

# I'M IN THE CORNER WITH THE BLUEBELLS



# SYNOPSIS



I'M IN THE CORNER WITH THE BLUEBELLS IS A POWERFUL AND COMPLEX FAMILY DRAMA THAT EXPLORES THE LITTLE KNOWN PHENOMENON OF GENETIC SEXUAL ATTRACTION (GSA). WE REVEAL THE IMPACT OF GSA THROUGH THE STORY OF JULIE, A HAPPILY MARRIED MOTHER WHO MEETS HER HALF-BROTHER FOR THE FIRST TIME AT A FAMILY GATHERING. THEIR MEETING STIRS UNEXPECTED EMOTIONS IN JULIE AND SENDS UNWELCOME RIPPLES THROUGHOUT THE FAMILY.



# CAST

ALICE BIRD  
ALBERTO MANEIRO  
NATHAN OSGOOD  
AKO MITCHELL  
FRANCESCA GOSLING  
SAPPHIRA PLESSARD

JULIE  
RICARDO  
PAUL  
TERRY  
LOREN  
POPPY

# CREW

PRODUCER

DIRECTOR

SCREENPLAY

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

EDITORS

SOUND DESIGN & EDITING

GRADING

PRODUCTION DESIGN

ART DEPARTMENT

COSTUME DESIGNER

COSTUME ASSISTANT

1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

MAKE-UP SUPERVISOR

MAKE-UP ARTIST

VISUAL EFFECTS

FOCUS PULLER

GAFFER

CAMERA ASSISTANT

GRIP

CATERING

PRODUCTION STILLS

ALICE BIRD

AKO MITCHELL

ALICE BIRD & AKO MITCHELL

DOMINIK RIPPL

ALICE BIRD & AKO MITCHELL

GUIDO LERNER

LEE DALEY

ALICE BIRD

ULI BLUM

JOHANNA ELF

ALEXANDRA KAPSALA

RICHARD TOLLEY

RACHEL NIGHTINGILL

EMMA APPS

EMANUELE LUCCI

JAKE MCCLEAN

VINCENT PRUNIER

JOHN KNOWLES

BRYN BIRD

BRYN & JUNE BIRD

GARETH DAVIES



# Ako Mitchell

## biography

Ako Mitchell is an actor and film-maker. His directing debut “I’m in the corner with the bluebells” premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and won Best Director at the Mica Film Festival in Brazil. As an actor, Ako recently played “Klook” in “Klook’s Last Stand” at London’s Park Theatre where he received an Off West End Awards Best Actor nomination. He was “Orin the Dentist” in “Little Shop of Horrors” at the Royal Exchange Manchester. He also recently played esteemed British actor Lenny Henry’s brother “Gabriel” in “Fences” in London’s West End. Ako has also worked at London’s Donmar Warehouse and played opposite Whoopi Goldberg in Sister Act at The London Palladium. Ako’s acting credits also include: “Pilot” in Nick Lloyd Webber’s “The Little Prince” (Savoy Theatre); “Mitch” in “Spelling Bee” (Donmar Warehouse); “Mufasa” in “The Lion King” (Lyceum Theatre-West End) and “Dennis” in “Lake Placid: The Final Chapter” (Film). Ako also co-produced the documentary film “500 Years Later”, a winner at the LA Pan-African Film Festival, Black Berlin International Cinema and Harlem International Film Festival.



# AKO MITCHELL

DIRECTOR, WRITER, ACTOR, EDITOR

## WHAT WAS IT LIKE ACTING IN A FILM WHILE DIRECTING?

IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT AND I WOULDN'T RECOMMEND TRYING IT ON YOUR FIRST GO, BUT EVERYONE ON SET WAS VERY SUPPORTIVE AND SO INCREDIBLY TALENTED. DOMINIK OUR DOP WAS REALLY WONDERFUL AT THE START OF THE SHOOT WHEN I WAS MORE ON-CAMERA. AS WE MOVED FURTHER INTO THE SHOOT, IT WAS MUCH EASIER FOR ME TO FOCUS ON THE STORYTELLING AND IT WAS A REAL JOY.



