

extreme

PRESS KIT

Directed By Anne Mulhall & Britt McTammany

Written by Anne Mulhall & Jaclyn Cole



Short Film

2020

TRT 10:10

Drama

USA

Color

English

Publicity Contact:

Jaclyn Cole

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Synopsis

Extreme tells the story of a seemingly prim and orderly woman who struggles to cling to her sense of reality when her concerned sister demands entrance to her pristine home. Her sister later enlists the help of a social worker to show her that her compulsive lifestyle is not what it seems.

Screener

www.extremeshortfilm.com/screener

Logline

A seemingly prim and orderly woman struggles to cling to her sense of reality when her concerned sister enlists the help of a social worker to show her that her compulsive lifestyle is an illusion.

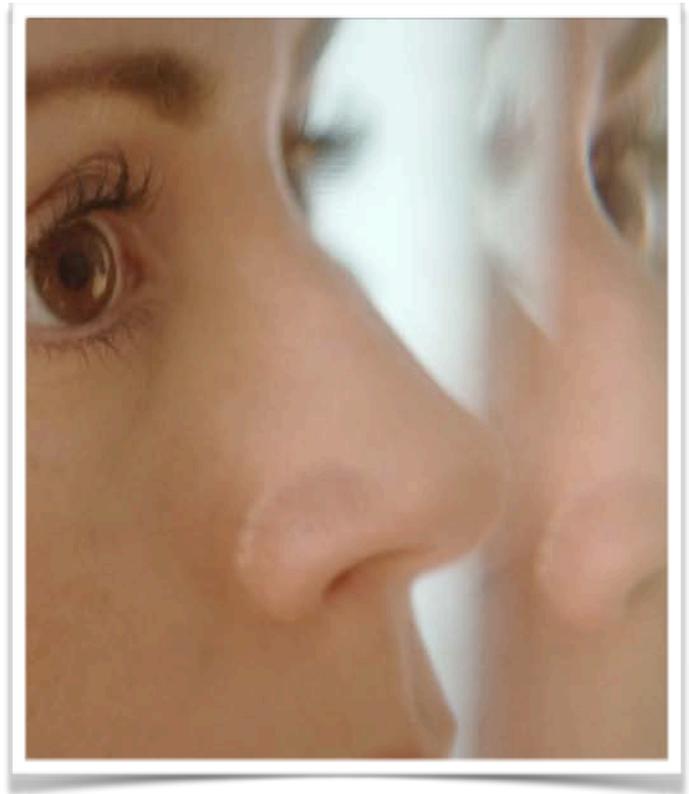
Writer's Notes

There are many conversations to be had regarding mental health. The trouble is, no one feels comfortable starting any of them. The experience can be stressful. However, sometimes a life depends on it.

When we were developing EXTREME, we wanted to tackle an issue that seems targeted to one type of person but in fact, it's universal. Grief. Unfortunately, everyone will experience grief on some level. The way in which we decided to tell this particular story was our effort to put the audience in someone else's shoes for a while.

Research took us to - questions like "when does eating out of a garbage can become normal?" What are the steps to get us to a place of no return? What is shocking anymore?

We hope people enjoy the creative style of this short film, we also hope it makes them feel connected to someone they may not otherwise give a second thought. We hope empathy wins over our audience and rather than dismiss, next time we meet someone - we consider a better way. We want to elicit action by raising awareness of those who suffer and rethink what is deemed acceptable behavior by society and lastly, more importantly, why?



"Life doesn't make any sense without interdependence. We need each other, and the sooner we learn that, the better for us all."

- Erik Erikson

Film Credits

Directors

Anne Mulhall
Britt McTammany

Writers

Jaclyn Cole
Anne Mulhall

Producer

Jaclyn Cole

Executive Producer

Scott Miller

Co-Producers

Lindsey Souferis
J. Randall Miller

Cinematography

Britt McTammany

Editing

Britt McTammany

Original Music

David Elliot Johnson

Associate Producer

Grace Bryan

Casting

Anne Mulhall
Jaclyn Cole

Production Design

Jaclyn Cole

About Cast and Crew

Anne Mulhall (Writer, Director)

Anne Mulhall is a Rhode Island native and long time casting director, playwright and theater director. Some highlights of Anne's career include work on Academy Award and Golden Globe Nominated *Moonrise Kingdom*, the Peabody Award winning Showtime television series *Brotherhood*, Fox's *MADTV*, as well as casting for some of the biggest names in Hollywood, Woody Allen, Wes Anderson, Henry Brommel just to name a few. Anne has a passion for quiet but powerful everyday real stories that highlight our sameness.



