

tiff.40 toronto
international
film festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION 2015

SKY

A FILM BY FABienne BERTHAUD

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LE BUREAU PRESENTS

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DIANE KRUGER

NORMAN REEDUS

GILLES LELLOUCHE

SKY

A FILM BY **FABIENNE BERTHAUD**

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF **Q'ORIANKA KILCHER** AND **LENA DUNHAM**

FRANCE / GERMANY - 2015 - 100 min - Color - HD ; 1.85 - 5.1 - DCP, HD - English, French



Romy (Diane Kruger) is on holiday in the USA with her French husband, Richard (Gilles Lellouche). But the journey quickly turns into a settling of old scores for this worn out couple. After an ultimate fight, Romy decides to break free. She cuts off her ties to a stable and secure life that has become alienating and escapes to the unknown.

Drifting through a noisy Las Vegas to the wondrous high desert, Romy goes on with her solitary journey, abandoning herself to her sole intuitions and making it up as she goes.

Liberated, she will cross paths with Diego (Norman Reedus), a charismatic and solitary man, with whom she'll share an inconceivable but pure love.

SYNOPSIS

DIRECTORS



SKY tells a universal story in a minimalist, intimate way. It sits perfectly in my body of work of films and novels, where the existential quest for freedom is a recurrent and central theme.

SKY is the story of a woman, Romy, who decides that she won't put up with her life anymore. Without any premeditation, she literally breaks free – from her husband but also from a tepid existence, and social conventions.

Romy overcomes her fear of the unknown, in the vast unknown. She embraces the road to freedom without knowing where it will lead her. And by regaining her instincts – by living the moment – she opens herself up to the possibility of love.

I have always been drawn to characters who put themselves in danger, who dare to turn their lives upside down. My characters always experience something that makes them change direction. I try to explore the transformation of my protagonists, their reawakening. I think we should all try this at least once in a lifetime – provoke that sudden burst which sets us free, makes us feel alive again and appreciate the moment without any boundaries. But it does take some guts, and I think Romy shows a lot of heart and bravery to take her life in her own hands and start that quest for inner truth and essential values.

STATEMENT

DIRECTORS



The film starts as an idyllic landscape postcard and falls into a nightmarish tunnel, a dark one that Romy will need to run through to finally see the light at the end of it.

Another thing that is consistent in my filmography is the choice of Diane Kruger for the lead character – she also starred in my films LILY SOMETIMES and FRANKIE. I wrote the script for her, frail and strong at the same time. She inspires me deeply and I always try to whisk her away to where she has never been seen. I love to shake her up, to rummage through her emotions.

As for my way of working, it's always the same. I shoot with a small crew that allows me to remain as free as possible. I shoot with two cameras, one held by my DP, Nathalie Durand, the other one by me. When I shoot a scene, I put myself in a state of alert, in a kind of danger, a lack of comfort. I don't intellectualize, I just feel and perceive. I resolutely need to hold the camera to feel my characters breathing. I also like to put my actors in situations that wander away from fiction to get closer to reality.

In a way, my films always end up being “documentaries about people”. Although these characters come straight out of my imagination, I need to be as close as possible to their bodies and emotions to be able to capture their true nature.

Fabienne Berthaud

STATEMENT





FABIENNE BERTHAUD

Novelist, screenwriter and director, Fabienne Berthaud is about to release her third feature film, “Sky”, starring Diane Kruger for their first English language collaboration.

After shooting two short films, Fabienne Berthaud’s first feature “Frankie”, starring Diane Kruger in her first experience as an actress, had significant success in prestigious festivals in France and abroad. She adapted her own novel for her second feature film, “Lily Sometimes”, which premiered at Cannes Directors’ Fortnight 2010 where it won the Art Cinema Award.

Fabienne Bethaud wrote a number of novels parallel to her film works, including “La Voyageuse” (in “Les Malles”, Gallimard 2013), “Un jardin sur le ventre” (Françoise Sagan Award 2011), “Pieds nus sur les limaces” (Seuil, 2004), “Mal partout” (Seuil, 2004), “Moi par exemple” (1999) and “Cafards” (Albin Michel, 1994). Her next novel, “Entre tes jambes” (Stock) will be released in 2016.

