SAFETY
Easter Moon Films & Composite Films present

SAFETY

Written, Produced and Directed by Fabrice Joubert

Official Website
https://safetymovie.com

Trailer
https://vimeo.com/331464868

IMDb
https://www.imdb.com/title/tt7369716

Instagram
https://www.instagram.com/safetyshortfilm/

Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/safetyshort/

Publicity Contact: Fumi Kitahara - fumi@theprkitchen.com
short film / drama / 14 minutes / color / 2019

LOGLINE

The lives of a young boy, his classmates and their gym teacher are shattered forever by the presence of a shooter in their small-town elementary school.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

In a small-town elementary school, 8-year-old Michael lays on the cold gym floor, stretching with the rest of his class. Suddenly the class hears the sound of a gunshot nearby. As they rush to seek refuge in their gym teacher’s office, Michael senses something familiar about the shooter and makes a daring move, altering both of their lives forever. SAFETY is an adaptation of the acclaimed short story by Lydia Fitzpatrick.

DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT

As a French filmmaker living in the United States, and more importantly as a father, the issue of gun violence has always been profoundly unsettling to me. The devastating reality is that Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed by a gun than people in any other developed country today. In the U.S. alone, 100 people die every day from gun violence. 8 of these people are children.

I immediately connected with Lydia Fitzpatrick’s short story from an emotional standpoint, and to those characters whose lives are irreversibly changed by this tragedy. With the ongoing debate about gun violence in the U.S., I felt that approaching this issue from a more personal and intimate perspective, as well as from the point of view of children in particular was a compelling and powerful angle to tell a story that has become all too familiar to us.

What really interested me in that story was the impact of gun violence on human beings rather than the political side of it. My hope is that SAFETY can become an additional voice to end gun violence in this country and keep the conversation moving in the right direction.
CREDITS

Written, Produced and Directed by Fabrice Joubert
Based upon a short story by Lydia Fitzpatrick
Starring Rob Nagle, Garrison Griffith, Gattlin Griffith and Marie Mouté
Producer Samuel François-Steininger
Executive Producer Matia Karrell
Co-Executive Producers Jonathan Gardner, Ricki Maslar
Co-Producer Michael Caradonna
Associate Producer Jean Kim
Director of Photography Pavel Brenner
Production Designer Dara Waxman
Edited by Lisa Shaw Phillips
Costume Designer Jennifer Ingram
Original Music Composed and Conducted by Mathieu Alvado
Music Performed by the London Symphony Orchestra
Sound Editing by Samy Bardet | Sound Mixing by Thierry Lebon
Color Grader Fabien Pascal
Casting by Ricki Maslar
An Easter Moon Films Production | In Coproduction with Composite Films
FILMMAKERS

FABRICE JOUBERT
*Producer / Writer / Director*

Fabrice Joubert is an Academy Award Nominated and award-winning French writer/director who comes from the animation world. He grew up in Paris where he graduated from the Gobelins Animation School after majoring in film studies at the Sorbonne University. He started his career in Los Angeles as an animator and storyboard artist before going into writing and directing films. He was nominated for an Oscar in 2010 for his animated short film *French Roast*. “Safety” is his first live action film.

LYDIA FITZPATRICK
*Author (screenplay based on)*

Lydia Fitzpatrick was a Stegner Fellow at Stanford University from 2012-2014. She received an M.F.A. from the University of Michigan, where she was a Hopwood Award winner, and she was the 2011 Carl Djerassi Fiction Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She’s also a recipient of a grant from the Elizabeth George Foundation. Her work has appeared in Glimmer Train, Mid-American Review, and Opium. Lydia has published her debut novel “Lights All Night Long” in 2019.

SAMUEL FRANÇOIS-STEININGER
*Producer*

Samuel François-Steininger is the CEO of Composite Films, a production studio that specializes in the colorization and restoration of archive footage, the production of live action and animated films and the creation of new documentary content. Composite Films restored and colorized footage for Raoul Peck’s *I’m not your Negro* (2016), which was nominated at the 89th Academy Awards for Best Documentary. Samuel also produced *To Build a Fire*, an animated short film that has been screened at more than 130 festivals and has won 20 awards, including Grand Prize at Flickers Rhode Island 2016.
MATIA KARRELL  
Executive Producer

Matia Karrell wrote, directed, and produced the 1989 Academy Award Nominated short film, Cadillac Dreams. In 2001, she directed, co-wrote and co-produced her first feature length film, Behind The Red Door that premiered on Showtime, starring Kiefer Sutherland, Kyra Sedgwick and Stockard Channing. Ms. Karrell is a recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship to Paris. She was awarded the prestigious John Wells Directing Fellowship and the ABC/Disney Directing Fellowship.

