

Beachside presents  
a Beachside production  
in association with Story Farm



# MAINE

Written & Directed by Matthew Brown

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Not yet Rated, 85 min, Color

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Every year in the Appalachian Mountains, under the dense forest canopy, more and more hikers are taking to the Appalachian Trail; determined to free themselves from the treadmill, lead their own lives, and more often than not to heal past traumas amongst the trees, the rain, the wind and supernal light. With *Maine*, I wanted to place the viewer alongside a woman, braving this soul journey.

My mom passed away when I was eight, so I never really knew who she was outside of the role of "mom." I asked my relatives, but their stories left me still feeling empty. She became a mosaic of loving connections with others.

All these moments of what I perceived as true loving seemed to share one thing: they saw me for me, not for what I could be for them. They didn't try to contain me, edit me, or elongate our time together. I wanted to strip the idea of ownership from love— that is the heartbeat of *Maine*. It is about feeling all that you can in a given moment and celebrating its happening rather than mourning its passing.

I hope the film inspires others to un-learn societal expectations and love freely and beautifully with a respect and understating of the individual.

Poet Mary Oliver says it perfectly: "You do not have to be good. You do not have to walk on your knees for a hundred miles through the desert repenting. You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves."

# SYNOPSIS

**LOGLINE:** *Backpacking alone on the Appalachian trail, a married woman meets a younger hiker and the two strangers become inexplicably drawn to one another.*

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MAINE tells the story of Bluebird, a married woman from Spain (LAIA COSTA) thru-hiking the 2,200 mile Appalachian Trail. She set out on this soul journey chasing a rapture she has only found alone in the wild. However, she is sidetracked two months into her journey, when she garners the partnership of a younger American hiker, Lake (THOMAS MANN), while passing through the undulating Virginia Highlands.

The two develop a symbiotic relationship, within a reality driven by basic needs: food, water, and shelter. The wilderness becomes their playground: bathing in crystal clear waterfalls, climbing abandoned fire towers, seeking shelter from summer rain under rock overhangs, their feet rolling over miles of earth and rock.

The distinction between her developing romantic impulses and devotion is sharp and unconnected. Lake, lost in his newfound capacity to feel love, is at her mercy— but this is not a love story.

A chance meeting with a female solo hiker reinvigorates Bluebird's original intention; subsequently, she begins distancing herself from Lake who is so desperate and controlling of love he often misses it when it's right in front of him.

After a kiss, Bluebird tries to gracefully part ways with Lake by planning a departure at the next road. Up in arms, Lake ridicules her for leaving. Bluebird bridges the gap and Lake's hold on the relationship loosens allowing for something unexpected— selfless love.

In their last night together, held in firelight, they shed their skins. Lake recalls the loss of his mother. Bluebird recounts the recent news of her infertility. With invitation, he cowers into her tent, a nylon womb, where for one night he will have a mother and she will have a child.

The next morning, Lake follows Bluebird to town hoping she'll have a change of heart. Tucked into a roadside diner, she struggles to find the right goodbye only to accept that there is none. At sunset, she leaves him.

Absolved, with a heart swelling like a sail, she steps back into the enchanted unknown— 1,700 miles from Maine.

MAINE is a redefinition of individuality; the only favor we can do for ourselves is to feel as much as possible and keep moving.

# PRODUCTION NOTES

*Maine* was shot for a total of 20 days on location in the Southeastern parts of Virginia along the Appalachian Trail in the towns of Marion, Pearisburg, Wytheville, Troutdale and in the communities of Whitetop and Mouth of Wilson; two days were filmed off the coast of North Carolina.

The film aspect ratio is 1.66:1

Shot on Panasonic VariCam LT 4K Cinema Camcorder

Running Time: 85 minutes

Recipient of the Film Independent AbelCine Feature Film Grant sponsored by Panasonic.

## FILMMAKERS

**MATTHEW BROWN (WRITER/DIRECTOR)** was born in Winston- Salem, North Carolina. A former sustainable development major turned filmmaker, he is a graduate from the School of Filmmaking at The University of North Carolina School of the Arts (2015). His debut micro-budget feature *In the Treetops* had its World Premiere at the 2015 Los Angeles Film Festival and New York Premiere as part of the 2016 Rooftop Film's Summer Series, and was distributed by Filmbuff in June 2016. He is represented by ICM partners.

