



INAPPROPRIATE

Francesco Piacentini-Smith Tim Plester Gill Tichbourne

EDITED BY Anthony Melton SUPERVISING SOUND EDITOR George Castle ORIGINAL SCORE BY Ed Critchley 1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Nathan Mills SOUND RECORDIST Bogdan Mecea COLOUR PRODUCER Hannah George COLOURIST Adam Meyers
GAFFER Luke Witcomb PRODUCTION DESIGNER Andy Stegall STANDBY ART DIRECTOR Nathan Clarke GRAPHIC DESIGNER Lucas Thompson COSTUME & MUA Leah Clarke SOUND DESIGNER James Everett
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY Christopher Sharman PRODUCED BY Nataša Cordeaux EXECUTIVE PRODUCER Peter Coventry WRITTEN BY Owen Nichols DIRECTED & PRODUCED BY Jonathan Blagrove





LOGLINE

“TRUST GOES BOTH WAYS”

Volunteer ‘Appropriate Adult’, Oscar, has his work cut out for him when he encounters troubled young offender, Jordan.



Photographed: Tim Plester ("Oscar")



SYNOPSIS

Oscar Walden is having a bad day... a rough life patch.

Unable to cope with his imploding family life, Oscar arrives on a call out as a volunteer **Appropriate Adult.**

Here, Oscar crosses paths with troubled teenage detainee, Jordan Tempest, who, despite Oscar's vain attempts to connect with Jordan and help him through his arrest, is soon running circles around him.

Off kilter and with emotions running high, can Oscar find a way to get through to Jordan or is it futile?



Photographed: Tim Plester ("Oscar")



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I'm interested in telling stories that reflect my own working class background and upbringing, real people who find themselves in life-changing circumstances. My work as a director to date has been made around the notion of how people's lives can be changed in the blink of an eye and how split second decisions can have unintended consequences further down the line.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT [CONT.]

INAPPROPRIATE is no stranger to this rule of mine.

We follow Oscar Walden, a middle-aged man recently separated from his wife and children, who are all seemingly taking advantage of him as a walking cash point. When we first meet Oscar, he feels as if the weight of the world is on his shoulders; terrified that he is failing his kids as his own family system appears to be breaking down. Consequently, in an attempt to find meaning in his life, Oscar volunteers his spare time as an Appropriate Adult which puts him in the same fateful room as troubled teen, Jordan Tempest.

Jordan's decision to steal has landed him in trouble, opening up an avenue that could lead him down a darker route in the future. Seeing through Jordan's bravado and prompted by his appeal that 'trust goes both ways', Oscar opens up. In doing so, he gets through to the real, vulnerable and desperately afraid teenager hidden beneath the posturing. In this brief moment of connection - the young offender finds the little bit of the paternal guidance that he needs, whilst Oscar realises that just being present and honest with his own children may just be enough - meaningful support can't be bought.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT [CONT.]

INAPPROPRIATE was conceived with writer Owen Nicholls, whom I've wanted to work with for a long time. We both wanted to take the conventional 'police interview scene' of a crime drama and do something different. That's when Owen told me about his work as an Appropriate Adult (AA). Within the UK legal system an AA volunteer is a temporary legal guardian when a young person is arrested and has neither parent or guardian, nor one who can be present. A lot of young people in need of the services of an AA are often marginalised, failed by a crumbling, under-funded system and can come from troubled homes.

Drawing from some of Owen's experiences in this area, we figured it would make a strong basis for what became **INAPPROPRIATE**. Though Jordan is a purely fictional character, there are elements of truth in him, various real young men, angry at the world, in desperate need of guidance - teenagers not to be systematically written off before they are even considered adults.

Since 2010 (as of Feb 2022), funding for youth services in the UK has been slashed by £1.2 billion, a real time cut of up-to 74% (Source YMCA). It's clear to me that the system is failing to support young people in difficult times, leading to a symptomatic rise in youth violence and an apathetic government more interested in increasing police numbers rather than fuelling support through social care and proactive prevention strategies. **INAPPROPRIATE** channels these feelings and is the closest film I've made to date that addresses social issues head on.





