



A CHILD STAR IS BORN...
A NORDIC COUSIN OF *LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE*.
THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

wide
presents



DYNAMIC AND FINELY TEXTURED... LENKEN
EXCELS AT ESTABLISHING A REALISTIC RELATIONSHIP...
VARIETY



HEARTBREAKING... VERY IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCES.
FREI GENERATION



MEMORABLE AND HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE.
SCREEN

MY SKINNY SISTER

A FILM BY SANNA LENKEN

REBECCA JOSEPHSON AMY DEASISMONT

ANNIKA HALLIN HENRIK NORLÉN MAXIM MEHMET ELLEN LINDBOM



CASTING CATRIN WIDERYD DOP MORITZ SCHULTHEIB ELECTRICIAN TOBIAS HENRIKSSON SET DESIGN ELLEN OSENG MAKE UP & COSTUME MIMMI HARMS OREDDSON SOUND GUSTAF BERGER
PRODUCTION MANAGER ERIKA MALMGREN EDITOR HANNA LEJONQVIST, SFK MUSIC PER STÖRBY JUTBRING POST PRODUCTION MANAGER CHRISTIAN VENNEFROHNE SOUND DESIGN KAI STORCK
DIALOGUE EDIT LARS WIGNELL, GUSTAF BERGER SOUND MIX SASCHA HEINY COLORIST RONNEY AFORTU GRAPHIC DESIGN JACOB FRÖSSÉN
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MIMMI SPÅNG, REBECCA LAFRENZ, TOBIAS JANSON COPRODUCERS JESSICA ÅSK, HANNE PALMQUIST, KATHARINA DUFNER, OLAF GRUNERT, ILONA SCHULTZ PRODUCER ANNIKA ROGELL
IN COPRODUCTION WITH FORTUNE COOKIE FILM, FILM I VÄST, SVERIGES TELEVISION & ZDF - DAS KLEIN FERNSEHSPIEL IN COOPERATION WITH ARTE, STORY WITH SUPPORT FROM THE SWEDISH FILM INSTITUTE / MAGDALENA JANGAR, FILMFOND HAMBURG SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN / EVA HUBERT, NORDISK FILM & TV FOND / PERTI KEMPPINEN, THE MEDIA PROGRAM OF THE EUROPEAN UNION & SANDREWS STIPENDIUM

tangy

FORTUNECOKIE



FILM I VÄST

svt



arte

Story



EYE ON FILMS

Production details

Original title:
Min lilla syster

Genre: Drama
Duration: 95 min
Year: 2015

World premiere: Dragon Awards, Gothenburg International Film Festival
International Premiere: Berlinale, Generation K-Plus

Director & Script Writer:
Sanna Lenken
Producer: Annika Rogell
Co-Producer: Ilona Schultz

Produced by Tangy in co-production with Fortune Cookie Film, Film i Väst, Sveriges Television, & ZDF - Das kleine fernshespiel in cooperation with Arte
In cooperation with Story With support from Swedish Film Institute, Filmfond Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, Nordic Film & TV Fund, the MEDIA program of the European Union & Sandrews Stipend

A Swedish German co-production

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MY SKINNY SISTER

Stella adores her beautiful sister Katja. When Stella realizes that Katja is hiding a terrible eating disorder she is dragged into a vicious circle of secrets and manipulation.



• Short synopsis

Just as Stella enters the exciting world of adolescence she discovers that her big sister and role model Katja is hiding an eating disorder. The disease slowly tears the family apart. A story about jealousy, love and betrayal told with warmth, depth and laughter.

• Synopsis

Stella is a girl just about to enter the exciting and scary world of adolescence. She lives in the shadow of her older sister Katja, a talented and beautiful figure-skater who her parents seem to adore. Stella is trying hard to imitate her sisters behavior to get more attention.

While watching her sister close, Stella realizes something is wrong. Katja is hiding an eating disorder which has taken over her life. Stella is forced by Katja to keep it a secret, and is dragged into a vicious circle of manipulation and lies. Slowly the parents understands something is wrong and Stella is terrified that this will tear the family apart. A film about dreams, love and how brutal it can be to grow up as a girl.

• Directors comment

This film is a story about trying to remain sane in this world. As a teenager I had anorexia. I'm still upset that I tried to change myself into something I was not, that I couldn't be pleased with myself. I find it extremely sad but in the same time absurd. The question of why it happened has followed me my whole life. In "My skinny sister" I want to examine what it means to grow up as a young girl: how hard it is to live up to the ideals and expectations of today's society and how horrible it is to be judged for the way you look and not for who you are.

