A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

A FILM BY MATTHEW SAVILLE

2015 / Australia / English / Drama
116 min / HD / 16:9 / Dolby 5.1

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LOGLINE
Everyone deserves a second chance, even a real estate agent. Frank’s mid-life funk is turned around when he receives a phone call from his dead mother.

SHORT SYNOPSIS
Divorced and unfulfilled, real estate agent Frank Mollard can’t do anything right, be it selling houses, getting over the death of his mother, or connecting with his teenage son. But when he receives a call from an elderly woman who confuses him for her son, Frank is thrown into the stranger’s life and surprises himself by developing a close bond with her. The unexpected relationship wakes Frank up and inspires him to reconnect with the people he’s been neglecting. A MONTH OF SUNDAYS is a film about about ordinary people and improbable salvation.

FESTIVALS
Toronto Film Festival
Adelaide Film Festival

TECH SPECS
Run Time: 116 min
Aspect Ratio: 16:9
Shooting Format: HD
Sound: Dolby 5.1
Country: Australia
Language: English
DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT

A Month of Sundays is about legacies. We would all like to leave a mark, leave the world a little better than how we found it. People like Frank Mollard would find that difficult, which is possibly why he finds himself a real estate agent.

Early in proceedings, when I was first pitching the script, my twenty five words or less was: “a real estate agent’s life takes a turn for the better when he receives a phone call from his dead mother”. Someone once asked me, “So, is this a ghost story?”

It isn’t. But later, I realized that it is. I realized that Frank Mollard - my protagonist, my real estate agent – is, in fact, a ghost. A MONTH OF SUNDAYS is, then, probably, about a ghost coming back to the world. Frank Mollard, at the beginning of the film, isn’t in the world. He is by the end. At the end of the film, he is standing on a “welcome” mat.

Or, put another way, the film traces the journey of a middle aged, divorced salesman realizing that he can, if he tries, leave a legacy. He can, if he cares, be kind. He can, if he wants to, honour other peoples’ need to make a mark, here. He can, if he holds fast, help make homes.

And that, in my opinion, is a real estate agent.

MATTHEW SAVILLE

Director
Matthew Saville is an Australian television and film director, who began his career working as a titles designer for many Australian television series. Several of his short films, including Franz and Kafka have received awards and screened widely at film festivals. Matthew Saville came to wider prominence as a writer/director with his one hour film Roy Hollsdotter Live, a bittersweet comedy about a stand-up comedian experiencing a personal breakdown. The film won awards at the Sydney Film Festival in 2003, as well as at the Australian Writers’ Guild Awards. The success of that film led, among other things, to a highly successful career as a television comedy director, including the acclaimed Big Bite and We Can Be Heroes: Finding The Australian of the Year, on both occasions working with Chris Lilley. In addition, Matthew Saville has directed episodes of the Australian television drama series The Secret Life of Us as well as directing the first three episodes of The Surgeon. In 2007 Saville’s feature film debut Noise was released, for which he received an AFI nomination for Best Director. In 2010 he began directing Cloudstreet, a television miniseries version of Tim Winton’s novel. His 2013 film Felony, written by and starring Joel Edgerton, was selected for the Special Presentation section at the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival.
CAST

ANTHONY LAPAGLIA as Frank Mollard [Lantana (2001), Winter’s Solstice (2004), Balibo (2009)]


JUSTINE CLARKE as Wendy Mollard [Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome (1985), Danny Deckhair (2003), Healing (2014)]

JOHN CLARKE as Phillip Lang [Never Say Die (1988), Death in Brunswick (1990), Blood Oath (1990)]
CREW

NICK BATZIAS
Producer
The longest standing Madman, Head of Production Nick Batzias has fourteen years of acquisition, distribution and production experience. He has worked on the release of over 500 feature and documentary films across various rights exploitation. As a key part of his role, Nick has assessed hundreds of scripts, treatments and rough cuts with a view to acquiring the films for distribution in Australia and New Zealand. Most recently Nick Produced the Matthew Saville dark comedy A Month of Sundays starring Anthony LaPaglia and Australian box office doco smash That Sugar Film.

KIRSTY STARK
Producer
Kirsty Stark is a producer based in Adelaide, South Australia. She co-founded Epic Films in 2010, acting as Executive Producer on the company’s two short 16mm films, L’Arstiste! and Landscape Scene, before pricing Wastelander Panda, her first major project. Kirsty began her career in the camera department, camera assisting on several feature films and winning numerous awards for her work as a cinematographer on short films and promotional videos. Her first feature film as a producer is A Month of Sundays.

