

## **BYE BYE BODY (2019)**

### **Synopsis:**

When Nina fails to meet her goal in the final week of weight loss camp, she makes a deal with the devil that takes her on an unexpected adventure, through which she learns to see her body anew.

**Trailer:** <https://vimeo.com/363664676>

### **Key Credits:**

Director: Charlotte Benbeniste  
Producers: Barbara Twist, Amanda Freedman  
Associate Producer: Talya Stern  
Director of Photography: Ben Mullen  
Production Designer: Toni-Marie Gallardo  
Costumer: Sophie Kay

NINA: Kat Christiansen  
KAY: Grayson  
PALOMA: Clara Nieblas  
RICKY: Phillip Prince  
NURSE: Erin Robinson  
COUNSELOR: Gayla Johnson

### **Bios**

**Charlotte Benbeniste (Writer/Director)** is a filmmaker from Los Angeles. She received her BA in Creative Writing from Bard College in 2011. She has worked in the AD Departments on CELESTE AND JESSE FOREVER, Before We Go, John Wick 2, and assisted fellow Iranian-American director Ana Lily Amirpour on her second feature film, The Bad Batch. Her first film June, starred Mozart in the Jungle and Gone Girl's Lola Kirke, and her short documentary, Take You Down To, about the Cowgirls of Color, premiered on Nowness in June 2017. She lives in New York City, where she is a Screenwriting and Directing MFA candidate at Columbia University. She shares a birthday with August Sander, Gene Clark, and Martin Scorsese and is a long suffering fan of the New York Knickerbockers.

**Barbara Twist (Producer)** is a producer and writer, with expertise in exhibition and festival strategies. She has produced numerous shorts and a feature, screening at festivals including Austin Film Festival, Aspen ShortsFest, Atlanta Film Festival, IndieMemphis, and Palm Springs ShortFest. Her most recent short film Bye Bye Body is a Vimeo Staff Pick with over 100K views. She's been a juror for both Austin Film Festival & Denver Film Festival and has sat on grant review committees, including the NEA Media Arts Grants and the National YoungArts Foundation. She graduated with an MFA in Creative Producing from Columbia University where she received the Arthur Krim Fellowship for producing. She also holds a B.A. in Screen Arts and Cultures from the University of Michigan.

**Amanda Freedman (Producer)** is a Canadian producer residing in Los Angeles. She graduated with an MFA from the American Film Institute's producing program, where she received the Jerry Bruckheimer Producing Scholarship. She also has an MA in Media Studies

from The New School. Amanda has produced numerous shorts which have screened at prominent festivals including Talia Zucker's CHILD, which played at BFI London, AFI Fest, and Torino Film Festival. She also produced Charlotte Benbeniste's BYE BYE, BODY, which screened at Austin Film festival, Indie Memphis, Atlanta Film Festival and Aspen Shortsfest. She's committed to making female-focused work that examines the morals and values of our generation.

### **Director's Statement:**

When I told people that I wanted to make a film about my experience at weight loss camp, they assumed the film would be a comedy. Because when larger women occupy space on screen, they are there to make you laugh, either with them or at them. Growing up, I never saw myself, or my experience, represented on screen. Bye Bye Body is the film I didn't have: an alternative narrative of girlhood, that broadens the depictions of a young woman's relationship to her own body, and endeavors to afford larger women their full humanity.

Like many larger-bodied women, my first sexual encounters were not at a house party or in a well-lit teenage bedroom, but in the hidden spaces in between, cloaked in secrecy. Underrepresented as they were, they felt just as formative. With Bye Bye Body, we aim to expand what young female sexuality looks like on screen, to include those stories rarely seen, and to consider not only what we make, but how we make it.

In my professional experience on set prior to Columbia University, I was often the only woman employed below the line. I made a pledge to do things differently, if I ever had the privilege to make my own film. I'm proud to say that on Bye Bye Body, 76% of our crew were women, across all departments. And simultaneously, in front of the camera, we cast a diverse range of larger bodied actors, so often cast aside, to bring this story to life.

### **Tech Details:**

Aspect ratio: 1.85

Code: Pro Res 422

Resolution: 1920x1080

Color space: r709

Fps: 24fps

Audio: Stereo