## WHAT WAS IT LIKE DIRECTING YOUR FIRST FICTION FILM?

IT WAS SUCH A COLLABORATIVE REWARDING PROCESS. ALICE AND I WERE WORKING WITH TEAM OF PEOPLE WE GENERALLY ALREADY HAD RELATIONSHIPS WITH AND THAT MADE FOR A VERY WARM COHESIVE SET. WE ALSO HAD A TERRIFIC GROUP OF ACTORS AND THERE WAS TIME TO REHEARSE AND DISCOVER THE SCENES BEFORE WE STARTED FILMING. AS WE DEVELOPED THE IDEA AND SCRIPT OURSELVES, WE WERE VERY COMFORTABLE WITH THE STORY WE WANTED TO TELL AND HOW WE WANTED TO TELL IT.

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## WHAT FILMS INFLUENCED THIS PROJECT?

WE WERE VERY HEAVY INTO THE WORK OF JOHN CASAVETTES, RICHARD LINKLATER, AND GRETA GERWIG IN WRITING THIS FILM WHICH I HOPE REALLY COMES THROUGH AS THEY ARE VERY REAL, TRUTHFUL, EMOTIONALLY POTENT STORYTELLERS.



# ALICE BIRD

## BIOGRAPHY

ALICE BIRD IS A BRITISH ACTRESS BORN AND RAISED IN LONDON. SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF ENGINEER BRYN BIRD AND FASHION DESIGNER JUNE BIRD. UPON SEEING ALICE CRY WHEN THE STAGE WAS DISMANTLED AT HER PRIMARY SCHOOL, HER MOTHER ENROLLED HER IN ACTING CLASSES AND ALICE HAS NOT LOOKED BACK SINCE. ALICE ATTENDED CLASSES AT THE GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DRAMA, ITALIA CONTI, GYPT AND WENT ON TO COMPLETE A BA (HONS) IN ACTING AT ROSE BRUFORD COLLEGE. HER FIRST TELEVISION APPEARANCE WAS IN BBC'S "MESSIAH" AND SHE WENT ON TO BE A SERIES REGULAR IN "FOOTBALLERS WIVES: EXTRA TIME". ALICE THEN STARRED IN MICHAEL TCHOUBOUROFF'S FEATURE FILM "DIAGNOSIS: SUPERSTAR" AND HAD THE PLEASURE OF WORKING ALONGSIDE BILL NIGHY IN RICHARD EYRE'S "NOTES ON A SCANDAL". SINCE THEN ALICE HAS PLAYED LEAD ROLES IN THE TV SERIES "PUSH", THE STAGE VERSION OF DANTE'S "LA VITA NOUVA", AND THE FEATURE FILM "PICNIC IN GAZA". SHE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF PLAYING THE TITLE ROLE IN "ANASTASIA" ON STAGE IN BLOOMSBURY SQUARE BEFORE STARRING IN THE FEATURE FILM "IF IT BE LOVE" WHICH WENT ON TO BECOME A SUCCESSFUL STAGE SHOW. IN 2013 SHE PLAYED LEAD ROLES IN SEVEN SHORT FILMS: SHE IS PROUD TO HAVE CO-WRITTEN AND PRODUCED "I'M IN THE CORNER WITH THE BLUEBELLS"; "LA TAMISE", MADE WITH RENOWNED DP PHILIP BLOOM, SCREENED AT THE CURZON SOHO AS PART OF THE 2014 LONDON SORT FILM FESTIVAL; "VENUS AND MARS" SHOT IN ICELAND AND LONDON, SCREENED AT THE RICHMIX CINEMA. ALICE PLAYED OPPOSITE DEREK JACOBI IN A REHEARSED READING OF "DE RAPU MEO" AND THEN LANDED A LEAD ROLE IN FEATURE FILM "A REASON TO LEAVE" OPPOSITE CLAIRE KING AND MARK WINGETT WHICH SHE RECENTLY COMPLETED FILMING IN ITALY BEFORE COMING TO TORONTO.

