# Helen WATKINSON



You should be much more open minded



# A film by FRANCESCO GABRIELE

THESPIAN FILMS PRESENTS A LONDON FILM SCHOOL THESPIAN FILMS GBOARD PRODUCTION "BLUE HOLLYWOOD" FRANCESCO GABRIELE HELEN WATKINSON HOLLIS DOHERTY CHIP CAREY MICHAEL BEARDSLEY TIANA TUTTLE CINEMATOGRAPHER GIACOMO LA MONACA COMPOSER SHANE RUTHERFOORD-JONES EDITOR MARIOS KLEFTAKIS THE SPIAN GBOARD PRODUCER DEVORAH CORONA MENDEZ WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY FRANCESCO GABRIELE WWW.THESPIANFILMS.CO.UK #BLUEHOLLYWOOD © © © FILM SCHOOL

## AWARDS

2018 Best Female Emerging Talent Award - British Urban Film Festival - UK
2018 Best European Feature Award - Young Jury - Catania Film Festival - Italy
2018 Director Revelation Award - Catania Film Festival - Italy
2018 Diamond Award - California Film Awards - USA
2018 Audience Favourite Award, 2nd Place - Four Seasons Film Festival - UK
2017 Nom. Best Film - Salento International Film Festival - Italy
2017 Best International Feature - Regina International Film Festival & Awards - Canada

## FESTIVALS

2018 Nachalo Film Festival – Official Competition – Russia 2018 Eurovision Film Festival – Official Competition – Italy 2018 Portobello Film Festival - Official Competition - UK 2018 Rieti & Sabina Film Festival - Official Competition - Italy 2018 Bremen Film Festival - Official Competition - Germany 2018 Firenze Film Festival - Official Competition - Italy 2018 Hong Kong Salento International Film Festival - Official Selection - Hong Kong 2018 Myrtle Beach International Film Festival - Official Competition - USA 2018 Catania Film Festival - Official Competition - Italy 2018 Four Seasons Film Festival - Official Competition - UK 2017 Anglicon Film Festival - Official Selection - USA 2017 Coronado Island Film Festival - Official Competition - USA 2017 Sofia Independent Film Festival - Official Selection - Bulgaria 2017 Atlantic City Cinefest - Official Competition - USA 2017 BT British Urban Film Festival - Official Competition - UK 2017 Salento International Film Festival - Official Competition - Italy 2017 Västerås Film Festival – Official Selection – Sweden 2017 Regina International Film Festival & Awards (RIFFA) - Official Competition - Canada





## LOGLINE

Two young European actors leave their countries to follow their dream to work in the Hollywood Film Industry.

## **SYNOPSIS**

Sharing the same dream two young actors embark on a journey filled with desire, determination and disappointment. Alessandro, a reckless Italian and Celeste, a prudent English cross paths at an Acting Summer Program in London. Soon after they decide to move together to LA. Stepping foot in Hollywood, they have different approaches and priorities; in the end they both have to take life changing décisions.



#### DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I began writing Blue Hollywood in 2011, when I was still an acting student in LA. Many years went by, but the desire of making this film became stronger each year. So, when the time came to choose a project for my thesis film at the London Film School, I had no doubt in my mind that this was the story I wanted to tell.

Filled with motivation and ingenuousness, I embarked on an extremely challenging journey to make a feature length film with all the limitations entailed by it being a student production. Amongst others: a very low budget (\$40.000) and a tight schedule (15 days) for it to be filmed in two different countries while still aiming at an industry standard result.

Blue Hollywood is the culmination of two years of incessant work and it was made possible by the unconditional support of an extraordinary team that motivated me all the way through. In particular, I need to thank my Family, my Cinematographer and my Producer. Without them, this movie wouldn't exist.

I believe that you can only tell stories that mean something to you and, as a young aspiring actor, I was constantly looking for movies related to the acting world. The industry is full of movies about dancers, singers, musicians but I couldn't find anything about actors.

Having spent the last decade studying and trying to work in the film industry, I wanted to share my experience of what I learned being on the standard actor's path. It doesn't involve fame, glory or success... but rejections, humiliations and a constant money struggle.

