

VINCENT CASSEL DIANE KRUGER OMAR & FRED GILLES LELLOUCHE DIAM'S FREDERIQUE BEL IZM HAFID F. BENAMAR FRANÇOIS LEVANTAL VINCENT DESAGNAT

A FILM BY
ALBERT PEREIRA-LAZARO
& EMMANUEL KLOTZ

LES GARS

ROUND WAY

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INTERNATIONAL



Millimages presents

Lascafs

Roundway

An animated film directed by
ALBERT PEREIRA-LAZARO and EMMANUEL KLOTZ

With the voices of
**VINCENT CASSEL • DIANE KRUGER • OMAR ET FRED • GILLES LELLOUCHE • DIAM'S • FREDERIQUE BEL
IZM • HAFID F. BENAMAR • FRANCK SINIUS • VINCENT DESAGNAT • FRANÇOIS LEVANTAL**
And the participation of **ERIC JUDOR**

Run time: 96 mins at 24 i/s - Sound: Dolby SR/SRD and DTS Digital – Image Format: 1.85

World Sales



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> SYNOPSIS

Boningville, on the edge of a big city, a long way from the warm sands, coconut palms and the blue seas of the Caribbean. It's summer. The sun blazes down on the chrome of the mopeds, melts the asphalt in the projects, sucks the air out of the stairwells and fries your brain.

Here, everyone is dreaming of the beaches of Santo Rico. Some more than others. Tony Pepperoni and Joe Hustleton, the neighborhood MCs, are about to take off. But the travel agency looking after their tickets screwed up on the name of the destination. Back to Ginette, do not pass GO !

In a bid to bounce back, Tony turns into his hero Montana/Scarface and tries to offload some fresh weed "kindly" loaned by Zoran, a local tough guy who runs the 'hood.

Meanwhile Joe decides to play the lover boy in a swanky villa, inhabited by Momo the hanger-on and the beautiful Clemence.

Everything could have panned out, if an angry mistress, some amateurish filmmakers, some irate cops and a hard-boiled judge hadn't decided otherwise...



> PRODUCTION NOTES

ROUND DA WAY : THE ROOTS

ROUND DA WAY started out small. It measured only a minute and appeared on TV in 2000 in the form of some explosive sketches. The buzz quickly grew and the series, which so far runs to two seasons, gained cult status. Its creators were a group of friends with an endless supply of fresh ideas: Eldiablo, Alexis Dolivet, Lalole, Numéro 6 and Cap1, to whom must now be added Thomas Digard, the director of animation, Laurent Nicolas who gave life to the characters through the animation bible, and the rappers Lucien "Papalu" and IZM.

This core group has always shared a crazy dream in the back of their minds.

"From the start, we had the idea to make a feature-length movie," explains Eldiablo, co-writer of the film. "We all love the movies. Back then, a lot of people tried to put us off, saying we were dreaming and that it would never happen. Sure, the universe we created was unusual, people looked at us as if we were aliens, but we stuck at it."

In France, animated films for adult audiences are few and far between. The first hurdle for **ROUND DA WAY** was to find a producer crazy enough to sign on for the adventure of a feature film. The production company Millimages, one of Europe's leading animation houses whose credits include *RENAISSANCE* (2005) and *PICCOLO, SAXO & CIE* (2006), had a firm belief in the project.

Philippe Gompel, one of the two producers with Roch Lener, recalls :

"When I came on board the project, about five years ago, the series **ROUND DA WAY** already existed and was enjoying considerable success. In France, of course, where it aired on Canal Plus, but also in more than 20 countries around the world where the series had been bought. But adapting this concept into a feature wasn't an easy prospect. The first thing to avoid was simply trotting out a succession of gags."

He adds: Bringing together people from very different fields around a single project was a way of applying a real studio approach. Each with their own competences and backgrounds, they learned to listen to each other to create a universal film, shot through with abundant energy and a universe that everyone can relate to."

This pluralist regard in which each of the characters displays their own fragility, weaknesses, energy and strengths, thus generates a palpable tenderness.

