

Mongrel Media
Presents

Frances Ha



A film by Noah Baumbach
(86 min., USA, 2012)
Language: English

Distribution



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High res stills may be downloaded from <http://www.mongrelmedia.com/press.html>

SYNOPSIS

Frances (Greta Gerwig) lives in New York, but she doesn't really have an apartment. Frances is an apprentice for a dance company, but she's not really a dancer. Frances has a best friend named Sophie, but they aren't really speaking anymore. Frances throws herself headlong into her dreams, even as their possible reality dwindles. Frances wants so much more than she has, but lives her life with unaccountable joy and lightness. *FRANCES HA* is a modern comic fable in which Noah Baumbach explores New York, friendship, class, ambition, failure, and redemption.

ABOUT NOAH BAUMBACH

Noah Baumbach's films as a writer and director include *KICKING AND SCREAMING*, *THE SQUID AND THE WHALE*, *MARGOT AT THE WEDDING*, and *GREENBERG*.

Mr. Baumbach received an Academy Award nomination for his original screenplay *THE SQUID AND THE WHALE*. The picture premiered at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival, where he was honored with both the Directing Award (in the Dramatic features category) and the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award. The script also earned him Best Original Screenplay awards from the New York Film Critics Circle, the National Society of Film Critics, the National Board of Review, the Toronto Film Critics Association, and the Los Angeles Film Critics Association. The film was on over 150 Top Ten lists, including AFI's 10 Best of the Year. *THE SQUID AND THE WHALE* received three Golden Globe Award nominations, including Best Picture (Musical/Comedy); and six Independent Spirit Award nominations, including Best Picture, Best Director, and for actors Jeff Daniels, Laura Linney, and Jesse Eisenberg.

MARGOT AT THE WEDDING premiered at the Telluride Film Festival in 2007 and played at the Toronto International Film Festival and the New York Film Festival. The picture was released by Paramount Vantage and received Gotham Award nominations for Best Film and Best Ensemble Cast. Jennifer Jason Leigh earned an Independent Spirit Award nomination for her performance opposite Nicole Kidman and Jack Black.

In 2010, *GREENBERG* premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival. The film was released by Focus Features and received a Gotham Award nomination for Best Breakthrough Actress for Greta Gerwig and four Independent Spirit Award nominations including Best Feature, Best Male Lead for Ben Stiller, and Best Female Lead for Greta Gerwig.

With director Wes Anderson, Mr. Baumbach co-wrote *THE LIFE AQUATIC WITH STEVE ZISSOU* and *FANTASTIC MR. FOX* (the latter adapted from the novel by Roald Dahl).

He directed the shorts *CLEARING THE AIR* and *NEW YORK UNDERGROUND* which he co-wrote with Bill Hader and Fred Armisen for *Saturday Night Live*.

He is also a contributor of humor pieces to the "Shouts and Murmurs" section of *The New Yorker*.

ABOUT GRETA GERWIG

Greta Gerwig has rapidly emerged as one of Hollywood's most engaging actresses.

Most recently, Gerwig starred in Woody Allen's *TO ROME WITH LOVE* opposite Alec Baldwin, Jesse Eisenberg and Ellen Page. The all-star cast also included Penélope Cruz, Roberto Benigni, Judy Davis and Allen. Gerwig also recently starred as the lead in Whit Stillman's comedy *DAMSELS IN DISTRESS* and as the title character of "Lola" in Fox Searchlight's *LOLA VERSUS*.

Gerwig first received critical acclaim for her breakout role as "Florence" in *GREENBERG*, which marked her first

collaboration with writer/director, Noah Baumbach. In the film, she starred opposite Ben Stiller and her performance earned her several nominations including a Gotham Award nomination for Breakthrough Performance and an Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best Female Lead. Gerwig then went on to star alongside Russell Brand and Helen Mirren in the comedy ARTHUR, which she followed with a supporting role in the romantic comedy NO STRINGS ATTACHED with Natalie Portman and Ashton Kutcher.

A darling of the independent film scene, Gerwig's prior credits include Ti West's art-house horror film HOUSE OF THE DEVIL and the Duplass brothers' genre-bender BAGHEAD. She has twice collaborated with director and actor Joe Swanberg, first on HANNAH TAKES THE STAIRS as a writer and actress, and then for NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS, which she also co-wrote and co-directed.

Gerwig graduated magna cum laude from Barnard College, and currently resides in New York City.

ABOUT MICKEY SUMNER

Mickey Sumner, born and raised in England, currently lives in New York City, having graduated with a B.F.A. from Parsons School of Design in 2007. Theatre credits include the recent Culture Project workshop of THE SEAGULL directed by Max Stafford-Clark, TOMORROW MORNING, HILLBILLY WOMEN, RUMSPRINGA, AND THINK GLOBAL F**K LOCAL directed by Max Stafford-Clark at the Royal Court in London. She is a founding member of The Bleecker Company. TV credits include a recurring role on the Showtime series THE BORGAS. Her film credits include a cameo role as iconic rocker Patti Smith in Randall Miller's film CBGB with Alan Rickman, MISSED CONNECTIONS (winner of the Sarasota Film Festival Audience Award 2012; opening night film of the 2012 Gen Art Film Festival in N.Y.; and winner of Gen Art's Audience Award), IMOGENE, I HAVE NO HOLD ON YOU, THIS IS NOT AN UMBRELLA, WE'RE GOING TO THE ZOO, and LAST CHANCE HARVEY.

CREDITS

DIRECTED BY
NOAH BAUMBACH

WRITTEN BY
NOAH BAUMBACH & GRETA GERWIG

PRODUCED BY
NOAH BAUMBACH
SCOTT RUDIN
LILA YACOUB
RODRIGO TEIXEIRA

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
FERNANDO LOUREIRO
LOURENCO SANT'ANNA

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
SAM LEVY

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
SAM LIENCO

EDITED BY

JENNIFER LAME

CO-PRODUCER
OSCAR BOYSON

MUSIC SUPERVISOR
GEORGE DRAKOULIAS

RE-RECORDING MIXER
PAUL HSU

COLOR MASTERING
PASCAL DANGIN

CASTING BY
DOUGLAS AIBEL

STARRING
GRETA GERWIG
MICKEY SUMNER

CO-STARRING
CHARLOTTE D'AMBIOSE
ADAM DRIVER
HANNAH DUNNE
MICHAEL ESPER
GRACE GUMMER
PATRICK HEUSINGER
JOSH HAMILTON
CINDY KATZ
MAYA KAZAN
JUSTINE LUPE
BRITTA PHILLIPS
JULIET RYLANCE
DEAN WAREHAM
MICHAEL ZEGAN

ABOUT RT FEATURES

The Brazilian film production company RT Features began in 2005 with very clear objectives: to develop original film projects in Brazil and internationally. Starting with encouraging the creation of new stories and acquiring the rights to literary works, graphic novels and nonfiction books, RT Features has established itself as the leading Brazilian production company, extending its involvement to projects in the U.S. and Latin America. Within this model, the company naturally ended up promoting the creation and execution of literary projects by developing collections and individual books. Its main partner in the publishing industry is Companhia das Letras. RT Features is currently producing films and series in partnership with The Kennedy/ Marshall Company, Red Hour Films, Plan B, Grupo Conspiração and the Globo Television Network, and is also developing projects in collaboration with Julian Fellowes, Karim Aïnouz, Noah Baumbach, and David Seidler, among others.