

EMMANUELLE DEVOS

MATHIEU ALMARIC

ROIS *et* REINE

KINGS & QUEEN



venezia 61

CONCORSO

a film by
ARNAUD DESPLECHIN

director ARNAUD DESPLECHIN screenplay ARNAUD DESPLECHIN, ROGER BOHBOT
cast EMMANUELLE DEVOS, MATHIEU ALMARIC, CATHERINE DENEUVE,
MAURICE GARREL, NATHALIE BOUTEFU, JEAN-PAUL ROUSSILLON, MAGALI WOCH,
HIPPOLYTE GIRARDOT, NOÉMIE LVOVSKY, ELSA WOLLIASTON, VALENTIN LELONG
dp ERIC GAUTHIER editor LAURENCE BRIAUD production designer DAN BEVAN
wardrobe NATHALIE RAOUL make-up THI LOAN NGUYEN
sound JEAN-PIERRE LAFORCE, CHRISTIAN MONHEIM
a WHY NOT PRODUCTIONS, FRANCE 2 CINÉMA, RHÔNE-ALPES CINÉMA co-production
with the support of CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA CINÉMATOGRAPHIE, LA PROCIREP
with the participation of CANAL+, CINE CINEMA, LA RÉGION RHÔNE-ALPES,
COFIMAGE 15, WILD BUNCH

CREDITS NOW CONTRACTUAL

KINGS & QUEEN

(ROIS ET REINE)

A FILM BY **ARNAUD DESPLECHIN**

'**Kings & Queen**' tells two separate stories. On one hand, the crowning achievement of Nora Cotterelle, young and bereaved, soon to marry a suitable man, at last! On the other hand, the story of the decline and fall of Ismaël Vuillard, one of Nora's former husbands, committed to a psychiatric home by mistake and destined to end his imprisonment in a worse state than when he began.

Their stories intersect for a moment, when Nora visits Ismaël and asks him to adopt her son, Elias. Then diverge again.

We follow Nora as she is forced to deal with the suffering of her sick father, an old writer. Trapped all alone in Grenoble, Nora is besieged. Long-buried memories surface...

Ismaël, convinced of his own tragic destiny, fares pretty well in the hospital, experiencing his downfall and reversals with a strange joy as he passes from one grotesque experience to the next.

At last, Nora and Ismaël meet again for the second and final time. He refuses to adopt Elias, telling the boy that he can do nothing for him, that he has nothing to offer. This confession of impotence will be the best and most honest gift Ismaël can give to the kid.

Two disparate stories, two movies, inextricably linked: raw, comic, melancholy, mournful. Two people: Nora, a woman who dives into memories that threaten to overwhelm her, and who will find relief from all the tragedies she has been through. And Ismaël, a man caught up in a succession of burlesque adventures, imprisoned yet always rushing, unaware, towards freedom.

CAST

Emmanuelle DEVOS AS NORA

Mathieu AMALRIC AS ISMAËL

Catherine DENEUVE AS MADAME VASSET, THE PSYCHIATRIST

Maurice GARREL AS LOUIS JENSSENS

Nathalie BOUTEFEU AS CHLOÉ JENSSENS

Jean-Paul ROUSSILLON AS ABEL VUILLARD

Magali WOCH AS ARIELLE

Hippolyte GIRARDOT AS MR MAMANNE, THE LAWYER

Noémie LVOVSKY AS ELIZABETH

Elsa WOLLIASTON AS DOCTOR DEVEREUX, THE PSYCHOANALYST

Valentin LELONG AS ELIAS

CREW

EMMANUELLE DEVOS SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

DE BATTRE MON COEUR S'EST ARRÊTÉ JACQUES AUDIARD (2005)

LA FEMME DE GILLES

aka **GILLES' WIFE** FRÉDÉRIC FONTEYNE (2004)

BIENVENUE EN SUISSE LÉA FAZER (2004)

RENCONTRE AVEC LE DRAGON

aka **THE RED KNIGHT** HÉLÈNE ANGEL (2003)

IL EST PLUS FACILE POUR UN CHAMEAU...

