

# BICKFORD PARK

World Premiere, Toronto International Film Festival 2017



Wildling Pictures Inc.  
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Starring:

**Liane Balaban** as "Jill"  
**Patrick Costello** as "Andy"  
**Daniel Policelli** as "Caleb"

Writer/Directors: Linsey Stewart & Dane Clark

Producers: Lauren Corber  
Matt Code  
Kristy Neville

Director of Photography: Kieran Crilly

Production Designer: Ashley Devereux

Editor: Jonathan Eagan

Runtime: 12min

Colour: Black & White

### **LOGLINE**

A woman secretly starts taking skateboarding lessons from a handsome teenager to escape the problems in her marriage.

### **SYNOPSIS**

Jill's marriage to her husband, Andy, an experimental musician, has stagnated. Lately, Andy has more passion for his obscure music than for her. Out for her nightly run, Jill comes across a lone skateboard in the middle of the park. Intrigued, she can't help but try it. It immediately evokes a spark inside her that only deepens when she meets its owner.

### [TIFF Trailer](#)

### **Director's Statement**

Our goal with Bickford Park was to capture a married couple's relationship that has stagnated over time. It's nobody's fault necessarily. And it happens to the best of us. You get sucked into your own bubble and start losing sight of each other. As a married couple that makes films together, we know this feeling all too well and the danger it has on your relationship. That's the emotional core we wanted to explore while ensuring that the answer for this couple isn't to give up on one another because that's the easy way out. Our choice of filming in black and white was to show the lack of vibrancy in both their relationship and their individual lives. This vibrancy is what they need to get back.

### **Production Notes**

-Shot over three nights in August 2016 in Bickford Park (Toronto, ON).

-Financed by bravoFACT.

-Linsey and Dane's fourth short film together, and their first to play TIFF.

- Lauren Corber's third short film as producer to play TIFF, her other shorts that played the festival include *Emma* (2016) and *Anatomy of Assistance* (2013).
- Matt Code's third short film as producer to play TIFF, last year his shorts *3-Way (Not Calling)* and *God's Acre* played the festival.
- Two married couples working together – the directors and Liane and Patrick.

## **Bios**

### **Liane Balaban – “Jill”**

Liane Balaban created a major splash with her debut in the lead role of Alan Moyle's *NEW WATERFORD GIRL*. For her performance, she received a Special Jury Citation at the 24th annual Toronto International Film Festival.

Variety described her performance opposite Kevin Pollak in Gary Yates' critically acclaimed *SEVEN TIMES LUCKY* as "unforgettable".

Recently she has starred in the romantic comedies *THE GRAND SEDUCTION* with Taylor Kitsch and *FINDING JOY* opposite Josh Cooke. Other film credits include Joel Hopkins' *LAST CHANCE HARVEY* with Dustin Hoffman, *COACH* with Hugh Dancy, Michael McGowan's *ONE WEEK* opposite Joshua Jackson, *DEFINITELY MAYBE* written and directed by Adam Brooks for Universal Pictures, John L'Ecuyer's *SAINT JUDE*, Jeremy Podeswa's *AFTER THE HARVEST*, Bart Freundlich's *WORLD TRAVELER* opposite Billy Crudup and Michael Almereyda's *HAPPY HERE AND NOW*.

Television credits include guest star appearances on the shows *MAN SEEKING WOMAN* with Jay Baruchel for FX, *REPUBLIC OF DOYLE* for CBC, *PLAYED*, *MOTIVE* and *SAVING HOPE* for CTV, *NCIS: LA* for CBS and recurring roles on *SUPERNATURAL* for The CW, *ALPHAS* for Syfy, and *COVERT AFFAIRS* for USA. As well as the mini-series *ABOVE & BEYOND* directed by Sturla Gunnarson and co-starring Richard E. Grant, *ST. URBAIN'S HORSEMAN* based on the novel by Mordecai Richler, and the television movie/ pilot *ABROAD* for CBC.

She has also performed on stage in the adaptation of Michael Ondaatje's *DIVISIDARO* for Necessary Angel and Film Farm. And she currently has her own series *MAGGIE MCKILL* in development as a creator/ writer with Temple Street.