When I was writing the script, I never had the presumption of teaching anything to anybody. I just wanted to tell a story of two young actors who are completely different from each other and have the courage to leave their home countries to follow their dream. I wanted to explore their relationship, friendship, love... And how their different approach to the profession could affect their lives. I wanted to tell a dramatic story in a light manner; also, I wanted to use my Italian background as an enrichment rather than a limitation, by showing the pros and cons that many people would encounter by moving to a different country.

My ultimate goal is to inspire and motivate aspiring actors to never give up and keep following their dreams, keeping in mind that talent isn't enough. However, with determination, study and perseverance the results, sooner or later, will arrive.

If you love what you do, you will never regret your choice. But if you don't enjoy the journey, then the destination could probably not be as exciting as you expected.



CAST

#### HELEN WATKINSON as CELESTE



Helen is an actress from London. She trained at The Drama Centre London, The Boris Shchukin Theatre Institute (Moscow), and with the National Youth Theatre. Prior to this, she read English

Language & Literature at University College London. Her theatre credits include: Twelfth Night (Vienna's English Theatre), Romeo & Juliet, Hamlet (Young Shakespeare Company), Twelfth Night (Fort Lovrijenac, Dubrovnik), The Merchant of Venice (Cambridge Shakespeare Festival), The Tempest (Royal Shakespeare Company/ Questors Theatre), Black Lives Black Words (The Bush Theatre), Wuthering Heights (Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford), Chloe Can (Lyric Theatre), Shakespeare As You (Might) Like It (Rosemary Branch Theatre), Most People Are Other People (Tristan Bates Theatre) and London 2012 Olympics Team Welcome Ceremonies (National Youth Theatre).

Her film credits include Blue Hollywood and television includes Stonehenge Empire (BBC/ October Films).



## FRANCESCO GABRIELE os ALESSANDRO

## MICHAEL BEARDSLEY as HENRI



Michael is originally from Santa Cruz, California. It was there that he attended San Lorenzo Valley High School, and then went on to achieve a Bachelor of Arts degree from UC Santa Cruz. It was also during his college years that he was captured on film for the first time when he was cast in two student films. By the time he graduated, he knew what he wanted to do, and about four months after graduation, he moved to Los Angeles.

Since Michael has been in Los Angeles, Michael has appeared in countless projects, and played a vast variety or roles including Bobby Baker in Lizzie's Borden's Revenge, Lord Nathaniel in Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde and Murdock in Dracula's Sorority Sisters.

#### HOLLIS DOHERTY AS AGENT MARY BROWN



Hollis is an actress and writer, known for #SocialGraces: Closet Case, Penis Envy and The Water Snobs. She starred in several national commercials and is a graduate of the Lee Strasberg Film Institute in New York.

#### CHIP CAREY as MADISON



Chip is an actor based in Los Angeles. He is known for the indie films Blind (2015) and Weight (2014). In addition to acting, he is a talented musician specializing in acoustic and electric guitar as well as piano and vocals. He is from Raleigh, North Carolina and studied at the University of North Carolina.

## MARCO VIRGILIO as GIUSEPPE



Marco was born and raised in Milan, Italy, In 2010 he attended the 2-year program at Teatro Arsenale in Milan and in 2012 Marco moved to Los Angeles where he attended the 2-year program at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Marco is the creator and director of the show "Did YOU watch...?" available on YouTube. In 2015 Marco decided to focus mainly in writing and directing and in July 2015 there is the release of "Scarpette Rosse" written, directed and produced by himself.

#### MARAH FAIRCLOUGH as NATALIE



Born in New York, Marah's love for her craft fuels her passion both on stage and in film. Recently she starred in Avegers Grimm as Sleeping Beauty which can be seen on NETFLIX and all major VOD outlets including Amazon Instant Video and Google Play. She is also a two-time Festival de Cannes Official Selection short film actress.

She received honors in her conservatory Theatre studies as well being featured in ABC's 20/20 special SunsetBLVD.

## CREW

#### FRANCESCO GABRIELE - Director | Screenwriter

Francesco is an Italian Award-winning Actor & Director based in London.

He holds an MA in Film Directing from the London Film School and is a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Los Angeles. He also attended acting and directing courses at USC, UCLA and LAMDA.

Founder and Director of the London-based production company Thespian Films, he directed and produced several short films that have been screened in numerous international film festivals.

His last short film, Italian Miracle, played at over 30 festivals worldwide including the Oscar and BAFTA Qualifying LA Shorts Fest and it was awarded, among others, the Jury Award-Best Short at the 2016 Stony Brook Film Festival in New York.

