MAGNET RELEASING and FÍS ÉIREANN / SCREEN IRELAND PRESENT A
FANTASTIC FILMS PRODUCTION

A MAGNET RELEASE

YOU ARE NOT MY MOTHER

A film by Kate Dolan

93 minutes / Ireland

http://www.magnetreleasing.com/youarenotmymother/

FINAL PRESS NOTES

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SYNOPSIS

It’s the week before Halloween and Char’s mother, Angela, has inexplicably disappeared. All that remains is her abandoned car. When she returns home without explanation the following evening, it becomes clear to Char and her grandmother, Rita, that something is amiss. She might look and sound the same, but Angela’s behavior has become increasingly frightening, as if she has been replaced by a malevolent force. When Halloween arrives, a night steeped in ancient myth and legend, Char realizes that she is the only one who can save her, even if it means potentially losing her forever.
DIRECTORS’ STATEMENT – KATE DOLAN

My intention with *You Are Not My Mother* was to create a frightening film that depicted an authentic coming of age experience while also tapping into the dark folk history we have in Ireland (the birthplace of Samhain/Hallowe’en.) In the past, people who were believed to be changelings were burned alive. The flame was thought to expel the faery doppelganger that had taken their place. These tales I grew up hearing always stuck with me.

I wanted to capture a moment in time when you forced to grow up fast and even though the weight of the world can be placed on your young shoulders you are also still patronized and treated like a child. Family secrets are still kept from you, and in the world we have created in *You Are Not My Mother* that can be fatal.

Much of the film was inspired by my experience with mental illness in my family and also tapping into the struggles of women from different generations I’ve witnessed growing up. Irish women have been mistreated throughout history in this country and I wanted to create something that depicted and celebrated strong women of different backgrounds and experiences. I was raised by multiple generations of strong women and it’s something we don’t see in film enough.

I feel we have created a frightening and thrilling film with a lot of heart that takes a modern spin on the classic folk traditions of Ireland and I can’t wait to share it with everyone.

- Kate Dolan
ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

KATE DOLAN – Writer/Director

Writer/ Director Kate Dolan graduated from the National Film School, IADT in 2012. Along with directing many commercials and music videos over the years in 2014 Kate was selected for Berlinale Talents, where she wrote and directed short film Little Doll. The film premiered at the Berlinale in 2016.

Catcalls, Kate’s next short film funded by Screen Ireland in 2017 premiered at many of the leading international festivals including BFI London Film Festival, Fantastic Fest and Fantasia Film Festival, winning Best Short Film at the Young Director Awards Ireland 2018.

In 2016, Kate was chosen to take part in the Guiding Lights, the UK’s leading mentoring scheme for filmmakers and in 2019 was listed as one of Ireland’s leading emerging creatives under 30. Kate is currently in post-production of her debut feature film You Are Not My Mother due for release in 2022.

DEIRDRE LEVINS – Producer

Deirdre Levins works with leading European genre production company Fantastic Films, based in Dublin, Ireland. Having received over 60 awards, Fantastic Films is at the forefront of genre filmmaking.

In 2020, Deirdre produced her debut feature film, You Are Not My Mother, written & directed by Kate Dolan.

Deirdre produces feature films and episodic content and is a graduate of EAVE, Rotterdam Lab and EWA.

NARAYAN VAN MAELE – Director of Photography

Narayan Van Maele originally from Luxembourg has been living in Ireland for the last 17 years. He has shot feature films such as Govinda Van Maele’s ‘Gutland’ starring Frederick Lau and Vicky Krieps which premiered In TIFF and won Best International Film at the Galway Film Fleadh, Paddy Slattery’s debut ‘Broken Law’, which was
Ireland’s highest grossing film in 2020, scooped up a couple of awards at DIFF and can now be seen on Netflix.

Ross Killeen’s debut feature doc about Damien Dempsey ‘Love Yourself Today’ to be released in November 2021. Upcoming features are Claire Dix’s ‘Sunlight’ and Aditya Vikram Sengupta’s ‘Birthmark’.

exploring the world of Overlanding. Georg holds a B.S. and B.A. from Wharton and UPenn, and an Executive MBA from UCLA.

JOHN CUTLER - Editor

John Cutler is an Irish film editor, with an uncompromising passion for the craft that has earned him multiple awards for his work.

John gained recognition for editing the horror short ‘Catcalls’ (2017), which earned his feature film editing debut with ‘You Are Not My Mother’ (2021).

His background in editing commercials and music videos has allowed him to explore a wealth of different styles and genres, lending itself to creating the suspense, the warmth, and the revelations of cinema.

DIE HEXEN - Composer

DIE HEXEN is a multi-award-winning avant-garde composer, sound designer, vocalist, musician, performance and audio-visual Artist. Their self-performed and produced compositions are musically and thematically influenced by dramatic beginnings growing up by the NI coast.

