JOSH CHARLES
ANAÏS DEMOUSTIER
BIRD PEOPLE
A FILM BY PASCALE FERRAN
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with
Josh Charles, Anaïs Demoustier, Roschdy Zem, Camélia Jordana, Geoffrey Cantor, Clark Johnson, Taklyt Vongdara and Radha Mitchell

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SYNOPSIS

In a Paris airport zone, two strangers try to make sense out of their lives: an American engineer under great professional and emotional pressure who decides to radically change the course of his existence, and a young hotel chambermaid who goes through a life-altering supernatural experience.
PASCALE FERRAN

After graduating from IDHEC (former FEMIS) where she pursued cinema studies from 1980 to 1983, Pascale Ferran worked as an assistant in television and as a co-writer for Pierre Trividic, Arnaud Desplechin, Jean-Pierre Limosin and Philippe Venault.

She directed six short films from 1979 to 1990, notably LE BAISER [The Kiss], which received awards in several international festivals.

She directed her first feature film PETITS ARRANGEMENTS AVEC LES MORTS (Coming to Terms with the Dead) in 1993. The film, won the Caméra d’Or at Cannes Film Festival.

Her second feature, L’ÂGE DES POSSIBLES (1996, The Age of Possibilities) received the FIPRESCI award at Venice Film festival.

In 1999, she directed the French dubbing of Stanley Kubrick’s EYES WIDE SHUT.

Then she directed her first documentary, filming every single recording session of a jazz record, performed and composed by Sam Rivers and Tony Hymas: QUATRE JOURS A OCOEE (Four Days in Ocoee).

Afterwards, she co-wrote a film with Pierre Trividic, PARATONNERRE, a project that had to be abandoned at the pre-production stage due to lack of financing.

She then adapted D.H. Lawrence’s JOHN THOMAS AND LADY JANE (an earlier edition of the second LADY CHATTERLEY’S LOVER), which was developed into two versions, one for theatrical release, the other as a two part television mini-series broadcasted on ARTE. LADY CHATTERLEY, the theatrical version, selected at Berlinale Film Festival in 2007, won the Louis Delluc Prize and the main César awards (Best Film, Best Actress, Best Adaptation, Best Cinematography, Best Costume).

Following the César awards, she created and chaired Le Club des 13, a think tank of 13 French personalities in cinema, composed of screenwriters, directors, producers, national distributors, sales distribution firms and movie theater owners. The group’s work resulted in a report titled LE MILIEU N’EST PLUS UN PONT MAIS UNE FAILLE [Arthouse films are no longer a creative bridge, but a weak link], raising a red flag and taking stock of the challenges related to financing art house and avant-garde films.

Afterwards, she went on to write the screenplay for BIRD PEOPLE, with Guillaume Bréaud, and as of the summer of 2011, has dedicated her time to preparing and directing the film.
JOSH CHARLES – GARY

Josh Charles is an American film, television and stage actor.


From 1998 to 2000, Charles co-starred in Aaron Sorkin's comedy-drama series SPORTS NIGHT. Then he co-starred in the first season of the acclaimed HBO series IN TREATMENT. In 2009, he joined the cast of the drama THE GOOD WIFE, alongside Julianna Margulies, for which he received an Emmy nomination in 2011, and a Golden Globe nomination in 2014 for Best Supporting Actor in a Series, Mini Series or TV Movie.

On the stage, Charles co-starred in THE GLASS MENAGERIE by Tennessee Williams in 2009, and THE DISTANCE FROM HERE by Neil LaBute, which received a Drama Desk Award for Best Ensemble Cast.

He recently completed his run on THE GOOD WIFE, in the 5th season, and also finished directing his third episode of the series.

Upcoming, Charles can be seen in Ross Katz’s film BROTHER'S KEEPER with Bobby Cannavale, Rose Byrne, and Nick Kroll, as well as I SMILE BACK alongside Sarah Silverman.

ANAIS DEMOUSTIER – AUDREY

Spotted when she was only 12 years old, Anaïs Demoustier made her first screen appearance with a small role in Denis Bardiau’s LE MONDE DE MARTY in 2000. She then obtained a place in her high school’s audiovisual-cinema section and was given her first substantial role in Michael Haneke’s LE TEMPS DU LOUP (Time of the Wolf), in which she played Isabelle Huppert and Daniel Duval’s daughter.