### **Patrick Costello – “Andy”**

Patrick John Costello is a Canadian actor and musician who lives in Los Angeles. He has appeared in some tv and film that you've seen and lots that you haven't. Some fave credits include HBO's *Tour De Pharmacy* and Walter Salles' *On The Road*. As part of the influential SideMart Theatrical Grocery, Patrick created two musical theatre shows, called *Trying for the Kingdom* and *The Ballad of the Young Offender*. His new album, *GOSPEL*, will be out this fall.

## **Daniel Policelli – “Caleb”**

A street Skateboarder for over 14 years, Daniel Policelli never knew he would become an actor. His biggest passions in life were skateboarding and producing videos about Skateboarding, but his skills garnered attention and he found himself in front of the camera.

Daniel had appeared in several Commercials and PSAs as a skilled skateboarder and also as an actor in a special National Geographic Series, before his first lead role in BICKFORD PARK.

Daniel attends the Media Studies program at the University of Guelph-Humber and looks forward to more adventures in both filmmaking and being filmed! He finds both sides incredibly rewarding when you see the final product.

Daniel’s thoughts on being an Actor and a Skateboarder: "Both push you to work hard and keep practicing until you get that perfect take! Most of all they're both fun."

## **Linsey Stewart & Dane Clark – Writers/Directors**

Linsey Stewart & Dane Clark met during their Writers’ Lab stint at the Canadian Film Centre in 2008. They became best friends, fell in love, wrote scripts and now they’re married. To each other.

Their first collaboration as writers/directors was on the short film LONG BRANCH, which won several festivals, became a Vimeo Staff Pick and was named to the Viewfinder List of the Top 10 Shorts as voted on by Hollywood Execs. Their next short, MARGO LILY premiered in Telefilm’s Not Short On Talent program at Cannes and won the A&E Award for Best Film at the NSI Film Festival.

In 2013 they were named People To Watch by the Toronto Star and shot their first low-budget feature, the romantic comedic thriller I PUT A HIT ON YOU which premiered at the 2014 Slamdance Film Festival, received NNNN’s in Now Magazine and was picked up by Mongrel.

They recently won a WGA Award for their web series THE COMMUTE, are writers on CBC’s MR. D and are developing their next feature MERV with Matt Baer Films.

## **Lauren Corber – Producer**

Lauren Corber is a producer, entertainment lawyer and the founder/president of production company, LoCo Motion Pictures. She recently produced award-winning comedy web series **MY 90-YEAR-OLD ROOMMATE** which is CBC Comedy's top digital original series and has been renewed for a second season. Up next for LoCo Motion Pictures is the launch of comedy web series **HOW TO BUY A BABY** in the fall of 2017 (CBC Comedy).

Lauren is developing several projects including feature film, **THE ART OF BEING BUSY** (Telefilm Canada's PITCH THIS! 2016) one-hour drama series, **NEW WAVE** (NSI Totally Television) and comedy web series **HIT ON ME** (pitch finalist, Just for Laugh's ComedyPro 2017). Past productions include numerous award-winning short films that have screened around the world including **EMMA** (TIFF 2016, Canada's Top 10 2016) and **BALCONY AFFAIR** (Locarno 2011). Lauren story edited the highly acclaimed short film, **HOLE** (2014), which won the grand prize at Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival (2015), the Canadian Screen Award for Best Live Action Short and was selected by major international film festivals including TIFF, Sundance, AFI and BFI London.

Lauren brings with her valuable experience gained as in-house counsel at Breakthrough Entertainment, working on the development, production and distribution of a wide variety of television and digital media productions. Actively involved with the CMPA, she has sat on committees including copyright, industrial relations and terms of trade. She has also been a member of the team conducting collective bargaining negotiations with the Writers' Guild of Canada since 2011 and ACTRA since 2015. Lauren holds a Bachelor of Commerce from McGill University and a Bachelor of Laws from Osgoode Hall Law School. She is an alumna of the Producer's Lab at the CFC, the NSI's Totally Television Program, the WIFT-T Development Incubator and the Bell Media Executive Producer Accelerator Lab. Lauren Corber was voted most vivacious by her graduating class in high school and has lived up to it ever since.