Eating disorders are nearly as common as alcoholism in families and in one way it's the same journey for a family with manipulation, shame, betrayal, fear and love. And just like an alcoholic, a person with an eating disorder is trying to escape the angst of not being able to control life and being the one you think you need to be. There have been endless films about alcoholism, but nearly none about eating disorders. I want to tell this story in a truthful way with many harsh situations but also, through Stella's perspective, show how absurd the addiction is; to be able to laugh in the middle of the angst. And hopefully give some comfort, understanding and strength to the audience.

To be able to tell this powerful story, I knew we needed exceptional actors to make this story as believable and authentic as possible. We looked for over a year to find Rebecka Josephson and Amy Deasismont. Casting Director, Catrin Wideryd, and we were working like crazy to find them. I knew both of my characters had to be great in all aspects and be able both to be warm and happy, but also be able to perform really heavy angst and sadness. I had worked with kids and young actors before and I knew when we started how hard it is to find all this qualities. Then they also had to look a bit like sisters, and have a good chemistry. Only one month before shooting we found Rebecka, without her this film wouldn't be what it is. She made incredible castings. I then worked a lot with the sisters and the family to make them tight as a family. Lot of rehearsals and also long improvisations in character. We also did rehearsals in the house we were shooting. I wanted them all to feel safe together since they had to go through a lot of harsh stuff during the film. They became a very loving family off set as well. Always sharing laughs and tears together as a family.

Producers comment & bio's



Director & Script Writer
Sanna Lenken

• Producer's comment
Eating disorders is a great universal contemporary culture problem. Approximately 10% of all women have had some sort of eating disorder in Sweden. The percentage is about the same in different territories around Europe and US. With the related people means that a greater part of the population in these territories has had some kind of connection to the problem. And it's growing as media hits young adolescents everywhere with the ideal portrayal of how to be. Everyone's aware of the problem, yet it's very rare subject in the film market.

I'm proud to present two rising stars; the two sisters who make their remarkable debut in a feature. Finally I'm glad this is Sanna's debut feature – it's a subject that she keeps close to her heart, and one that allows her own tone to shine – a tone in which drama and comedy are parallel to each other and which points absurd situations in our reality.

• Director & script writer, Sanna Lenken
Graduated film directing with a master in screen writing at the Dramatiska institutet, the National film school of Sweden 2009. She's made several of prize winning short films and has directed Double life a youth series in two seasons for Swedish Television. Her latest short film Eating Lunch has been shown at over 35 film festivals including Berlinale and Tribeca. It premiered in competition at Gothenburg International Film Festival in January 2013.



Filmography in selection:
Eating Lunch / Äta Lunch, 2013, 12 min, Competition Göteborgs Internationella Filmfestival, Berlinale 14+ Generation in competition, Tribeca Film Festival etc.
Nominated for best Swedish short 2014 and awarded at Uppsala Film Festival, Ozu film festival, Valladolid Film Festival.
Double Life / Dubbelliv, 2010 and 2012, (12 episodes á 12 minutes, 2 seasons) TV serie, Nominated for best TV drama at Nordic Children Media Festival
Yoghurt, 2010, 30 min, Honors award at Gothenburgs International Film Festival
Travemunde-Trelleborg, 2008, 30 min, Best film at International Student Short Film Festival, Cergy-Pontoise / Brussels international short film festival (in competition) / Nominated to 1 km Film, Stockholm Film Festival

• Producer, Annika Rogell
Educated at the Dramatic Institute, Stockholm same year as Sanna Lenken. A part of Story, and founder of Tangy. All her features has made it to Berlinale. Her two first features, The Black Power Mixtape (2011) and Concerning Violence (2014) by Göran Hugo Olsson had both premiere at Sundance in world documentary competition following by Berlinale Panorama. She's produced several of prize winning shorts, many together with director Sanna Lenken. Rogell is an EAVE graduate 2011.

Films in selection:
Concerning Violence, 2014, feature documentary by Göran Hugo Olsson, Prizes: Best doc Swedish Film Awards 2015, Cinema Fairbindet at Berlinale 2014. Sold to over 30 territories.
Eating Lunch, 13 min, 2013, (see Sanna Lenken)
The Black Power Mixtape, feature documentary 93 min, 2011, Directed by Göran Hugo Olsson, Sold to over 35 territories, including 42 cities theatrical release in the USA. Prizes: Sundance Film Festival Editing Award, 2 awards at Guldbaggen 2012 (Swedish Film Prize) for best music and best among others.
Yoghurt, 2010, 30 min, (see Sanna Lenken)
Travemunde-Trelleborg, 2008, 30 min, (see Sanna Lenken)

