

THIERRY GODARD

SOPHIE GUILLEMIN

ASTRAY



A FILM BY
**SOPHIE
GUILLEMIN**



PRODUCTION DÉLÉGUÉE: MULTIFRUITS PRODUCTION Co-PRODUCTEUR: ELKIN FILMS PRODUCTEUR ASSOCIÉ: ÉRIC CRIMALDI AVEC THIERRY GODARD SOPHIE GUILLEMIN LINDO GODARD BRUNO SOLO CATHERINE WILKENING JULIA FAURE LAURA PRESBURVIC MELANIE MAUDRAN VÉRONIQUE CLOCHEPIN-LASSALLE INAYA ALLADUI ET SENAMI AHOUANGSOU AVEC LA PARTICIPATION DE FRANCIS FEROLETO
IMAGE: SOPHIE GUILLEMIN MONTAGE: STEPHANE ELMAJMAN MUSIQUE ORIGINALE: HELENE BLAZY SCÉNARIO ET DIALOGUE: SOPHIE GUILLEMIN ET THIERRY GODARD MONTAGE SON: THOMAS VAN POTTELBERGE EMMANUEL AUGARD BRUNAGE: HUGO MOUCHART LUCAS ROLLIN STUDIOS SAYA CLEMENT CHAUMÉL MONTAGE POST-SYNCHRONISATION: JEREMIE BADINET EFFETS SPÉCIAUX: OLIVIER VILLEAUD
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A film by **Sophie Guillemin**

Original title :
SANS TOI

FRENCH RELEASE DATE :
12 JANUARY 2022

With **Thierry Godard, Sophie Guillemin, Julia Faure,
Catherine Wilkening, Laura Presgurvic,
Mélanie Maudran and Bruno Solo**

France 2021
76 minutes

Website

<http://sanstoilefilm.com>

DISTRIBUTION

Elkin Communication

30 rue Gassendi 75014 Paris
distribution@elkinfilms.com

PRESS RELATIONS

Jamila Ouzahir

06 80 15 67 90

jamilaouzahir@gmail.com

Anne Pourbaix

06 11 29 59 26

anne@api-rp.com

SYNOPSIS

A man with a beard and dark hair is shown in profile, looking towards the right. He is in a dimly lit room, possibly a bar or a lounge, with several cylindrical pendant lamps hanging from the ceiling. The background is dark and out of focus, but a sign with the word "GEISWEILER" is visible. The overall atmosphere is moody and cinematic.

Antoine is an urban fifty-year-old, a successful wine merchant who seems like a solid and self-confident man. One day, he receives a strange phone call from Russia - all he hears is the sound of breathing. He is convinced it's a call from Solange, a woman he met four years earlier in Moscow and had loved passionately before she disappeared from his life. Shaken by this call, he gives up everything, work and family, and sets out to find her. The journey takes him to Moscow, St. Petersburg, then to the far north. He throws himself into his futile search with body and soul, obsessed by the memories he has with Solange. Exhausted, on the verge of perdition, he is taken in by the inhabitants of a house that is lost on the edge of a frozen lake. It's an initiatory stay which will transform him.

INTERVIEW WITH SOPHIE GUILLEMIN



ASTRAY is a film about love?

Not quite, it's more a film about the impossibility of living a life without love. Indeed, love is essential to life. So I started the story with a man, Antoine, in his fifties, who lost the greatest love of his life because he didn't know how to live up to it. After this loss, he rebuilt a character of appearance instead, supposedly fully committed to his business. But then, after a botched business meeting, a strange call reopens his wound and he sets off in a frantic search for his former love.

How did the film come about?

Besides my career as an actress, I've directed two short films and for a while, I wanted to move on to a full-length feature film. We talked about it with Thierry (Godard). Thierry had written two or three pages at the beginning, very comical, on the theme of love: It was a man and a woman telling each other how they loved each other. It was quite funny and at the same time, it questioned a lot about love in relationships and how much it means to us. That's how I wanted to build a real story about love and what happens when you lose it, when you lose love in general. I imagined this story about a man who's looking for a woman he once loved. He receives a strange call from Russia - just a breath on the other end of the line - and he is convinced that it is Solange - his former love who he met in Moscow. So he goes on a trip to Russia, to Moscow and St Petersburg, and soon he learns that the strange call he received was not from her. Yet, once he has started, he cannot abandon his quest. He carries on searching for this woman and returns to places of the past. He remembers the moments they shared: how he had been fascinated by this woman whom he had followed in the streets before confessing his love for her, their intimate words... When he doesn't find her, he goes further and further away, leaving the cities and going deep into the vast spaces of nature in the far north. Finally, he arrives at a frozen lake and a house lost on the edge of this lake which will become for him the unusual place of his redemption, of his transformation.