aka **IT'S EASIER FOR A CAMEL...** VALERI BRUNI-TEDESCHI (2003)

PETITES COUPURES

aka **SMALL CUTS** PASCAL BONITZER (2003)

AU PLUS PRÈS DU PARADIS

aka **NEAREST TO HEAVEN** TONIE MARSHALL (2002)

L' ADVERSAIRE

aka **THE ADVERSARY** NICOLE GARCIA (2002)

NOMINATED FOR BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS CÉSAR, 2003

SUR MES LÈVRES

aka **READ MY LIPS** JACQUES AUDIARD (2001)

WINNER, BEST ACTRESS CÉSAR, 2002

AÏE

aka **OUCH** SOPHIE FILLIÈRES (2000)

ESTHER KAHN ARNAUD DESPLECHIN (2000)

LES CENDRES DU PARADIS DOMINIQUE CREVECOUR (2000)

VIVE NOUS! CAMILLE DE CASABIANCA (2000)

COURS TOUJOURS DANTE DESARTHE (2000)

PEUT-ÊTRE

aka **MAYBE** CÉDRIC KLAPISCH (1999)

LA VIE NE ME FAIT PAS PEUR

aka **LIFE DOESN'T SCARE ME** NOÉMIE LVOVSKY (1999)

ARTEMISIA AGNES MERLET (1997)

LE DÉMÉNAGEMENT OLIVIER DORAN (1997)

ANNA OZ ERIC ROCHANT (1996)

COMMENT JE ME SUIS DISPUTÉ... (MA VIE SEXUELLE)

aka **MY SEX LIFE... OR HOW I GOT INTO AN ARGUMENT** ARNAUD DESPLECHIN (1996)

OUBLIE-MOI

aka **FORGET ME** NOÉMIE LVOVSKY (1995)

LES PATRIOTES ERIC ROCHANT (1994)

SAUVE-TOI JEAN-MARC FABRE (1993)

LA SENTINELLE

aka **THE SENTINEL** ARNAUD DESPLECHIN (1992)

LA VIE DES MORTS ARNAUD DESPLECHIN (1991)

MATHIEU AMALRIC SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

AS ACTOR

INQUIÉTUDES

aka **A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES** GILLES BOURDOS (2003)

MES ENFANTS NE SONT PAS COMME LES AUTRES

aka **MY CHILDREN ARE DIFFERENT** DENIS DERCOURT (2003)

UN HOMME, UN VRAI ARNAUD AND JEAN-MARIE LARRIEU (2003)

C'EST LE BOUQUET!

aka **SPECIAL DELIVERY** JEANNE LABRUNE (2002)

LULU JEAN-HENRI ROGER (2002)

LES NAUFRAGÉS DE LA D17 LUC MOULLET (2002)

LUNDI MATIN

aka **MONDAY MORNING** OTAR IOSSSELIANI (2002)

AMOUR D'ENFANCE YVES CAUMON (2001)

LA BRÈCHE DE ROLAND

aka **ROLAND'S PASS** ARNAUD AND JEAN-MARIE LARRIEU (2000)

L'AFFAIRE MARCORELLE SERGE LE PÉRON (2000)

LA FAUSSE SUIVANTE

aka **THE FALSE SERVANT** BENOÎT JACQUOT (2000)

ADIEU, PLANCHER DES VACHES! OTAR IOSSSELIANI (1999)

TROIS PONTS SUR LA RIVIÈRE JEAN-CLAUDE BIETTE (1999)

ALICE ET MARTIN ANDRÉ TÉCHINÉ (1998)

FIN AOÛT, DÉBUT SEPTEMBRE

aka **LATE AUGUST, EARLY SEPTEMBER** OLIVIER ASSAYAS (1998)

DIEU SEUL ME VOIT

aka **ONLY GOD SEES ME** BRUNO PODALYDÈS (1998)

ON A TRÈS PEU D'AMIS SYLVAIN MONOD (1998)

GÉNÉALOGIES D'UN CRIME

aka **GENEALOGIES OF A CRIME** RAOUL RUIZ (1997)