FILMOGRAPHY (WRITER-DIRECTOR)

SKY — 2015 - co-written with Pascal Arnold

Cast: Diane Kruger, Norman Reedus, Gilles Lellouche, Lena Dunham, Q’orianka Kilcher

Production: Le Bureau (France) ; Co-production : Pandora Film (D)

Official competition Toronto 2015 (Platform)

LILY SOMETIMES (Pieds nus sur les limaces) – 2010 - co-written with Pascal Arnold

Cast: Diane Kruger, Ludivine Sagnier, Denis Menochet

Production: Le Bureau (F)

Closing film & Art Cinema Award at Quinzaine des Réalisateurs, Cannes 2010, Arte Prize Cinemart at Rotterdam FF, Audience Award at Châtenay Malabry & Le Croisic FF, Jury Award at Athens French FF, Audience Award & Best Actress Awards (L. Sagnier, D. Kruger) at La Réunion FF, Angoulême, Sao Paulo, Taipei, Ottawa, Göteborg, Dublin, Richmond USA FF, Istanbul, Colcoa Los Angeles...

FRANKIE - 2006

Cast: Diane Kruger, Brigitte Catillon, Jeanick Gravelines...

Production: 7e apache films (Bruno Petit, Xavier Durringer) ; Co-production : Quasar Pictures

Locarno Film Festival, Toronto FF, Edimburgh FF, Namur FF, Rotterdam FF, Hof FF, Berlin FF, Tokyo FF, Beijing FF, La Réunion FF (Grand Prize), Alba FF (Audience Award)...



DIANE KRUGER

- 2015 **SKY**, by Fabienne Berthaud – TIFF 2015 (PLATFORM)
MARYLAND, by Alice Winocour - CANNES 2015 (« UN CERTAIN REGARD »)
- 2012 **ME, MYSELF AND MUM**, by Guillaume Gallienne
THE BETTER ANGELS, by A.J. Edwards
THE GALAPAGOS AFFAIR: SATAN CAME TO EDEN, by Daniel Geller and Dayna Goldfine
THE HOST, by Andrew Niccol
- 2011 **A PERFECT PLAN**, by Pascal Chaumeil
FAREWELL, MY QUEEN, by Benoît Jacquot
- 2010 **SPECIAL FORCES**, by Stéphane Rybojad
UNKNOWN, by Jaume Collet-Serra
- 2009 **LILY SOMETIMES**, by Fabienne Berthaud - CANNES (DIRECTORS' FORTNIGHT) - C.I.C.A.E. AWARD
- 2008 **FAREWELL**, by Christian Carion
INGLOURIOUS BASTERDS, by Quentin Tarantino - CANNES 2009 (Competition)
- 2007 **MR NOBODY**, by Jaco Van Dormael - VENICE MOSTRA 2009 (Competition)
ANYTHING FOR HER, by Fred Cavayé
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS, by Jon Turteltaub
THE HUNTING PARTY, by Richard Shepard
- 2006 **GOODBYE BAFANA**, by Bille August
- 2005 **FRANKIE**, by Fabienne Berthaud
COPYING BEETHOVEN, by Agnieszka Holland
THE TIGER BRIGADES, by Jérôme Cornuau
- 2004 **NATIONAL TREASURE**, by Jon Turteltaub
MERRY CHRISTMAS, by Christian Carion
- 2003 **WICKER PARK**, by Paul McGuigan
MICHEL VAILLANT, by Louis-Pascal Couvelaire
TROY, by Wolfgang Petersen
- 2002 **THE PIANO PLAYER**, by Jean-Pierre Roux
MY IDOL, by Guillaume Canet
- 2001 **NOT FOR OR AGAINST (QUITE THE CONTRARY)**, by Cédric Klapisch



NORMAN REEDUS

Playing everyone’s favorite crossbow-wielding zombie-killer Daryl Dixon, actor Norman Reedus is currently in production on the 6th season of the AMC hit series, **THE WALKING DEAD**.

