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**FESTIVAL DE SAN SEBASTIÁN**  
2016

# ORPHAN

**A film by Arnaud des Pallières**

With

Adèle Haenel, Adèle Exarchopoulos, Solène Rigot, Gemma Arterton  
Jalil Lespert, Nicolas Duvauchelle, Sergi Lopez

111 min - France - French/English - 2016

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*Press material (stills & excerpts) available on demand.*

## **SYNOPSIS**

Four moments in the lives of four female characters.

A little girl from the countryside, playing a game of hide and seek that turns to tragedy.

A teenager, caught in an endless succession of runaways, men and mishaps, because anything is better than her desolate family home.

A young woman who moves to Paris and has a brush with disaster.

The grown-up at last, an accomplished woman, who thought she was safe from her own past.

Gradually, these characters come together to form a single heroine.

# ARNAUD DES PALLIÈRES

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

*Orphan* comes from my desire of stepping out of myself. In January 2010, I asked Christelle Berthevas to put on paper the details concerning her childhood and her youth: a little girl and a teenager living in the countryside; a young woman moving to Paris; an adult committed to her couple and her working life. I knew how cruel and dark this beginning of life had been and I wanted to make the viewer experience a woman's fight for her life and her freedom. I make movies in order to experience other lives than mine. As I was entering for the first time in a woman's skin, it was important for me to find inspiration from a real story and not a novel.

Reaching a certain age, one can look back and find out that everything around has changed. The places, the people, the habits. Our life is made out of several lives. Our being out of several beings. As the poet Walt Whitman said: "I am large, I contain multitudes". The central figure of an autobiographical story can't be the same whether she's six, thirteen, twenty or thirty years old. Therefore, we imagined a film divided in four periods: childhood, adolescence, youth and adulthood. Just like a Russian doll, Renée must be opened in order to find Sandra, Sandra to find Karine, Karine to find Kiki, the six years old little girl whose life turns upside down during an innocent hide-and-seek game. The hard core of the story. The black sun shining over an entire life.

The spectator will quickly understand the idea of the film: four actresses playing four periods of a woman's life. They don't really look the same. But why make them look the same when each age likes to claim its identity and define itself in opposition to the previous one? The coherence of the character is the only thing that matters, its continuity through four different actresses. It's like real life, where the woman will be the same and yet different. "It's you here, on this picture? I don't recognize you!" It is her. And it is not her. Like in real life...

I stand for a cinema that takes the responsibility of representing the world, as close as possible of reality. A fiction cinema that knows that a certain documentary credibility guarantees strength and duration to the film. In front of *Orphan*, I have the feeling I have put my work into the service of a story that is more than just fiction and that doesn't belong to me. The story of a woman's fight for her life and her freedom.

Arnaud des Pallières, August 4th 2016.

## DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Born in Paris in 1961, Arnaud des Pallières started drama classes at 16 years old. After studying literature, he directed several drama plays. As a cinema student, he invited Gilles Deleuze to present a lecture and shot *Gilles Deleuze: What is the Creative Act* (1988). He directed a dozen of short movies including *La Mémoire d'un Ange* (1989), *Before After* (1993), *The Red Things* (1994). His first feature film, *Drancy Avenir* (1996), is an investigation on the extermination of Jews in Paris and its suburbs, carried out nowadays. He then directed two documentaries for television: *Is Dead (Incomplete Portrait of Gertrud Stein)* (1999), a free portrait of Gertrude Stein based on her autobiographic texts, then *Disneyland, My Old Native Land* (2001), a nightmarish journey in the famous park. His second feature, *Adieu* (2004), starring Michael Lonsdale, Aurore Clément, Olivier Gourmet, paints the portrait of an unwelcoming France, indifferent to the fate of illegal immigrants sent back to their home countries. *Parc* (2008), with Sergi Lopez and Jean-Marc Barr, adapted from a novel of John Cheever, was selected to compete at the Venice Mostra. *Diane Wellington* (2010), which screened in Venice, and *American Dust* (2011), chosen to open the International Film Festival of Marseille, were born from American archive images. *Age of Uprising: The Legend of Michael Kohlhaas*, with Mads Mikkelsen, Bruno Ganz and Denis Lavant, adapted from a novel by German author Heinrich von Kleist, was selected in the Cannes 2013 Official Competition. *Orphan*, with Adèle Haenel, Adèle Exarchopoulos, Gemma Arterton and Solène Rigot is his fifth feature.