Exploring themes such as life, death, the afterlife, pain, vivid dreams, celestial mysticism, the spiritual and the supernatural. Cultivating a unique sound and vision through various Art forms, DIE HEXEN transports the audience to other worlds, emotions and places that they might not have considered visiting.
ABOUT THE CAST

HAZEL DOUPE - Char

Hazel Doupe is an actor born and raised in Dublin, she played her breakout role as ‘Frances’ in FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY which won Toronto Film Festival’s fipresci discovery award in 2018. Hazel was awarded the Irish Screen America rising star award for her performance.

During her career she has appeared in acclaimed Irish and international films such as “Calm with Horses” and “Michael Inside”. She will lead Kate Dolan’s upcoming feature film “You Are Not My Mother”.

CAROLYN BRACKEN - Angela

Carolyn has performed on stage since childhood. After graduating from the Gaiety School of Acting in 2014, she has worked on TV productions such as ‘The Line of Duty’, ‘Dublin Murders’, ‘Smother’ and feature films ‘A Date for Mad Mary’, ‘The Lodgers’ and ‘Fanacht’. In 2019, her short film ‘Inner Child’, which she wrote and starred in featured in various film festivals, including CFF and Fastnet. It also screened on RTE Shorts in 2020, and again in 2021.

Carolyn is currently involved in a number of projects in connection with Screen Ireland and The Arts Council. Her role as Angela in ‘You Are Not My Mother’ will be her first leading role in a feature.

INGRID CRAIGIE - Rita

Ingrid Craigie is one of Ireland’s leading stage and screen actors. She will next be seen on stage as Mag in a co-production of Martin McDonagh’s play The Beauty Queen of Leenane for Chichester Festival and the Lyric Hammersmith.

She began her film career in the BAFTA award winning The Ballroom of Romance, directed by Pat O’Connor, followed by John Huston’s The Dead, Da opposite Martin Sheen, Circle of Friends and A Man of No Importance.

Most recent film work includes the role of Rita in Kate Dolan’s You Are Not My Mother, Death of a Ladies Man, directed by Matt Bissonnette, Molly in Forever in my Heart and Renata Werner in Entebbe, directed by José Padilha.
Recent television appearances include Madame Blanc for Channel 5, the ABC pilot *Epic*, her IFTA nominated performance as Mary in the series *Blood*, David Hare’s *Roadkill* for BBC and the series *Striking Out* for RTÉ.

Ingrid’s stage appearances include The Duchess of York in Garry Hynes’ production of *Richard III* for Druid, the Abbey Theatre and the Lincoln Center NY, *Sweet Bird of Youth* at Chichester Festival, Martin McDonagh’s *The Cripple of Inishmaan* in the West End and on Broadway, Brian Friel’s *Wonderful Tennessee* at the Abbey Theatre and on Broadway and *Faith Healer* at the Gate Theatre, directed by Jonathan Kent, with Ralph Fiennes and Ian McDiarmid.

Awards include the Special Tribute Award at the Irish Times Theatre Awards and the Trinity College Dublin

**PAUL REID – Aaron**

Paul most recently filmed the television series *HARRY WILD* alongside Jane Seymour, and prior to that the role of Aaron alongside Hazel Doupe in Kate Dolan’s horror feature *YOU ARE NOT MY MOTHER*.

Further recent work includes the role of the role of Mr. Taylor in the comedy feature *NAN* directed by Josie Rourke; two seasons of *FINDING JOY* alongside Amy Huberman, directed by John Butler; Oggie Gildersleeve in *THE ALIENIST*, directed by David Caffrey for Paramount & TNT; the role of Derek in *COLLAPSIBLE* by Margaret Perry, directed by Thomas Martin at the Abbey Theatre; *THE PROFESSIONALS* directed by Bharat Nalluri; and the role of Robert alongside Rafe Spall in the horror feature *THE RITUAL*, directed by David Bruckner for The Imaginarium.

Stage credits include the role of Martyn Wallace in the Corn Exchange’s *DUBLIN BY LAMPLIGHT* directed by Annie Ryan, *CHEKHOV’S FIRST PLAY* directed by Ben Kidd and Bush Moukarzel for Dead Centre; and notably the part of Gar (Public) in *PHILADELPHIA, HERE I COME!* directed by Lyndsey Turner at the Donmar Warehouse.

**JORDANNE JONES - Suzanne**

Born and raised in Dublin, Jordanne was chosen to appear in the leading role of I USED TO LIVE HERE directed by Frank Berry when she was just 14 years old and for which she was nominated for a Best Actress in a Leading Role IFTA for 2015 and won the Dublin Film Critics Breakthrough Award for 2015, the movie was also nominated for a Best Film IFTA for 2015.
Now 21 years old, Jordanne is a leading member of Ireland’s new generation of screen actors. Trained at Bow Street Acting Academy under a full Scholarship, she is currently studying for her BA in Film Studies at Trinity College Dublin.