Reedus is best known for playing the role of “Murphy MacManus” in the cult movie **THE BOONDOCK SAINTS**, written and directed by Troy Duffy and starring Norman opposite Sean Patrick Flanery and Willem Dafoe. He also starred opposite Flanery again in the sequel **BOONDOCK SAINTS 2: ALL SAINTS DAY**.

Most recently, Reedus has completed production on Robert Kirkman’s (*The Walking Dead*) **AIR**, from Sony Pictures. Reedus leads the sci-fi thriller, which also stars Djimon Hounsou. He is currently in production on John Hillcoat’s ensemble cop drama, **TRIPLE NINE**, with Casey Affleck, Woody Harrelson, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Kate Winslet, Anthony Mackie and Aaron Paul, and also starring opposite Diane Kruger, Lena Dunham and Joshua Jackson in **SKY**, which premieres at the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival.

Additional past film credits include the indie drama **SUNLIGHT JR**, which premiered at the 2013 Tribeca Film Festival and also starred Naomi Watts and Matt Dillon; the Robert Redford directed feature, **THE CONSPIRATOR**, which chronicles the trial after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln; the sci-fi feature thriller **PANDORUM** with Dennis Quaid and Ben Foster; the Sony feature **CADILLAC RECORDS** opposite Adrien Brody; **SIX WAYS TO SUNDAY**, **8MM**, **BEAT**, **DEUCES WILD**, **BLADE 2**, **GOSSIP**, **THE BALLAD OF BETTIE PAGE** and **AMERICAN GANGSTER**.

Reedus is also an accomplished photographer as well as a burgeoning director having directed three short films. In October 2013, he released *The Sun’s Coming Up... Like a Big Bald Head: Photographs by Norman Reedus*, a book of his photography. Reedus lives in New York.



GILLES LELOUCHE

After graduating from the respected theatre school « Les Cours Florent », Gilles Lellouche began his career directing short films and numerous music videos. He then began then his acting career with Guillaume Canet who directed him in his film *My Idol* (2002) and *Tell No One* (2006). Gilles Lellouche then gave him the lead role in his first feature film *Narco* (2004).

He then played in comedies such as *My life in the Air* (2005) and opposite Marie Gillain in *My life is Not a Romantic Comedy* (2007). Gilles Lellouche also played in films tracing the odyssey of French criminal gangsters, notably the first part of the diptych dedicated to Jacques Mesrine, *Killer Instinct* by Jean-Francois Richet. In 2010, he was the Inspector Caponi of *Adèle Blanc-Sec* directed by Luc Besson and teamed up again with Guillaume Canet for *Little White Lies*, the biggest success in French cinemas that year. As such, Gilles Lellouche became in 2010 one of the most popular French actors. After his role as the protagonist of the successful action movie « *Point Blank* » sold worldwide (Cavayé), the actor teamed up with his colleague Jean Dujardin in front and behind the camera for the comedy *The Players*.

In 2014, the actor starred with Vincent Lindon in *Mea Culpa* (Cavayé) and embodied a boss of the French mafia in *Marseille*, again alongside his friend Jean Dujardin, as well as in *The Clearstream Affair* by Vincent Garenq, in which we saw him play the journalist Denis Robert. Finally, 2015 will be prolific with the presentation at the International Toronto Film Festival of *Belles Familles* by Jean-Jacques Rappeneau and *SKY* by Fabienne Berthaud.



NATHALIE DURAND – DOP

Accomplished DOP based in Paris, Nathalie was recently listed as one of the rare female and French «ten 2014 cinematographers to watch» by Variety (February 2014), exactly when her short film “Avant que de tout perdre” (“Before We Lose Everything”) by Xavier Legrand was oscar nominated for best short film. Nathalie has worked with multi-award winning directors such as Roger Michell (Notting Hill), Fabienne Berthaud (Lily Sometimes), Julie Gavras (Late Bloomers, Blame it on Fidel), JR (Women are heroes), Costa Gavras (Mad City), Andrzej Zulawski (My nights are more beautiful than your days), Xavier Durringer, Cédric Kahn and Bertrand Tavernier.

