPG:* The woman is neither stronger nor weaker than the man. They fight with very different weapons. The character played by Rachida in the movie is a woman who struggles with courage. I like this kind of character and I like to put it out there. Why? Because I am a confident guy. So I dare to go where I'm afraid to go.

**Q:** I thought a lot about Ferreri, Bukowski and then, of course... Who were your influences?

*HPG:* Barbet Schroeder, Bukowski, Gaspar Noé and some wackos if you think about it. There's a good chance they are also sources of inspiration, but unconsciously ... I don't make controlled movies, but movies where I can get lost and then try to get out. Ultimately, the film should generate a positive upbeat message. Staying in the dark doesn't interest me. I wanted to make a contemporary film that was Baroque, funny, lucid and melancholy in getting rid of my own obsessions (unless they have changed and I haven't realized yet). I tend toward the tragicomedy, the world is hard enough like that. This is what "Hip moves" is - a tragicomedy.

.

HPG DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY / FILMOGRAPHY

> HPG, 45, is an actor, director and producer of pornographic films, a pioneer of "gonzo" cinema in France. All the while, he has continued to work in parallel to develop a very realistic form of film-diary. His first shortfilm somewhere between porn and auteur cinema, Acteur X pour vous servir, aroused the curiosity of the French Cinematheque. They have continued to regularly screen his films ever since. His autobiographical documentary HPG son vit, son oeuvre created a scandal and in 2006, HPG directed his first feature film, We should not exist, selected for the Directors' Fortnight. In 2011, he confided thousands of hours of behind-the-scenes footage to the artist Raphael Siboni that gave rise to the documentary There is no sexual rapport. HPG pursues radical work on the borders of auto fiction.



## **FILMOGRAPHIES**



2011 - LA LIGNE DROITE Régis Wargnier

2010 - UNE AFFAIRE D'ÉTAT Eric Valette

2008 - GOD'S OFFICES Claire Simon

2006 - WE SHOULD NOT EXIST HPG

**2006 - BARAKAT!** Djamila Sharoui et Cécile Vargaftig

2001 - CHAOS Coline Serreau

2001 - LOIN André Téchiné



2012 - LES KAÏRA Franck Gastambide

2011 - DE FORCE Frank Henry

2011 - SWITCH Frédéric Schoendoerffer

2009 - LOOKING FOR ERIC Ken Loach

2007 - LE DEUXIÈME SOUFFLE Alain Corneau

1999 - LES ENFANTS DU MARAIS Jean Becker

1998 - ELIZABETH Shekhar Kapur



2011 - SIBERIA Joana Preiss

2009 - COMPLICES Frédéric Mermoud

2007 - BOARDING GATE Olivier Assayas

2006 - DANS PARIS Christophe Honoré

2005 - A PERFECT COUPLE Nobuhiro Suwa

2004 - CLEAN Olivier Assayas

1998 - FIN AOÛT, DÉBUT SEPTEMBRE Olivier Assayas



2010 - FATAL BAZOOKA Mickael Youn

2008 - BABYLON A.D. Mathieu Kassovitz

2008 - DISCO Fabien Ontoniente

2008 - ASTÉRIX AUX JEUX OLYMPIQUES

Frédéric Forestier et Thomas Langmann

**FRANCE** 

#### CAST

Rachida Brakni Marion Joana Preiss The nurse Eric Cantona The night watchman Marie d'Estrées The prostitute Jérôme Le Banner The self-defense master

Ludovic Berthillot The policeman

HPG Hervé

Alysson Paradis The self-defense pupil Alexis Vaillant The flirt François Aubineau The doctor Benoist Fournier The auxiliary nurse

Written and directed by: HPG Dialogues: HPG et Thomas Wallon Director of photography: Reza Serkanian

Sound engineer: Thomas Fourel Editing : Isabelle Prim

Sound mixing: Thomas Rouvillain Key light : Christophe Morau Continuity: Virginie Cheval

Set and costumes design: Vanessa Ailleaume Colour grading : La Compagnie de l'Image

Casting: Gwenaëlle Baïd Sound design: Géry Petit Special effects: Loup Coudray Line producer : Camille Chandellier Producers: Thierry Lounas et HPG

Production : Capricci Films - HPG Production - Le Fresnoy

International sales: Capricci Films Press agent : Karine Durance

Music: Christophe

MUSIQUE BOÎTE

Original soundtrack by Géry Petit

L'AMOUR TOUJOURS L'AMOUR

Christophe Jean Michel Jarre - Christophe

Editions Labrador Performed by Christophe

Avec l'aimable autorisation des Disques Motors

BELLE

Jean Michel Jarre - Christophe Editions Labrador Performed by Christophe

With the kind permission of Disques Motors

HERVÉ BOTTIN / RADIO VOITURE Original soundtrack by Géry Petit

TABU ZOO

Original soundtrack by Géry Petit

SUCCÈS FOU

Christophe

Editions Francis Dreyfus Music

Performed by Christophe

With the kind permission of Disgues Motors

DIVINE EGGS

Original soundtrack by Géry Petit

ACID TROOPER

Original soundtrack by BOT'OX

MIXPEERGYNT

Original soundtrack by Christophe Van Huffel

HANGAR BAGARRE Original soundtrack by Géry Petit

COMMISSARIAT Original soundtrack by Géry Petit

WHOOPIN' THE BLUES

Original soundtrack by Sonny Terry & Rufus Mc Kenzie

Performed by Sonny Terry

Music Maker EMI Music Publishing

EL DIEGO

Original soundtrack by Christophe Performed by Diego Carrasco & Christophe

