



HIKE | MATHIEU GARI | LOS CHICOS | FRANCE | 21 MIN | 2024

FRENCH | ENGLISH SUBTITLES | 1.85 | 5.1 | DCP 2K & HD FILES | 2024

SHOT IN THE AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES REGION OF FRANCE | A BUDGET OF €70,000

ARRI ALEXA MINI CAMERA | PANAVISION PRIMO LENSES.



| SYNOPSIS |

A woman in her thirties does everything she can to avoid being alone on her birthday, even trying to intrude upon a coworker and then a couple of hikers. By the end of the day, finding herself lost on a high alpine plateau, she ultimately befriends a chamois enthusiast.



| MATHIEU GARI |

SCREENWRITER, DIRECTOR, PRODUCER

With a Master's degree in Social Anthropology from the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS Paris), Mathieu Gari initially worked as an editor for a publishing house specializing in social criticism. He ventured into cinema in 2012 by attending a workshop at the Superior School of Cinema of Catalonia (ESCAC, Barcelona), led by director Diego Vega, a Cannes Film Festival award winner.

In 2013, Gari directed a medium-length film produced in Spain. This was followed by two self-produced feature films, released in 2015 and 2017, both of which premiered in cinemas across France.

Rando marks his first foray into comedy and is also the inaugural project of his production company, ***Los Chicos***. Dedicated to supporting the work of other filmmakers, the company focuses on short formats such as fiction, creative documentaries, and animated films.

| DIRECTOR'S NOTE |

Making a comedy doesn't necessarily mean dealing with lighthearted subjects. With this film, I wanted to explore themes such as loneliness, marginalization, difference, and the rejection they can cause, but in a different way. By focusing on the clumsiness of an isolated person, incapable of forming meaningful connections with others, I found fertile ground for comedy. However, this approach carried a risk: the laughter could easily shift into discomfort or mockery.

The character of Justine and the situations she creates were designed to elicit laughter. However, from the writing process to the direction, my ambition was always to bring audiences closer to her, to help them understand her flaws and her pain without necessarily adopting her point of view. My goal was for them to feel her suffering rather than keep a critical or dismissive distance. The gradual shift to a more dramatic tone in the latter part of the film was designed to foster this empathy. At the same time, it was crucial to avoid any sense of paternalism: Justine had to remain a strong and complex character, even if that meant making her sometimes unpleasant or challenging to embrace.

The mountains, a place close to my heart, naturally imposed themselves as the setting. My desire to film this geography, which inspires me deeply, went beyond narrative considerations. In choosing the Platé Desert in the Alps, the highest limestone plateau in Europe, I found a location that combines the imposing verticality of the mountains with the endless horizontal expanse of a desert, evoking a symbolism often used in cinema. This isolated space provided the perfect backdrop to delve deeper into the theme of loss and heighten the sense of isolation.



The encounter between Justine and Aurore introduces a reversal of roles: Justine, by instinctively reproducing what she herself has suffered, rejects someone even more marginalized than herself. Yet, as the urgency of the situation escalates and a crisis unfolds, the masks come off, allowing a sincere connection to emerge between the two women.

Dance and music play a central role in the film. These elements, incorporated from the earliest stages of writing, structure the narrative and flow through the characters' bodies, for better or worse. The extradiegetic music, repetitive and enveloping, becomes a guiding thread, drawing the audience closer to Justine. In the final moments, the continuous stream of dialogue that had driven the film until then gives way to silence, to movement, and to gazes.



| CAST |

LAURA MASCI
JULIETTE SAVARY
PÉRINE LAFFOLAY
NATHAN BETOUX
HERVÉ TERRISSE

| CREW |

DIRECTOR, SCREENWITER	MATHIEU GARI
DOP	LOUISE BERNARD PALLAS
SOUND OPERATOR	VINCENT BRUNIER
SOUND EDITOR, MIX	HERVÉ GUYADER
COSTUMES & PRODUCTION DESIGNER	PAULINE VEL
MAKEUP ARTIST, HAIR STYLIST	NOÉMIE REVIAL
CONTINUITY	LOUISE ALBON
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	COLINE DUMAYET
EDITOR	MATHIEU GARI
COLOR GRADING	GILLES GRANIER



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