WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ALY MIGLIORI

PRESS NOTES

GENRE
Feminist Thriller/Drama

TAGLINE
You’ll never forget your first time

STARRING
HELENA HOWARD

25 NEW FACES OF INDEPENDENT CINEMA 2018
NOMINATED FOR BREAKTHROUGH ACTOR, GOTHAM AWARDS 2018
NOMINATED FOR BEST FEMALE LEAD, INDEPENDENT SPIRIT AWARDS

**TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL 2019 – WORLD PREMIERE**

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IMDB
Facebook
Trailer
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LOGLINE

No choice but to walk home alone, Hannah sees an opportunity for a ride, but others see an opportunity in her.

SYNOPSIS

Walking home from work in the rain, Hannah encounters a few young guys looking for a late night snack. More concerned with the empty road than the backseat of a car, Hannah makes a decision that she must remedy before it’s too late.

DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT

I was interested in a creating a female coming of age story - but one less explored and far more dark - a hard look at the moment where a seemingly innocuous situation can turn sour; forcing a harsh moment of clarity and abandonment of naivety. Tonally and visually, the film is inspired by the character-motivated tension and irony of Straw Dogs, Nocturnal Animals, and Clockwork Orange - re-lensed with a strong, evolving female lead. Twist is also meant to illustrate the gray lines in consent and victim-blaming. It follows a girl through her decision making, highlighting the very tough role that judgment takes on in unclear situations.

I wanted people to relate to her, her innocence and the lessons learned - I believe that this situation represents a timeless element of growing up. I hope the film leads you through ambiguous circumstances, unintentional consequences, and how some things may not mean much to one person, but have a lasting significance on another.

This is the second short film in an anthology series running up to my feature film, AFTER HER, which is currently in development. The narratives explore the same world of female subjectivity, mysticism and empowerment amidst the unknown, the uncanny, and American youth culture.

I’ve been able to cultivate interest through engagement with my 10K+ Instagram followers (@aly_mig). The first short in the series, AFTER HER, will be widely released in the spring.
CAST & CHARACTER LIST

Helena Howard – HANNAH
Megan Seely – GINA
Matt Russell – Guy #1
Mike Donovan – Guy #2
Henry Dwyer – Guy #3
Justin Hofstad – Guy #4
Mackenzie Redican – Young Girl #1
Nat Redican – Young Girl #2
Gloria Migliori – Young Girl #3

THEMES

COMING OF AGE AS A TEEN GIRL
AMBIGUITY AND PERSONAL TRUTHS IN TRAUMA

Through Hannah’s story, TWIST brings the audience into the stress, uncertainty, possibly innocent, but loaded, encounters that girls learn to navigate as they move from childhood into reality. Working in subtext and within the “almost,” our aim was to have the audience follow a girl through her decision making, highlighting the very tough role that judgment takes on in unclear situations and how subjective and impactful trauma can be.
LOOK OF TWIST

We were inspired by the isolation, voyeurism and distortion of American mythos within Edward Hopper and Gary Crewdson’s work. Tonally and visually, Twist is deeply influenced by the character-motivated tension and irony of Straw Dogs, Nocturnal Animals, and Clockwork Orange - but we sought to re-lens with a evolving, strong female lead. For Hannah, we wanted the lensing of her to grow in strength as she sheds her childish naivety for a newfound clarity, and the later framings drew inspiration from the powerful angles and closeness to Sharon Stone’s commanding brilliance and manipulation of sexuality in Verhoeven’s Basic Instinct.

BIOGRAPHIES

ALY MIGLIORI – WRITER/DIRECTOR
Aly is NY-based director who creates female-led narratives that subvert character tropes and genre expectations. Twist, premiering at Tribeca, follows closely behind her 2018 short film, After Her, an atmospheric sci-fi that explored the marginalization of the tokenized lost girl (Natalia Dyer) and played at over 20 academy-qualifying and regional festivals. It will be premiering online in Spring 2019. Aly fuels her narrative work with commercial cinematography and camera operating. She is an Easy Rig ambassador, pushing the initiative of female forward camera gear to help make the industry more inclusive. Aly graduated from Brown University.

ZANDER FIFE - PRODUCER
Zander is a NY-based producer and founder at First Hunt Films - a production company that brings an all-in approach to narrative, commercial, fashion and branded content.

CORY GERYAK – DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Cory Geryak earned his BFA degree from Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. He began his career in Los Angeles by shooting television documentaries and working as the Chief Lighting Technician on low budget movies for fellow cinematographers. Cory’s experience as a filmmaker continued to grow with his successful career as the Chief Lighting Technician on many blockbuster films, including THE DARK KNIGHT Trilogy, INCEPTION, HER, MISSION:IMPOSSIBLE-GHOST PROTOCOL, THE BOURNE LEGACY, THOR, THE PRESTIGE and many others. Cory collaborated with many notable cinematographers including Robert Elswit ASC, Phedon Papamichael ASC, Wally Pfister ASC, Harris Savides, ASC, Jess Hall BSC, and Hoyte Van Hoytema. He has firsthand experience working alongside such notable directors as Christopher Nolan, Spike Jonze, James Man-
gold, Brad Bird, Tony Gilroy and Kenneth Branagh.

**PETER ALBRECHTSEN, MPSE – SOUND DESIGNER**

Peter is a Danish sound designer based in Copenhagen. He is known for his work on *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* (2009), *Dunkirk* (2017) and *Idealisten* (2015). Along with his sound work, Peter works as a music supervisor and has collaborated closely with acclaimed musicians such as Antony and the Johnsons, Jóhann Jóhannsson and Efterklang. Among Peter Albrechtsen’s recent doc credits are the festival favorites *Generation Wealth*, *Bill Nye: Science Guy* and *The Last Race*. This year, Peter was nominated for three MPSE Golden Reel Awards for *Olli Mäki*, *Bill Nye* and the Norwegian thriller *Thelma* and during the years he has been nominated six times for the Danish Academy Award for Sound, including one win in 2016 for the cold war thriller *The Idealist*.

**TWIST**

Hannah

HELENA HOWARD

Gina

MEGAN SEELEY

MATT RUSSELL

MIKE DONOVAN

HENRY DWYER

JUSTIN HOFSTAD

MACKENZIE REDICAN

NAT REDICAN

GLORIA MIGLIOI

Written & Directed by

ALY MIGLIOI

Produced by

ZANDER FIFE

Co–Producer

DAVID OLMSTED

CAROLINE CONRAD

Associate Producers

ALLISTAIR JOHNSON

PATRICK JOHNSON

Director of Photography

CORY GERYAK

Script Supervisor

MEGAN SEELEY

Stylist

OLIVIA PERDOCH

Gaffer

ALEX ASHE

Key Grip
BEN LOGAN
Dolly Grip
DANIELLA BERG

Best Boys
ANDREAS MANSSON
BJORN ANTE

Swing
JOSH EDWARDS

Steadicam
MIKE THACKRAY

Assistant Camera
GAVIN FERNANDEZ
RANDY MALDONADO

Sound Mixer
ALLISTAIR JOHNSON

Editor
ALY MIGLIORI

Composer
WILLIAM RYAN FRITCH

Sound Designer
PETER ALBRECHTSEN, MPSE

DI Colorist
DREW GEARY, Company 3

Production Assistants
MAX OSTOFF
SARAH MIGLIORI
JEN OLMSTED
Twist

starring
Helena Howard
Henry Dwyer
Megan Seely
Matthew Russell
Justin Hofstad
Mike Donovan

directed by Aly Migliori

director of photography Cory Geryak

produced by Zander File FIRSTHUNT