

Technical Information

Working Title: Paradise Drifters
Director: Mees Peijnenburg
Screenplay: Mees Peijnenburg
Nationality: The Netherlands
Genre: Drama
Format: HD
Length: 90 min
Shooting location: The Netherlands | Belgium | France | Spain
Production Company: Pupkin
Partners: The Netherlands Film Fund

Director's Information

Mees Peijnenburg was born in Amsterdam in 1989, and graduated from the Netherlands Film Academy in 2013. He was twice nominated for a Crystal Bear at the Berlinale for his short films **A Hole in my Heart** and **Even Cowboys Get to Cry**, and won a Golden Calf (aka a Dutch Oscar) with his tv-movie **We Will Never Be Royals** in 2015. In 2016 Mees received the prestigious Dutch Directors' Guild Award for **A Hole in my Heart**, awarded annually for the most remarkable directing performances of the year.

Peijnenburg's creative style experiments with different narrative forms, but his distinctive visual style is a constant.

PARADISE DRIFTERS

A FILM BY MEES PEIJNENBURG



cinéfondation
LA RESIDENCE

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Since 2000, the Festival Residence has provided each year accommodation and support to twelve selected young directors in order to help them prepare their first or second feature film. A jury presided by a film director sits twice a year, selecting these young filmmakers on the basis of their short films, or

even first feature film, and the merits of their feature film project. During their 4-and-a-half-month stay in Paris, they work on the writing of their feature film project, have meetings with professionals and try, with the support of the Cannes Film Festival, to bring their project to co-production status.

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Synopsis

Paradise Drifters is a fragmented portrayal of the parent – and homeless young adults, Lorenzo, Bilal and Chloe. In their hope to find a better home they escape their savage background in the Netherlands heading to the south of Europe. Crossing various peripheries of society they fight their way through in search of *love*. Love in every form: affection, desire, sex, friendship and family.

They aim to live mature and self-reliant lives. All three without a base on which to fall back, battling for a bright future to come.

Statement of Intent

Lorenzo, Bilal and Chloe have nothing to fall back on, no base to call a home. Despite all ingredients for a ruined and awful life are present they keep on fighting for a better future.

During my research for this film, which included numerous visits to child care homes, I was struck by the incredible spirit of all the young adults I met. They showed me the most powerful will to survive, a primal instinct that manifests itself in the search for love, warmth and affection. *Paradise Drifters* captures this spirit.

I want to portray Lorenzo, Bilal and Chloe as people like you and me because their

search for love is a universal one. In whatever conflict situation people find themselves they will always search for love and happiness, and they will keep on longing for a safe haven. Survival in the purest sense.

In a frayed and elliptical story, we see fragments of Lorenzo, Bilal and Chloe's journey. We enter scenes in the middle of situations. The moments that are shown evoke the rest of the story. A spiritual and sensitive trip that will have a contagious effect on the viewer. The film will be a sensation-driven, electric and explosive energy.

Synopsis

Paradise Drifters est un portrait fragmenté de jeunes adultes sans parents ni domiciles, Lorenzo, Bilal et Chloé. Dans leur espoir de trouver un foyer meilleur, ils s'échappent de leur environnement impitoyable aux Pays-Bas pour atteindre le sud de l'Europe. Traversant diverses frontières de la société, ils se frayent un chemin dans la recherche de l'amour. L'amour sous toutes ses formes : l'affection, le désir, le sexe, l'amitié et la famille.

Ils veulent une vie mûre et autonome. Tous les trois sans base de repli, luttant pour un avenir brillant.

Note d'intention

Lorenzo, Bilal et Chloé n'ont pas de point de chute, ni d'endroit que l'on peut appeler une maison. Bien que tous les ingrédients soient réunis pour ruiner une vie gâchée et exécrable, ils continuent à se battre pour un avenir meilleur.

Au cours de mes recherches pour ce film, qui comprenaient de nombreuses visites dans les foyers, j'ai été frappé par l'esprit incroyable de tous les jeunes adultes que j'ai rencontrés. Ils m'ont montré leur détermination sans borne de survivre, un instinct primitif qui se manifeste dans la quête de l'amour, de la chaleur et de l'affection. *Paradise Drifters* capte cet esprit.

Je veux présenter Lorenzo, Bilal et Chloé comme des personnes semblables à vous

et moi parce que leur recherche d'amour est universelle. Dans n'importe quelle situation de conflit les gens se retrouvent toujours à chercher l'amour et le bonheur, et ils continuent à désirer un refuge sûr. Survie dans sa signification la plus pure.

L'histoire effilochée et elliptique, montre des fragments du voyage de Lorenzo, Bilal et Chloé. Nous entrons dans des scènes au milieu de situations. Les moments qui sont montrés évoquent le reste de l'histoire. Un voyage spirituel et sensible qui aura un effet contagieux sur le spectateur. Le film sera une sensation transmise, une énergie électrique et explosive.