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OFFICIAL SELECTION 2010



DONOSTIA ZINEMALDIA
FESTIVAL DE SAN SEBASTIAN
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

NEDS

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FESTIVAL DE SAN SEBASTIAN
INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

FILM 4
UK FILM COUNCIL
SCOTTISH SCREEN
and **WILD BUNCH**

PRESENT

a **BLUELIGHT, FIDÉLITÉ FILMS, STUDIO URANIA**
production

NEDS

Starring
PETER MULLAN, LOUISE GOODALL AND CONOR MCCARRON

Written and directed by PETER MULLAN

Produced by ALAIN DE LA MATA, MARC MISSONNIER and OLIVIER DELBOSC
Co-Producers - CONCHITA AIROLDI, PETER MULLAN, LUCINDA VAN RIE
Executive Producers - PETER CARLTON, CAROLE SHERIDAN, BRAHIM CHIOUA

2010 · A UK · FRENCH · ITALIAN CO-PRODUCTION · RUNNING TIME 124 MIN · 35 MM · RATIO SCOPE 2:35:1 · DOLBY SRD · COLOUR

PLEASE NOTE: Photos and press kit can be downloaded from www.wildbunch.biz

SYNOPSIS

Neds (Non-Educated Delinquents) is the story of a young man's journey from prize-winning schoolboy to knife-carrying teenager. Struggling against the low expectations of those around him, John McGill changes from victim to avenger, scholar to Ned, altar boy to glue sniffer. When he attempts to change back again, his new reality and recent past make conformity near impossible and violent self-determination near inevitable.

Director's statement

I think the best, though not the only, way to describe my overall approach to filming NEDS is "impressionistic", in the sense that composition, lighting, *mise-en-scene*, etc will be determined as much by the inner life of the protagonist, John, as by the events and people who affect him.

I'll explain using the opening scenes as examples. After John leaves the happy and protective environment of his primary school he wanders into an equally, though adult, happy occasion - a wedding. From a high shot, looking over the shoulder of Christ on the Cross, we move down through the confetti blowing colourfully over the smiling onlookers and the excited children to John who is quietly, proudly gazing at his prize. Canta casts his shadow over him before his words shatter John's revelry. From that point on, till the end of the scene, we shoot from John's perspective i.e. Canta, looming almost demonically against an incongruously blue sky; the head teacher (once so authoritative) now rendered as impotent as Christ on the Cross; his own mother and aunt, so taken by the wedding party they are oblivious to John's predicament. As the impact of Canta's threat cuts deep into John's psyche, so too his internalized retreat is symbolized by the low ceilings and sparse surroundings of his home, dominated by the brooding menace of his father. The streets become equally menacing, especially in the dark and murky evenings. Until, entering under the solitary spill of the streetlight, comes his colourful, swaggering brother Benny. In design and composition it is the world as John sees and experiences it.

I want the film to be bold. It has to create a unique, mysterious, volatile and often violent world, at the centre of which is a young boy trying desperately to work out his place within it.

Peter Mullan.

PETER MULLAN Writer and Director

Peter Mullan is an actor, writer and director. Acting credits include "My Name Is Joe" (Ken Loach) for which he won Best Actor at Cannes in 1998, "On a Clear Day" (Gaby Delisle), "Criminal" (Greg Jacobs, producers Steven Soderberg and George Clooney), "Out of This World" (Junji Sakamoto), "Kiss of Life" (Emily Young), "Young Adam" (David Mackenzie), "The Claim" (Michael Winterbottom), "Miss Julie" (Mike Figgis), "The Neighbours" (David McKay) and "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows". He also has numerous television (most recently "The Fixer") and theatre credits to his name.

Before NEDS, internationally-acclaimed writer/director Mullan made 3 short films: "Close" (Marc Samuelson Best Film Award 1993), "Good Day for the Bad Guys", and "Fridge" (Scottish BAFTA), and two features: "Orphans" (1997; ISVEMA, Pierrot and Critics' Week awards for Best Film at the Venice Film Festival 1998, Best Film at the Paris Film Festival 1998) and "The Magdalene Sisters" (2001; Golden Lion, Venice Film Festival 2002, Discovery Award, Toronto Film Festival 2002 and Media Prize, Cannes 2003).

NEDS is his third feature.