In this house there is a young couple and their little girl who welcome him without asking him any questions. They have a very strange relationship, he can't leave this place and there is a disappearance. Who are these people really?

It's out of the question for me to give away what happens in this house at the end of the world. What I can say is... It's a world apart, like an inner journey for him. In this place, he discovers why he was unable to love and why Solange left him... When he returns to Paris, he has changed profoundly and even his friends don't recognize him... I won't say more!

The film is made like a symphony with several movements. How did you work on this?

In fact, I started with his quest. In the beginning I filmed Thierry looking for Solange. In this vain search, he is like a man who gradually loses everything he is - he even ends up naked! The world seems to slip away from him, to disappear. He moves from cities to wide open spaces, then to a kind of white desert, a large frozen lake. We then filmed his «redemption» in this house lost on the edge of the lake. With that, I had the heart of the film, its central part. Then, I worked on the beginning and the end, that is, his life before and after, his reconstruction, his return to the world. Here, we have much more classic scenes with actors playing Thierry's partners, his friends, his clients, etc. The flashbacks are built in the same way as the other scenes. The flashbacks are constructed in the same tone, an urban and realistic tone.

Thierry Godard plays the lead role and gives it its depth and incarnation. What was his involvement in the project?

Well, we know each other well! (laughs). Thierry wrote a lot of his dialogues and all the monologues of his roaming... It's a project that we shared and carried together. But still I remained firm in directing the actor! (laughs). The only thing he refused was to dive naked into the frozen water of the lake... So he collapses on the surface of the ice instead.

So finally, it's a film about love?

Love is essential to our lives. But behind this word, there are many things... A whole journey, a journey... Love is like a construction of ourselves thanks to the other person. It's also something that we access, that is not given to us, but that we must find... The film does not formally say all these things, but it makes us live them through the character of Antoine and his quest.

The image is very particular, very personal, intimate and close to the characters.

Yes, when Antoine is «on the move», when he is searching for his love, and deep down, for himself, the image is treated as an intimate, personal document. The camera follows the actor and almost spies on him... It's a very lively image in perpetual movement. In the sequences of his life which I'd say were «normal», such as the flashbacks, it is a more classic, more composed image. Here too, it is a way of accentuating the contrast between his social, urban and structured life at the beginning and his inner, personal world that is revealed when he goes in search of Solange. The cinematic writing and editing follow the same logic of these different movements in the film.

So there is Thierry Godard who plays Antoine but also Bruno Solo who plays his best friend with his wife Véronique Clochepin, we also see Julia Faure, Catherine Wilkening but also young actors like Lino Godard for example?

Absolutely! He is Thierry's son who played in the theatre and this is his first film role. There are also my two daughters, Inaya Allaoui and Sénami Ahouansou. They are the ones who play this strange family in the house lost by the lake. The scenes are very intimate, in which gestures and looks count more than words. We did this particular sequence together and it was a real challenge, for me and everyone else... All the actors and actresses in the film are people I have a connection with, people I love and whose work I love... It was very important for me to work in a spirit of goodwill and sharing.

And you play Solange!

But it's a very small role! Solange is definitely present in Antoine's head, but not much in the picture !

SOME WORDS FROM THIERRY GODARD



Thierry Godard, actor and co-producer of the film

«She had this idea of a main character who is very sure of himself, then less and less so, and who falls little by little into an abyss because he totally questions himself because of a lost love.

During the shoot, she moved forward with her vision, which she refined as she went along. Every day she would specify the sequences for the next day. I also participated in this work by writing certain scenes with her, as well as some of my dialogue and monologues. As an actor, it was a rather new and exciting experience. My character was revealed day by day, including for me.

We worked with a very small crew. It was an intimate shoot and this choice gave us the freedom to move at our own pace, taking the time we needed. So we were far from a classic shoot with a fixed number of weeks and a schedule that had to be respected absolutely. Sometimes we weren't completely satisfied with certain scenes and we didn't hesitate to re-shoot them: for the scene of my monologue when I leave the house by the lake - it's a key moment in the film - we did 38 takes over 2 days of before we said to ourselves «It's in the can! That was a real luxury!»

RESUMÉ OF SOPHIE GUILLEMIN



Sophie Guillemin began her acting career with Cédric Kahn's L'ENNUI (1998). Since then, she has worked in a series of cinema and television films. In the theatre, she was noticed in the famous play «LES MONOLOGUES DU VAGIN» by Eve Ensler, directed by Isabelle Rattier. She went behind the camera to make two short films, «L'ESSENTIEL FÉMININ» and «HEURTS». «ASTRAY» is her first feature film.