Photographed: Gill Tichborne ("Officer Davies")

WRITER'S STATEMENT

For close to a year now, I've been volunteering as an Appropriate Adult for the Anglia Care Trust. It's an odd role that drops you side-by-side with someone during one of their most vulnerable moments. I wanted to lean on these experiences to tell a story about two people who need each other's help.

Very much a two-hander, Oscar - the Appropriate Adult - and Jordan - the detainee - are both vulnerable. Jordan's hiding behind a wall of bravado, while Oscar's unable to deal with difficult changes in his life. After a hostile meeting and some aggressive back-and-forth, it doesn't take long for both to see the other is in pain. Together, they find a connection.

In many ways, **INAPPROPRIATE** is about parenting. It's about looking out for someone else and forgiving yourself for not always being at your best. Ultimately, it's about both trying to help, and accepting that help in return.





Photographed: Natali Khalili-Tari (2nd Assistant Camera)

PRODUCER'S STATEMENT

The main challenge was producing a high quality short film on a microbudget. How do you entice a talented team to help realise a world that an audience can fall in love with? As producers, Jonathan and I sought to bring together local crew and established actors by providing them with an opportunity to flex their creativity as well as professional development, in order to help realise our heartfelt script in a collaborative way, knowing that 'trust goes both ways'.

INAPPROPRIATE is a perfect example of a team working in synchronicity from script development through to colour grade. Our secret was to be decisive and purposeful. With limited resources, we ensured each stage of our filmmaking was locked in as we went, without unnecessary overthinking. Employing an approach of simplicity to complicated challenges allowed us to keep the vision clear and avoid costly problems. The production therefore ran smoothly, grounded in realism and resourcefulness, but never losing a sense of humour.

I was personally drawn to the project having known Jonathan and his work ethic, which thoughtfully allows for a creative framework, without a domineering hierarchy. It was an environment where voices at all levels were heard and this fed into the final film and its cohesiveness. The story in itself is important and was beautifully told by our cast, who held a candle to a current overlooked societal issue in Britain, subtly illuminating everyday voices through their naturalistic performance of a momentary encounter.





MAIN CAST BIOGRAPHIES

TIM PLESTER

as Oscar Walden

You'll recognise Tim's face from Netflix's **AFTER LIFE** and HBO's **GAME OF THRONES**.

His multifarious acting credits for film and TV also include but are not limited to: **BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY**, **WORZEL GUMMIDGE**, **BACKYARD VILLAGE**, **THE BASTARD SON AND THE DEVIL HIMSELF**, **SHADOW & BONE**, **UNDERGODS**, **LOCKOUT**, **BRITANNIA**, **KICK-ASS**, **CUBAN FURY**, **A GIFT FROM BOB**, **GHOSTS**, **MOONHAVEN**, **LOVE ME TILL MONDAY**, **ROOM 7**, **BELLMOUTH**, **DOCTOR WHO**, **LIFE ON MARS** and so on.

A self-styled folknographer, interested in roots music and vernacular customs, Tim Plester is also the co-director of the documentaries **WAY OF THE MORRIS**, **THE BALLAD OF SHIRLEY COLLINS**, **SOUTHERN JOURNEY (REVISITED)** and the creator and screenwriter of cult comedy shorts **ANT MUZAK**, **BLAKE'S JUNCTION 7** and **WORLD OF WRESTLING**.



FRANCESCO PIACENTINI-SMITH

as Jordan Tempest

Francesco can currently be seen as series regular *Dean* in **WATERLOO ROAD** for the BBC. Other forthcoming projects include HBO's **MASTERS OF THE AIR**, executive produced by Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg for Apple TV.