Jordanne played the leading role of Emma in METAL HEART (Treasure Films), Hugh O’Connor’s directorial debut, for which she won the Bingham Ray Best New Talent Award at the Galway Film Fleadh in 2018. She most recently appeared on TV as Lily in DEAD STILL (Acorn/RTE) and in a guest role in THE ALIENIST: ANGEL OF DARKNESS (Paramount/TNT) in 2020. Jordanne’s other screen credits include: MINNIE in REBELLION, starring Ruth Bradley and Sarah Greene for RTE/Touchpaper/Zodiac/Sundance TV directed by Aku Louhimies in 2016 and in its sequel RESISTANCE in 2019. Jordanne also appeared in the short film MY FATHER MY BLOOD opposite Barry Ward for Just A Little Productions UK in 2017 at Galway Film Fleadh. Jordanne has appeared in leading roles in numerous short films in recent years as she combines her college and acting careers, including no less than four short films in the Dublin Film Festival of 2020, including YOUNG MOTHER which was nominated for Best International Short at the Palm Springs International Shortfest 2020 and SISTER THIS (Parallel Films) directed by Claire Byrne and winner of the Dublin International Film Festival Discovery Award in 2020 and nominated for an IFTA for Best Short Film in 2020. Jordanne also starred in HEARTBREAK by Emmet Kirwan, a spoken word piece on YouTube directed by Dave Tynan which gathered huge viewing numbers in 2017.

Jordanne is also three times Dublin Champion, Leinster Champion and all Ireland finalist in her section in Boxing and she danced (Free Style) in the Worlds, Europeans and all Irelands and placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd on many occasions.

**KATIE WHITE – Kelly**

Katie first appeared on Irish television when she was 8 years old, and since then her love for acting and performing grew. Katie trained at Bow Street Film Academy and appeared as starring roles in a number of theatre productions within The Gaiety and Bord Gais Energy Theatre, such as Annie in ANNIE and Alice in ALICE IN WONDERLAND.

Katie is also known for her role as Amy White in DER IRLAND KRIMI (2021) and Young Maisie Robinson in A DANGEROUS FORTUNE (2017).
FLORENCE ADEBAMBO - Amanda

Florence is a talented 17-year-old actor born and raised in Dublin to Nigerian parents. Florence first appeared in the recurring role of Flora in RTÉ’s drama TAKEN DOWN (written Stuart Carolan for Spiral Pictures, directed by David Caffrey) in 2018. Since then, she has appeared in FINDING JOY (Treasure/RTE), short film CAILIN ALAINN (Pretty Girl), DEAR IRELAND (Abbey Theatre) and she recently shot the role of Amanda in YOU ARE NOT MY MOTHER, a new feature film written & directed by Kate Dolan for Fantastic Films, due for release later this year.

In the summer of 2021 Florence was cast as Ruykaya Momoh in Frank Berry’s (MICHAEL INSIDE) new feature film AISHA (aka PROVISION) for Subotica/Cornerstone Films, starring Letitia Wright and Josh O’Connor and due for release in 2022. Florence has just wrapped shooting on JOYRIDE, starring Olivia Coleman, directed by Emer Reynolds for Embankment/Subotica Films and due for release in 2022.

Florence was part of the Young Screen Actors Academy at Bow Street, Dublin for several years and was cast from a nationwide search in her television debut in the role of Flora in the new RTÉ crime drama, TAKEN DOWN. Written and produced by Stuart Carolan (LOVE HATE) and directed by David Caffrey (LOVE HATE, PEAKY BLINDERS), the six-part series investigates the violent death of a young Nigerian migrant found abandoned close to a Direct Provision Centre, where refugees wait and hope for asylum. Florence also appeared in the video for Hozier’s song, NINA CRIED POWER.
CREDITS

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY KATE DOLAN

PRODUCED BY DEIRDRE LEVINS

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STEPHEN KELLIHER, SOPHIE GREEN, BRENDAN McCARTHY, JOHN MCDONNELL, CELINE HADDAD

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY NARAYAN VAN MAELE

EDITOR JOHN CUTLER

COMPOSER DIE HEXEN

LINE PRODUCER LIAM RYAN

1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DREW MAITLAND

PRODUCTION DESIGNER LAUREN KELLY

COSTUME DESIGNER GWEN JEFFARES-HOURIE

MAKE-UP DESIGNER MADONNA BAMBINO

SOUND DESIGNER BRENDAN REHILL

SOUND RECORDIST DEAN MURRAY

VFX SUPERVISOR IAN BENJAMIN KENNY

CASTING DIRECTOR MANUEL PURO

CAST:

Hazel Doupe as CHAR

Carolyn Bracken as ANGELA

Ingrid Craigie as RITA
Paul Reid as AARON
Jordanne Jones as SUZANNE
Katie White as KELLY
Florence Adebambo as AMANDA