Director and Scriptwriter

2021 **SANS TOI (ASTRAY)** - feature film
2017 **HEURTS** - short film - produced by ELKIN COMMUNICATION with Pascale Arbillot, Shamsy Sharlézya and Lola Bessis (Ciné+, OCS)
2010 **L'ESSENTIEL FÉMININ** - short film - produced by ELKIN COMMUNICATION with Shamsy Sharlézya, Cédric Ido, Gabrielle Lazure, Alysson Paradis, Fatou N'Diaye, Marie Denarnaud, Mélanie Maudran, Amandine Maudet (cinemas, OCS)

Actress

Cinema

2021 **L'ÉCOLE DE L'AIR** - Robin Campillo
2015 **MALGRÉ LA NUIT** - Philippe GRANDRIEUX
2010 **LA TÊTE EN FRICHE** - Jean BECKER
2009 **GAMINES** - Éléonore FAUCHER
UN CHAT UN CHAT - Sophie FILLIÈRES
COMMIS D'OFFICE - Hannelore CAYRE
9 IMPACT - Ona LUAMBO
2002 **À LA FOLIE... NOT AT ALL** - Laetitia COLOMBANI
2001 **DU CÔTÉ DES FILLES** - Françoise DECAUX
2000 **ÇA IRA MIEUX DEMAIN** - Jeanne LABRUNE
ON FAIT COMME ON A DIT - Philippe BÉRENGER
HARRY, UN AMI QUI VOUS VEUT DU BIEN - Dominik MOLL - Nominated best female hopeful - César 2001
1998 **L'ENNUI** - Cédric KAHN - Nominated best female hopeful - César 1999

Television

2021 **LES ENFANTS DES JUSTES** - Fabien Otoniente
ON N'EFFACE PAS LES SOUVENIRS - Adeline DARRAUX
2020 **CAPITAINE MARLEAU** - Josée DAYAN
H24 - Octave RASPAIL and Nicolas HERDT
2019 **JAMAIS SANS TOI LOUNA** - Yann SAMUELL
SOUVIENS TOI DE NOUS - Lorenzo GABRIELE
2017 **GLACÉ** - Laurent HERBIET
2012 **PROFILAGE** un seul être vous manque - Alexandre LAURENT
2011 **PETITE FILLE** - Laetitia MASSON
2009 **LA COUR DES GRANDS** - Christophe BARRAUD
ENQUÊTES RÉSERVÉES cible mouvante - Bruno GARCIA
2008 **LES VACANCES DE CLÉMENCE** - Michel ANDRIEU
2007 **VÉRITÉS ASSASSINES** - Arnaud SÉLIGNAC
2002 **CAMERA CAFÉ** S01 E92 Pregnant
CHUT! - Philippe SETBON

Theatre

2011 **LES MONOLOGUES DU VAGIN** (Eve Ensler) - Isabelle RATTIER Théâtre Michel

RESUMÉ OF THIERRY GODARD



Cinema

2021 **SANS TOI (ASTRAY)** - Sophie GUILLEMIN
2019 **LE MEILLEUR RESTE À VENIR** - Matthieu DELAPORTE and Alexandre DE LA PATELLIERE
2016 **JUILLET AOÛT** - Diastème
BASTILLE DAY - James WATKINS
2011 **LA LIGNE DROITE** - Régis WARGNIER
PROPRIETE INTERDITE - Hélène ANGEL
2010 **DERNIER ETAGE, GAUCHE, GAUCHE** - Angelo CIANCI
2009 **A L'ORIGINE** - Xavier GIANNOLI
ORPAILLEUR - Marc BARRAT
WELCOME - Philippe LIORET
2008 **POUR ELLE** - Fred CAVAYE
2006 **L'ECOLE POUR TOUS** - Eric ROCHANT
2005 **JE PREFERERE QU'ON RESTE AMIS...** - Olivier NAKACHE and Eric TOLEDANO
LA VIE DE MICHEL MULLER EST PLUS BELLE QUE LA VÔTRE - Michel MULLER
2002 **A+ POLLUX** - Luc PAGES

Television film

2022 **EMMA BOVARY** - Didier BIVEL
2019 **LE TEMPS EST ASSASSIN** - Claude-Michel ROME
MAUVAISE MÈRE - Adeline DARRAUX
DES RÊVES AU-DESSUS DE LEUR TÊTE - Arnaud SELIGNAC
2018 **SOUVIENS-TOI DE NOUS** - Lorenzo GABRIELE
2017 **LE POIDS DES MENSONGES** - Serge MEYNARD
MEURTRES A SARLAT - Delphine LEMOINE
2015 **UNE MERE EN TROP** - Thierry PETIT
2014 **PALACE BEACH HÔTEL** - Philippe VENAULT
2013 **LES COMPLICES** - Christian VINCENT
2012 **LE CERVEAU D'HUGO** - Sophie REVIL
LA NUIT DU REVEILLON - Serge MEYNARD
L'HOMME DE SES RÊVES - Christophe DOUCHAND
LA DISPARITION - Jean-Xavier DE LESTRADE
VALPARAISO - Jean-Christophe DEPLAIS
2009 **FAUSSES INNOCENCES** - André CHANDELLE
2008 **LA DAME DE MONSOREAU** - Michel HASSAN
2007 **LE REVEILLON DES BONNES** - Michel HASSAN
OPERATION TURQUOISE - Alain TASMA
TOUS LES HOMMES SONT DES ROMANS - Renan POLLES and Alain RIOU