In 2008 she was directed by Christophe Honoré in LA BELLE PERSONNE (The Beautiful Person) alongside Léa Seydoux, with whom she worked again in Rebecca Zlotowski's BELLE ÉPINE (Dear Prudence). Then she played Jean-Pierre Darroussin’s daughter in Anna Novion’s film LES GRANDES PERSONNES (Grown Ups), for which she was nominated in the category of Most Promising Actress at the 2009 César awards.

She was nominated for another César in the same category in 2011, for D’AMOUR ET D’EAU FRAICHE (Living on Love Alone) by Isabelle Czajka, who had already directed her five years earlier in L’ANNÉE SUIVANTE.

In the past few years she has appeared in LES NEIGES DU KILIMANDJARO (SNOWS OF KILIMANJARO) by Robert Guédiguian, ELLES, by Malgorzata Szumowska, THÉRÈSE DESQUEYROUX by Claude Miller and QUAI D’ORSAY (The French Minister) by Bertrand Tavernier. On stage, she has been directed by Christophe Honoré in NOUVEAU ROMAN, and by Arnaud Meunier in LE PROBLEME by François Bégaudau.

More recently, she appeared in SITUATION AMOUREUSE: C’EST COMPLIQUÉ by Manu Payet, and will feature in UNE NOUVELLE AMIE (The New Girlfriend) by François Ozon.
CAST

Gary  Josh Charles
Audrey  Anaïs Demoustier
Simon  Roschdy Zem
Leila  Camélia Jordana
Mme Baccar  Akela Sari
Melle Lhomond  Anne Azoulay
Boris  Manuel Vallade
Vengers  Hippolyte Girardot
Katlyn  Genevieve Adams
Alain  Geoffrey Cantor
Mc Cullan  Clark Johnson
Nuala  Catherine Ferran
Akira  Taklyt Vongdara
and Elisabeth  Radha Mitchell
With the voices of
The narrator  Mathieu Amalric
Audrey's father  Philippe Duclos
Gary's sister  Kate Moran

CREW

Screenplay  Pascale Ferran and Guillaume Bréaud
Storyboard (Bird scenes)  Thierry Ségar
Casting  Richard Rousseau and Sarah Teper (France)
Director of Photography  Avy Kaufman (USA)
Sound Engineer  Claire Andrieu (Extras)
Set Designer  Julien Hirsch
Costume Designer  Jean-Jacques Ferran
Hair & Make-up Artist  Thierry François
1st Assistant Director  Anaïs Romand
Script  Natali Tabareau Vieille
Bird Trainers  Jean Jacques Ferran
Production Manager  Simon Rooke / Guillaume Plumejeau
Location Manager  Céline Reding et Guillaume Collin
Film Editor  Aude Cathelin
Sound Editor  Nicolas Borowski / Sarah Lérès
Mixing  Mathilde Muyard
Digital Effects  Agathe Grau / Charles Sire
Digital Effect Supervisor  Jean-Pierre Laforce
Original Score  BUF Compagnie
Performed by  Geoffroy Niquet
Producer  Le Star Pop Orchestra

La Javanaise, lyrics and music by Serge Gainsbourg, performed by Julien Doré

A Archipel 35 production, in association with France 2 Cinéma and Titre et Structure Production. With the participation of Canal +, Ciné + and France Télévisions. With the participation of the Centre National du cinéma et de l’image animée, the CNC (new technologies and production). With the support of the Région Île-de-France. In association with Cofinova 8. Developed with the support of Procirep, Angoa-Agicoa, the MEDIA Programme of the European Union, Cofinova5 and Cofinova6. World Sales: Films Distribution.
Phoenix

Are you willing to be sponged out, erased, cancelled, made nothing?
Are you willing to be made nothing?
dipped into oblivion?

If not, you will never really change.

The phoenix renews her youth
only when she is burnt, burnt alive, burnt down
to hot and flocculent ash.
Then the small stirring of a new small bulb in the nest
with strands of down like floating ash
shows that she is renewing her youth like the eagle, immortal bird.

D.H. Lawrence, Last Poems, 1931.