**LAIA COSTA (CAST: "BLUEBIRD" / EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)** Known for her award-winning role in Sebastian Schipper's single take action film *Victoria*, Costa received Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role at the German Film Awards 2015 and Best Actress at the 2016 Gaudí Awards by the Catalan Academy of Cinema. She was also nominated Best European Actress in the European Film Awards. *The New York Times* includes her in 2015's "Breakthrough Performances of the Fall Season" and *Variety* magazine named her "10 Talents to Watch in Spanish Cinema" (2016). She was one of the leads in the Russian film *Fort Ross* by Russian director Yuriy Moroz shot in Moscow, Malta and San Francisco and was awarded the Spotlight Breakthrough Acting Award 2014 in the Subtitle European Film Festival in Kilkenny, Ireland. She stars alongside Nicholas Hoult in filmmaker Drake Doremus upcoming film *Newness* which premiered at the 2017 Sundance Film Festival and opposite Alia Shawkat in Miguel Arteta's *Duck Butter* also premiering in competition at the 2018 Tribeca Film Festival.

**THOMAS MANN (CAST: "LAKE" / EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)**

Mann starred in the adaptation of Jesse Andrews' novel, *Me and Earl and the Dying Girl*, which won the Grand Jury prize at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival where Mann's other film *The Stanford Prison Experiment* also premiered. He also starred in *Project X*, *Barely Lethal*, *The Preppie Connection* and *Welcome to Me* (opposite Kristen Wigg). His upcoming work includes: *Kong: Skull Island*, *Amityville: The Reawakening* (2017) and has signed on to star alongside Chloë Grace Moretz and Jenny Slate in *Brain on Fire* (2017).

**SUMMER SHELTON (PRODUCER)** was the recipient of the 2018 Film Independent Piaget Producer's Spirit Award. She produced the 2017 Tribeca Film Festival Best Narrative Feature *Keep the Change* that was also awarded a FIPRESCI Critics' Prize at the 2017 Karlovvy Vary International Film Festival. She was Executive Producer of *People Places Things* which premiered in US Dramatic Competition at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival, produced *Icarus* (short) which premiered at the 2015 New Directors/New Films Festival and produced *Little Accidents*, which had its World Premiere at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival. She Co-Produced *Goodbye to All That* (2014) and *Adult World* (2013) both of which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival. She has worked alongside critically acclaimed director Ramin Bahrani, as Associate Producer of *Goodbye Solo* (2008), an official selection of the Venice Film Festival; Co-Producer of *Plastic Bag* (2009), the opening night short film of the Corto Cortissimo in the Venice Film Festival and Associate Producer of *At Any Price* (2012), which premiered in main competition at the Venice Film Festival and Producer of *Ég Anda* (2012), a short film created as part of Sigur Rós's Valteri mystery film experiment. She was the recipient of the inaugural Bingham Ray Creative Producing Fellowship awarded by the Sundance Institute (2012), a Rotterdam Producing Fellowship (2013), and Film Independent Sloan Producing Fellowship (2014).

**BEACHSIDE FILMS (Producers Michael B. Clark and Alex Turtletaub; Associate Producer Rachel Changchien)** Beachside is an independent film production company and the west coast affiliate of Big Beach Films (LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE, OUR IDIOT BROTHER, SAFETY NOT GUARANTEED, LOVING). In 2013, they produced the Emmy Award winning documentary MEDORA, about a small town high school basketball team in Indiana. Their second documentary TIG premiered at Sundance in 2015 along with their first feature, Jim Strouse's PEOPLE PLACES THINGS starring Jemaine Clement, Regina Hall and Jessica Williams. Beachside premiered LOUDER THAN BOMBS at Cannes 2015, released later that year by The Orchard. In 2016, A24 released MORRIS FROM AMERICA, which had premiered earlier that year at Sundance. The Orchard then released Julia Hart's MISS STEVENS, for which Lily Rabe won the Grand Jury prize for acting at SXSW 2016. Beachside then produced Adam Leon's TRAMPS, which premiered at Toronto Film Festival and was acquired by Netflix as an Original. After premiering at Sundance in 2017, their second project with Jim Strouse entitled THE INCREDIBLE JESSICA JAMES was also acquired as an Original. STRANGERS, their first episodic series, premiered at Sundance 2017 in partnership with Refinery29 and was recently one of the first scripted series on Facebook WATCH. MR. ROOSEVELT by Noël Wells premiered at SXSW 2017 where it won the Audience Award and was acquired by Netflix. Their most recent film THE MISEDUCATION OF CAMERON POST by Desiree Akhavan premiered at Sundance 2018 where it won the Grand Jury Prize and their upcoming film MAINE by Matthew Brown will premiere at Tribeca.

