I SWEAR

A film by Kirk Jones

Run time: 121 minutes
Certificate: 15

SYNOPSIS

I SWEAR is a frank, funny and powerful new film inspired by the life and experiences of John Davidson, MBE, charting his journey from a misunderstood teenager in 1980's Britain to present day advocate for the understanding and acceptance of Tourette Syndrome.

Diagnosed aged 15, John navigates his way against the odds through troubled teenage years and into adulthood, finding inspiration in the kindness of others to discover his true purpose in life.

I SWEAR is written and directed by Kirk Jones and stars Robert Aramayo, Maxine Peake, Shirely Henderson and Peter Mullan.

The film is produced by Kirk Jones and Georgia Bayliff for One Story High and Piers Tempest for Tempo Productions and Executive Producer is John Davidson.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I first met John Davidson in November 2022. He opened the door and invited me into his house before shouting in my face: 'Let's have sex!". It was the first verbal 'Tic 'I had experienced, but there were thousands more to come over the next year as I pieced together the extraordinary life of a man who has lived with Tourette's Syndrome for 40 years.

John's life story is equally humorous as it is tragic. John has lived with Tourette's since the age of 14; before this he was a young man with friends, good school reports, and a talent for sports. The onset of the condition changed his life. The eye blinking developed into twitching and jerking, then came the day he shouted uncontrollably to his mother: "Suck my Cock". Since then, John's life has been shaped by Tourette's, a condition previously referred to as a 'Wild Madness'.

He was misunderstood by his school, locked in a cupboard, branded insane and told he would end up in a mental asylum or prison. He was arrested by police who assumed his swearing was a sign of aggression towards them. A verbal tic towards a woman resulted in him being beaten by a crowbar. Determined not to be defined or dragged down by the condition, John started helping others, setting up a help group and organising events where those living with Tourette's could meet each other. When he was eventually recognised for his charitable work he was awarded an MBE from Queen Elizabeth II, only to shout "Fuck The Queen!"at the ceremony

The flood gates opened as he shouted obscenities and insults day after day, usually at figures of authority like teachers, police and his parents. Branded insane or a fake, few in education, the health service or police force had ever heard of Tourette's. John is one of only a minority of those with Tourette's who swear. This strand of the condition is called Coprolalia but there are many more simple and complex motor and verbal tics displayed those living with Tourette's and many go undiagnosed until adulthood, including Lewis Capaldi and Billie Eilish.

Visiting John and listening to his life story, meeting Dottie and Chris who raised him from his teenage years, I started to realise that this was a man whose condition caused him to shout and swear the most upsetting, spiteful and controversial phrases, yet was himself, one of the kindest, most respectful and gentle men I had ever met. I knew this contradiction would make a fascinating story, and that the swearing, verbal tics and physical tics would deliver the most unique script, highlighting the paradox between humour and tragedy.

We cast exceptional actors, but also reached out nationwide to the Tourette's community and with the help of an Access Coordinator, brought them to Scotland to create the most unique and realistic scenes. We all felt a strong responsibility and commitment to involve and respectfully present the community as often as we could in the film.

We hope the film is considered entertaining, emotionally engaging and at times, humorous, whilst also raising awareness, not just for those living with Tourette's, but for anyone who is judged or discounted because of a condition or disability. A film where the protagonist shouts racist, homophobic, misogynistic and sexist language has more potential to provoke anger and upset than ever before. But, when the individual is simply unable to stop neurological urges, when they are diagnosed with a medical condition, when they need to be supported and understood instead of criticised or attacked, then there is a place for a film to tell their story and promote empathy.

Kirk Jones

ABOUT TOURETTE'S SYNDROME

Tourette's Syndrome affects around 1 in 100 school-aged children.
It's more common than most people realize – and often goes undiagnosed.
(NHS England, 2023.)

Coprolalia – involuntary swearing – affects only around 1 in 10 people with Tourette's.
Though often portrayed in the media, it's not typical of the condition.
(Tourette's Action, UK.)

Tics can be motor or vocal, simple or complex.
They range from blinking or throat-clearing to repeating phrases or performing patterned movements.
(NICE Guidelines on Tic Disorders, 2022.)