Selection of feature films

SKY by Fabienne Berthaud (Le Bureau/ Pandora)/ 2015

LE WEEK END by Roger Michell (FreeRange/Le Bureau)/ 2012

LA BRACONNE by Samuel RONDIERE (Bandoneon)/ 2012

L'ETOILE DU JOUR by Sophie BLONDY (MonfilmProd)/ 2011

LATE BLOOMERS by Julie GAVRAS (films du Worso/The Bureau)/ 2010

PIEDS NUS SUR LES LIMACES by Fabienne BERTHAUD (Le Bureau)/ 2009

LES GRANDS S'ALLONGENT PAR TERRE by E. SAGET (Films Pelléas)/ 2007

MAH SAAH-SAH by Daniel KAMWA/ 2007

LA FAUTE A FIDEL by Julie GAVRAS (Films du Worso/Gaumont)/ 2005

UNE SAISON SIBELIUS by Mario FANFANI (Les films Pelléas/ARTE)/ 2004

LA DERIVE DES CONTINENTS by Vincent MARTORANA (Balthazar/ARTE)/ 2004

LE PAYS DU CHIEN QUI CHANTE by Yann DEDET (Maïa films/ARTE)/ 2002

LES FILLES NE SAVENT PAS NAGER by Anne-Sophie BIROT (Sepia)/ 2002

L'ENCHANTEUR by Bénédicte BRUNET (Sunday Morning/ARTE)/ 2001

FAIS MOI REVER by Jacky KATU (Over Mars)/ 2000

MADE IN HOLLYWOOD by Anne FEINSILBER (Zadig) / feature documentary

WOMEN ARE HEROES by JR (27-11 prod) / feature documentary

LE BUREAU PRODUCTION

Production companies LE BUREAU (Paris) and THE BUREAU (London) were set up in 2000 by producer Bertrand Faivre. His producing partners are Gabrielle Dumon and Vincent Gadelle in France, and Soledad Gatti-Pascual and Tristan Goligher in the UK.

Over the last 15 years, both companies have gained recognition on either side of the Channel for the distinctive talents they have nurtured and retained, as well as for the excellence shown to their financial partners in the management of the companies.

Both companies' credits include films by multi award-winning directors such as Andrew Haigh, Asif Kapadia, Erick Zonca, Fabienne Berthaud, Fabienne Godet, Alan Rickman, Christophe Ruggia, Alexis Dos Santos, Roger Michell, Costa Gavras, Christian Carion or Philippe Lioret. Most of these films opened in prestigious festivals such as Cannes, Toronto, Venice, Berlin or Sundance, and were critically acclaimed as well as financially successful.

2016	LONELY HEARTS by Sylvie VERHEYDE Production: The Bureau (UK) – Les Films du Verrier (F) Drama – feature (in post-production) – French, English with Hafsia Herzi, Ashley Stymest, Karole Rocher, Paul Hamy Int'l sales: Wild Bunch
	TRAMONTANE by Vatche Boulghourjian co-production: Le Bureau (F); production: Rebus, About Productions (LEB) Drama – feature (in post-production) – Lebanese with Barakat Jabbour, Julia Kassar, Michel Adabashi / Int'l sales: The Bureau Sales
2015	SKY by Fabienne BERTHAUD production: Le Bureau (F); co-production: Pandora Film (DE) Dramedy – 100min – English, French with Diane Kruger, Norman Reedus, Gilles Lellouche / Int'l sales: The Bureau Sales Official selection – Toronto 2015, Platform
	45 YEARS by Andrew HAIGH production: The Bureau (UK) Dramedy – 95min – English with Charlotte Rampling, Tom Courtenay / Int'l sales: The Match Factory Official Competition Berlin 2015 – Silver Bear for best actor & best actress
2014	A LITTLE CHAOS by Alan RICKMAN Production: Potboiler (UK) - The Bureau (UK) Period film – 93min – English with Kate Winslet, Matthias Schoenaerts Int'l sales: Lionsgate Official selection – Toronto 2014
2013	LE WEEKEND by Roger MICHELL co-production: Le Bureau (F); production: Free Range (UK) Comedy – 93min – English with Jim Broadbent, Lindsay Duncan, Jeff Goldblum Int'l sales: Embankment Films Official selection – Toronto 2013, Silver Seashell Award San Sebastian 2013...
	A PLACE ON EARTH by Fabienne GODET production: Le Bureau (F); co-production: Versus Production (BE) Dramedy – 100min – French with Benoît Poelvoorde, Ariane Laved, Max Baissette de Malglaive / Int'l sales: CelluloidDreams Best actor award - Magritte 2014, Bangkok, Richmond, Tel Aviv, Newport Beach...

