

GENERAL INFORMATION

Project : Life action family film (8+)

Title : Cloudboy

Logline : The cityboy Niilas (12) is sent to his mother in Swedish Lapland against

his will. The only one succeeding in making contact with him is his new sister Sunnà (11). She takes him on a journey in the magical world of the

woods where shy Niilas turns into a wild cloudboy.

Producer : Bulletproof Cupid byba

Katleen Goossens

http://www.bulletproofcupid.be

Co-Producers : Olle Wirenhed - GötaFilm International (Sweden)

Sabine Veenendaal - Submarine Film (The Netherlands)

Writer/Director : Meikeminne Clinckspoor

Editor : Håkan Karlsson

Composer : Helge Slikker

Main Cast : Daan Roofthooft as Niilas

Ayla Gáren Audhild Nutti as Sunnà Joakim Trägårdh as Pontus Sara Sommerfeld as Katarina Mikkel Gaup as Reaidnu

Geert Van Rampelberg as Gerard

Length : 78 minutes

Format : ALEXA, 2.39:1, DCP Language spoken : Dutch, Swedish & Sami

Subtitles : English, Dutch, Swedish, Norwegian

Shoot : 9th July till 4th September 2016 in Norway and Belgium

International premiere : April 2017 – TIFF Toronto – Official selection

National releases : Belgium 5th April 2017,

Netherlands 19th April 2017, Sweden 7th October 2017

Awards : 2016: ACE Work in Progress Award - flanders NeXT (BE)

2017: ECFA-award – BFF Kristiansand (NO)

Website : www.cloudboy.be

With the support of

The Flanders Audiovisual Fund (VAF), The Netherlands Film Fund, the Creative Europe programme of the European Union, BNP Paribas Fortis Film Finance, FilmCamp, Filmpool Nord



SHORT SYNOPSIS

Twelve-year-old city boy Niilas has been living with his father for as long as he can remember and barely knows his Swedish mother. This summer, Niilas has to travel to Lapland – much against his will – where his mother and her new family live amongst the Sami, an indigenous reindeer-herding people. Despite a warm welcome, Niilas retreats inwards. The only one who can get through to him is his half-sister Sunnà.

The reindeer migration is fully underway and Niilas has to lend a helping hand. When a reindeer goes missing, Niilas joins in the search, and an impressive moose keeps crossing his path at the most unexpected moments. Gradually he discovers his roots, which prove to be stronger than he ever could have imagined. Against all odds, Niilas experiences the most adventurous summer of his life.



















SYNOPSIS

Since Niilas can remember there's only been his father. At three, his mother Katarina left to return to Northern Sweden, to live with an indigenous Sami tribe. Now twelve, he's all but forgotten her, preferring the safe and contained city life he and his father Gerard have carved out in the industrial harbour of Antwerp.

Fearing that Niilas is becoming too attached, Gerard and Katarina agree that he should stay with her in Swedish Lapland, and meet the other half of his family. Niilas protests, but his father insists that he needs to know his mother. This cityboy will spend the summer in the land of the elk and the midnight sun.

Suddenly Niilas is surrounded by stampeding reindeer, a strange boy and girl claiming to be his brother and sister, and an over eager Katarina, trying to make up for lost time. Overwhelmed by a flood of new sights and sounds, Niilas retreats inward, and chooses not to speak. He turns his back on Katarina's warm and careful welcome, remaining silent for days, while directing all his thoughts towards getting back to the city and his father.

His escape attempt nearly ends in disaster when he falls from a bridge into the freezing Luleriver. Katarina rescues the hypothermic Niilas from the water and for the first time in many years he cannot reject her. Like it or not, he needs his mother.

As she nurses him back to health, the walls Niilas erected to protect himself melt away. Now the ominous sounds of the northern woods are enchanting. Guided by his newfound siblings Pontus and Suna, Niilas reconnects to nature. The shy cityboy becomes a wild boy, discovering a physicality and strength he wasn't aware off.

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DIRECTOR'S VISION

I have always loved Scandinavian children films. To me, they were able to paint the small life in a very natural way, in a minimal image language, but with a beautiful sensibility for the child's world. Today, I still feel a lot of respect and love for the child's world. The world in which it perceives the outside world, in which it watches and learns from every small detail that can make life just a little more intense. As a filmmaker, I feel driven to search for an image-language that connects the child's vision.

As a child I loved to go in the woods and play. In the woods I felt alive. I felt understanding and joy, even if I couldn't put those feelings into words. I remember I was often aware of a kind of magic, and to me it doesn't matter if it was real or in my imagination. To me it felt real, and that was enough. It helped me to believe in magic, to believe that anything is possible if I only dare to think of it. My own imagination is my own limit.

That thought captured me, and strangely enough, it became a theme in my work as a filmmaker today: If we are open and willing to see the possibilities, and to listen to the music of life, anything is possible. You could call it magic.

Cloudboy brings the story of a boy that slowly reconnects and discovers the possibilities of his own senses and how he perceives the world. He learns to understand he can change his own, just by letting go of his fears and starting to listen to what he hears, feels and sees, and through all this, slowly dares to be the child he truly is.