CRAIG ARMSTRONG

Composer

Craig Armstrong was born in Glasgow, 1959, and studied composition and piano at the Royal Academy of Music, London, from 1977 to 1981. Since then, from his base in Glasgow, he has written widely for film and for classical commissions. Armstrong's first scores were for Peter Mullan's Trilogy: "Fridge", "Close" and "A Good Day for the Bad Guys", followed by Mullan's award-winning feature films, "Orphans" and "The Magdalene Sisters". He went on to compose the scores for Baz Luhrmann's "Romeo and Juliet" and "Moulin Rouge", "The Quiet American", "Ray", Oliver Stone's "World Trade Centre" and most recently Stone's "Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps". Armstrong has received two BATFAs, two Ivor Novellos, a Golden Globe, an American Film Institute Award, a Grammy and most recently an Outstanding International Achievement award from Scottish BAFTA. Over the last decade, he has released two solo records for Massive Attack's label Melankolic, as well as "Piano Works" on Sanctuary in 2004. In 2007 he recorded his first classical record for EMI Classics France with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and has composed several concert works for the RSNO, London Sinfonietta, Hebrides Ensemble and the Scottish Ensemble. In 2006, Armstrong collaborated with Dalziel and Scullion for the reopening of the Kelvingrove Art Gallery in Glasgow. His most recent commission was the choral piece "Red" for Cappella Nova.

ROMAN OSIN, BSC

DP

Roman Osin's feature film credits include Joe Wright's "Pride and Prejudice", Terry Loane's "Mickybo and Me" and Zach Helm's "Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium". He has collaborated extensively with director Asif Kapadia on the critically-acclaimed features "Far North", "The Return" and "The Warrior", for which he received a 2001 British Independent Film Award for Best Technical Achievement, Best Cinematography Award at the San Sebastian International Film Festival, and was selected for the prestigious Camerimage. For the hugely successful "Pride and Prejudice", Osin was nominated for Best Cinematographer at the European Film Awards and the Chicago Film Critics Association Awards. He also has many commercial, promo and short film credits to his name.

CAST

<i>John</i>	CONOR MCCARRON
<i>Young John</i>	GREGG FORREST
<i>Benny</i>	JOE SZULA
<i>Elizabeth</i>	MHAIRI ANDERSON
<i>Canta</i>	GARY MILLIGAN
<i>Fergie</i>	JOHN JOE HAY
<i>Wee T</i>	CHRISTOPHER WALLACE
<i>Gerr</i>	RICHARD MACK
<i>Key Man</i>	PAUL SMITH
<i>Tam</i>	KHAI NUGENT
<i>Sparra</i>	RYAN WALKER
<i>Fifey</i>	ROSS GREIG
<i>Tora</i>	GREG MCCREADIE
<i>Casper</i>	SCOTT INGRAM
<i>Rebel</i>	CRAIG KERR
<i>Julian</i>	MARTIN BELL
<i>Claire</i>	KAT MURPHY
<i>Linda</i>	STEFANIE SZULA
<i>Agnes</i>	ANNIE WATSON
<i>Mandy</i>	ZOË HALLIDAY
<i>Shelagh</i>	SARA MACCALLUM
<i>Mr McGill</i>	PETER MULLAN
<i>Theresa</i>	LOUISE GOODALL
<i>Aunt Beth</i>	MARIANNA PALKA
<i>Mr Bonetti</i>	STEVEN ROBERTSON
<i>Mr Gallagher</i>	LAURIE VENTRY
<i>Mr Halligan</i>	ALEX DONALD
<i>Mr Holmes</i>	DAVID MCKAY
<i>Mr Russell</i>	GARY LEWIS

CREW

Written and Directed by
PETER MULLAN

DP
ROMAN OSIN BSC

Original Music
CRAIG ARMSTRONG

Editor
COLIN MONIE

Line Producer
ROBERT HOW

Production Designer
MARK LEESE

Costume Designer
RHONA RUSSELL

Hair and Make-up Designer
TAHIRA HEROLD

1st Assistant Director
DAVID GILCHRIST

Casting Director
LENNY MULLAN

Sound Mixer
MICHEL SCHILLINGS

Art Director
CAROLINE GREBBELL

Stills Photographer
GRAEME ROBERTSON

Sound Mixer
COLIN NICOLSON

Producers
ALAIN DE LA MATA
MARC MISSONNIER
OLIVIER DELBOSC

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With the support of
ORANGE CINÉMA SÉRIES
THE UK FILM COUNCIL'S NEW CINEMA FUND
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