

Unintended

A FILM BY ANJA MURMANN

PRESENTED BY SHORELIGHT PICTURES



SHORELIGHT PICTURES PRESENTS "UNINTENDED" STARRING ELIZABETH LAAL, NATHAN KEYES, HANNAH WESTERFIELD, JAY JAY WARREN, SEAN COLLEN
AMY HARRIS-DAVIES, JEREMY HOLM, EZRA BARNES MUSIC BY JAMES CHAMMAN EDITOR AMNIE SCHLISSEL PRODUCED BY JAE FARAKAS WRITTEN BY STEPHANIE POWERS
DIRECTED BY ANJA MURMANN
CASTING BY JACOB HUBICHOFF COSTUME DESIGNER SPENCER HUTCHINGS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STEPHANIE HOLBROOK PRODUCED BY SABINE SCHEM PRODUCED BY ANJA MURMANN
WWW.UNINTENDEDFILM.COM

SYNOPSIS

Lea, an adventurous, free spirited thirteen-year-old, lives in idyllic Upstate New York with her academic parents. Her life changes dramatically on the day the family relocates to Houston, Texas. Before their departure, in a tragic misstep, Lea is goaded into a fight with fifteen-year-old Bill. Acting out of frustration, she gets hold of the gun he has taken from his father. She accidentally fires a shot in his direction causing Bill to fall into a deep shaft. Not knowing if he survived, Lea is forced to leave.

Twelve years later ...

Lea, who has repressed the memory of that fateful day, is an emotional wreck. She is prescription drug dependent and on the verge of losing her apartment and her job in New York. Not ready to confront her demons, she ignores her problems until she almost drowns and ends up in a hospital. Her memories of that fateful night slowly drift back and torment her.

Lea's father feels guilty for having uprooted her because of his marital problems. He encourages her to revisit their old home, hoping she will reconnect to the positive memories of her childhood. He is unaware of the crime she committed thirteen years ago. With nowhere to turn, Lea decides to accompany him.

When she is confronted with her childhood and the people from her past, the repressed memories come back and leave her no choice but to go back to the mine, the place where she believes she killed Bill.

Did he die?

If he survived what will he do when she finds him? Is she ready to face the consequences of her actions?

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I wrote the movie **UNINTENDED** over the course of two years. It was my intention to create two young teenagers, Lea and Bill, who are curious about each other but they share a traumatic experience that changes their lives forever.

I created a moment in Lea's adult life that forces her to face her buried feelings of guilt. I wanted the audience to experience Lea's pain and confusion and to understand that it takes courage to confront past traumatic experiences. In order to heal, she has to face the depth of those painful moments. In Lea's case she literally has to descend to the bottom of a deep shaft.

The locations, rural Upstate New York and New York City, mirror and enlarge the characters. As an adult Lea lives in New York City, in an enclosed, isolated environment, detached from her surroundings. The role of nature in this film portrays different stages of Lea's state of mind. In young Lea's life nature presents itself as her playground, which is sacred to her. In New York City images of nature become a foreboding, scary element in her nightmares. Towards the end of the film I wanted to emphasize the healing power of nature for the characters.

Water is a recurring element and threads through the whole film, such as the lake, the stream and the swimming pool. For me water has so many meanings, it symbolizes unconsciousness, but it also heals. Another significant thread throughout the film is the dolls and wooden animals that Lea cherishes as a child. These belongings are the reason for her fight with Bill. Adult Lea finds little treasures on the streets of New York City and creates dolls, which symbolize her own brokenness and her desire to become whole.

We started the casting process months before the shoot, because we knew it would be challenging to match the young actors with the older ones, since the story takes place in two different time frames. We found Elizabeth Lail (adult Lea) through the auditioning process. I was impressed by her portrayal of Lea's character, which she played with honesty and fragility. These were crucial character traits for this part. Hannah Westerfield who played young Lea with a strong sense of sincerity, equally impressed me. We were lucky to find such perfect matches not only in physicality but also in their emotional portrayal.

In many ways this is an ensemble piece and all the actors gave very strong performances, which contributed to the emotional depth of the film. For me, making a movie is a collaborative effort and I was lucky to be surrounded by a dedicated and creative crew and cast who helped make a movie that exceeded my vision and expectation.

CREW

ANJA MURMANN – Writer & Director

Anja Murmann is a graduate from NYU film school. Her first short film, **WISHFUL THINKING** won the first prize at the NYU Student Film Festival in 1991 and the Otto Sprenger Prize in Hamburg, Germany. Her first feature film, **FIFTEEN MONTHS IN MAY**, won Best New Director – Special Mention at the San Sebastian International Film Festival in 1997. In 2014 she wrote and directed the short film **MISTRESS** which won Best Actress and Best Short at Asians On Film Festival. **UNINTENDED** is the second feature film written and directed by Anja Murmann. Anja is now working on her next feature titled, **IF NOT NOW**. She lives in New York with her three daughters.