Albert Pereira-Lazaro, co-director with Emmanuel Klotz, explains: "The challenge with a film like this with several intertwining storylines and several characters was to avoid repetition. Each protagonist had to have something unique; several facets of human behavior are represented by all the heroes. Then the actors got to grips with their respective roles to give them an additional dimension. It was a very vibrant process."

Emmanuel Klotz says: "The feature film takes as its own some key elements which made the series a success: Funny and realistic dialogues, visual gags, original sets, attractive characters."

IZM : "We have made a film for everyone. Thanks to the producers who gave us the space to express ourselves freely with the two directors, we weren't closed into our little artistic ghetto. On the contrary, everything was very open."

VINCENT, DIANE AND THE OTHERS

After the screenplay was written, the directors gathered the voice cast in the studio to record the characters' voices before finalizing the animation. This way, each actor had great freedom to perform and wasn't encumbered by too rigid a framework.

The cast brought together **Vincent Cassel**, **Diane Kruger**, **Omar** and **Fred**, **Gilles Lellouche**, **Diam's**, **Frédérique Bel** and **Vincent Desagnat**.

IZM : "The cast had to be coherent with the universe. Everyone we approached gave us a positive response, which underlines the goodwill that existed around the project from the start. Vincent Cassel was the first to come on board, then Diane Kruger and it went from there."

A COLORFUL UNIVERSE

The directing duo of Albert Pereira-Lazaro and Emmanuel Klotz sign their first feature film with **ROUND DA WAY**.

Albert Pereira-Lazaro : "All the animation was done from the actors' performances. That's what subsequently allowed the animators to find the right dynamic. Then Thomas Digard, the director of animation, did a real craftsman's job. He created a style for each character, with their own rhythm of animation."

Emmanuel Klotz : "We wanted this film to be a comedy for a wide audience, packed with action, energy and gags, taking our inspiration from popular live-action films, Japanese animation and American cartoons."

Albert Pereira-Lazaro : "A blend of 2D and 3D gives depth of field to the sets and lends the film a look halfway between live-action and animation."

The lighting and colors underline the tone of each sequence, with a general note of brightness and contrast."

Now, **ROUND DA WAY** is ready to explode onto the big screen, and who knows – perhaps spawn some offspring!

Philippe Gompel : **ROUND DA WAY** has a rich and multi-faceted universe. It exists as a series and a comic strip, it has its own musical identity and now there is a feature film. The adventure is really only just beginning."





> CHARACTERS



> TONY PEPPERONI Vincent Cassel

Tony Pepperoni wants everyone to think he's a real bad boy, the epitome of the street-smart dude who doesn't think twice about the risks if it means winning. Unlike Joe, he is determined to carry on running his business in the projects. He fancies himself as a tough guy and plays the chief with those weaker than him. In truth, he's a bit of a loser who can't get his act together. He's always getting into scrapes that he can't manage to escape without the help of his old pal Joe, which means he's always stressed out.



> JOE HUSTLETON IZM

A hip-hop fan and Tony's best friend. Driven, charismatic, hard-working, Joe sets himself some new ambitions when he meets a girl from the nice end of town. Poised and confident in everyday life, Joe goes to pieces when he's around Clemence, the gorgeous daughter of the Judge.





**> CLEMENCE
NOMERCY**
Diane Kruger



A well-heeled but uptight young woman, Clemence falls for Joe's charms. Witty, pretty and someone who can look after herself, she embodies the social success that Joe wants to achieve.



> ZORAN
Gilles Lellouche

He's THE big boss in the projects. Respected and feared by everyone, he's a cold and methodical character who, beneath his tough exterior, hides a sensitive soul in need of love.

> HARVEY
Omar Sy

Harvey is an inveterate skirt-chaser. Loud-mouthed and garrulous, he's also free and easy, which tends to put the ladies at their ease. Teamed with Sammy, the duo have a smutty sense of humor, which although not always very subtle is certainly effective.



> SAMMY
Fred Testot

Sammy is shy with the girls. He has a little simple-minded, much to the amusement of Harvey, his oldest friend.