Blue Hollywood is his first feature-length film.

#### DEVORAH CORONA MENDEZ - Producer

Born in Caracas, Venezuela, she completed a BA in Literature and Languages and an MA in Social Communications at the Central University of Venezuela. She then moved to the UK and completed an MA in Screenwriting at the London Film School in 2015, where she collaborated as a writer on several grad projects and took on several other projects as a Producer.

Blue Hollywood was her first feature film as a Producer, but after the experience she's looking for the next independent project, hopefully putting together again the Blue Hollywood team.

She is currently working at Freeform Productions, writing her second feature script and polishing a Comedy TV pilot which is being submitted to several production companies.

#### GIACOMO LA MONACA - Cinematographer

Giacomo began studying film grammar at DAMS, department of film studies at the University of Bologna "Alma Mater Studiorum". After gaining a BA in "Visual Storytelling and Film History" he decided to strengthen his theoretical knowledge of film history with a more practical one, hence graduating from the London Film School in 2009 with an MA in Filmmaking.Since then he has been working as a cinematographer for different productions ranging from fiction, music videos, commercials and documentaries in London and around the World.

#### JAN MEINEMA - Sound Designer

Jan's knowledge and practice have been informed by his past experience as a musician, studio engineer and music producer. Jan has worked since 1981 as a musician and producer, and has been involved with a wide range projects and different music genres. He also ran 'NR Studios' (The Netherlands) from 1991 until 1996, where he developed an interest in sound manipulation techniques using audio effects processors and experimental recording techniques.Since his move to the United Kingdom Jan practices sound design and audio post production for film. He has built an extensive sound library, ranging from field recordings, recordings made during his travels as well as synthesised audio. Jan is also a Senior Lecturer in Creative Music Technology at Bath Spa University and his recent academic research is in film sound design.

#### MARIOS KLEFTAKIS - Editor

Born in Athens, Marios works primarily in the UK, Denmark, and Greece. He is trained in Mathematics (University of Athens) and filmmaking (European Film College, Denmark) and specializes in film editing as well as in sound design. Films he has worked on have participated in many international film festivals.

#### SHANE RUTHERFOORD JONES - Composer

Shane is a film and media composer based in London. Graduating from the Royal College of Music with a Master's degree in Composition for Screen, Shane has provided music to a variety of productions: film, theatre, trailers, video games, songs and more. He feels as comfortable scoring for full orchestra as he does for synthesizer drones, ambient soundscapes or toy instruments. He strives to create music that fits perfectly with each project and captures its unique character and identity. His score for Francesco Gabriele's "Italian Miracle" was nominated for "Best Original Score" at LAIFFA April. He recently composed additional music for Mattel's Welcome to Monster High and has provided additional programming on Mike Bithell's Volume for Playstation 4.

## **PRODUCTION INFORMATION**

TITLE Blue Hollywood

GENRE Comedy | Drama | Romance

DATE OF COMPLETION April 2017

COUNTRIES OF PRODUCTION United Kingdom | Italy

COUNTRY OF FILMING United Kingdom | United States

ASPECT RATIO 1.85.1

RUNNING TIME 82 minutes (82:18)