Arnaud des Pallières writes and edits the films he directs.

## FILMOGRAPHY

2016 **ORPHAN**

2013 **AGE OF UPRISING: THE LEGEND OF MICHAEL KOHLHAAS**

2011 **AMERICAN DUST** (*POUSSIERES D'AMERIQUE*)

2010 **DIANE WELLINGTON**

2008 **PARC**

2004 **ADIEU**

2001 **DISNEYLAND, MY OLD NATIVE LAND** (*DISNEYLAND, MON VIEUX PAYS NATAL*)  
(documentary)

1999 **IS DEAD (INCOMPLETE PORTRAIT OF GERTRUD STEIN)** (documentary)

1996 **DRANCY AVENIR**

1994 **THE RED THINGS** (*LES CHOSES ROUGES*) (short)

1993 **BEFORE AFTER** (*AVANT APRÈS*) (short)

1989 **THE MEMORY OF AN ANGEL** (*LA MÉMOIRE D'UN ANGE*) (short)

1988 **GILLES DELEUZE: WHAT IS THE CREATIVE ACT?** (short)

# CHRISTELLE BERTHEVAS

## SCREENWRITER'S BIOGRAPHY

Born in 1969, Christelle Berthevas taught literature and culture classes during several years before training as a scriptwriter. After graduating from the European Conservatory of Audiovisual Writing, she collaborated for the first time with Arnaud des Pallières on *Age of Uprising: The Legend of Michael Kohlhaas (2013)*.

For *Orphan*, she provided the director with autobiographical material. Transforming her testimony into fiction, the film follows the life story a modern woman. By exposing the ways in which sexual identity – feminine as well as masculine – is attributed, the film underlines the diverse ways in which to be a woman.

# **ADÈLE HAENEL**

## **FLIMOGRAPHY**

- 2016 **ORPHAN** by Arnaud des Pallières
- 2016 **THE UNKNOWN GIRL** by Luc and Jean-Pierre Dardenne
- 2016 **THE FLOWERS OF YESTERDAY** by Chris Kraus
- 2016 **OGRES** by Léa Fehner
- 2014 **LOVE AT FIRST FIGHT** by Thomas Cailley
- 2014 **IN THE NAME OF MY DAUGHTER** by André Téchiné
- 2013 **SUZANNE** by Katell Quillévéré
- 2012 **ALIYAH** by Elie Wajeman
- 2012 **THREE WORLDS** by Catherine Corsini
- 2011 **HEAT WAVE** by Jean Jacques Jauffret
- 2011 **HOUSE OF TOLERANCE** by Bertrand Bonello
- 2011 **IRIS IN BLOOM** by Valérie Mrejen
- 2007 **WATER LILIES** by Céline Sciamma
- 2002 **THE DEVILS** by Christophe Ruggia

