ELZÉVIR FILMS PRESENTS

CLEMENTE BOISNARD  ZITA HANROT

THE PARTY'S OVER

A FILM BY
MARIE GAREL-WEISS
THE PARTY’S OVER is the story of a revival, that of Céleste and Sihem. Arrived on the same day in a rehab facility, they’re going to seal an indestructible friendship. It will be as much a force as an obstacle when, expelled from their shelter, they are left on their own, facing the true world and its temptations. The real fight will then begin; fight for sobriety and freedom, fight towards life.
How did you approach the project of The party’s over, your first feature film?

I had already directed short films and worked as a screenwriter. Writing for others was a fulfilling experience, and it allowed me to earn a living. But it was also a cushy job, and it took me a long time to allow myself to get out there and make a feature film. The personal story I partly tell in The party’s over gradually became a self-evident topic.

Your film hints at a few psychological explanations, without ever reducing the characters to a single one of them.

Why are Sihem and Céleste drug addicts? I don’t know, nobody ever really knows. It just happens. Drug addiction is probably a combination of several factors, which are not the same for everyone: families are not necessarily dysfunctional, for instance, and addicts are not always self-destructive individuals... Sometimes drugs or alcohol are not the symptom of some underlying death wish, but rather the sign of an uncontrollable lust for life. I wanted the film to reflect that vitality. Regardless of their difficulties, Sihem and Céleste are really cheerful, and indeed, I had great laughs in that rehab centre.
Sihem wants to get through it, she embodies willpower. Céleste isn’t as determined, but she exudes tremendous natural strength.

Addicts have a wild, unshakable willpower! They are capable of going out at twenty bellow zero, completely naked in the snow, just to get their fix. It is not a matter of will, but rather almost of letting go. Céleste says it herself at the end of the film: “I’m not fighting any more”.

The film also tackles what comes after chaos, the resilience...

These are really intense times, when the will to make it through and the fear of relapse are intertwined. It is exactly what Sihem and Céleste are experiencing, sometimes in a messy way. It’s a risk they have to take, that of giving up a familiar if destructive habit for the unknown. It doesn’t work every time, so when a little glimmer appears, it’s a real outburst of life!

Interview by Claire Vassé
LAST

Sihem
Céleste
The Psychologist
Catherine
Céleste’s mother
Jean-Louis
The Therapist
Madeleine

Zita Hanrot
Clémence Boisnard
Michel Muller
Christine Citti
Marie Denarnaud
Pascal Rénéric
Inès Fehner
Martine Schambacher
A film by
Marie Garel-Weiss

Screenplay
Marie Garel-Weiss and Salvatore Lista

Production manager
Yves Comte

Casting director
Youna de Peretti A.R.D.A.

Photography
Samuel Lahu

Assistant director
Laure de Butler A.F.A.R.

Script
Charles Sire

Coordinator
Yann Gantelmi d’Ille

Set design
Guillaume Deviercy

Costume designer
Lou Garel and Mildred Giraud

Sound engineer
Laurent Cercleux

Original soundtrack
Ferdinand Berville and Pierre Allio

Editing
Riwanon Le Beller and Guerric Catala

Sound editing
Pierre Barriaud

Sound mixing
Samuel Aïchoun

Calibrator
Olivier Fontenay

Sound effects
Nicolas Fioraso

Production
Elzévir Films

Produced by
Marie Masmonteil

Associated producers
Denis Carot

In coproduction with
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Cinéma

With the participation of
Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

In association with
Centre National du Cinéma et de l’Image Animée

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