Britt McTammany (Director, DP, Editor, Colorist)



Britt McTammany is an Emmy-Award winning cinematographer. His career spans more than 30 years as a cinematographer, editor, sound designer, music composer, animator and graphic designer.

One of the highlights of Britt's career includes work on the documentary film *The Life & Times of Bobby Jones* about the prolific golfer. Voiced by Sean Connery, it aired annually before The Master's for more than 10 years. Britt has a lifelong interest in combining technology and artistic expression. Britt is a rare native Floridian.

Jaclyn Cole (Writer, Producer, Actor)

Jaclyn Cole is an actor, writer and producer based in Washington DC with more than 50 independent film credits all along the East Coast.

After studying for a number of years in NYC and auditioning for Anne, Jaclyn insisted they write something together. Inspired by the grief, suffering and trauma held by women most often in private and in solitude, Jaclyn and Anne worked tirelessly together to offer a story that could inspire compassion, empathy and connection. Jaclyn has a zest for learning, people and connection.



Salem Murphy (Social Worker)

Salem Murphy is an actress based in New York City. Her most recent credits include *Never Rarely Sometimes Always*, winner at Sundance 2020 and the Silver Bear Grand Prize at the Berlin Festival 2020, *For Life* an ABC series and AAFC award for best drama, Netflix's *Stranger Things*, and Uzma in *Uzma The Greatest* which won best short at the Sun Valley Film Festival. Salem is excited about rich, interesting and emotional stories.



Kristen Walsh (Sister)

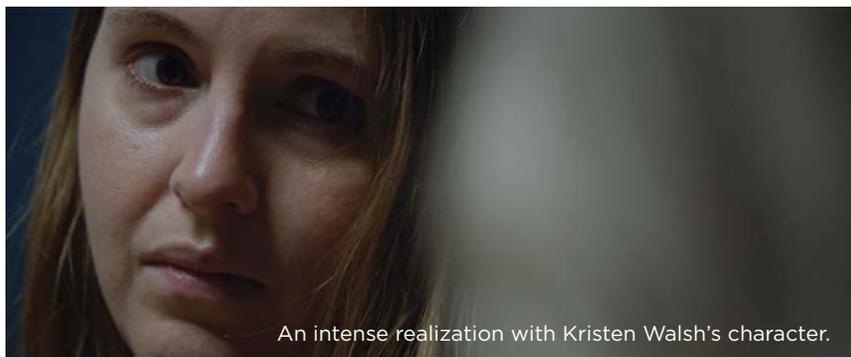


Kristen Walsh is a Florida based actress, working in theater for more than a decade. Some of her favorite roles include, Alice in *Alice In Wonderland*, Lydia Bennett in *Price & Prejudice*, Eurydice in *Eurydice*, and Talia in *Women's Work*. Kristen is a member of the

Phase Eight Theater Company founded by JaMario Stills (Juilliard) and serves as publicity chair for Phase Eight. Kristen is fanatic about complexed and layered characters.



Jaclyn's character struggled with many obsessions.



An intense realization with Kristen Walsh's character.

Cast

Woman	Jaclyn Cole
Social Worker	Salem Murphy
Sister	Kristen Walsh

Support Group

Monique Madrid
Grace Bryan
Adam Madrid
Iain McTammany
Bob Pritchard

Crew

1st AC	Jason Blankenship
Gaffer	Justen Mann
Key Grip	Iain McTammany
Script Supervisor	Olivia McTammany

Special Thanks

Jack Ribeiro	Lee Hamby
Bryan Bachman	Tony Haines
Michael LoCicero	Ron Chamblin
Rick Ambrose	Nick Athanaseas
Bethany Caputo	Rus Blackwell
Franklin Ritch	Sean Shea
Kai Torres	Andrew Fallon

Music

"Daydream Believer"

Written by John C. Stewart

Performed by the Monkees

Courtesy of Rhino Entertainment Company

By Arrangement with Warner Music Group
Film & TV Licensing

Published by Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc.