SABINE SCHENK – Producer

Sabine Schenk is a Producer / Line Producer based in New York. She completed her M.A. in cinema studies from NYU in 1992. In 1998 she founded her own company, Schenk Productions, Inc., which offers production services for local and international film projects. Among these projects, she co-produced the documentary **FERRY TALES** which was nominated for an Academy Award in 2004. In 2008, she line produced the New York portion of **THE READER** for which Kate Winslet won the Academy Award. She line produced the NY shoot for the feature film **HANNAH ARENDT** by Margarethe von Trotta. Sabine also produced the award winning short film **MISTRESS** by Anja Murmann. After **MISTRESS** Sabine teamed up with Anja and founded their own company, Shorelight Pictures. Their first collaboration on a feature film is **UNINTENDED**.

JAMES CARMAN – Director of Photography

James Carman is a New York based DP and photographer. He works on features, commercials, and documentaries. He has shot many feature films that have been shown in festivals and film theaters around the globe such as Sundance, Cannes, Berlin, and Toronto. Recently five films he shot were shown at the MoMA retrospective of Bruce La Bruce. James recently shot **UNINTENDED** by Anja Murmann.

CAST

Elizabeth Lail - LEA

Elizabeth Lail will next be seen starring opposite Penn Badgley in Lifetime's straight-to-series psychological thriller drama titled **YOU** from Greg Berlanti and Sera Gamble. Previously, Elizabeth completed David Fincher's **VIDEOSYNCRASY** for HBO and was also seen as "Princess Anna" in a season of **ONCE UPON A TIME**. Lail made her theatre debut in Ken Urban's off Broadway play **NIBBLER** directed by Ben Kamine. She is a BFA graduate from The University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Elizabeth was recently mentioned in the Hollywood Reporter as one of the "10 Rising TV Stars Poised for a Breakout in 2018."

<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/lists/10-rising-tv-stars-poised-a-breakout-2018-1069727>

Nathan Keyes - BILL

Nathan stars opposite Lena Olin in the feature film **MAYA DARDEL**, which premiered at SXSW 2017 and was acquired by Orion Pictures and Samuel Goldwyn Films. He co-starred as "Justin Timberlake" in Lifetime's Britney Spears movie **BRITNEY EVER AFTER** and appears next as the co-lead in the indie feature **UNINTENDED**. Recently Nathan played a lead role in the independent pilot **DR. DEL** with John Hawkes and Chloë Sevigny and in **JL RANCH** with Jon Voight and Melanie Griffith. He co-starred in **THE KEY** opposite David Arquette and Bai Ling (Hollywood Film Festival 2015) and played a supporting role in the independent feature film **KINGS OF SUMMER**, which first premiered at Sundance in 2013. Other starring film credits include the indie feature **BLOOD & CIRCUMSTANCE**, the found-footage style **COME BACK TO ME**, the comedy feature **ME** (co-starring with Sam Trammell and Jennifer Jason Leigh) and the drama **SMARTASS** with Joey King.

Hannah Westerfield - YOUNG LEA

Hannah Westerfield began acting at the age of 5 with school plays and local theatre performances and knew she wanted to act, dance and sing & quickly developed a passion for acting in front of the camera while auditioning for film and TV.

Hannah's hard work led to her first role in **ANCHORMAN 2: THE LEGEND CONTINUES** and then the lead role in the independent film **SMOKE & MIRRORS**, where she played "Smoke", a teen vampire in search of a dark secret.

Shortly afterwards, Hannah booked a supporting role as a mutant child in the critically acclaimed film **LOGAN** with Hugh Jackman and an episode of **SURVIVOR'S REMORSE** on Starz. Hannah's most recent role is "Young Lea" in the independent film **UNINTENDED**.

Hannah's hobbies outside of acting are horseback riding, rowing, graphic design and anything anime. Hannah currently attends school in Atlanta, GA and lives with her parents and older brother.

CAST

Jay Jay Warren – YOUNG BILL

Jay Jay Warren is an immensely talented actor who, although young, enjoys the task of taking on challenging roles and bringing dynamic characters to life on screen.

Jay Jay told his parents at age 10 that he wanted to pursue acting. They allowed him to attend a talent showcase in Dallas. It was through this showcase that he got an agent in LA and 3 weeks later booked his first movie. He continued booking commercials and films which he is best known for TV roles on BOSCH (Amazon), MARON (IFC), SEAN SAVES THE WORLD (NBC), COOPER BARRETT'S GUIDE TO SURVIVING LIFE (Fox), BEST FRIENDS WHENEVER (Disney), Diablo Cody's RAISED BY WOLVES (ABC) and most recently the SyFy original DAY OF RECKONING and the indie films **UNINTENDED** and THE MAN IN THE WOODS. He has booked dozens of commercials including the most recent American Airlines commercial with Bradley Cooper.