• Production Company, Tangy
Tangy is a company founded by Producer Annika Rogell in collaboration with Story. Story was founded in 1998 is today one of the leading production companies focused on creative documentaries in Sweden and the Nordic Countries. Story's project all deal with burning questions in our contemporary society. Story production travel around the world with prizewinning films like Concerning Violence (2014, Sundance, Berlinale etc), Belleville Baby (2013 Premiering at Berlinale, Best Swedish doc), At night I fly (2012 Best Swedish doc), the Black Power Mixtape (2011, Sundance editing award, Berlinale, Best music and best editing at Swedish awards). In 2011 Story received the Stockholm award, for scanning the world producing stunning films.

• Co-producer, Ilona Schultz / Fortune Cookie Film
Graduate of film studies course at the University of Hamburg. Co-founder of Fortune Cookies. Examples of films; What if Death Do Us Part, Would You Rather Be Dead (German TV-prize 2011), Die Kirche bleibt im Dorf (German cinema succé). EAVE graduate 2011.

Team & cast

Director & Script Writer: Sanna Lenken
Producer: Annika Rogell
Featuring: Rebecka Josephson, Amy Deasismont, Annika Hallin, Henrik Norlén, Maxim Mehmet, Iga Lindbom
Casting: Catrin Wideryd
DOP: Moritz Schultheiß
Electrician: Tobias Henriksson
Set Design: Ellen Oseng
Costume & Make Up: Mimmi Harms Oredsson
Sound: Gustaf Berger
Editor: Hanna Lejonqvist, SFK
Music: Per Störby Jutbring
Post Production Manager: Christian Vennefrohne
Sound Design: Kai Storck
Dialogue: Lars Wignell, Gustaf Berger
Sound Mix: Sascha Heiny
Grading: Ronney Afortu, BVK
Graphics: Jacob Frössén
Executive Producers: Mimmi Spång, Rebecka Lafrenz, Tobias Janson
Co-Producers: Ilona Schultz, Jessica Ask, Hanne Palmquist, Katharina Dufner, Olaf Grunert

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• DOP, Moritz Schultheiß
Moritz Schultheiß is one of German's most prominent DOPs. Prior work includes prizewinning Tore Tanzt (official selection Cannes 2013), Rammbock (2010), and Romeos (2011).

• Editor, Hanna Lejonqvist
Lejonqvist has received two years in row editing award at the Swedish Film Awards, 2011 for The Black Power Mixtape and 2012 for Palme. In 2011 she also won the editing Award at the Sundance Film Festival together with Göran Olsson The Back Power Mixtape.

• Music, Per Störby Jutbring
Musician that also go by name Pearl, and part of New Tide Orquesta. Swedish artist Laleh is featuring in competition song in the film.

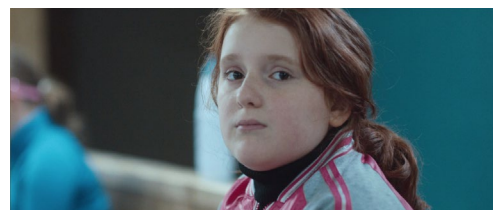
• Rebecka Josephson as Stella
A star to come! 11 years old she makes her first feature. Grand daughter to Erland Josephson, often featured in Ingmar Bergmans' films.

• Amy Deasismont as Katja
Amy Deasismont a.k.a Amy Diamond; singer, actress, TV-host and artist. She had a big hit in Scandinavia at 11 years old "What's in it for me". This is her first big role in a feature film.

• Annika Hallin as Karin
Swedish actress, among others featuring in I taket lyser stjärnorna by Lisa Siwe, Flickan by Fredrik Edfeldt and Män som hatar kvinnor by Niels Arden Oplev.

• Henrik Norlén as Lasse
Swedish actor, among other featuring in Hotell by Lisa Langseth, and Återträffen by Anna Odell.

• Maxim Mehmet as Jacob
German actor, among other featuring in Unser Mütter, unsere Väter by Philipp Kadelbach, and Männerherzen by Simon Verhoeven.



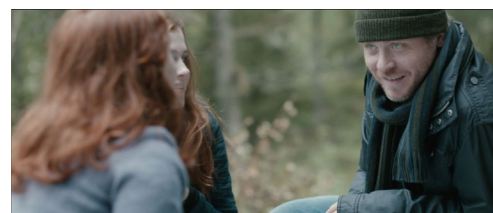
Rebecka Josephson



Amy Deasismont



Annika Hallin



Henrik Norlén



Maxim Mehmet