

unrelated

UNRELATED

Written and directed by Joanna Hogg



Starring Kathryn Worth Tom Hiddleston

Produced by Barbara Stone

UK 2007 / 100 minutes / 1:1.76 / Dolby Digital

Certificate: 15

Winner Fipresci International Critics' Award London Film Festival

'UNRELATED' OPENS ON 19TH SEPTEMBER IN THE WEST END AND SELECTED
CINEMAS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

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Production

Writer & Director	JOANNA HOGG
Producer	BARBARA STONE
Cinematographer	OLIVER CURTIS BSC
Production Designer	STEPHANE COLLONGE
Editor	HELLE LE FEVRE
Production Coordinator	LOUISE ALAIMO
1ST Assistant Director	PAOLO GUGLIELMOTTI
Script Supervisor	SARA J. DOUGHTY
Sound Recordist	CHRIS MCDERMOTT
Supervising Sound Editor	JOVAN AJDER
Production Company	RAW SIENA

Cast

Anna	KATHRYN WORTH
Oakley	TOM HIDDLESTON
Verena	MARY ROSCOE
George	DAVID RINTOUL
Jack	HENRY LLOYD-HUGHES
Archie	HARRY KERSHAW
Charlie	MICHAEL HADLEY
Badge	EMMA HIDDLESTON
Leonetta	LEONETTA MAZZINI
Giovanna	GIOVANNA MENNELL
Elisabetta	ELISABETTA FIORENTINI
Jonathan	JONATHAN MENNELL
The Count	GIUSEPPE FIORENTINI
Lingerie Shop Owner	LUISA BARTOLOMEI

UK / 2007 / Colour / 1.78 / Dolby Digital / 100 mins / English

Winner of the FIPRESCI International Critics Award London Film Festival 2007

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SYNOPSIS

Childless and in a deteriorating marriage, Anna fears she is condemned to a life on the periphery of events. Everything she is discovering now, she has arrived at too late. A summer holiday, with the family of an old school friend, becomes a reminder of a life she has not lived.

Sexual tensions simmer and Anna believes she has found a second chance. But as events slowly unravel, and the strains within this affluent bourgeois clique are revealed, she has to finally confront her inner turmoil and sadness.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I wanted to depict a woman well into her forties who was still struggling to understand who she is. A woman unhappy in her own skin, who has never taken responsibility for her life and is drifting like a teenager. And because of this has missed the opportunity of having children. Then I wanted to put this woman in a situation where she has to cope with being in a large family, to contrast her loneliness and awkwardness with a big, messy, noisy group of people who know each other very well.

At first I began to write this film in a very autobiographical way, but gradually the characters took on a life of their own and I could put a distance between them and myself. I find a constant tension between wanting the story to be truly felt and personal, and the creation of fiction. I struggle during the writing but once a script is in my hands, then I start to enjoy letting go of it.

In responding and being open to what is going on around me, I believe it is important to do what Jean Renoir said, which is to keep a door open so that something unexpected or spontaneous might be allowed to become part of the film.

Joanna Hogg

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DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Joanna Hogg started her career as a photographer before becoming interested in the moving image. When she approached Derek Jarman in a café to ask him if she could work on one of his films, he instead encouraged her to make her own, and lent her his Super 8 camera.

She studied directing at the National Film School and became a prolific director of television drama. She used this as a testing ground for developing her aesthetic as a director, and in particular working with actors to obtain performances of authenticity and depth. She continually pushed the boundaries of what was possible in established long running series and was the first woman to direct London's Burning.

She has felt a continual desire to express herself in more personal work and the result is her first feature film, *Unrelated* (2007). She is currently writing a new film, called *The Eternal Daughter*, which will shoot in 2008.