# **ADÈLE EXARCHOPOULOUS**

## **FLIMOGRAPHY**

2016 **ORPHAN** by Arnaud des Pallières

2016 **THE FAITHFUL** by Michaël R. Roskam

2016 **DOWN BY LOVE** by Pierre Godeau

2015 **THE ANARCHISTS** by Elie Wajeman

2015 **THE LAST FACE** by Sean Penn

2014 **INSECURE** by Marianne Tardieu

2014 **JOURNEY TO THE MOTHER** by Mikhaïl Kosyrev-Neterov

2013 **I USED TO BE DARKER** by Matthew Porterfield

2013 **BLUE IS THE WARMEST COLOR** by Abdellatif Kechiche

2012 **PIECES OF ME** by Nolwenn Lemesle

2010 **CARRE BLANC** by Jean-Baptiste Leonetti

2009 **THE ROUND UP** by Rose Bosch

2009 **TURK'S HEAD** by Pascal Elbé

2008 **GINO STORY** by Samuel Benchetrit

2007 **TROUBLE AT TIMPETILL** by Nicolas Barry

2006 **BOXES** by Jane Birkin

# **SOLÈNE RIGOT**

## **FLIMOGRAPHY**

2016 **ORPHAN** by Arnaud des Pallières

2016 **LA CONFESSION** by Nicolas Boukhrief

2016 **I WANT TO BE LIKE YOU** by Konstantin Bojanov

2016 **SAINT-AMOUR** by Gustave Kerven and Benoit Delépine

2014 **LES RÉVOLTÉS** by Simon Leclere

2013 **TONNERRE** by Guillaume Brac

2013 **LULU IN THE NUDE** by Solveig Anspach

2013 **THE GOOD LIFE** by Jean Denizot

2013 **PUPPY LOVE** by Delphine Lehericcy

2012 **RENOIR** by Gilles Bourdos

2011 **17 GIRLS** by Delphine and Muriel Coulin

2011 **THE MOON CHILD** by Delphine Gleize

# **GEMMA ARTERTON**

## **FLIMOGRAPHY**

2016 **ORPHAN** by Arnaud des Pallières

2016 **THE GIRL WITH ALL THE GIFTS** by Colm McCarthy

2016 **THE HISTORY OF LOVE** by Radu Mihaileanu

2015 **THE KEYS TO THE STREET** by Julius Sevcik

2014 **THE VOICES** by Marjane Satrapi

2014 **ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE KITCHEN** by Alexander Williams

2014 **GEMMA BOVERY** by Anne Fontaine

2013 **HANSEL AND GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS** by Tommy Wirkola

2013 **PLAYERS** by Brad Furman

2012 **BYZANTIUM** by Neil Jordan

2012 **SONG FOR MARION** by Paul Andrew Williams

2010 **PRINCE OF PERSIA - LES SABLES DU TEMPS** by Mike Newell

2010 **TAMARA DREWE** by Stephen Frears

2010 **CLASH OF THE TITANS** by Louis Leterrier

2009 **GOOD MORNING ENGLAND** by Richard Curtis

2009 **ST TRINIAN'S 2** by Oliver Parker

2009 **THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ALICE CREED** by J Blakeson

2008 **THREE AND OUT** by Jonathan Gershfield

2008 **QUANTUM OF SOLACE** by Marc Forster

2008 **ROCK'N ROLLA** by Guy Ritchie

2007 **ST TRINIAN'S** by Oliver Parker

# **JALIL LESPERT**

## **FLIMOGRAPHY**

- 2016 **ORPHAN** by Arnaud des Pallières
- 2015 **IRIS** by Jalil Lespert
- 2014 **FIRST GROWTH** by Jérôme Le Gris
- 2013 **MARSEILLE** by Olivier Panchot
- 2012 **UNDER THE PINES** by François Vives
- 2012 **POST PARTUM** by Delphine Noels
- 2011 **LOVE AND BRUISES** by Lou Ye
- 2010 **A BUTTERFLY KISS** by Karine Silla
- 2010 **GINO STORY** by Samuel Benchetrit
- 2008 **BLACK OUT** by Jean-Christophe Klotz
- 2007 **CLOWN** by Marco Pontecorvo
- 2005 **TELL NO ONE** by Guillaume Canet
- 2004 **THE LAST MITTERRAND** by Robert Guedignian
- 2004 **VIRGIL** by Mabourk El Mechri
- 2004 **THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT** by Xavier Beauvois
- 2003 **L'ENNEMI NATUREL** by Pierre Erwan Guillaume
- 2003 **NOT ON THE LIPS** by Alain Resnais
- 2002 **THE AMATEURS** by Martin Valente
- 2001 **OEDIPUS (N+1)** by Eric Rognard
- 2001 **THE IDOL** by Samantha Lang
- 2001 **LIFE KILLS ME** by Jean-Pierre Sinapi
- 2001 **BELLA CIAO** by Stéphane Guisti
- 2001 **INCH'ALLAH SUNDAY** by Yamina Benguigui
- 1999 **SADE** by Benoît Jacquot
- 1999 **HUMAN RESSOURCES** by Laurent Cantet
- 1998 **A CONSIDERABLE DISTURBANCE** by Bernard Stor