> MANUELLA
Frédérique Bel

She's Tony's girlfriend.
A real sex-bomb, she's full-blooded, feisty,
totally in love and always over-the-top.
Her whole family is in the police,
which makes for some complications
for her "love affair" with Tony.



> MOMO
Hafid F. Benamar

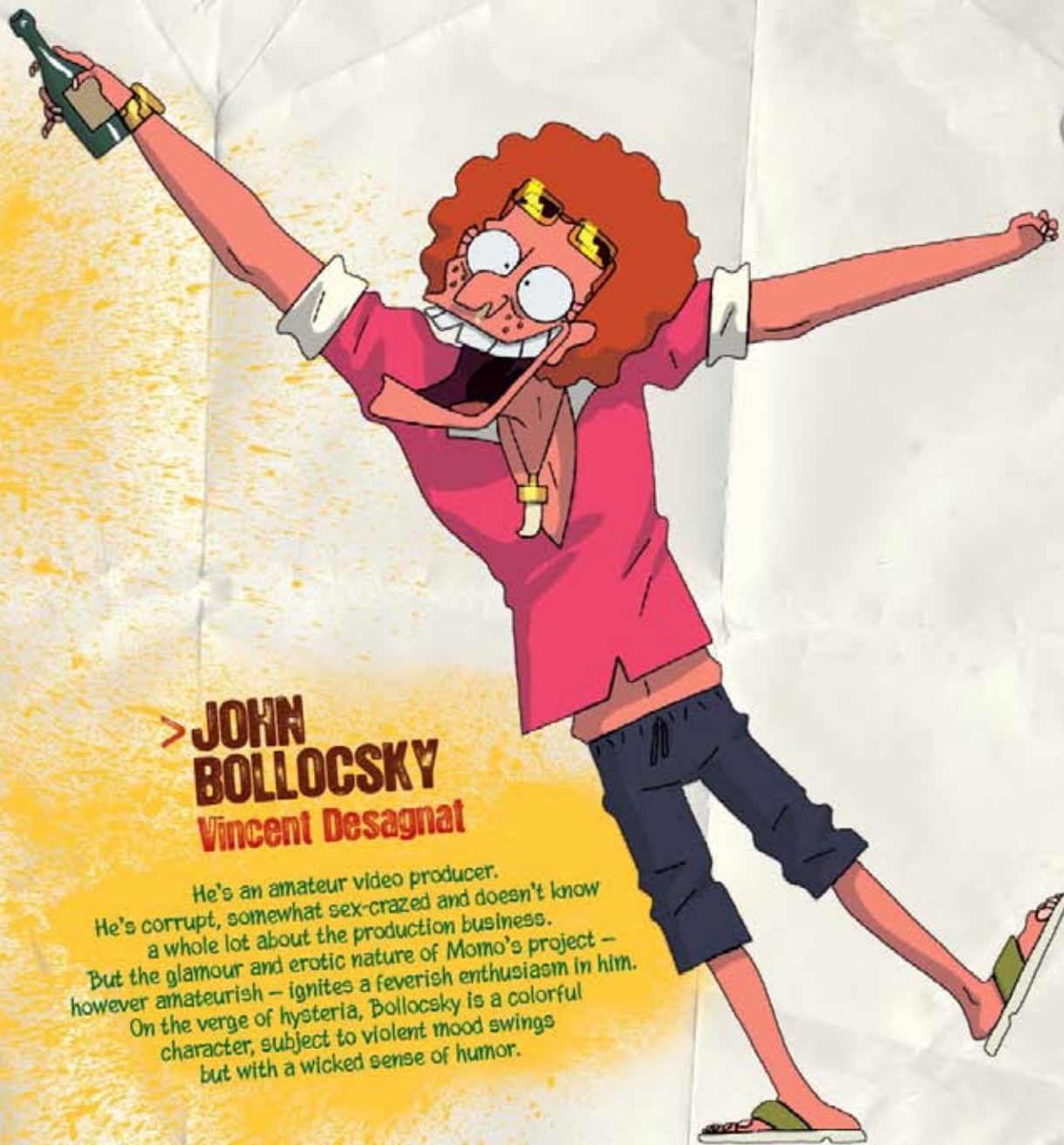
Natural, outspoken and individual, he has off-beat
interests and admits to a passion for up-scale
erotic cinema. Saddled working with Joe in the Judge's
mansion, he's the archetypal hanger-on who ruins
everyone's plans. A capricious and original
character, he draws a certain sympathy
from those around, but also drives
them nuts.