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# ALICE BIRD

PRODUCER, WRITER, ACTRESS, EDITOR, PRODUCTION DESIGNER

## WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT FILMMAKING AND PRODUCING?

I LIKE THE FEELING OF HAVING A STRONG CENTRAL VISION THAT HAS FIRM ROOTS BUT IS FLEXIBLE TO THE EVER EVOLVING CHALLENGES OF FILMMAKING. THINGS GO WRONG BUT I HAVE LEARNED THAT THESE ARE OFTEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH AND THE THINGS THAT SEEM DISASTROUS CAN OFTEN BE WHAT TAKES A FILM TO ANOTHER LEVEL IF YOU ALLOW IT.



## WHAT WAS THE WRITING PROCESS LIKE?

FOR ABOUT A MONTH OR SO AKO WOULD GET AN EMAIL FROM ME EVERY MORNING TITLED "TODAYS WAKING THOUGHT". SOMETIMES IT WOULD BE MINOR CHANGES, SOMETIMES IT WOULD BE THE NEED TO HAVE A MAJOR RE-THINK. ONE DAY I LITERALLY CUT THE SCRIPT TO PIECES AND PUT IT BACK IN A DIFFERENT ORDER. I THINK THAT DAY'S WAKING THOUGHT READ "THIS MIGHT SOUND CRAZY BUT...". AKO WENT WITH IT AND IT'S HOW THE FILM IS TODAY. I WOULDN'T REST UNTIL IT FELT RIGHT.

## DO YOU RELATE TO JULIE?

YES IN THE SENSE THAT FEELINGS ARE POWERFUL. A BATTLE OF THE HEAD AND HEART IS SOMETHING THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE RELATE TO. DOING THE RIGHT THING CAN BE PAINFUL BUT NECESSARY IN THE FACE OF A STRONG CONNECTION AND MAY LEAVE A MARK FOREVER. I THINK THE PULL THAT PEOPLE WHO EXPERIENCE GENETIC SEXUAL ATTRACTION FEEL EMBODIES THAT PERFECTLY.

