

AGAT FILMS & CIE PRESENTS

ARIANE
ASCARIDE

JEAN-PIERRE
DARROUSSIN

GÉRARD
MEYLAN

ANAÏS
DEMOUSTIER

ROBINSON
STÉVENIN

the house by the sea

DIRECTED BY
ROBERT GUÉDIGUIAN



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74
VENICE FILM FESTIVAL
COMPETITION

the house by the sea

A FILM BY
ROBERT GUÉDIGUIAN

2017 - FRANCE COLOUR - 1.85 - 5.1 - 107' - FRENCH

SYNOPSIS

By a little bay near Marseille lies a picturesque villa owned by an old man. His three children have gathered by his side for his last days: Angela, an actress living in Paris, Joseph, who has just fallen in love with a girl half his age and Armand, the only one who stayed behind in Marseille to run the family's small restaurant. It's time for them to weigh up what they have inherited of their father's ideals and the community spirit he created in this magical place. The arrival, at a nearby cove, of a group of boat people will throw these moments of reflection into turmoil.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The initial idea was to shoot the film entirely in the Méjean calanque (creek), near Marseille, which has always made me think of a theatre. The colourful little houses built into the hills seem to be no more than façades... A viaduct overlooks them and its trains look like child's toys; the openness towards the sea transforms the horizon into a backdrop... like painted canvases... especially with the winter light, when everyone has gone. It becomes an abandoned set – melancholy and beautiful.

In this open-air 'bubble', a few brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, friends and lovers exchange tons of past love and love yet to come...

All of these men and all of these women share the same feeling.

They are at a time of life when they have an acute awareness of time passing, of the world changing...

The paths that they'd opened up are gradually being sealed off.

They must constantly be maintained... or new ones must be opened up.

They know that their world will disappear with them...

They also know that the world will go on without them...

Will it be better, worse?

Thanks to them, because of them?

What will be left of them when they go?

In this situation, suddenly, something happens that may radically overturn all of these thoughts, a kind of Copernican revolution: child survivors from a wrecked boat are hiding in the hills. They are two brothers and a sister, like an echo of Joseph, Armand, and Angèle, and that brings a sense of fraternity back into play, since they decide to keep these children with them.

I believe in this encounter. There is something about "globalisation" that naturally relates to the future.

Though I exaggerate, I'd say that I couldn't make a film today without talking about refugees: we are living in a country where people are drowning at sea on a daily basis. I deliberately choose the word "refugees". I don't care whether it's due to climate change, for reasons, or because of a war – they are coming in search of a shelter, a hearth.

With these three little ones arriving, perhaps the calanque will be revived? Angèle, Joseph, and Armand will stay there with these three children to raise, and they're going to try to make the restaurant, the hillside community, and their worldview survive...

And keep up the connections between a few people... and in that way, maintain peace.

ROBERT GUÉDIGUIAN



ROBERT GUÉDIGUIAN

SELECTIVE FILMOGRAPHY

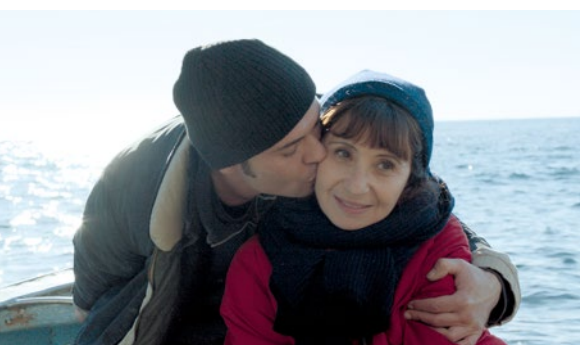
2017	THE HOUSE BY THE SEA - Venice, in Competition
2015	DON'T TELL ME THE BOY WAS MAD - Cannes, Official Selection
2014	ARIANE'S THREAD
2011	THE SNOWS OF KILIMANJARO - Cannes, Un Certain Regard
2009	ARMY OF CRIME - Cannes, Official Selection
2008	LADY JANE - Berlin, in Competition
2006	ARMENIA - Toronto, Official Selection
2005	THE LAST MITTERRAND - Berlin, in Competition
2004	MY FATHER IS AN ENGINEER - San Sebastian, in Competition
2002	MARIE-JO AND HER TWO LOVERS - Cannes, in Competition
2001	THE TOWN IS QUIET - Venice, in Competition - Toronto, Official Selection
2000	CHARGE! - Toronto, Official Selection
1998	WHERE THE HEART IS - Toronto, Official Selection - San Sebastian, Special Prize of the Jury, Best Screenplay, OCIC Award
1997	MARIUS AND JEANNETTE - César Awards, 7 nominations, Best Actress César Award (Ariane Ascaride)
1995	TILL DEATH DO US PART - Toronto, Official Selection
1993	MONEY BUYS HAPPINESS
1990	GOD THROWS UP THE LUKEWARM
1985	KI LO SA
1984	RED MIDI - Cannes, Directors' Fortnight
1981	LAST SUMMER - Cannes, Directors' Fortnight

CAST

Angèle	Ariane ASCARIDE	Benjamin	Robinson STÉVENIN
Joseph	Jean-Pierre DARROUSSIN	Yvan	Yann TREGOUËT
Armand	Gérard MEYLAN	Suzanne	Geneviève MNICH
Martin	Jacques BOUDET	Maurice	Fred ULYSSE
Bérangère	Anaïs DEMOUSTIER	The officer	Diouc KOMA

CREW

A film by	Robert GUÉDIGUIAN	Produced by	Robert GUÉDIGUIAN and Marc BORDURE
Written by	Robert GUÉDIGUIAN and Serge VALLETTI	Production	AGAT Films & Cie
Photography	Pierre MILON	In coproduction with	France 3 Cinéma
Editor	Bernard SASIA	With the participation of	Canal + France Télévisions Ciné +
Sound	Laurent LAFRAN	In association with	Cinémage 11 Cinéaventure 2 Indéfilms 5
Production design	Michel VANDESTIEN	With the support of	La Région Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur
Line producer	Malek HAMZAOUI	In partnership with	CNC
Assistant director	Ferdinand VERHAEGHE	International sales	mk2 films
Location manager	Bruno GHARIANI		
Costume designer	Anne-Marie GIACALONE		
Makeup	Hermia HAMZAOUI		
Sound mixing	Armelle MAHÉ		



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