> JENNY Diam's

Clemence's best friend, an energetic young woman who has taken her future in hand, Jenny is a slugger who's decided to help her cousin Joe. She lets him sleep at her place and helps him find work.



> JOHN BOLLOCSKY Vincent Desagnat

He's an amateur video producer. He's corrupt, somewhat sex-crazed and doesn't know a whole lot about the production business. But the glamour and erotic nature of Momo's project — however amateurish — ignites a feverish enthusiasm in him. On the verge of hysteria, Bollocsky is a colorful character, subject to violent mood swings but with a wicked sense of humor.

> KASMIR
Franck Sinius

He's a friend of Tony, a good sort but a bit dumb, and always ready to embark on the latest cock-eyed plan, against his better judgment. Despite a certain aptitude for getting out of a tough spot, Kasmir looks up to Tony, his business partner, who has the upper hand in the relationship.



**> JUDGE
NOMERCY**
François Levantal

The Judge is a strict, severe and temperamental character. Completely infatuated with his daughter and his dog, he quickly turns into a fury when it comes to enforcing respect for public order. He also rules with an iron hand in his mansion, where he has hired Joe to do some work.





> MUSIC

The music in **ROUND DA WAY**, as one might expect, plays a strong role. Like all their peers, Tony Pepperoni and Joe Hustleton, the two neighborhood MCs, were raised to the sound of rap. The soundtrack was supervised by a pioneer of the hip-hop movement in France, Lucien "Papalu", who penned all the titles with the help of Nicholas Varley for the orchestral parts. Producer and rapper, "Papalu" has rubbed shoulders with some of the greats such as A Tribe Called Quest, Beatnuts and the mythical De La Soul, who co-wrote the opening song of **ROUND DA WAY** with him. Besides the additional music, some of French raps finest are to be found on the song "Cartoon": The duo Arsenik and Lord Kossity. And to top things off, IZM and Vincent Cassel perform together on "Le petit bonhomme vert" (The Little Green Man).

De La Soul: "Say la Vee" explained by Lucien "Papalu"

"At the end of the Eighties, I went to the USA where I met lots of rap groups and artists like the Jungle Brothers, The Beatnuts, A Tribe Called Quest, De La Soul, Queen Latifah, DJ Red Alert and so on. We formed a collective called 'The Native Tongues' and were subsequently joined by Common and Mos Def. Since then we have stayed very close. So when De La Soul come to Europe, they call me. I suggested they write a song for **ROUND DA WAY** after one of their concerts in France. They didn't hesitate for a second. I sent the instrumental and my singing part to them in New

York. They let themselves be carried along by the track from the images of **ROUND DA WAY** that they'd seen. We worked together on the refrain, and the rest is history.

Arsenik, Lord Kossity, Lucien "Papalu": "Cartoon" explained by Lucien "Papalu"

"This track was produced in 2001 with Arsenik, Lord Kossity and myself. It really reflects the universe of **ROUND DA WAY**. It's quite a simple beat with very personal rhymes. Each of the singers sings his own words and displays his own personality. That was the aim. It wasn't a question of showing off."

Vincent Cassel, IZM : "Le petit bonhomme vert" explained by IZM

"It's the closing song in the film, sung by its heroes Tony Pepperoni and Joe Hustleton, in other words Vincent Cassel and me. Our aim was to respect the characters' self-derision, so we had to find an original and funny idea. With Lucien, we decided to do the exact opposite of what you usually hear in rap where everyone is playing the tough guy. This led to the idea of the little green man who tells pedestrians when they can cross. Here Tony and Joe are crowing about doing good deeds, like the class goody-goody in front of the teacher!"



