



Presents

REVENGE

A film by Coralie Fargeat
108 mins, France, 2017
Language: English and French

Distribution



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SYNOPSIS

Three wealthy, married family men get together for their annual hunting game in a desert canyon. But this time, one of them has brought with him his young mistress, a sexy lolita who quickly arouses the interest of the two others.

Things get dramatically out of hand.

Left for dead in the middle of a desert hell, the young woman comes back to life and their hunting game turns into a ruthless manhunt.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

REVENGE is the story of the sloughing of a woman.

A young, frivolous and naïve Lolita, subject to men's desires and which men only see as a sexual object. An object which has to satisfy THEIR desire. Even if it means dying.

Even though she doesn't die physically, the character dies symbolically. Physically wounded, this sweet and inconsequential doll will be reborn as a harsh, beastly and unforgiving woman. One that no one nor anyone can manipulate or abuse.

At first weak and superficial, the character blooms into a wounded but strong woman who, by drawing up her revenge, will end up taking control over her life again.

On a different level, it's really about symbolizing the sloughing of a certain way women are represented in films: too often viewed as a foil or a sexual object which one undresses or belittles, the film plays at the beginning with this representation which it pushes to its fullest in order to switch it brutally the other way round. The character thus becomes THE strong figure of the film, a female super hero and the driving force of the action.

This sloughing is deliberately radical. I want it to be as powerful as it is unpredictable. A new character is reborn on this branch. A skin which she takes off and which she leaves behind.

Molded around the myth of the Phoenix – which rises from the ashes and controls fire more and more at each resurrection - Jen wakes up transformed and possessed by a new strength. As if she had fed off the violence which had struck down against her in able to find a new incarnation.

The highly uncluttered narrative thread aims to shed light on the symbolic and initiatory dimension of the film which will be powerfully conveyed by its staging.

For it is indeed the staging of the story which is at the very core of REVENGE's narrative. A staging which will submerge the spectator into a harsh, carnal, highly sensory, hostile and violent world.

The film is therefore staged in a non-realistic way. Pure genre which instills an atmosphere which makes you feel, a world which multiplies sensations, a total immersion into a sensory whirlwind caught between phantasmagoria and reality.

As the story moves forward, the dialogues become more and more scarce until disappearing completely, simply replaced by sound, images and sensations.

Music is the keystone of this hellish experience which grows more and more harsh and hostile. A repetitive and hypnotic score strongly tainted with electro which progressively puts one in a trance like those of John Carpenter, Etienne Jaumet or Thomas Banglater.

My film references span from Sailor and Lula to Drive, Under The Skin and the films of David Cronenberg. True carnal and diehard genre filmmaking in which violence and dreams co-exist and where the strength of symbols literally explodes.

Until now, this type of filmmaking has been made practically exclusively by men. REVENGE is my vision of a female director on the genre.

To explore the genre is not a position or a statement. It's my kind of film. The kind of film which has nurtured and built my life as a film buff and then as a filmmaker. I see in it the possibility of evocative power, of sensations, of fears and frights. A truly philosophical dimension which passes through a highly symbolic, playful and sensory media.

REVENGE can finally be perceived as the sloughing of a certain way genre films are embodied...

— Coralie Fargeat

FILMMAKER AND CAST BIOS:

FILMMAKER

Coralie Fargeat (Director & Writer) Coralie Fargeat was born and raised in Paris, France. She studied at French cinema school La Fémis where she was chosen to participate in their Atelier Scenario lab.

She began her career as an Assistant Director on American productions in France. Her debut short film THE TELEGRAM won 13 awards at multiple film festivals, and her sci-fi short film REALITY+ has won multiple awards on the festival circuit. It had its U.S. premiere in competition at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2016.

REVENGE is her first feature film.

CAST

Matilda Lutz (Jen) Matilda Lutz has always had a passion for the arts and especially for film, and after initially working in the fashion industry, she moved to NY where she attended his first acting course.

Afterwards she moved back to Milan to study Psychology, but continued to act and landed a part in the popular Italian series FUORICLASSE. This led to her the female lead in L'UNIVERSALE, a true story about a famed film theatre in Florence. Shortly afterward Matilda moved to Los Angeles, where she soon won the lead role in the Paramount film RINGS, a reboot of the original film THE RING, directed by the award-winning Spanish director Javier Gutierrez. Immediately following RINGS, she went to work with Gabriele Muccino on SUMMERTIME, which premiered at the Venice Film Festival.

Matilda recently wrapped the independent film DIVORCE PARTY alongside Thomas Cocquerel and Claire Holt. She also will soon be seen as the face of the new Armani Fragrance Campaign and was previously the face for Miu Miu in 2016.

CREDITS

CAST

Jen Matilda Lutz
Richard Kevin Janssens
Stan Vincent Colombe
Dimitri Guillaume Bouchede
Roberto Jean-Louis Tribes

FILMMAKERS

Written and Directed by
Coralie Fargeat

Producers

Marc-Etienne Schwartz, Jean-Yves Robin, Marc Stanimirovic

Co-Producers

Charades (Carole Baraton, Yohann Comte, Pierre Mazars, Constantine Briest),
Logical Pictures (Frédéric Fiore, Yannick Bossenmeyer, Alexis Perrin),
Nexus Factory and uMedia (Serge De Poucques, Sylvain Goldberg, Nadia
Khamlichi, Gilles Waterkeyn)

Director of Photography

Robrecht Heyvaert

Editors

Coralie Fargeat, Bruno Safar, Jerome Eltabet

Assistant Director

Valentin Rodriguez

Sound Design

Zacharie Naciri

Set Design

Pierre Queffelec

Costume Design

Elisabeth Bornuat

Music

Rob