

Berlinale
 70th Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
Generation

SWEET THING

A FILM BY ALEXANDRE ROCKWELL

RELEASE 22 OKTOBER

EEN UITGAVE VAN DE FILMFREAK



LANA ROCKWELL AS **BILLIE**
PLAYS MOTHER TO HER LITTLE BROTHER NICO. VELVET VOICE, FANTASIZES BILLIE HOLIDAY AS HER FAIRY GODMOTHER

PERSVOORSTELLING

DONDERDAG SEPTEMBER 24TH
12:30
KETELHUIS AMSTERDAM

NICO ROCKWELL AS **NICO**
THE CAREFREE AND JOYOUS LITTLE BROTHER



TECHNICAL INFO

DRAMA - USA - 2020

BLACK & WHITE

SOUND 5.1

RUNNING TIME: 91 MIN

IMAGE 1.66:1

SYNOPSIS

Billie (15) en haar broertje Nico (11) wonen bij hun vader Adam in een geïmproviseerd idyllisch bestaan. Maar telkens als Adam toegeeft aan de verleiding van de alcohol, maakt geborgenheid plaats voor een delirium van tranen en schuld. Hun excentrieke moeder is er al jaren vandoor en heeft een toxische relatie met Beaux, eveneens een drinker, maar van een ander soort.

Als Adam gedwongen in de rehab verdwijnt, nemen Billy en Nico de benen met hun nieuwe vriend Malik, ook een emotionele wees, op zoek naar zijn vader die in Florida zou wonen.

De tocht van de drie wordt een magische ervaring met ups en downs, gedragen door de hoop en veerkracht van de jeugd.

Sundance winnaar en indy-icon Alexandre Rockwell brengt met **SWEET THING** een tegendraads maar warm drama dat op het festival van Berlijn bekroond werd met de Kristallen beer.



WILL PATTON AS **ADAM**
THEIR LOVING BUT WOUNDED FATHER



JABARI WATKINS AS **MALIK**
THEIR PARTNER IN CRIME



KARYN PARSONS AS **EVE**
THEIR CONFUSED AND DISTRACTED MOTHER



ML JOSEPHER AS **BEAUX**
THE MOTHER'S NIGHTMARE BOYFRIEND

DIRECTOR'S SELECTIVE FILMOGRAPHY



Sweet Thing (Berlinale 2020)
Little Feet (Toronto IFF 2013)
13 Moons (Sundance IFF 2002) - starring Steve Buscemi
Somebody to Love (Venice IFF 1994) - starring Harvey Keitel, Anthony Quinn
In the Soup (Sundance IFF 1992 - Grand Jury Prize Winner)

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I knew once I finished *Little Feet*, I wanted to make more films about kids before they enter the adult world. A child's personal relationship to memory and how events unfold fascinate me. In this new chapter, the kids emerge from the shadows of their childhood to collide with the regiment of the adult world. They are no longer under the radar. And the adults around them are either incapable of taking care of them or forcing them into situations they should not be in. As a result, they run away and escape into a world of poetry, friendship, and freedom that come naturally to them.

This is a very personal film, my children, my wife, and my dear friend Will Patton came together to make it. We filmed with a hybrid between fiction and reality with a combination of trained actors and non-professionals. Due to the experimental nature of the film and the inventiveness, I wanted to shoot in 16mm film stock in order to bring a raw black-and-white, giving it a timeless feeling. Although this story takes place out of time, it is very real and contemporary. The insecurity, poetry, and invention of these kids are mirrored by the film style. There is nothing conformist about the way we approached the filming. At the same time, it is very classic in style.

I know that *Sweet Thing* was a film I had to make and I hope it resonates with its audience and that the viewer experiences the same joy we had in the making of it.

[Click here to watch the director's interview](#)



CREDITS

WRITTEN & DIRECTED ALEXANDRE ROCKWELL
BY PRODUCED BY LOUIS ANANIA, HALEY ANDERSON,
KENAN BAYSAL
CINEMATOGRAPHY LASSE TOLBØLL
EDITING ALAN WU
SOUND MIX/SOUND ALDOLPHO ROLLO
EDIT EXECUTIVE JENNIFER BEALS, WILL PATTON,
PRODUCERS SAM ROCKWELL, DAMIEN NEWMAN,
HEDY GROTH PUTEGNAT, ELAINE WALSH
MUSIC ALDOLPHO ROLLO
SUPERVISOR VAN MORRISON, BILLIE HOLIDAY, BRIAN
MUSIC BY ENO, ARVO PÄRT, AGNES OBEL
MARKETING CONSULTANT RUMEYSA YORUKLU



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