# **NICOLAS DUVAUCHELLE**

## **FLIMOGRAPHY**

- 2016 **ORPHAN** by Arnaud des Pallières
- 2016 **JOUR J** by Reem Kherici
- 2016 **TOUT NOUS SÉPARE** by Thierry Klifa
- 2016 **DALIDA** by Lisa Azuelos
- 2014 **A DECENT MAN** by Emmanuel Finkiel
- 2014 **ORDINARY VICTORIES** by Laurent Tuel
- 2014 **THE ENDLESS RIVER** by Oliver Hermanus
- 2013 **BODYBUILDER** by Roschdy Zem
- 2012 **NOW OR NEVER** by Serge Frydman
- 2012 **WELCOME TO ARGENTINA** by Edouard Deluc
- 2011 **JUST LIKE BROTHERS** by Hugo Gelin
- 2010 **ON AIR** by Pierre Pinaud
- 2010 **POLISS** by Maiwenn
- 2010 **THE WELL-DIGGER'S DAUGHTER** by Daniel Auteuil
- 2010 **HIS MOTHER'S EYES** by Thierry Klifa
- 2009 **FOUR LOVERS** by Anthony Cordier
- 2009 **STRETCH** by Charles de Meaux
- 2008 **WILD GRASS** by Alain Resnais
- 2008 **THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN** by André Téchiné
- 2008 **THE BLONDE WITH BARE BREASTS** by Manuel Pradal
- 2007 **WHITE MATERIAL** by Claire Denis
- 2006 **APRIL IN LOVE** by Gérald Hustache-Mathieu
- 2006 **HELL** by Bruno Chiche
- 2006 **LE GRAND MEAULNES** by Jean-Daniel Verhaege
- 2004 **UNE AVENTURE** by Xavier Giannoli
- 2003 **SNOWBOARDER** by Olias Barco
- 2003 **EAGER BODIES** by Xavier Giannoli
- 2003 **LIGHTWEIGHT** by Jean-Pierre Ameris
- 2003 **RIGHT NOW** by Benoit Jacquot
- 2000 **TROUBLE EVERYDAY** by Claire Denis

# **SERGI LOPEZ**

## **FLIMOGRAPHY**

- 2016 **ORPHAN** by Arnaud des Pallières
- 2015 **EN AMONT DU FLEUVE** by Marion Hansel
- 2014 **TWO ON THE MENU** by Robert Bellsola
- 2014 **SECOND ORIGIN** by Carles Porta
- 2014 **HIGH SOCIETY** Julie Lopes Curval
- 2014 **THE MAD KINGS** Laurent Laffargue
- 2014 **21 NIGHTS WITH PATTIE** by Arnaud Larrieu and Jean-Marie Larrieu
- 2014 **THE NEXT SKIN** by Isaki Lacuesta
- 2013 **TENDERNESS** by Marion Hansel
- 2013 **TURF** by Fabien Onteniente
- 2013 **GERONIMO** by Tony Gatlif
- 2013 **ISMAEL** by Marcelo Pineyro
- 2013 **DYING BEYOND THEIR MEANS** by Isaki Lacuesta
- 2013 **EL NINO** by Daniel Monzon
- 2012 **DUBAÏ FLAMINGO** by Delphine Kreuter
- 2011 **AGE OF UPRISING: THE LEGEND OF MICHAEL KOHLHAAS** by Arnaud des Pallières
- 2011 **TANGO LIBRE** by Frédéric Fonteyne
- 2010 **GINO STORY** by Samuel Benchetrit
- 2010 **THE PREY** by Eric Valette
- 2010 **THE MONK** by Dominik Moll
- 2009 **LITTLE INDI** by Marc Recha
- 2009 **A MAP OF SOUNDS OF TOKYO** by Isabel Coixet
- 2009 **METTING WITH AN ANGEL** by Yves Thomas and Sophie Darrouvar
- 2009 **LEAVING** by Catherine Corsini
- 2009 **RICKY** by François Ozon
- 2009 **THE BOAT RACE** by Bernard Bellefroid
- 2009 **POTICHE** by François Ozon
- 2008 **HAPPY END** by Arnaud Larrieu and Jean-Marie Larrieu
- 2007 **THE HOUSE** by Manuel Poirier
- 2007 **PARC** by Arnaud des Pallières