The film taking place for the biggest part in Lapland, has become a self-evident choice, grown out of the development of the story. The story of the boy that comes from the city, and has lost contact with his mother and her world, asked for a country and a culture, where nature still plays a very strong role. In Lapland, with the Sami people, we found this place. The audience will experience the Sami world through Niilas, and how he sees things as an outsider, more than the film wanting to tell something about the culture in itself. The Sami-culture is part of the universe of the film, and is not the content or subject. But for a great visual part of the film: art-direction, costume and music, the culture is a huge inspiration in color, atmosphere and music-tradition for *Cloudboy*.



BIOGRAPHY

Writer and Director: Meikeminne Clinckspoor



Meikeminne CLINCKSPOOR decided really young that she wanted to make children's movies. After a theatre education in Amsterdam, she started a film education (2004) at the Film School KASK in Belgium, where she graduated in 2009 with her short film for children "The Wishing Tree" which has been supported by Jekino Distribution, known as a Belgian distributor for quality children's films.

She wrote and directed a few shorts for children and won numerous awards with them. The last one was "Ki" which premiered at Cinekid 2015.

Editor: Håkan Karlsson



Håkan KARLSSON is a Sweden-based film editor and postproduction producer with extensive editing experience from feature films (e.g. The Millennium films, Kidnapping Freddy Heineken and Blackway), drama series and documentaries for TV.

In 2006 he founded the postproduction company "People in the Park", today offering complete postproduction services. The company has its main facility in an old school building 2,5 hours north of Stockholm, where Swedish and International producers and film makers thrive and benefit from the creative environment and working with Håkan and his creative team.

Composer : Helge Slikker



Helge SLIKKER is a Dutch composer writing for theatre and film. He graduated in 2000 as an actor/musician at theatre academy Studio Herman Teirlinck in Antwerp (Belgium). After returning to The Netherlands he started working as a composer for theatre.

Later on he also started working for television and film. In 2012 he won a 'Gouden Kalf' (dutch movie award) in the catagory Best Original Score for the movie *Kauwboy*. It was chosen as the Dutch entry for the Oscars in 2013. Recently he worked for international films as *They Have Escaped* and *Cloudboy*.

PRODUCTION COMPANY



Bulletproof Cupid is a Belgium-based production company that focuses on the production of films.

The company started as a service provider but soon moved on towards producing its own projects. One of the first produced shorts was "Swimsuit46", that won the Price of the Jury in the official selection in Cannes. Coproductions include the features "Storm" (Phanta Vision, NL and Iris Productions, LU) and "Redbad" (Farmhouse, NL). They produced the feature film "Cloudboy" and are currently in development with the feature films "Binti" and "Bayard".

As a service provider Bulletproof Cupid was involved in almost every international film, shooting the last couple of years in the Flanders region of Belgium, from "The Fifth Estate" to "Guardians of the Galaxy" and, most recently, Tim Burtons "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children".

Bulletproof Cupid operates as a European Production Company, a company that not only makes good films but is also known as a reliable partner in coproductions.

"Our creative goal is to tell stories. It doesn't matter if those stories come in the shape of an animation, a full-length feature or a documentary.

Nevertheless if we can show it on a cinema screen, we like it more! But, the absolute prerequisite for us to tell the story is that it always has to be a good story."

Producer: Katleen Goossens



Katleen GOOSSENS (EAVE 2012) started her career in 1998 as a managing partner in an accounting company, financially advising clients in the entertainment industry.

In 2002 she became a freelancer. She gained experience in a wide variety of countries working for low-budget private funded features but also for blockbusters.

In 2008, she came back to Belgium to establish Bulletproof Cupid.

PRODUCTION PARTNERS



GötaFilm International is one of the leading independent production companies in Scandinavia with a track record of award--winning, commercially successful films and TV series. GötaFilm focuses on the development, financing and production of high-quality drama.

Since its inception in 1989, the company has produced a large number of features, TV series, shorts and documentaries. Additionally, GötaFilm International has been co-producer and/or production service-provider on several international co--productions.

The company has worked with production partners in Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, UK, Germany, France, Holland, Hungary and Italy. Amongst the public financial supporters and investors are all the Nordic film institutes and Nordic Film&TV Fund; regional funds such as Film Väst, Filmregion Stockholm Mälardalen, Filmpool Nord, Film Fyn, Berlin-Brandenburg and Hamburg; and TV--stations like SVT, TV4, Canal+, DR, NRK, YLE, ZDF, ARTE, AVRO and many more.



Submarine Film is an Amsterdam based filmproduction company, recently founded by established producers Bruno Felix and Femke Wolting (Submarine) and Sabine Veenendaal and Jeroen Beker (Caviar Films, Flinck Film, IDTV Films, Motel Films). Each of the them being established producers, they have allready produced numerous films, ao: Eisenstein in Guanajuato, Last Hijack, Meet the Fockens, Love is All, Blackbook, Only decent people, The Misfortunates, Stellet Licht, Minoes, A'dam & Eva, Winky's Horse, Finn.

With innovative and remarkable filmstories, Submarine Film has the ambition to reach out for a national and international audience. Films about actual themes, reflecting on both universal and personal stories that catch the spirit of the times. Submarine Film broadens the horizon in setting up international co-productions.

FilmCamp

FilmCamp is a regional resource and infrastructure company in Norway that accommodate needs and demands in the market for feature film and TV productions. FilmCamp also runs development and educational seminars in cooperation with national and international representatives from the media industry.

FilmCamp is located on a beautiful small island on a river by the village Øverbygd in the municipality of Målselv.

CONTACT

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