

Two Strangers Who Meet Five Times Press Info

Two Strangers Who Meet Five Times is a short film about friendship and prejudice written and directed by independent filmmaker Marcus Markou.



Alistair and Samir meet five different times, but it is only when they meet as old men that they can finally put their prejudices aside and meet as friends. This film champions friendship and compassion over separation and distrust.

THE DIRECTOR/WRITER

In 2010 Marcus made the short film *The Last Temptation of Chris* starring Ed Stoppard before completing *Papadopoulos & Sons*, his first feature, in 2012. He wrote, directed, produced and self-distributed *Papadopoulos & Sons* in the UK in April 2013, achieving the second highest screen average of any film in its opening weekend. In 2014 he was nominated by the London Critics Circle Awards in the Breakthrough British Filmmaker category. Marcus founded the production company Double M Films and is now working on a number of original feature film and TV projects.

Marcus started life editing and publishing inflight magazines. In his mid 20's he attended LAMDA and trained as an actor. In 2000, Marcus started Dynamis Plc with his brother Andrew, an online publisher in the B2B sector. He has had two plays produced, including *Ordinary Dreams; Or How to Survive a Meltdown with Flair* at the Trafalgar Studios in 2009 and *Age-Sex-Location* at the Riverside Studios. He was a member of Fluxx Improvisation theatre company in London between 2004 and 2010.

Press reviews for *Papadopoulos & Sons*:

“There’s a warmth and charm about Markou’s debut feature that makes it hard to resist” – Total Film

“The surprise niche hit of the year” – Sight & Sound

“Fresh, funny and poignant” – Radio Times

“Heart, charm and well-crafted characters” – Little White Lies

“Relaxed, sweet and funny... a first feature that makes an impression by not pushing too hard to make an impression” – The Guardian

“Stephen Dillane has probably never had a more appealing showcase” – Hollywood

Reporter

DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT

“Short films are to feature films, what short stories are to the novel. The short film is a challenging art form. So many short films are fragments of a bigger story. But on “Two Strangers Who Meet Five Times” we wanted to explore how a complete story could be told in 12 minutes and we have done that. The story structure is complete. Because there are not the same commercial objectives with a short film as a feature, the filmmaker has the freedom to explore the short art form. I believe every filmmaker, at whatever the stage of his or her career, should be making shorts. You are also free to take chances with cast and crew. For example, this was the first drama that the editor had ever cut. The DoP, whilst very experienced in commercials, is relatively new to drama. For one of our producers this is the first drama of this scale she has produced. It’s a learning experience for everyone – and an opportunity to develop new skills and new relationships. Would I work with all these people again? On a feature? In a heartbeat!”

THE CAST

LAURENCE SPELLMAN – ALISTAIR

Laurence has worked extensively in the theatre, appearing in productions for the Young Vic, Royal Court, National Theatre, RSC and he has toured internationally with *Cheek By Jowl*. He has worked with notable filmmakers including; David Ayer (*FURY*) & Steven Spielberg (*READY PLAYER ONE*). He trained at The Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

SARGON YELDA – SAMIR

Sargon is currently filming a new TV comedy series for Channel 4. He recently worked on the feature film *Close*, and was seen in J.K Rowling's *Strike* series on BBC1.

ALISTER CAMERON – OLDER ALISTAIR

Films include *The Imitation Game*, *The Adventurer: The Curse of The Midas Box*, *The Bourne Ultimatum*, *Love Actually*, *The Duel*, *The Empire Strikes Back*, *Anxiety*, *Remote*, and *The Happy Prince*. He has also written and directed a number of short films and next year is directing his first feature film *Jack & Jackie*. He has worked extensively on television and his stage work includes over ten productions in London's West End and on Broadway as well as all round the UK and the world. In 1993 he formed his own production company which has toured English theatre worldwide ever since.

DIMITRI ANDREAS – OLDER SAMIR

Dimitri started his career in 1956 as the little boy Nico in Powell & Pressburger's film *ILL MET BY MOONLIGHT* with Dirk Bogarde. He studied at Webber Douglas Academy class of 1959/61 and has since worked extensively in films, stage, TV, theatre and radio in such productions as *SPY*, *LAYER CAKE*, *PRINCE OF PERSIA*, *TYRANT*, and Laura Plancarte's award winning film *TIERRA CLIENTE* and was nominated for best Supporting Actor at the Sydney Indie Film Festival.

GEORGINA BLACKLEDGE - TONI

Georgina is a screen actress best known for her roles in *The Last House on Cemetery Lane*, *Eden Lodge* and *The Paradox Series*. Her latest feature film *The Beyond* is due for release in January 2018.

SIMEON WILLIS – STEVE

Since graduating from Bretton Hall, Simeon now works predominantly in Film and TV. Recent TV credits include *Mr Selfridge* (ITV) and *Hetty Feather* (BBC). Recent Film releases include *Narcopolis*, *Egomaniac*, *Arcadia* and *The Rizen*. His latest Feature which he has so far been nominated twice for Best Leading Actor is due for Worldwide release in December 2017.

KATE TERENCE – NURSE

Kate Terence has appeared at London's The Globe, the National Theatre and most recently, has been seen as Gertrude in *Hamlet* at the Park Theatre, and she has toured extensively. TV productions include *Bad Girls*, *The Estate Agents*, *The Kindness of Strangers*. BBC Radio 4

Comedy includes *The Cornwell Estate* and *Single Files*. Audio includes various Dr Who credits. Feature films include *Tortoise in Love*.

MADELEINE DUNNE - MUM

An actress and playwright, Madeleine trained at East 15 Acting School. Her performance credits include an evening of new writing at Theatre 503 (2016), IADT: National Film School of Dublin in a live Television broadcast by Alan Doyle (2016), BasicSpace Festival/3 Pegs Productions immersive production of 'Drinks' (2017). She most recently worked with award winning Playwright, Yolanda Mercy as part of her solo show; 'Quarter Life Crisis' at Ovalhouse (2017). She has also performed at The Abbey Theatre, Dublin and Tristan Bates for Drama UK.

THE CREW

DIRECTOR/WRITER – Marcus Markou

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS – Milicia Kastner & Andrew Markou

PRODUCERS – Sara Butler & Sophie Andrea Mitchell

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY – Christopher Fergusson

EDITOR – Paulyne Antoniou

PRODUCTION DESIGNER – Eryl Ellis

COSTUME DESIGNER – Rob Leaver

MUSIC COMPOSER – Sophie Mojsiejenska

CASTING DIRECTOR – Sarah Trevis

SOUND RECORDIST – Simon Koelmeyer

HAIR & MAKE-UP - Sarah Buitelaar

STILLS



We have a large selection of film stills and behind the scenes photos for use. Please contact info@doublemfilms.co.uk for public use – all images are under copyright.

SOCIAL MEDIA

You can find out more about the film's festival tour and about the director, and Double M Films, by following us on Twitter and Facebook.

T: [@PapaSonsFilm](https://twitter.com/PapaSonsFilm) #TwoStrangersFilm

F: [@Papadopoulosandsons](https://facebook.com/Papadopoulosandsons)

www.twostrangersfilm.co.uk

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FURTHER INFO

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