> BIOGRAPHIES

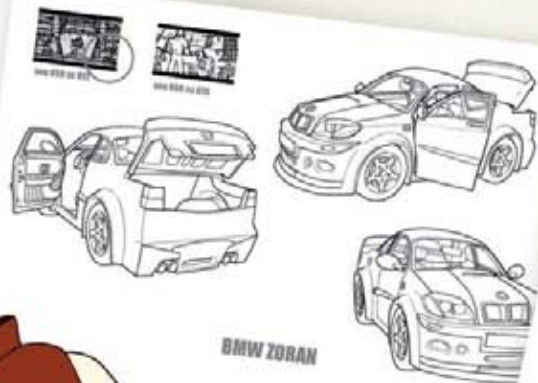
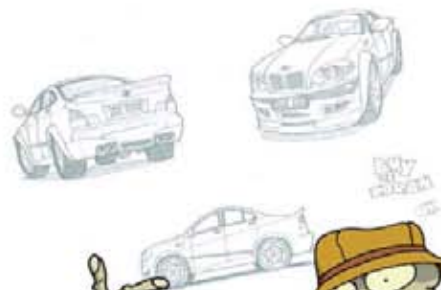
DIRECTORS

ALBERT PEREIRA-LAZARO

Graduate from the Ecole des Gobelins in 1997, Albert Pereira-Lazaro joined Emmanuel Franck at Millimages in 1998. He has since directed 2D animation series for which he has won numerous international awards : the Pulcinella 1999 for the best children's animation series, a Children's Bafta 2000 for the best international animated program, a British Animation Award 2002, and the Pulcinella 2004 for the best family animated program. In 2005, he directed an animated film blending 2D/3D and live-action, with Emmanuel Klotz, for the show by French comic Arthur : "Arthur en vrai."

EMMANUEL KLOTZ

Passionate about animation and movies, Emmanuel Klotz joined forces with Emmanuel Franck and Albert Pereira-Lazaro in 1998. He was then first assistant director on the TV series 64 ZOO LANE and PABLO, THE LITTLE RED FOX. In 1999, he signed on at the Ecole des Gobelins from where he graduated in 2001. The same year, he story-boarded the TV series CORNEIL AND BERNIE before co-directing the feature film DUCK UGLY in 2004. In 2005, he story-boarded the 2D/3D animated short which opened Arthur's one-man-show : "Arthur en vrai".





> VOICES

Tony Pepperoni

Clemence

Harvey

Sammy

Zoran

Manuella

Joe Hustleton

Jenny

John Bollocsky

Judge Nomercy

Momo

With the participation of

Vincent Cassel

Diane Kruger

Omar Sy

Fred Testot

Gilles Lellouche

Frédérique Bel

IZM

Diam's

Vincent Desagnat

François Levantal

Hafid F. Benamar

Eric Judor

> CREW

Screenplay written by Alexis Dolivet, Eldiablo and IZM

Co-written by Emmanuel Klotz

Inspired by the universe and graphics of the series ROUND DA WAY
created by Eldiablo, Alexis Dolivet et Lalole, Numéro 6, Cap1

Directed by Albert Pereira-Lazaro and Emmanuel Klotz

Produced by Roch Lener and Philippe Gompel

Executive producer Emmanuel Franck

A coproduction by Millimages France,
Studio 37
France 2 Cinéma
Toon's and Tales Allemagne

With the participation of Canal+

With the support of Eurimages
Centre National de la Cinématographie

In association with Cinemage 2

Director of animation Thomas Digard

Author of bible of characters Laurent Nicolas

Lay-out and design Max Braslavsky, Philippe Dentz and
Julien Le Rolland

Chief set designer Patrice Suau

Head of 3D and compositing Michel Pecqueur

Chief editor Thibaud Caquot

Sound editors Bruno Guéraçague, Sylviane Bouget

Recording and mixing Bruno Mercère

Musical director Lucien "Papalu"

Original music Lucien "Papalu", Nicholas Varley

Script consultants François Desagnat and Thomas Sorriaux

Runtime: 96 mins at 24 i/s - Sound: Dolby SR/SRD and DTS Digital
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