CAST

ROB NAGLE  
Gym Teacher

Rob Nagle graduated from Northwestern University in 1992 with a double-major in Theatre and Philosophy. His recent Theater credits include The Little Foxes, The Hothouse, The Liar, Forever Bound and Church & State. Rob also spent a season at the Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, DC, performing in Macbeth, Henry V, All's Well that Ends Well, Volpone, and Measure for Measure. He is a proud member of the Troubadour Theater Company and the Antaeus Theatre Company.

GARRISON GRIFFITH  
Michael

Garrison Griffith is the youngest of a champion trick riding and equestrian gymnastics family, along with his brothers Gattlin, Callder and Arrden Griffith. His role as Michael in Safety marks his film acting debut.
GATTLIN GRIFFITH

*Dan*

Gattlin Griffith is an American actor, best known for portraying Walter Collins in the historical crime drama *Changeling*, Tim Tyson in the autobiographical civil rights film *Blood Done Sign My Name* and for starring in the romantic drama *Labor Day* as Kate Winslet’s son Henry. He also had episodic roles on TV series such as *Cold Case, Eli Stone, Supernatural, Criminal Minds* and the films *The New Daughter* and *Green Lantern*.

MARIE MOUTÉ

*Mother*

Marie Mouté is a French actress best known for starring in the French TV-series *La vie devant nous*, from 2002 to 2006. Mouté has led other French mini-series such as *Le temps Meurtrier* in 2004, *Chez Maupassant* in 2007, *Le Gendre Ideal 2* in 2009. She also appeared in several film features, including *And Then it Breaks, Travaux, on sait quand ça commence..., Comme les cinq doigts de la main*. In 2013, she was cast to play Gerard Depardieu’s daughter in *Welcome to New-York* directed by Abel Ferrara.
“This is a beautiful short film that forces us to face one of our country’s ugliest underbellies: the dangerous intersection of barely-regulated public access to weapons of war and insufficient mental healthcare.” (Rob Nagle, Actor)

“The issues in this story are near and dear to my heart. As gun violence in America directly touches more and more of our lives, the call is stronger than ever for reasonable gun safety reform. Our politicians are bribed to turn away from action by a hijacked NRA, and our families and our children pay the price for those politicians’ shameful neglect.” (Rob Nagle, Actor)

“As soon as I read this script, I knew I had to do everything in my power to be a part of this project. I had just closed a show Off-Broadway, playing a North Carolina senator whose convictions about the second amendment are tested. I met so many people during the course of that production directly affected by gun violence — from parents to prosecutors to mental health professionals to defense attorneys to politicians — I knew I had to keep telling stories about our country’s gun violence epidemic.” (Rob Nagle, Actor)

“It was such a sobering experience, to be shooting a film in a school with a dozen young kids of the age of the children we lost at Sandy Hook... it was like a clenched fist around my heart every time I walked onto set.” (Rob Nagle, Actor)

“Fabrice Joubert is a phenomenon. He is a brilliant empath, and as a director he combines passion and vision with dedication, preparation, and an enormous heart.” (Rob Nagle, Actor)

“The film is a very raw, emotional portrayal of something that is so delicate and sensitive. How can you attempt to convey the pain and suffering that so many go through in an event like this? This isn’t a film that chooses sides or tries to convince the audience of a specific decision. It is an inside look at the humanity behind such a horrifying matter, and how those involved are affected, forever.” (Gattlin Griffith, Actor)

“In between our two weekends of filming, the shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School occurred. This was an infinitely tragic event and the mood across the country was mournful. The feeling on set that second weekend reflected this, and an unspoken seriousness followed everyone throughout those two days. We were trying to tell a story that many had just experienced, many that wouldn’t even be able to share it because they were gone.” (Gattlin Griffith, Actor)

“Fabrice Joubert’s visual poetry illuminates while his director’s hand creates a strong narrative than never fails to move us and at crucial moments bring us to tears. This is a director that is very much in charge of his art and craft.” (Matia Karrell, Executive Producer)
FESTIVALS

Awards

Peak City Film Festival | Best Director Award
L.A. Film Awards | Best Drama, Best Director, Best Cinematography, Best Child Actor, Best Score

Selections

Krakow Film Festival | Poland
Short Shorts Film Festival | Japan
Rhode Island International Film Festival | USA
Summer in the South | USA
Fimucinema | Spain
Peak City Film Festival | USA
Lift-Off Los Angeles | USA
In the Bin Film Festival | Australia
L.A. Film Awards | USA
Awareness Film Festival | USA
Reel Recovery Film Festival | USA
Marina del Rey Film Festival | USA
Ojai Film Festival | USA
Miami Short Film Festival | USA
Aesthetica Short Film Festival | UK
Hollywood North Film Festival | Canada
Jacksonville Film Festival | USA
Woodpecker International Film Festival | India