Francesco's other recent television credits include **THAT DIRTY BLACK BAG** (d. Mauro Aragoni) in which he plays the role of **TEEN BILL** alongside Douglas Booth and Dominic Cooper. He features in the fifth season of Starz series **OUTLANDER** (d. Jamie Payne) in which he plays series regular **Iain Og Findlay** alongside Caitríona Balfe and Sam Heughan.

Francesco stars in Sean Durkin's feature **THE NEST** which premiered at Sundance in 2020 along with Jude Law and Carrie Coon, and he can also be seen in Karen Ciorre's feature film **MAYDAY** which also had its premiere at Sundance the following year.





Photographed: Gill Tichborne (“Officer Davies”)



CORE TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

Photographed: Nataša Cordeaux (Producer), Jonathan Blagrove (Director), Leah Clarke (Costume Designer) and Nathan Clarke (Standby Art Director)



JONATHAN BLAGROVE

Director & Producer

Jonathan has worked within the film and TV industry for over 20 years. He produced the award-winning short films 'Bro', 'Woodwo' and an adaptation of Edward Lear's haunting poem 'The Dong With Luminous Nose' (voiced by Tilda Swinton).

Recently, Jonathan has worked with the BBC on their New Creatives scheme, helping emerging talent break through. As a director, his short films 'BRINK' and 'HOLD' have played internationally on the festival circuit to critical acclaim, and his feature documentary 'The Final Reel', narrated by the late Sir John Hurt, was released in UK cinemas in 2016.

“My career has seen me work for the most part as a production sound mixer and sound recordist for BAFTA-winning films and TV, and this can be seen in my work as a director - sound is a huge part of my own films, helping drive the narrative and flesh out the worlds the characters live in.”

NATAŠA CORDEAUX

Producer

Tash is British-Serbian independent filmmaker, whose been working in the industry over the past 5 years in a range of roles across Production, Assistant Director, Camera and Edit Departments.

Most recently, she has worked on **THE UNDERTAKER** (ft. Paul McGann and Tara Fitzgerald), **GIRL IN THE VIDEO** and popular docu-drama series such as **CATCHING KILLERS**, **FORCED OUT**, **THE MAN WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE** and **DR CHRISTIAN WILL SEE YOU NOW**.

As a producer, she has co-created documentaries that explore community-based themes and diasporic voices, as seen in her short films **GÜZEL DERMAN/BEAUTIFUL CURE** and **OUTSIDE THE COMFORT ZONE** which both featured on the international festival circuit. Currently, Nataša has several projects in development, and is focused on creating character-driven short films which illuminate the everyday such as **INAPPROPRIATE**.





OWEN NICHOLLS

Screenwriter

Owen Nicholls is an author and screenwriter.

His first two romantic fiction novels, **LOVE, UNSCRIPTED** and **PERFECT TIMING** were published by Hachette in the UK, Penguin Random House in the US and Harper Collins in Canada. He has a Masters in Screenwriting from the UEA and has had his work optioned for both TV and Film.

Owen has written for *NME*, *EMPIRE* and *Total Film* on the subjects of Film, TV and Music. Owen lives in Norfolk with his wife and two children.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Photographed: **Stu McOmie** (1st AC), **Bogdan Mecea** (Sound Recordist), **Nathan Mills** (1st AD), **Natali Khalili-Tari** (2nd AC), **Christopher Sharman** (DoP) and **Tim Plester** (“Oscar”)

MULTI FORMAT



LVM-1715

DC:13.3V

S-SSD:0:24

5k

7:1

T:45°C

F:18%

A009_C001

24FPS

ISO500

1/50

N/A

5600k

DO NOT TOUCH THE SCREEN

- POWER
- SOURCE
- SCAN
- ASPECT
- MARKER
- F1
- F2
- F3
- MENU / EXIT

Photographed: Tim Plester ("Oscar"), Nathan Mills (1st AD), Nathan Clarke (Standby Art Director), Harriet Atenia (Stills), Leah Clarke (Costume Designer) and Nataša Cordeaux (Producer)



Photographed: Tim Plester (“Oscar”) and Francesco Paciniti-Smith (“Jordan”)



Photographed: Christopher Sharman (Director of Photography)



Photographed: Joe Harrington (Production Assistant), Jonathan Blagrove (Director), Nathan Clarke (Standby Art Director) and Nathan Mills (1st AD).