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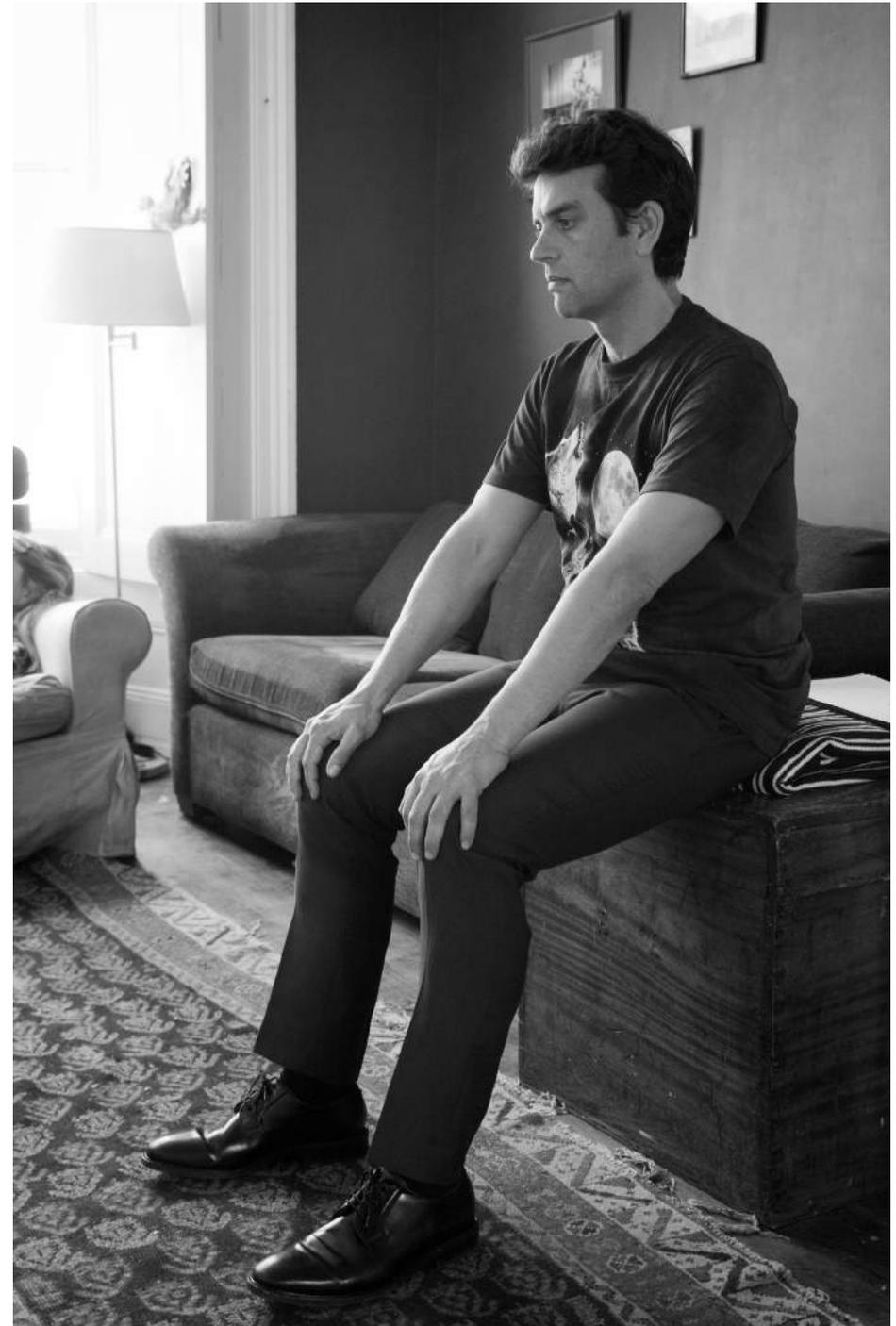
# ALBERTO MANEIRO

## BIOGRAPHY

ALBERTO MANEIRO, ORIGINALLY FROM SPAIN, HAS MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF ACTING EXPERIENCE AND HAS TRAINED WITH TEACHERS FROM SPAIN (LABORATORIO DE WILLIAM LAYTON), ARGENTINA (JUAN CARLOS CORAZZA), LONDON (BATHSHEBA GARNETT), AND NEW YORK (HB STUDIO).

MOST OF HIS CAREER HAS BEEN IN SPAIN, WITH LEADING ROLES IN PLAYS BY ARTHUR MILLER, WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, MARGUERITE DURAS, HAROLD PINTER, LARRY SHUE, EDWARD ALBEE AND CALDERÓN DE LA BARCA.

ALBERTO ALSO HAS EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN TELEVISION. HE HAS WORKED IN OVER 15 TV SERIES IN SPAIN, SUCH AS "AQUÍ NO HAY QUIEN VIVA" AND "CUÉNTAME". IN THE UK, HE HAS WORKED FOR THE BBC IN "RIVER CITY" AND "THE INTERCEPTOR".





# ALBERTO MANEIRO

ACTOR

## HOW DID YOU PREPARE FOR THE ROLE?

WELL AT THE BEGINNING IT WAS KIND OF SHOCKING AS I DIDN'T KNOW THAT GENETIC SEXUAL ATTRACTION HAPPENED. WE'VE HEARD ABOUT INCEST BUT I DIDN'T KNOW THAT THIS WAS SO COMMON. ONCE WE STARTED TO RESEARCH AND LOOK AT WEBSITES AND DOCUMENTARIES I FOUND GSA TO BE THIS FASCINATING THING THAT NO ONE TALKS ABOUT IT BECAUSE IT'S VERY UNKNOWN. FOR ME IT WAS A DISCOVERY.