**ROB CRISTIANO (CO-PRODUCER)** is a Brooklyn-born independent filmmaker. His feature film producing credits include festival favorites THE MISEDUCATION OF CAMERON POST (Winner - Grand Jury Prize - Sundance '18), BOB AND THE TREES (Sundance '15, Winner - Crystal Globe - Karlovvy Vary Int'l Film Festival), KEEP THE

CHANGE (Winner - Best US Narrative Film, Tribeca Film Festival '17, Best New Narrative Director), MY FIRST KISS AND THE PEOPLE INVOLVED (Winner - Audience Award LA Film Festival) and the upcoming film, MAINE, starring Laia Costa and Thomas Mann. In recent years, Cristiano produced the Broadway-themed web series UNDERSTUDIES and more than a dozen award-winning short films that have screened at over one hundred film festivals in twenty different countries. He holds an MFA in Producing from the Columbia University Graduate Film Program, and is an alumnus of the Tribeca Film Institute, and Berlin Talent Campus. In 2013, the Producer's Guild of America presented Cristiano with the prestigious Debra Hill Fellowship for emerging producers.

**DONALD R. MONROE (CINEMATOGRAPHER)** is 24 years old and was born and raised in North Carolina. "Maine" is his second feature with writer/director Matthew Brown; their first, "In the Treetops" was filmed while they were students at UNC School of the Arts and premiered at the 2015 LA Film Festival. While in film school, he studied cinematography under mentor Thomas Ackerman, ASC. Maintaining focus in narrative filmmaking, Donald's last short film "Birds with Human Heads" premiered at Slamdance in 2017 and is currently in production of his fourth feature, "Kill Your Landlord," directed by Max Wilde. Between film projects, Donald enjoys his alternate lifestyle as a pedal steel guitar player.

**SOFI MARSHALL (EDITOR)** is a feature film editor and writer with a passion for telling complex stories. Her recent work includes *Maine* (dir. Matthew Brown), premiering at this year's Tribeca Film Festival, *6 Years* (dir. Hannah Fidell), which premiered at SXSW and was picked up by Netflix and Olympic running sensation Alexi Pappas' *Tracktown*, which premiered at the LA Film Festival. Previous work includes the Sundance sleeper hit *A Teacher* (dir. Hannah Fidell), screwball noir *Wild Canaries* (dir. Lawrence Levine) and dark comedy *See You Next Tuesday* (dir. Drew Tobia), which took home the Best Narrative Feature award at the Sidewalk Film Festival. In addition to feature films, Sofi also regularly edits media campaigns focusing on global human rights issues, helping to bring awareness to under-represented communities. She also writes regularly for the popular video collaboration platform Frame.io as a technical workflow expert.

**TORI LANCASTER (PRODUCTION DESIGNER)** An alumnus of University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Tori Lancaster is now a Brooklyn-based production designer and art director. She has production designed award-winning shorts, various commercials, and independent features. She has art directed projects for networks such as Comedy Central and Adult Swim, and for feature films, such as *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* (Sundance Grand Jury Prize Winner 2018). She most enjoys working with creative directors and DPs to envision stories and bring them to life in bold and unique ways.

**KELSEY SASPORTAS (COSTUME DESIGNER)** is a costume designer based in New York City. She has designed and built costumes for both stage and screen. Her theater credits include *Five Lesbian's Eating a Quiche*, *Urinetown: The Musical*, *Falstaff*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and most recently the premiere of *Kragtar: An American*

*Monster Musical* with Theater Now New York. Since transitioning to film she has worked on various projects including *Allen Anders: Live at the Comedy Castle - Circa 1987* which she designed and *Tooth and Nail* on which she was the costume supervisor. Both recently premiered at SXSW.

**JESSICA KELLEY (CASTING DIRECTOR)** Jessica Kelly is a casting director at Chrystie Street Casting in NYC. Her credits in both film and television are vast. Past TV work includes *Person of Interest*, *Blindspot*, *Madoff* (TV Mini-Series) and *The Blacklist* to name a few. She has cast over 30 films most notably *John Wick*, *People Places Things*, *Obvious Child*, *Labor Day*, *The Wolverine*, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, and *Precious*.

**MITZI CORRIGAN, CSA (CASTING DIRECTOR)** Mitzi Corrigan, CSA has been a casting director for over 20 years. Owner of the parent company, Corrigan & Johnston Casting located in Charlotte, NC with a satellite office in Atlanta, GA. She has also worked as a script supervisor for film and commercials; a producer and director of theatre and executive producer of the award winning documentary, *Emma's Gifts*. She partnered with Paige Johnston Thomas in 1996. As the film industry continued to flourish in the Southeast, they became known as two of the most prestigious casting directors in the region. Other film credits include *Little Accidents*, *Ashby*, *The Taking of Deborah Logan* and *Goodbye To All That*.