Photographed: Christopher Sharman (Director of Photography), Gill Tichborne (“Officer Davies”) and Jonathan Blagrove (Director)



Photographed: Gill Tichborne ("Officer Davies") and Christopher Sharman (Director of Photography)

CREDITS

Oscar Walden
Jordan Tempest

Tim Plester
Francesco Piacentini-Smith

Costume Designer
& MUA

Leah Clarke

Officer Davies

Gill Tichborne

Costumes
provided by

The Dynasty Wing,
October Studios

Writer

Owen Nicholls

Director

Jonathan Blagrove

DIT

Jeremy Balderstone

Producers

Nataša Cordeaux

Jonathan Blagrove

Production Assistants

Loretta Askew
Joe Harrington

Director of Photography

Christopher Sharman

Post Production

No. 8, London

Editor

Anthony Melton

Services provided by

Supervising Sound Editor
& Re-Recording Mixer

George Castle

Ed Critchley

Colourist
Colour Producer

Adam Mears
Hannah George

1st Assistant Director

Nathan Mills

Script Supervisor

Nataša Cordeaux

Sound Recordist

Bogdan Mecea

Sound Designer

James Everett

Dialogue Editor

Rachel Scott

Foley Artist

Ross Wilkes

1st Assistant Camera

Stu McOmie

Unit Stills Photographer

Harriet Atenia

2nd Assistant Camera

Natali Khalili Tari

Catering

JGLS Catering Ltd.

Gaffer

Luke Witcomb

Spark

Ben Bailey

Executive Producer

Peter Coventry

Production Designer

Andy Steggall

Graphic Designer

Lucas Thompson

Standby Art Director

Nathan Clarke

Set Dressers

Katy Tutt

Andy Pointer

Executive Producers
for No.8, London

Charlie Morris
George Castle

Filmed entirely at

October Film Studios
Norfolk, UK

Special thanks to:

Tom Hamilton, Justin Murphy, Megan Mitchell,
Dominic Webb, Simon Scorey, Helen Carrick, Cinema
City Norwich, John Davis, Helena Hopkins, Jonny
Phillips, Ness Evans, Alexi Stylianou, Camille Jackson.

A Coda Films and Badger & Bolt Production

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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

- **Duration:** 17 minutes
 - **Year of production:** 2023
 - **Country of Origin:** UK
 - **Language:** English (with CC subtitles available)
 - **BBFC Rating:** 12A
 - **Production Company:** Coda Films Ltd
 - **Production Partner:** Badger & Bolt Films
 - **Filming locations:** October Studios, Norfolk, UK
 - **Post Production Facilities:** No.8
-
- **Red Dragon 5K**
 - **4K UHD Pro Res 4444 Quicktime Master**
 - **2K & 4K DCP**
 - **5.1 Dolby Surround Sound**
 - **Colour**



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For further information, please contact info@codafilms.co.uk



Photographed: Christopher Sharman (DoP), Natali Khalili-Tari (2nd AC), Ben Bailey (Spark), Nathan Clarke (Standby Art Director), Nataša Cordeaux (Producer), Jeremy Balderston (DIT), Jonathan Blagrove (Director), Nathan Mills (1st AD), Loretta Askew (Production Assistant), Leah Clarke (Costume Designer), Bogdan Mecea (Sound Recordist), Tim Plester ("Oscar"), Gill Tichborne ("Officer Davies") and Luke Witcomb (Gaffer).
INAPPROPRIATE Photography by Harriet Atenia 2023 © www.codafilms.co.uk