Sean Cullen – SAM

Sean Cullen has appeared in the Oscar-nominated MICHAEL CLAYTON (with George Clooney) and on Broadway in Lincoln Center's Tony-Award-Winning ROGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S SOUTH PACIFIC (with Kelli O'Hara). His upcoming film releases include HBO's HAPPY VALLEY (with Al Pacino), Universal's DELOREAN (with Alec Baldwin) and the independent **UNINTENDED** (with Elizabeth Lail). Sean's most recent TV guest-starring appearances include: BULL (CBS), SUITS (USA), HOUSE OF CARDS (Netflix) and THE BLACKLIST (NBC). He also appeared as "Franz" in NBC's THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE (with Carrie Underwood). On Broadway, Sean also appeared in CLIFFORD ODETS' GOLDEN BOY (with Tony Shalhoub), JAMES JOYCE'S THE DEAD (with Christopher Walken); and the National Theatre of Great Britain's production of CORAM BOY. Sean's other film work includes REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (with Leonardo DiCaprio), HE DOES NOT WANT PEACE (with David Strathairn and Lindsay Duncan), SIMONE (with Al Pacino), and COP OUT (with Bruce Willis and Tracey Morgan). He has also appeared at more than twenty of America's leading regional theatres, including: the Kennedy Center, A.C.T., Seattle Rep, the Alley Theatre, the George St. Playhouse, the Huntington Theatre and Westport Playhouse. Sean, a native of Buffalo, New York, is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama, St. Bonaventure University and Bishop Timon High School. The school honored him in 2011 with its first "Timon Center for Media & the Arts Distinguished Alumnus Award."

CAST

Amy Hargreaves - MOLLY

Amy Hargreaves currently stars in the enormously popular 13 REASONS WHY, which was the most watched series in Netflix history, and will return for a second season later this year. She is perhaps most recognized for her recurring role as Carrie Mathison's (Claire Danes) sister Maggie on Showtime's hit series HOMELAND. Prior notable work includes, her role in the HBO original film FLASHBACK, where she was nominated for a Cable Ace Award for best actress in a Dramatic Series or Special. On the film side of things, Amy is best known for the Cannes '13 Prix Fipresci award-winning BLUE RUIN (dir. Jeremy Saulnier), as well as HOW HE FELL IN LOVE (opposite Matt McGorry), THE PREPPIE CONNECTION, MICHAEL CLAYTON (dir. Tony Gilroy), SHAME (dir. Steve McQueen), DELIRIOUS (dir. Tom DiCillo), AGAINST THE CURRENT, EL CAMINO and the 1990s cult classic BRAINSCAN (opposite Edward Furlong and Frank Langella). On stage, Amy has been involved with the award-winning Barrow Group Theater Company for over 20 years where she has been seen in productions of EXPECTING ISABEL and TRUST. She has explored playwriting and directing there in more recent years as well. Off- Broadway, she has been seen in LAUGH IT UP, STARE IT DOWN at the Cherry Lane Theater, YEARS OF SKY at 59E59, and in LIVING PROOF with the Jewish Repertory Theatre.

Jeremy Holm - FRANK

Jeremy Holm is best known for portraying "Nathan Green" on the Golden Globe® nominated Netflix series HOUSE OF CARDS and as "Mr. Sutherland" on the Golden Globe® winning USA series MR. ROBOT. Jeremy was raised in the Rocky Mountains where he received a B.A. from Colorado State University, and later earned an M.F.A from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Since then, he has performed onstage at BAM, Cherry Lane Theatre and Mint Theatre in New York City, internationally at The Shanghai Theatre Center in China, and in major regional houses like Arena Stage, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Clarence Brown Theatre, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and The Cleveland Play House to name a few. He has appeared on multiple television shows including DECEPTION (ABC), BLUE BLOODS (CBS), LIMITLESS (CBS), THE BLACKLIST (NBC), UNFORGETTABLE (CBS), HAPPYISH (Showtime), THE AMERICANS (FX), AMERICAN ODYSSEY (NBC), LAW & ORDER (NBC) and five seasons of PRIMETIME: WHAT WOULD YOU DO? (ABC). His feature film, THE JUDGE, is available on Blu-Ray and features an all-star cast including Robert Downey, Jr., Robert Duvall, Vera Farmiga, Billy Bob Thornton and others. Also keep an eye out for Jeremy Holm as "Greg Spaulding" in Vlad Feier's FINDING HER (2018), "Chad Hastings" in TWELVE (2019) and as the title character in THE RANGER (2018).

STILLS



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