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Synopsis

Short Format

Winter's End is a contemporary thriller set on a isolated farm. 21-year-old Amy Rose lives on this farm with her two brothers Henry and Sean and we follow Amy's progress from abuse and oppression at the hands of her older brother Henry, to independence and freedom.



Synopsis

Long Format

Winter's End tells the story of Henry Rose, a 40yr old embittered farmer who lives on an isolated farm with his younger half sister Amy and half brother Sean. Henry has loved but once in his life, and lost that woman due to her discovery that he is unable to father children, the result of a freak childhood accident. To make matters much worse, less than 12 months after her break-up with Henry, she married a wealthy neighboring farmer with a holding 6 or 7 times the size of Henry's.

From Amy's point of view, Henry's growing erratic behaviour presents her with an impossible situation. Living on an isolated farm with 2 brothers, the younger of which, Sean is slightly retarded and the older teetering on the edge of reason, means she has no one to turn to for help. The logical thing for Amy Rose to do is to run and keep on running, but she is far too selfless and reasons that they are her family and no matter what, she must look out

for them. Henry is prone to violent outbursts toward Amy, yet shrewd enough to hide them from the youngest of the siblings, Sean, whose unquestioning adulation Henry enjoys.

Once a year in the locality, a big open-air concert is held and once a year Henry allows cars to park in a front field for a fee. And this is where our story begins. This provides an ideal opportunity for Henry to pick his unsuspecting victim and lure him to his remote farmhouse. Once there, the young man Jack Davis, is overpowered and held against his will in chains completely unaware of Henry's insane plan. Amy, reluctant to challenge Henry for fear of a beating, yet also unwilling to contact the police in the sure knowledge that such an act would spell doom for her small dysfunctional family, attempts to provide sustenance and care to the captive Jack.

Jack realizes that the logical conclusion to his situation lies in his own murder and tries desperately to convince Amy of his fear. But either due to naivety or an unwillingness to face the truth Amy still refuses to believe Jack and contact the police.

But the day and the hour comes when Amy comes face to face with the truth and that Jack will indeed die if she does nothing. But is it now too late to help him. Amy must now do the one thing she has avoided for so many years, make choices, but at what cost to the Rose family.

Cast & Crew Profiles



Michael Crowley...Henry Rose

Born in West Cork, Michael is a dedicated actor. Having trained in the Gaiety School of Acting, the role of Henry in "Winter's End" is his biggest role to date. He has also played Mc Murphy in the award winning "One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest, Fluther Good in "The Plough and the Stars", Christy Mahon in "The Playboy of the Western World" and Martin in "The Honeyspike" to name but a few. He is currently living and working in his native West Cork and is a founder member of "The Midas Players".

Jillian Bradbury...Amy Rose

Jillian trained in the Gaiety School of Acting in a 2 year full time course and won the Gate Theatre Award in 2001. She is presently working with the Crooked House Theatre company in Newbridge. Jillian played Sophia in their latest play "The Bird Trap". Kildare Youth Theatre is where Jill is based now and is currently directing "Mugged". She is also teaching voice and acting and is looking forward to going back to college.

Adam Goodwin...Jack Davis

Adam trained at The Arts Educational London School and under the late Deirdre O'Connell at Dublin's Stanislavski Studio (Focus Theatre). Feature film credits include "Benedict Arnold", "Saint Patrick" and "L'Etranger". Short film credits include, "A Dublin Story", "Tell Tale Heart" and "Henry Cavendish". Adam has also appeared in "Fair City". Theatre credits include "The Tempest" which had a four month UK and Belgian tour and "Sherlock Holmes" which had a four month No.1 UK tour.

Paul Whyte...Sean Rose

Paul has been acting since he was 18 and has appeared in many professional and non-professional parts in both film and theatre. He appeared regularly in many shorts for Dunlairgh College and was in the award winning short "Mouse Trap" which won best film in it's Kodak awards category. He is currently working and saving to travel the world and hopes to further his training in Australia to broaden his acting opportunities.

Donie Ryan...Ben Lambert

Donie is a native of Kilkenny and "Winter's End" was his first major acting role. Having been bitten by the acting bug first time out Donie got more acting experience as a featured extra on Neil Jordan's "Breakfast in Pluto" while shooting in Kilkenny and now intends to pursue further opportunities.

Patrick Kenny ...Writer/Director

Patrick was born in Dublin in 1960 and worked as a law searcher with Brady & Co. on Inns Quay before taking a job as a trainee cartographer with Ordnance Survey Ireland. Taking a career break in the early 90's Patrick worked for some time in California working for The Good Guys, waiting tables and painting Candlestick Park. Returning in 1994 Patrick resumed his position with OSI and now lives in Kilkenny where he says he wouldn't swap with anywhere in the world.

Cast & Crew Profiles



Damien Donnelly...Producer

Being an avid cinema fan and a Bsc (Econ) graduate, Damien produced his first film, "The Fridge" in '99, a 6 min B movie type horror farce. His next project was the "The Welles Theory", a 25 min drama focusing on a disgruntled DJ's last show. Commenced producing "Winter's End" in 2000 which is now in the last stages of Post Production. Also worked on Neil Jordan's film "Breakfast on Pluto" as video assist assistant. At the moment, Damien has several projects in development.

Kevin Hughes...Editor/Executive Producer

Kevin Hughes is a film maker of 10yrs, living and working from Kilkenny Ireland. He has worked extensively on dramas, feature films and long form TV documentaries. He set up Wallslough Studios, a production and post production house to service the film and TV industry with state of the art technology for shooting and all

stages of post. He currently has a number of projects at various stages of production and development.