## **Matt Code – Producer**

Matt Code is a producer for award-winning film, television and digital content, and graduate of the Canadian Film Centre, Film Program Producers' Lab. Most recently, he produced the upcoming **MARY GOES ROUND**, a first feature from writer/director, Molly McGlynn. The film will have its **WORLD PREMIERE** at the 2017 Toronto International Film Festival. It stars Aya Cash (FX Series, **YOU'RE THE WORST**) and has also been named one of "12 Films We Can't Wait to See in 2017" by NOW Magazine.

His last film, 3-WAY (NOT CALLING) premiered at the 2016 Toronto International Film Festival. Code's films have played festivals internationally including TriBeCa, Hot Docs, Palm Springs and Santa Barbara.

Code is founder and partner in Wildling Pictures with fellow producer, Kristy Neville. The company is developing a slate of filmmaker-driven film and television projects for the international marketplace. In addition to MARY GOES ROUND, the company has the feature film CARDINALS from Grayson Moore & Aidan Shipley and the short film BICKFORD PARK from Linsey Stewart & Dane Clark at TIFF in 2017. Currently, they are serving as executive producers on Jasmine Mozaffari's first feature, FIRECRACKERS.

Code also regularly serves as a line producer or production manager on domestic and foreign productions shooting in Canada. Most recently, he completed HOW TO BUY A BABY, a ten-part series for CBC Digital.

For Murmur Media, Code is currently producing the feature documentary WHAT WALAA WANTS from filmmaker Christy Garland, which is a co-production with two-time Oscar-nominated Final Cut For Real of Denmark and the National Film Board of Canada. Previously for Murmur, he was co-producer for CHEER UP, which premiered at the 2016 Hot Docs International Film Festival.

Previously for PDM Entertainment, Code co-produced the six-part mini-series, THE BEST LAID PLANS (CBC-TV) and produced the companion web series THE PETES' LAID PLANS (CBC Digital). THE BEST LAID PLANS was nominated for three 2014 DGC Awards, winning Best Mini-Series/Movie, and received three 2015 Canadian Screen Award nominations, winning Best Actor in a Dramatic Program (Jonas Chernick) and Best Director, Mini-Series/Movie (Peter Moss).

Code has juried for multiple film festivals and awards, is a member of the Canadian Media Producers Association and the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television. He is based in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

### **Kristy Neville – Producer**

Since graduating from Ryerson University's School of Image Arts (2013), Kristy Neville has produced a number of acclaimed films that have premiered at festivals such as TIFF, Sundance, SXSW, Tribeca and Hot Docs. In 2016, Kristy was selected by Telefilm as one of three emerging producers to attend the Cannes Film Festival's Producer Workshop. The same year, she joined Matt Code as partner in Wildling Pictures, developing and producing projects for film and television in collaboration with some of Canada's most exciting new filmmakers.

This year the team will have three films premiering at the Toronto International Film Festival: *CARDINALS*, the slow-burn thriller by first time feature filmmakers Grayson Moore and Aidan Shipley, *MARY GOES ROUND*, the debut feature from celebrated writer/director Molly McGlynn, and the short film, *BICKFORD PARK*, written and directed by award-winning duo Linsey Stewart and Dane Clark.

Kristy began her career in post-production, cutting short films and music videos. She refined her story editing skills as assistant to Jamie Kastner on Season One of the hit CBC comedy *STILL STANDING* and continued to work with Kastner as post-production supervisor at Cave 7 Productions overseeing their most recent documentary *THE SKYJACKER'S TALE* (TIFF '16). This year she worked with writer and director Luis De Filippis editing the short film *FOR NONNA ANNA*, which will also premiere at the 2017 Toronto International Film Festival.

In 2016, her shorts *HER FRIEND ADAM* (Sundance, SXSW) and *A TEACHABLE MOMENT* (Tribeca) were selected for Telefilm's Not Short On Talent, Cannes. *HER FRIEND ADAM* went on to screen with the Sundance Film Festival Short Film Tour and won a Special Jury Prize at Sundance for Outstanding Performance by TIFF Rising Star, Grace Glowicki. The film was released online with Vimeo exceeding 300,000 views and featured on sites such as Short of the Week, NoBudge and The A.V. Club to rave reviews. It has earned a place on numerous top short film lists of 2016 including Vimeo, Vice, NoBudge, and Canada's Top Ten Film Festival.

Currently, Matt and Kristy serve as executive producers on Jasmin Mozaffari's debut feature, *FIRECRACKERS*.