



## ENTRY FORM

Original Title: SHELL

English Title: SHELL

Director: Scott Graham  
Script: Scott Graham

Country of production: United Kingdom  
Year of production: 2012

Producer: David Smith, Margaret Matheson  
Production company: Brocken Spectre  
Associate production companies: Bard Entertainments, Flying Moon and Molinare  
Co-Producer : Helge Albers

Coproduction company: ZDF/ ARTE

Director of Photography: Yoliswa Gärtig  
Sound Engineer : Andy Walsh  
Set Design: James Lapsley  
Editing: Rachel Tunnard  
Mixage : Chris Sinclair  
Music :  
Principal Cast: Chloe Pirrie / Michael Smiley / Joseph Mawle /  
Iain de Caestecker / Paul Hickey / Kate Dickie

Category: Feature

Original Language: English  
Subtitles Language:

Total Running Time: 90 min

Type: Colour

88 RUE DE LA FOLIE MERICOURT  
7 5 0 1 1 P A R I S  
TEL. 01 53 53 52 52  
FAX. 01 53 53 52 53  
Internet : <http://www.bacfilms.com>



Shooting format:  
Screening format: DCP  
Reels:

Screenratio: Scope 2.35

Sound: 5.1 (DCP)

Images/ sec: 24p/sec

Synopsis short ENG: Shell lives with her father Pete in their remote petrol station in the Scottish Highlands. Just the two of them fighting the elements, and their impossible love for each other. As Pete withdraws into the solitude, Shell acts as a siren who attracts passers-by. Although she does not know it yet, this winter will be her last one at the fuel stop...

World Sales: Bac Films, 88 rue de la Folie Méricourt, 75011 Paris, France,  
Tel : +33 1 53 53 06 76, Fax : +33 1 53 53 06 70  
Contact : Franka Schwabe, E-mail : f.schwabe@bacfilms.fr

Print ownership: Bac Films, 88 rue de la Folie Méricourt, 75011 Paris, France,  
Tel : +33 1 53 53 06 76, Fax : +33 1 49 29 49 60  
Contact : Franka Schwabe, E-mail : f.schwabe@bacfilms.fr

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## **Biography Scott Graham**

Scott grew up outside Fraserburgh in the North East of Scotland. He made his first short film, *Born To Run*, set in a fishing port in the North East, during the winter of 2005. His second short, *Shell*, won the UK Film Council Award for Best Film at the London Short Film Festival in 2008. His third short, *Native Son*, was produced by Film Four under their Cinema Extreme banner and premiered in Semaine de la Critique at Cannes 2010. The film stars Sean Harris as a lonely farm labourer at odds with his local community. Scott's first feature, *Shell*, is based on his 2008 short about a teenage girl's life with her father in a remote highland petrol station. Scott was chosen as one of Screen International's UK Stars of Tomorrow in 2011.

## **Director's Statement**

I had the idea for 'Shell' when I was driving between Glasgow and the north of Scotland. I was passing run down garages and roadside diners and I thought about a character emotionally and physically tied to such an isolated place. There's an emptiness to Shell's life at the petrol station that goes beyond the roadside. It permeates the walls of the house she shares with her broken-hearted father who is both comforted by Shell and haunted by how much she reminds him of her mother, the woman who left him. He has come to depend on her love, her light, her warmth and it's hard for him to let her go though that is what he should do. Shell is as lonely as we imagine her mother to have been living and working in that isolated place and yet she is willing to stay if her father will love her. She tells a passer-by she doesn't mind not seeing a car for a week. She seems to think she can survive on love though she never receives any from anyone. She tries to comfort the loneliness she sees in others while never addressing her own. Though her future is uncertain at the end of the film I hope her release feels as uplifting for the audience as it does to her.