LANGUAGES English | Italian

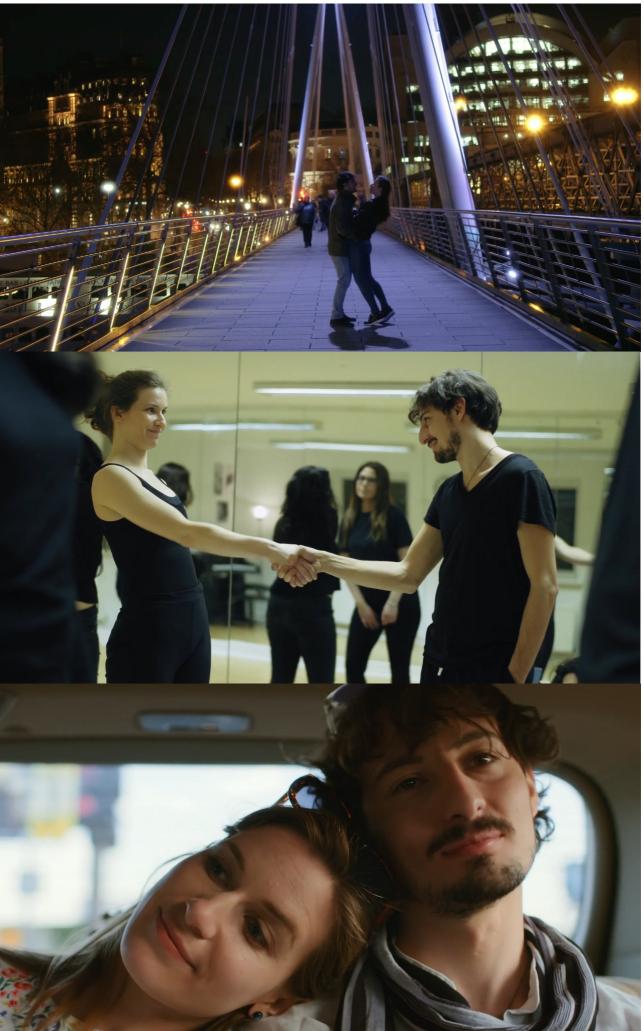
SOUND Dolby 5.1

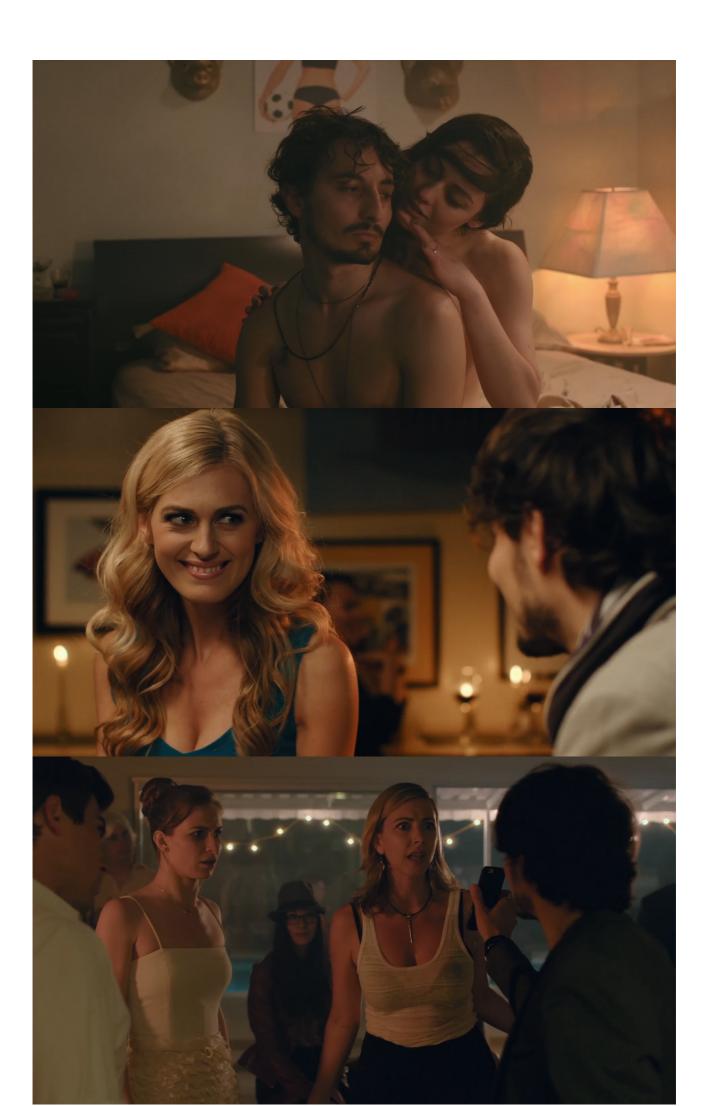
SHOOTING FORMAT Canon C500 & Sony FS7 | ProRes 422 | 2K

SCREENING FORMATS DCP | Blu-ray | DVD | Quicktime ProRes 422

AVAILABLE SUBTITLES English | Italian | French

PRODUCTION COMPANIES Thespian Films Ltd. | Green Board Srl. | The London Film School STILLS