2012	CAPITAL by Costa GAVRAS co-production: The Bureau (UK); production: KG (F) Thriller – 113min – French with Gad Elmaleh, Gabriel Byrne, Natacha Régnier, Hippolyte Girardot / Int'l sales: Elle Driver Official selection – Toronto, San Sebastian 2012
2011	WEEKEND by Andrew Haigh Production: The Bureau (UK) Dramedy – 95min – English with Tom Cullen, Chris New / Int'l sales: The Bureau sales, South by Southwest (Emerging visions Award), London Film Festival, Rotterdam (MovieZone Award), BIFA Awards...
	LATE BLOOMERS by Julie GAVRAS Production: Les Films du Worso (F) - The Bureau (UK) Dramedy – 88min – English with Isabella Rossellini & William Hurt / Int'l sales & French distribution: Gaumont Special Gala screening - Berlin Film Festival 2011
	THE COMEDIAN by Tom SHKOLNIK production: The Bureau (UK) Drama – 80min – English / with Edward Hogg, Elisa Lasowski, Kate Rutter, Gerard Murphy Int'l sales: Celluloid Dreams / UK distribution: Trinity Official selection – London, Dinard, Sao Paulo, Les Arcs 2012
	IN TURMOIL by Christophe RUGGIA production: Le Bureau (F) Thriller – 108min – French with Clovis Cornillac, Mathilde Seigner, Yvan Attal / Int'l sales & French distribution: Wild Bunch
2009	LILY SOMETIMES by Fabienne BERTHAUD production: Le Bureau (F) Dramedy – 108 min – French with Diane Kruger, Ludivine Sagnier, Denis Menochet / Int'l sales: SND Art Cinema Award – Closing film Cannes' Directors' Fortnight Tel Aviv, Newport Beach...

2009	THE FAREWELL CASE by Christian CARION Production: Le Bureau (F) - Nord Ouest (F) Period drama – 90 min – French, English, Russian with Emir Kusturica, Guillaume Canet, Anna Maria Lara, William Dafoe, David Soul Int'l sales & French distribution: Pathé
	LONDON RIVER by Rachid BOUCHAREB co-production The Bureau (UK); production: Trois B (F) Drama – 90 min – French, English / with Brenda Blethyn, Sotigui Kouyaté / Int'l sales: Elle Driver Official Competition Berlin 2009 – Silver Bear for best actor
	UNMADE BEDS by Julie GAVRAS by Alexis DOS SANTOS Production: The Bureau (UK) Dramedy – 97 min – English with Deborah François, Fernando Tielve, Michiel Huisman / Int'l sales: Protagonist Competition Sundance 2009, Rotterdam, Berlin...
2008	MY GREATEST ESCAPE by Fabienne GODET production: Le Bureau (F) Feature documentary – 107 min – French with Michel Vaujour / Int'l sales: Celluloid Dreams Official selection Berlin Forum 2009, César 2010 nomination for Best Documentary
	WELCOME by Philippe LIORET co-production The Bureau (UK); production: Nord Ouest (F) Drama – 110 min – French with Vincent Lindon, Firat Ayverdi, Audrey Dana / Int'l sales: Films Distribution Official Competition Berlin Panorama 2009 – Fipresci Award
2007	FAR NORTH y Asif KAPADIA production: The Bureau (UK) Drama/Adventure – 90min – English / with Michelle Yeoh, Sean Bean, Michelle Krusiec Int'l sales: Celluloid Dreams Venice Film Festival, London, Dinard, Pusan, Antalya... night 2010el Aviv, Newport Beach...