BRYONY MARKS
Composer
Bryony Marks completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Music Composition for Film and Television with first class honours from the University of Melbourne’s Conservatorium of Music. In 2005 she composed the music for Chris Lilley’s award-winning series for ABC TV, We Can Be Heroes. In 2007 she worked with him again on Summer Heights High (ABC TV). She also composed the music for the TV feature, The King (based on the life of Graham Kennedy), and Matthew Saville’s debut feature film, Noise and TV series Tangle. In 2010, Bryony Marks completed work on the Hawke telemovie for Channel Ten, directed by Emma Freeman; the ABC TV series, Dance Academy; the second series of Tangle for Southern Star and Chris Lilley’s new ABC/HBO television series, Angry Boys. Since then, she has composed the music for the mini-series Cloudstreet for Showtime, third series of Tangle for Southern Star, feature film Goddess, ITV mini-series Mrs Biggs, and Josh Thomas’ ABC TV comedy series Please Like Me.

KEN SALLOWS
Editor
Ken Sallows is one of Australia’s most noted editors. His career started in the 1970s working at Crawford Productions on legendary TV shows like Homicide, Bluey, and The Sullivans. He moved into the film world as an assistant editor on Fred Schepsi’s The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith (1978). His break as a feature editor came with Malcolm (Nadia Tass, 1986). Since then he has worked on some of Australia’s most critically acclaimed films including Celia (Ann Turner, 1989), Proof (Jocelyn Moorhouse, 1992), Love and Other Catastrophes (Emma-Kate Croghan, 1996), Doing Time For Patsy Cline (Chris Kennedy, 1997), Chopper (Andrew Dominik, 2000) and most recently A Month of Sundays.

ROBERT WEBB
Production Designer
Robert Webb is known for his work on Wolf Creek (2005), The Loved Ones (2009), Broken Hill (2009) and Tomorrow, When the War Began (2010). Most recently he completed Wolf Creek 2 (2013) and the Matthew Saville dark comedy A Month of Sundays (2015).
CREDITS

CAST

Frank Mollard               Anthony LaPaglia
Sarah                        Julia Blake
Wendy McKinnon              Justine Clarke
Phillip Lang                John Vlarke
Damien                       Donald Forde
Adam Tregonning             Patrick Graham
Noel Lang                    Wayne Anthoney
Kyle Holland                Henry Nixon
Dr Kylie Elliot             Kylie Trounson
Frank Junior                Indiana Crowther
Stuart                      Terence crawford
Auctioneer                  Phil Harris
Julie Tragonning            Kylie Thornley
Ben Tregonning              Jake Thornley
Greek at Auction Developer  Nick Batzias
Bidder at Auction Olivia    Paul Harvey
Oliver                       Reanto Musolino
Omar                         Mikaela Davies
Gary Sweet                   Deng Chol Thon
Young PA                     Mandahla Rose
3rd AD                       Alec Hall
Safety Officer              Chris Duncan
TV Anaesthetist             Peter Rodgers
TV Male Nurse                Brad Williams
Man at Second House          Matthew Randell
Drama Teacher                Michael Steer
Student Lear                 Yu Le Kong-Lim
Student Edgar                Joshua Sodeman
Student Kent                 Connor Olsson-Jones
Student Choralist            Charlie Scaife
Hamish                       Fabio Neves
TV and Radio Announcer       Aarson Cartwright
CREW

Written and Directed by Matthew Saville
Produced by Nick Batzias, Kirsty Stark, Matthew Saville
Executive Producers Paul Wiegard, Anthony LaPaglia
Co-Producer Virginia Whitwell
Line Producer Sally Clarke
Director of Photography Mark Wareham ACS
Production Designer Robert Webb
Edited by Ken Sallows ASE
Costume Designer Anita Seiler
Original Music by Bryony Marks

Stock Footage

John Clarke image courtesy of STEWART THORN
Images of Justine Clarke at ASTRA & ARIA awards courtesy of Corbis Australia
SANFL audio courtesy of 107.9 Life FM Adelaide

Musicians

Trumpet Eugene Hall
Trumpet, Percussions, Vocals Mal Webb
Drums, Percussion, Ashley Davies
Bass, Percussion Rosie Westbrook
Piano Bryony Marks
Violin Sarah Curro
Violin Monica Curro
Viola Chris Cartlidge
Cello Rohan De Korte

Music recorded and mixed by

RODNEY LOWE, PRODUCTION ALLEY

Music Supervisor
NORMAN PARKHILL

Licensed Music

“Lost”
Written by Michael Spiby (Mushroom Music)
Performed by Prince Alfred College school choir
Financed with the Assistance of KOJO

Produced with the Assistance of South Australian Film Corporation

Financed with the Assistance of ADELAIDE FILM FESTIVAL MADMAN Production

PRINCIPAL INVESTOR
Australian Government
Screen Australia

Filmed on location in South Australia and at Adelaide Studios

All characters appearing in this work are fictitious. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.

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