#### CAST

Bluebird	Laia Costa
Lake	Thomas Mann
Big Bird	Pat Dortch
Dragon	Gus Halper
Hex	Yossie Mulyadi
Flop	Jeremy Decarlos
Hiker	Joey McGowan
Aliza	Rae Becka
Trail Angel	Glyn Stewart
Hermes	Matthew Brown
Cheese	Neil Soffer
Naked Hiker	Spencer Bang
Driver	Pete Burns
Waitress	Shannon Queen
Door Holder	Tom Conder
Spencer	Bryan Marshall
Old Man	David Gayle "Speedy" Price

#### CREW

Writer/ Director	Matthew Brown
Producers	Summer Shelton
	Michael B. Clark
	Alex Turteltaub

Executive Producers	Laia Costa Thomas Mann
Co-Producer	Rob Cristiano
Associate Producer	Rachel Changchien
Director of Photography	Donald R. Monroe
Editor	Sofi Marshall
Production Designer	Tori Lancaster
Costume Designer	Kelsey Sasportas
Music Supervisor	Dan Wilcox
Casting by	Jessica Kelly Mitzi Corrigan
Unit Production Manager	Kimberly M. Wetherell
First Assistant Director	Andreas Villagio
Second Assistant Director	David Thienes
Key Hair & Make Up Artist	Megan Deputy
Art Director	Alex Hughes
Lead Carpenter	Andy Snee
Set Dressers	Mark van Loon Hayes Joseph Hefner Jonathon van der Horst
Product Placement Consultant	Clove Hitch Tony Valtos
First Assistant Camera	Josh Ruffner
Second Assistant Camera	Eric Cieslik
DIT	Kirk Gunton
2nd Unit Underwater Camera Operator	Joshua Ausley
2nd Unit Sound Mixer	Taylor Parris
Boat Captain	Devin Cage
BTS Stills Photographer	Jonathan Young
Sound Mixer	Jason McRoberts
Script Supervisor	Marissa Rutka
Location Manager	Mitch Rumpfelt
Assistant Location Manager	Matt Walkowski
Gaffer	Tyler Harmon-Townsend
Best Boy Electric	Sergio Fernandez
Key Grip	Rachel Kessler
Best Boy Grip	Ian Leisy
Swing	Robert Gibb
Additional Best Boy Electric	Michelle Shiraziefard
Additional Grip	Becky Hewitt
Key Production Assistant	Josh Barker
First Team Production Assistant	Brad Tarnowsky
Set Production Assistant	Mark Van Loon Hayes
Casting Associate	Kate Geller
Production Coordinator	Noelle Aleman
Additional Production Assistants	J. Ryan Moore Jake Bellew
On-Set Caterers	Two Trees Catering
Chefs	Adam Morrison Jason Biggs



Second Meal Caterer	Tabitha "Tabby" O'Shield Four Seasons Catering Rhonda Cox
Assistant Editors	Kieran Moreira
Digital Intermediate by	Goldcrest Productions, New York
Finishing Artist	Jordan Stein
Colorist	Nat Jencks
Main & End Title Design by	Alex Camilleri
Supervising Sound Editor & Re-Recording Mixer	Sean Garnhart
Dialogue Editor	Billy Orrico
Sound Effects Editor	Kevin Peters
Audio Post Manager	Steven Tollen
Audio Post Production Provided by	Gigantic Sound
Sales Advisory Services	ICM
Production Legal	Sloss Eckhouse LawCo LLP
Lead Counsel	Jackie Eckhouse
Production Attorney	Alexis Tucker
Production Accountant	Jake Phillips
Accounting Clerk	Fiona Turner

## MUSIC

THE MOONLIGHT SONG  
 WRITTEN BY MICHAEL DAVID FULLER  
 PERFORMED BY BLAZE FOLEY  
 COURTESY OF FAT POSSUM RECORDS  
 UNDER LICENSE WITH TEXAS GHOST WRITERS MUSIC

PETIT  
 WRITTEN BY DAVID LÓPEZ ARANDA

BEER RUN  
 WRITTEN BY KEITH CHRISTOPHER, MICHAEL MAYE, JULIE DOYLE &  
 TODD DANIEL SNIDER

THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS THEME  
 WRITTEN BY DEREK DRYMON, MARK HARRISON, STEPHEN HILLENBURG &  
 BLAISE SMITH

DANCING IN THE KITCHEN  
 WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY SEAN GARNHART

FOR TODAY  
 WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY JESSICA LEA MAYFIELD  
 COURTESY OF POLYMER SOUNDS