YOU'VE HAD A LOT OF EXPERIENCE WORKING IN SPANISH CINEMA AND TELEVISION.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE WORKING IN ENGLISH?

VERY FRIGHTENING AT THE BEGINNING BECAUSE OF THE LANGUAGE OBVIOUSLY. IT WAS VERY DIFFERENT AND I DIDN'T KNOW IF I WAS GOING TO BE ABLE TO PERFORM THE SAME AS IN SPANISH. BUT THANKS TO AKO AND ALICE WHO MADE ME FEEL VERY COMFORTABLE AS THEY ARE FRIENDS OF MINE. I FELT GREAT. WITH ANOTHER LANGUAGE YOU CAN FIND NEW EMOTIONS AND IT'S VERY RICH FOR AN ACTOR.



# CREW OVERVIEW



DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DOMINIK RIPPL HAS A GREAT BODY OF WORK BEHIND HIM INCLUDING FEATURE FILM “DIAGNOSIS: SUPERSTAR” SHOT ON 35MM AND MANY SHORTS, COMMERCIALS AND MUSIC VIDEOS OF HIS OWN. COSTUME DESIGNER JOHANNA ELF HAS WORKED ON “THE LOOK OF LOVE”, “PEAKY BLINDERS” AND “EASTENDERS” AND DESIGNED COSTUMES FOR THE FEATURE “IF IT BE LOVE”. GUIDO LERNER REGULARLY RECORDS MUSIC FOR LIVE MUSIC EVENTS AS WELL AS SOUND DESIGNING FOR FILM. RICHARD TOLLEY WAS 2ND AD ON SHORT FILM “UNDER THE FAMILY TABLE”, THIS WAS HIS FIRST TIME AS 1ST AD AND PRODUCTION ASSISTANT. ULI BLUM HAS CREATED HER OWN SHORT ANIMATIONS, THIS WAS HER FIRST TIME ON A LIVE FICTION SET. RACHAEL NIGHTINGILL STUDIED MAKE-UP AT LONDON’S PRESTIGIOUS DELAMAR ACADEMY AND SINCE GRADUATION HAS WORKED ON MANY FILM AND TELEVISION PROJECTS. FOCUS PULLER JAKE WALKER IS ALSO A JAZZ MUSICIAN WHICH WE THINK NOURISHES HIS AMAZINGLY PRECISE EYE.



# PRESS PHOTOS

[WWW.FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/126455484@N05/](http://WWW.FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/126455484@N05/)



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# FILM POSTERS

ALICE BIRD

ALBERTO MANEIRO



I'M IN THE CORNER WITH THE BLUEBELLS



A BIRD BROTHERS FILM WITH ALICE BIRD AND ALBERTO MANEIRO

DIRECTED BY PAUL MITCHELL WRITTEN BY PAUL MITCHELL ALICE BIRD PRODUCED BY ALICE BIRD MOUNTED BY PHOTOGRAPHER DOMINIUS REPP WITH ALICE BIRD ALBERTO MANEIRO NATHAN OSGOOD AND MITCHELL SAPPHERA PLESSARD FRANCESCA LAUREN

I'M IN THE CORNER  
WITH THE BLUEBELLS

A BIRD BROTHERS FILM

DIRECTED BY PAUL MITCHELL WRITTEN BY PAUL MITCHELL ALICE BIRD PRODUCED BY ALICE BIRD MOUNTED BY PHOTOGRAPHER DOMINIUS REPP WITH ALICE BIRD ALBERTO MANEIRO NATHAN OSGOOD AND MITCHELL SAPPHERA PLESSARD FRANCESCA LAUREN OSOSUNG

# MEDIA