2005 **PAN'S LABYRINTH** by Guillermo del Toro  
2004 **THE PAINT OR MAKE LOVE** by Arnaud Larrieu and Jean-Marie Larrieu  
2003 **BYWAYS** by Manuel Poirier  
2003 **THE RED KNIGHT** by Hélène Angel  
2003 **DIRTY PRETTY THINGS** by Stephen Frears  
2003 **JANIS AND JOHN** by Samuel Benchetrit  
2003 **WORDS IN BLUE** by Alain Corneau  
2002 **JET LAG** by Danièle Thompson  
2002 **HYPNOTIZED AND HYSTERICAL (HAIRSTYLIST WANTED)** by Claude Duty  
2002 **WOMEN OR CHILDREN FIRST** by Manuel Poirier  
2001 **THE MILK OF HUMAN KINDNESS** by Dominique Cabrera  
2001 **A HELL OF A DAY** by Marion Vernoux  
2001 **TE QUIERO** by Manuel Poirier  
2001 **MINE ALONE** by Javier Balaguer  
2001 **HAPPY MEN** by Roberto Santiago  
2001 **TEN DAYS WITHOUT LOVE** by Miguel Albaladejo  
2000 **TOREROS** by Eric Barbier  
2000 **HARRY, HE'S HERE TO HELP** by Dominik Moll  
1999 **EMPTY DAYS** by Marion Vernoux  
1999 **A PORNOGRAPHIC AFFAIR** by Frédéric Fonteyne  
1999 **TO DIE (OR NOT)** by Ventura Pons  
1999 **ARDE, AMOR** by Raul Veiga  
1998 **THE NEW EVE** by Catherine Corsini  
1998 **BETWEEN YOUR LEGS** by Manuel Gomez Pereira  
1997 **WESTERN** by Manuel Poirier  
1997 **MARION** by Manuel Poirier  
1997 **LISBON** by Antonio Hernandez  
1996 **CARESES** by Ventura Pons  
1994 **IN THE COUNTRY** by Manuel Poirier  
1994 **ATTENTION FRAGILE** by Manuel Poirier  
1992 **ANTONIO'S GIRLFRIEND** by Manuel Poirier  
1988 **EMPRESONADES** by P. Puig  
1983 **CLONICA** by Alejandro Soler

## **CAST**

RENEE Adèle Haenel

SANDRA Adèle Exarchopoulos

KARINE Solène Rigot

KIKI Véga Cuzytek

DARIUS Jalil Lespert

TARA Gemma Arterton

KIKI'S FATHER Nicolas Duvauchelle

MAURICE Sergi Lopez

FRIEND OF KIKI'S FATHER Karim Leklou

LEV Robert Hunger-Bühler

## **CREW**

DIRECTED BY Arnaud des Pallières  
SCREENPLAY AND DIALOGUES Christelle Berthevas  
Arnaud des Pallières  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY Yves Cape AFC SBC  
SOUND Brigitte Taillandier  
SET DESIGN Guillaume Deviercy  
COSTUMES Nathalie Raoul  
MAKE UP Michel Vautier  
CASTING Sarah Teper  
Leila Fournier  
PRODUCTION MANAGER Nicolas Picard  
EDITING Emilie Orsini  
Arnaud des Pallières  
Guillaume Lauras  
MIXING Mélissa Petitjean  
  
PRODUCTION LES FILMS HATARI - Michel Klein  
LES FILMS D'ICI - Serge Lalou

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