## CREDITS

## CAST

Alessandro | Francesco Gabriele Celeste | Helen Watkinson Henri | Michael Beardsley Madison | Chip Carey Giuseppe | Marco Virgilio Agent Mary Brown | Hollis Doherty Niky | Nili Rain Regal Natalie | Mara Fairclough Mr. Henderson (Acting Teacher London) | Mark Arnold Mr. Park (Acting Teacher Los Angeles) | Timothy Landfield Casting Director #1 | Theresa Renee Casting Director #2 | Andrew McDonald Casting Director #3 | Corinne Mitchell Casting Director #4 | Kate Milner Evans Alessandro's Uncle | Pietro Marchesani Clara Ponsot | Octavia Gilmore Fake Agent | Tony Parkin Casting Agent Voice Over | Mike Lai

## CREW

Director - Writer | Francesco Gabriele Producer | Devorah Corona Mendez Cinematographer | Giacomo La Monaca Editor | Marios Kleftakis Composer | Shane Rutherfoord-Jones Executive Producers | Gianfranco Gabriele - Francesco Gabriele - Flavia Gabriele - Marina Monaci Unit Production Manager - Script Editor | Devorah Corona Mendez

## LONDON UNIT

1st AD | Franca Burmeier Assistant Producer | Justin Spray 1st AC | Manuel Sa 2nd AC | Callum Begley Media Manager | Anna Bouwman Steadycam Operator | Luke Oliver Art Director | Kerry-Ann Calleja McGregor Make Up Artist | Kristie Robson Costume Supervisor | Hannah Trub Sound Recordist - Boom Swinger | Giuseppe Tripodi Production Assistants | Anurag Bhardwaj - Johan Eskew - Fausto Galofaro - Marco Savoia Catering | Maja Jensen Stills Photographer | Marilú Gioffre Production Manager | Peter Fuller 1st AD | Peter Fuller - Alicia Herder Associate Producer | Will McCance Assistants Producer | Stephanie Espinetti - Masaya Tajika 1st AC | Nick Muller - Melissa Martine - Jonathan Medina - Mark Quintos 2<sup>nd</sup> AC | Brooks Yang – Stella – Tinucci – Melissa Martine – Michelle Nishimura – Mark Quintos – Magdalena Stawinski Gaffer | Jeremy Guico Sparks | Steve Kissell - Arthur Castellano Steadycam Operators | Nick Muller - Parker Brooks Script Supervisor | Will La Plant Media Managers | Will La Plant | Devorah Corona Mendez Sound Recordists - Boom Swingers | Alex Goens - Marc Olivas - Robert Stronger Art Director | Jillian Alexander Costume Supervisor | Jillian Alexander Key Make up Artist | Sioux Sinclair Make Up Artist | Crista Llewellyn

#### POST PRODUCTION

Supervising Sound Editor | Jan Meinema Sound Design | Jan Meinema - Henry Flewitt - Rob Griffin Foley | Henry Flewitt Sound Editor | Rob Griffin Dialogue Editor | Jan Meinema Re-Recording Engineer | Jan Meinema Title Designer | Oliver Weinfeld Color Grader | Alex Grigoras DCP Services Provided by | Alex Grigoras

#### SONGS

"You Said" - Single by Leah Jordan (2017) Writer(s): Leah Jordan Producer(s): Francesco Gabriele, Shane Rutherfoord-Jones Mixing / Mastering Engineer: Arthur Indrikovs License: Thespian Records

"Blue Hollywood" - Single by Leah Jordan Feat .Nox (2017) Writer(s): Leah Jordan, .Nox, Shane Rutherfoord-Jones Producer(s): Francesco Gabriele, Shane Rutherfoord-Jones Mixing / Mastering Engineer: Arthur Indrikovs License: Thespian Records

"Am I the Same Girl" Single by Barbara Acklin (1968) Label: Brunswick Records Writer(s): Eugene Record, Sonny Sanders Producer(s): Carl Davis Courtesy of Brunswick Records Writer(s): Andrea Boccadoro, Marco Biasioli, Alessandro Ventura Courtesy of the Artist "All Or Nothing" Single by The Carriers (2011) Label: Blitz&Bloom Writer(s): Ovidiu Bistriceanu, Deanna Bistriceanu, Stephanie Lang

"In Alto" - Surfa (Feat. Guè Pequeno) - Album: Hype (2009) Writer(s): Surfa, Guè Pequeno Producer(s): C Brownz Courtesy of the Artist

"Non mi fido" - Surfa (Feat. Daniele Vit) - Album: Gabriele (2011) Writer(s): Surfa, Daniele Vit Producer(s): Exo Courtesy of the Artist



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