L'EMBRASEMENT - Philippe TRIBOIT

2006 **MER BELLE A AGITEE** - Pascal CHAUMEIL
UN JOUR D'ETE - Franck GUERIN
2002 **L'ENFANT ETERNEL** - Patrick POUBEL

Series

2022 **OUSSEKINE** - Antoine CHEVROLLIER - Disney
2005-2020 **ENGRENAGES** season 8 - Canal+
2018 **LE CHALET** - Camille BORDES-RESNAIS
LES IMPATIENTES - Dominique TENIER
2016 **CAÏN** Season 4 - Christophe DOUCHANT and Dominique TENIER - France 2
ACCUSE - Laurent VIVIER Season 2 - France 2
2011-2016 **LES DAMES** - Alexis LECAYE - France 2
2009-2017 **UN VILLAGE FRANÇAIS** - Raymond SCHWARTZ - France 2
2008 **ADRESSE INCONNUE** - Rodolphe TISSOT
2007 **ELODIE BRADFORD** - Olivier GUIGNARD
HENAUT PRESIDENT - Bruno LE JEAN and Michel MULLER
2006 **L'ETAT DE GRÂCE** - Pascal CHAUMEIL
LA CRIM' - Eric WORETH - France 2
INSEPARABLES - Elisabeth RAPPENEAU
AVOCATS ET ASSOCIES - Patrice MARTINEAU
PJ DÉLIT DE SOLIDARITÉ - Gérard VERGEZ
1999 **AVOCATS ET ASSOCIES** - Philippe TRIBOIT

Theatre

2018 **LA COLLECTION** - Harold PINTER - Dir : Thierry HARCOURT - Théâtre de Paris
2016 **ENCORE UNE HISTOIRE D'AMOUR** - Tom KEMPINSKI - Dir : Ladislav CHOLLAT - Studio des Champs-Élysées
2012 **MADemoiselle JULIE** - August STRINDBERG - Dir : Robin RENUCCI - Tréteaux de France, tour
2006 **LA PLUIE D'ETE** - Marguerite DURAS - Dir : Éric VIGNER - Festival d'Avignon
2005 **OU BOIVENT LES VACHES** - Roland DUBILLARD - Dir : Éric VIGNER
2004 **INITIAL DJ** - Jean-Marc LANTERI - Dir : Ludovic NOBILEAU

THE FILM CREW

CAST

THIERRY GODARD
SOPHIE GUILLEMIN
LINO GODARD
BRUNO SOLO
CATHERINE WILKENING
JULIA FAURE
LAURA PRESBURVIC
MELANIE MAUDRAN
VERONIQUE CLOCHEPIN-LASSALLE
INAYA ALLAOUI
SENAMI AHOUANSOU
With the participation of
FRANCOIS FEROLETO

PHOTOGRAPHY

SOPHIE GUILLEMIN

EDITOR

STEPHANE ELMAJIAN

SCENARIO AND DIALOGUES

SOPHIE GUILLEMIN
THIERRY GODARD

MIXING

CEDRIC LIONNET

SOUND EDITING

THOMAS VAN POTTELBERGE
EMMANUEL AUGEARD

SOUND

HUGO MOUCHART
LUCAS ROLLIN

CALIBRATION

DAMIEN LETEXIER

CREDITS AND SPECIAL EFFECTS

OLIVIER VILLEAUD

ORIGINAL MUSIC

COMPOSED AND DIRECTED BY

HELENE BLAZY

RECORDED AT STUDIO GUILLAUME TELL

SOUND RECORDING AND MIXING

DENIS CARIBAU

Assistants

BAPTISTE MURGUIONDON
PIERRE CHARLES BIGUET

MUSICIANS

HELENE ROBIN (VIOLIN)
ARNAUD NUVOLONE (VIOLIN)
BENACHIR BOUKHATEM (VIOLA)
DELPHINE BIRON (CELLO)
CATHERINE DOISE (CELLO)
HELENE BLAZY (PIANO)

PRODUCTION

Delegate production
MULTIFRUIITS PRODUCTION
Co-producer
ELKIN FILMS
Associate producer
ERIC GRIMALDI

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COMMUNICATION

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