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Q&A with the Filmmakers

Q: What inspired this story?

J: Anne and I have a very “yes and..” working relationship. We started with ideas of grief, family turmoil, and possibly a sibling intervention and found ourselves rapidly building off one another. The way we work really was a match made in heaven, Anne is a visionary and a ponderer and one of the most creative people I have ever met.



I am very much a doer. I would have an idea, throw it at Anne she would take it on a long walk and come up with something tangible, then I'd get it down on paper and send it back to her, she'd edit it, then I'd add and so on. It was really like painting with partner with our shared inspiration acting as the guide.

When Britt joined the team he was the missing piece to our puzzle. The inspiration for this story really came from a meeting of the minds, heart and most importantly saying yes to each other.

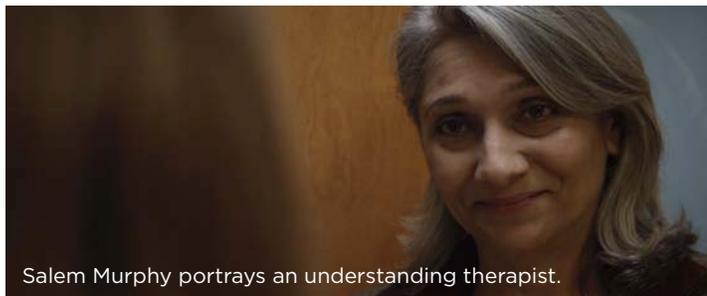
A: Well, in life, I have always tried to level the playing field. In conversations, in work, in school, in family life. One of the ways that has worked for me personally as well as a tool to make a point is to “see from someone else’s point of view”.

When Jaclyn suggested writing something - at first I thought... ugh, all that typing and writing stuff down. But she rose to that and offered to DO that part... and I had to THINK about things. Yay! The other side of the same coin. Perfect. When Britt came in shortly after... the bow was put on and everything looked beautiful.



Q: What were the biggest challenges making this film?

J: Our biggest challenge was keeping the team healthy, safe, and protected while also working to champion the story. Because of Covid locations very limited and difficult to land, not to mention finding the testing we needed to keep our cast and crew safe. There were many challenges in making this film, but it absolutely showed us what we are capable of, and although stressful at the time, I wouldn't trade a minute of what had to be overcome to bring this story to life.



A: Challenges? No more than I was expecting except for, well, a little thing like the pandemic. But I didn't feel like they were too many challenges, just the process. And maybe I didn't feel the challenges because Jaclyn pulled

all that weight. I owe her big.

B: I do many low-budget projects and the challenge is to make something that doesn't look low budget. We had a very small crew for safety reasons but that was kinda normal for me. We all wear many hats and I was cinematographer, editor, colorist, sound mixer, gaffer and director on this one.

But thanks to collaboration with Jaclyn and Anne it was very seamless. Jaclyn not only acted but produced and was production designer too. The scene at the end of the film... "wow!" I was blown away when I walked in and saw all the work she had done.



Q: What was it like working with actors via Zoom?

A: When the idea was presented I thought would be really difficult. And it wasn't without it's challenges but working as a co-director, my trust was with Britt and the actors. It was a fantastic experience and I was really glad to be creatively jumping all the hurdles put in our path!

B: I have to admit this was a first for me but without Anne on Zoom guiding our actors into the right headspace, the film would not have turned out as great as it did. I'm no stranger to co-directing with a focus on framing, blocking and emotion but it takes special skill to get an actor to inhabit their character... Anne knows her stuff.

Q: What did you learn making this film?

J: I learned how truly important and valuable a team is in the creative process and that it really is true what they say "If you want to go fast go alone, if you want to go far, go together." The esteem and respect I have for this cast and crew is

overwhelming, I couldn't be more grateful for the opportunity to have united with them to highlight an issue that means a lot to me.

A: That trust is everything. Compromise, brainstorming, trust... did I say trust already? We had no choice. The budget, the schedule, the pandemic... we had make decisions and be ok with them. I already knew this one but learning it again is always good... sense of humor. Oh, and trust.