Robert Donald...Director of Photography

Robert was born in Dublin in 1970 and moved to the US in 1991 taking an International Scholarship at the University of Arizona. His formal education consisted of Fine Art painting and Sculptor and in 1993 became interested in cinematography. Having honed his craft Robert returned to Ireland in 2001 to gain a foothold in the Irish Film Industry. Winter's End was his one contribution and in 2003 he returned to the US where he continues to work as a cameraman.

Grainne Dooley...Sound/Design

Following the completion of a Certificate Course in Media Production, Grainne went on to study a diploma in Animation and then a degree in Production Design. She has worked in several areas of film/video

as well as theatre including sound, set design, construction, camera and lighting. She now resides in New Zealand where she has just finished working on the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe with Shrek 2 director Andrew Adamson and is furthering her career in camera and lighting.

Niall Fitzpatrick ...Casting Director

Niall studied drama in Trinity College Dublin in the early nineties. Having worked for many years in public arts, Niall has switched to commercial projects with long term sustainable growth. As far as aspirations are concerned, the sky is the limit. His main objective as casting director on "Winter's End" was to deliver truthful performances from all the cast.

Cast & Crew *Profiles*



Gregory Magee ...Music Composer

Greg began his formal training in music at the Royal Irish Academy of Music in Dublin and soon became interested in composition. He continued his training by taking a music degree at Trinity College Dublin. In '99, Greg travelled to Los Angeles to train under the supervision of Disney composer Mark Watters and John Graham. So far Greg has composed for feature film, short film, TV, reality shows and the title music for The Rose of Tralee. His most recent work was for "The Longest Ditch", an award winning Irish short.

Carol Kenny...Hospitality Co-ordinator.

A film shoot, to someone who has never been on one can seem exciting, thrilling and lots of fun. Sometimes it is, but more times it's waiting around trying to kill time until the director calls your scene. Carol's role was to ensure that nobody was

allowed get bored, so with the help of copious amounts of board games and a constant supply of beverages and chit chat, the day went a lot faster for everyone.

Rena O'Dwyer...Catering

In any movie feature production one very essential element is plenty of wholesome freshly cooked food being available to cast and crew. Rena our catering manager provided food to the set daily which the cast and crew savoured. Rena trained as a chef and works in Glanbia in Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny. She also provides a bespoke confectionery service making cakes for all kinds of special occasions.

Production Notes



Brief Film History – Winter’s End

2000

Initial Script Idea came to light. Script was developed over the year 2000.

2001

Script was finalised and Producer came on board. Winter’s End Ltd. was formed to facilitate the Production of this Project. Script was submitted to The Library of Congress Washington. Lodgement Certification received 23/07/01. Pre-Production commenced on the Project. Application was made to the Irish Film Board for production funding. This application was turned down.

It was decided to proceed with the project by self-financing and by establishing alternative finance through our “ Sponsor-a-Scene ”scheme. Friends, families local businesses and interested film buffs were asked to sponsor a scene for in return they received a certificate, got invited to be an extra, got a

screen credit on the film and got an invitation to the first showing of the film.

Sponsorship was received from a number of businesses and associates to cover major expenses and requirements.

Pre-Production took place during the months of April to August. Casting sessions were held in Kilkenny and Clonmel. The Final Principal Cast came from Athy, Tipperary, Kilkenny and West Cork. The Crew was assembled from Dublin, Drogheda and Kilkenny.

“Winter’s End” commenced shooting 4th September 2001 and completed initial shooting 29th September 2001. Pickups and other scenes were shot over a number of weekends between Oct. 2001 and April 2002. Logging of tapes commenced in Oct. 2001.

Another application was sent to IFB for Funding. Again application was not successful. (This happened in 2002).

2002 May 2002 – Jan 2004

The major task of batch capturing and editing commenced on “ Winter’s End ”.

2004

A first assembly edit was completed November 2003. A second submission for Completion Funding was submitted to IFB. This time our application was successful. With this support from the IFB - an editor, music composer and sound production house were sourced to help us complete and enhance the film.

Production Notes



Extract from Production Diary:

Winter's End - PRODUCTION DIARY

DECEMBER 2004

Picture lock has been achieved so now our editor is splitting the audio tracks in prep for sound post. Music has been composed and recorded by Greg Magee and the actors have been notified of ADR work to take place in early March. Meanwhile, light matching of shots is taking place before Magic Bullet® and a look suite is applied.

JANUARY 2005

The music has been composed and recorded. A deal has been struck with Reelgood in Dublin to work on the sound design and mixing. Here in Kilkenny we are finalising the look of the film with the help of Magic Bullet®. The online work is being carried out on a Media 100 844/X system by Kevin Hughes in Wallslough Studios Kilkenny. The original offline work

and first assembly was cut on Adobe Premiere® from which an edit decision list was generated.

FEBRUARY/APRIL 2005

We are in the final stages of Post Production. All three main elements are coming together – Picture, Sound and Music. Greg Magee our composer has delivered full score. James Daly in Reelgood Facilities is working hard on the Sound Mix. Kevin Hughes our Editor / Executive Producer is finalizing picture quality. Project completed April 2005

2005 Highlights

July 2005 - Winter's End Irish Premiere at Galway Film Fleadh

Sept 2005 - Two nominations received from Jury at the Irish Film & Television Awards - Best Actress and Best Music.

Nov. 2005 Winter's End wins Best Music at Irish Film and Television Awards.

Dec. 2005 - Winner Best Picture at Hollywood HD/DV Festival

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