2007	JULIA by Erick ZONCA production : Bagheera (F) – Le Bureau (F) Drama – 140min – English with Tilda Swinton Kate del Castillo, Saul Rubinek / Int'l sales: StudioCanal Official Competition Berlin 2008, Best actress nominee César
2005	BURNT OUT by Fabienne GODET production: Le Bureau (F) Drama – 100min – French with Olivier Gourmet, Julie Depardieu, Marion Cotillard, Dominique Blanc Int'l sales: Celluloid Dreams San Sebastian FF, London, Miami (Grand Prix), Shanghai (Best director, Best actor)
	MERRY CHRISTMAS by Christian CARION co-production: The Bureau (UK); production: Nord Ouest (F) Drama – 90min – French with Guillaume Canet, Daniel Brühl, Diane Kruger, Dany Boon / Int'l sales: Films Distribution Cannes 2005 (HC), Oscar, César, Bafta, Golden Globes 2005 nominations
2003	NOI ALBINOI de Dagur KARI co-production : The Bureau (UK); production: Zik Zak (ISL) Dramedy – 93min – Icelandic / with Tomas Lemarquis / Int'l sales: Coproduction Office Rotterdam, Toronto...
2002	THE WARRIOR by Asif KAPADIA production: The Bureau (UK) Adventure – 90min – English with Irrfan Khan, Puru Chibber / Int'l sales and UK release: FilmFour BAFTA best film, best first film, Grand Prix Dinard 2001, Best cinematography San Sebastian 2001, BIFA (Best first film, cinematography), Sutherland Trophy, EFA 2002



MAIN CAST

ROMY
DIEGO
RICHARD
BILLIE
MISSY

Diane KRUGER
Norman REEDUS
Gilles LELLOUCHE
Lena DUNHAM
Q'orianka KILCHER

CREW

Director	Fabienne Berthaud
Writers	Fabienne Berthaud, Pascal Arnold
Director of Photography	Nathalie Durand
Composer	François-Eudes Chanfrault
Editor	Pierre Haberer
Production designer	Christian Kastner
Sound	Jean-Yves Münch
Casting	Carla Hool
Producers	Gabrielle Dumon & Bertrand Faivre – Le Bureau (F)
Co-producers	Claudia Steffen, Christoph Friedel – Pandora Film (D)
	Grégoire Lassalle – Vamonos (F)
Partners	Orange Cinema Series, Filmstiftung Nordrhein-Westfalen
International Sales	The Bureau Sales

LE BUREAU presents a film by FABIENNE BERTHAUD starring DIANE KRUGER NORMAN REEDUS GILLES LELLOUCHE LENA DUNHAM Q'ORIANKA KILCHER LOU DIAMOND PHILLIPS original screenplay by FABIENNE BERTHAUD & PASCAL ARNOLD producers GABRIELLE DUMON & BERTRAND FAIVRE co-producers GREGOIRE LASSALLE CHRISTOPH FRIEDEL CLAUDIA STEFFEN executive producer VINCENT GADELLE associate producer DIANE KRUGER cinematography NATHALIE DURAND picture editing PIERRE HABERER original score FRANÇOIS-EUDES CHANFRAULT production design CHRISTIAN KASTNER sound JEAN-YVES MÜNCH ANDREAS HILDEBRANDT VINCENT HAZARD MATTHIAS LEMPert line production ADDISON WRIGHT JEAN-CHRISTOPHE COLSON casting CARLA HOOL a LE BUREAU PANDORA FILMPRODUKTION VAMONOS PRODUCTIONS co-production with the participation of OCS FILM UND MEDIEN STIFTUNG NRW HAUT ET COURT DISTRIBUTION ALAMODE FILMVERLEIH in association with ARTE/COFINOVA 9 with the support of PROCIREP ANGOA CREATIVE EUROPE international sales THE BUREAU SALES