UNRELATED won the Fipresci International Critics' Award at the 2007 London Film Festival

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Kathryn Worth (Anna)

Kathryn grew up in the conventional London suburbs and ran away to Paris to be different. When she got back she still felt ordinary so she applied to drama school and was surprisingly accepted by the one everyone's heard of. On her first day, overawed by RADA's grand marble staircase with its bust of George Bernard Shaw, and plaques with the gilded names of former students: Olivier, Gielgud, Redgrave, she wondered if they'd made a big mistake. By the end of two and a half years she'd developed stage fright, forgotten her lines, lost the plot. The years passed.

Some revelatory acting classes, bits of fringe theatre - Lady Macbeth above a pub, Pinter in a classroom, Lorca in a church hall.

A stint as a casting assistant taught her what a tough game showbiz was.

Then one day the phone rang...

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Mary Roscoe (Verena)

Mary was born in Zimbabwe and has worked extensively in the UK in theatre, television, film and radio since 1980, and in the last few years has also produced and directed plays. Theatre work has taken her to India, Japan, America, Canada, Europe and the West End with Shared Experience, the English Shakespeare Company and David Gale's Company. She was the first actor to bring Olive Oyl to life on stage in "Popeye" which played the West End and toured internationally.

Films - "Topsy Turvy" "To Kill A King", "Ashes & Sand", "Nightbreed". Recent television - "The Thieving Headmistress" and the BAFTA winning "George Orwell – A Life in Pictures" for BBC2. Mary is currently directing Doug Bradley (Pinhead from cult movies "Hellraiser") in his one-man show to tour America this Halloween.

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Tom Hiddleston (Oakley)

TRAINING: Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (2002 – 2005)

University of Cambridge (Pembroke College)

FILM:

UNRELATED

d: Joanna Hogg

Winner of Fipresci International Critics' Award at Times BFI 51st London Film Festival, 2007

TELEVISION includes:

WALLANDER (Detective Martinsson)

d: Philip Martin

MISS AUSTEN REGRETS (John Plumptre)

d: Jeremy Lovering

VICTORIA CROSS HEROES (John Randle)

d: Mary McMurray

A WASTE OF SHAME (John Hall)

d: John McKay

THE GATHERING STORM (Randolph Churchill)

d: Richard Loncraine

ARMADILLO (Toby Sherriffmuir)

d: Howard Davies

CONSPIRACY (Phone Operator)

d: Frank Pearson

NICHOLAS NICKLEBY (Lord)

d: Stephen Whittaker

THEATRE includes:

OTHELLO (Cassio)

d: Michael Grandage

Donmar Warehouse

Laurence Olivier Award Nomination for Best Newcomer, 2008

Ian Charleson Award Nomination, 2008

CYMBELINE (Posthumus/Cloten)

d: Declan Donnellan

Cheek by Jowl

Laurence Olivier Award Winner for Best Newcomer, 2008

THE CHANGELING (Alsemero)

d: Declan Donnellan

Cheek by Jowl

Ian Charleson Award Nomination, 2007

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UNRELATED PRESS QUOTES

DISCOVERY OF THE YEAR - Jonathan Romney, SIGHT & SOUND

TRULY IMPRESSIVE - Geoff Andrew, TIME OUT

OUTSTANDING – Roger Clarke The Independent

“UNRELATED has a freshness and a fluency quite uncommon in a British film nowadays”

- Roger Clarke, THE INDEPENDENT

Striking in its truthfulness and power - Roger Clarke, THE INDEPENDENT

Brilliant performances from Kathryn Worth and Tom Hiddlestone

- Roger Clarke, THE INDEPENDENT

A new kind of British film - Roger Clarke, THE INDEPENDENT

Thoroughly deserved triumph of a British feature debut - Time Out

Gripping - Catherine Wheatley, SIGHT & SOUND

A terse, psychologically astute piece with echoes of Michael Haneke

- Jonathan Romney, SIGHT & SOUND

“Outstanding debut...gripping psychodrama” - Catherine Wheatley, SIGHT & SOUND

Impressive, bold, brutally honest - Michael Hayden LFF

Epic, achingly touching, often tense and quite scary - Michael Hayden LFF

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