COMMENT JE ME SUIS DISPUTÉ... (MA VIE SEXUELLE)

aka **MY SEX LIFE... OR HOW I GOT INTO AN ARGUMENT** ARNAUD DESPLECHIN (1996)

WINNER OF THE BEST MALE NEWCOMER CÉSAR, 1996

LE JOURNAL DU SÉDUCTEUR

aka **DIARY OF A SEDUCER** DANIEL DUBROUX (1996)

NOMINATED FOR THE GÉRARD PHILIPPE AWARD

LETTRE POUR L... ROMAINE GOUPIL (1994)

LA SENTINELLE

aka **THE SENTINEL** ARNAUD DESPLECHIN (1992)

LA CHASSE AUX PAPILLONS

aka **THE BUTTERFLY HUNT** OTAR IOSSSELIANI (1992)

AS DIRECTOR

LA CHOSE PUBLIQUE (2002)

LE STADE DE WIMBLEDON (2000)

MANGE TA SOUPE (1997)

ARNAUD DESPLECHIN

Born 1960

Educated IDHEC (Directing and photography)

FILMOGRAPHY

ROIS ET REINE

aka **KINGS & QUEEN (2003)**

OFFICIAL SELECTION, VENICE, 2004

DANS LA COMPAGNIE DES HOMMES

aka **IN THE COMPANY OF MEN (2003)**

OFFICIAL SELECTION, CANNES, 2003 – UN CERTAIN REGARD

SAN FRANCISCO, 2004 – FILM COMMENT

ESTHER KAHN (2000)

OFFICIAL SELECTION, CANNES, 2000

COMMENT JE ME SUIS DISPUTÉ... (MA VIE SEXUELLE)

aka **MY SEX LIFE... OR HOW I GOT INTO AN ARGUMENT (1996)**

OFFICIAL SELECTION, CANNES, 1996

MATHIEU AMALRIC: BEST MALE NEWCOMER CÉSAR, 1997

JEANNE BALIBAR, MARIANNE DENICOURT AND EMMANUELLE DEVOS NOMINATED FOR BEST FEMALE NEWCOMER CÉSAR, 1997

FESTIVALS : TOKYO, TORONTO, MONTREAL, CAMBRIDGE, DUBLIN, NEW YORK

LA SENTINELLE

aka **THE SENTINEL (1992)**

OFFICIAL SELECTION, CANNES, 1992

EMMANUEL SALINGER : BEST MALE NEWCOMER CÉSAR, 1993

NOMINATED FOR BEST SCREENPLAY AND BEST FIRST FILM CÉSAR, 1993

NOMINATION FOR BEST FIRST FILM FELIX (BERLIN), 1992

GEORGES SADOUL PRIZE FOR BEST FIRST FILM, 1992

SPECIAL JURY PRIZE, FLORENCE, 1992

FESTIVALS: NEW YORK, SUNDANCE, TORONTO, TOKYO, CAMBRIDGE, DUBLIN, ROTTERDAM

LA VIE DES MORTS (1991)

INTERNATIONAL CRITICS' WEEK, CANNES 1991

FIRST PRIZE & BEST EUROPEAN SCREENPLAY PRIZE, ANGERS 1992

SPECIAL JURY PRIZE, FLORENCE, 1991

JEAN VIGO PRIZE FOR BEST SHORT FILM, 1991

FESTIVALS : LONDON, MONTREAL, LOCARNO 1991

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

It's hard to separate the note of intent from the film's synopsis. Because its very structure - these two stories facing each other - *is* its intent.

I love genre films, and the idea of seeing Nora dive into her memories made me feel that '**Kings & Queen**' was a kind of mysterious fairy tale.

When we were writing Nora - a woman surrounded by darkness and loneliness - I was thinking of Hitchcock's frigid Marlene Dietrich in **'Casino'** or Gena Rowlands in **'Another Woman'**. Three women terrified at the idea of discovering their true selves.

As for Ismaël, he was a burlesque movie in his own right.

Roger Bohbot my co-writer and I had a single guideline: be brutal.
Out with melancholy or discrete humour! Be brutally tragic, and brutally comic!

I hope we will shake you up a little.

- Arnaud Desplechin

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