Tourette's rarely appears on its own.
Up to 85 per cent of people with Tourette's also have conditions such as ADHD, OCD, anxiety, or autism.
(European Clinical Guidelines for Tourette Syndrome, 2011.)

Tics can change over time.

They may increase or decrease in frequency, and often shift in form – especially under stress, excitement or fatigue.
(Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH).)

People with Tourette's can suppress their tics – but it's exhausting.
Suppressing tics often causes discomfort and can lead to a rebound of more intense tics later.
(Tourette's Action, UK.)

Tourette's isn't just a childhood condition.
Although it typically starts between the ages of five and ten, many continue to experience symptoms well into adulthood.
(NHS Inform Scotland.)

Repetition is a common feature.
Some people repeat others 'words (echolalia), their own words (palilalia), or imitate others ' movements (echopraxia).
(DSM-5, American Psychiatric Association.)

Tourette's is a spectrum condition.
Some people barely notice their tics, while others experience severe and painful symptoms. Most fall somewhere in between.
(NHS England, 2023.)

There is no cure – but there is adaptation, self-awareness and resilience.
Many people with Tourette's report strong creativity, humour and emotional intelligence.
(Dr Tara Murphy, GOSH.)

FURTHER INFORMATION

- NHS England, Tourette's Syndrome Overview, 2023
- Tourettes Action (UK), www.tourettes-action.org.uk
- Tourette Scotland, https://www.tourettescotland.org/
- NICE Guidelines on Tic Disorders, 2022
- Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH), Specialist Resources on Tourette Syndrome
- DSM-5, American Psychiatric Association
- European Clinical Guidelines for Tourette Syndrome, 2011
- NHS Inform Scotland
- National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), 2023

ABOUT TOURETTES ACTION

Tourettes Action is the UK's only national charity dedicated to supporting individuals with Tourette syndrome and their families. We want a world where people with Tourette syndrome are accepted, supported and embraced. This is a world which enables people with the condition to reach their full potential. Find out more here www.tourettes-action.org.uk

Across the UK, too many people living with Tourette syndrome are left without the support they need. Services are scarce, and understanding is still growing. You can help change that. Learn more, find support, and stand with those affected at www.tourettes-action.org.uk

ABOUT TOURETTE SCOTLAND

For over 30 years, Tourette Scotland has been dedicated to providing support and advice to anyone living with Tourette Syndrome in Scotland. We are proud of our reputation as a leading authority on the condition and our membership continues to grow daily. Membership is free and we provide various services for our members including Awareness Training, Personal Outreach, and Peer Support Groups. The charity is run by a small group of voluntary Trustees and all of them either have Tourette's themselves or have close family members with the condition. More information can be found on our website www.tourettescotland.org

BIOGRAPHIES - CAST

ROBERT ARAMAYO

Robert Aramayo is a British actor and Juilliard graduate who hails from Hull in England. He is known for starring as 'Elrond 'in Amazon's television series THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RINGS OF POWER. Season two premiered in August 2024, on Prime Video.

Aramayo executive produced and starred in Will Seefried's feature directorial debut entitled LILIES NOT FOR ME, which was acquired by Memento International. Also starring Fionn O'Shea, the film had its world premiere at the 2024 Edinburgh Film Festival. Aramayo also appears in the independent feature DANCE FIRST, the life story of Samuel Beckett directed by James Marsh (THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING) and starring Gabriel Byrne.

In 2021, Aramayo co-starred as 'Sergeant Major Atkins 'alongside Ralph Fiennes, Harris Dickinson, and Matthew Goode in THE KING'S MAN directed by Matthew Vaughn. In 2020, he appeared as 'Daniel 'in the 2020 thriller film ANTEBELLUM opposite Janelle Monae. In 2018, he appeared opposite Ben Foster and Elle Fanning in Melanie Laurent's GALVESTON, and opposite James Badge Dale in Henry Dunham's THE STANDOFF AT SPARROW CREEK.

Additional film credits include the crime film STRAY DOLLS, which premiered at the 2019 Tribeca Film Festival; 20th Century Studios 'THE EMPTY MAN, a 2020 supernatural horror film written

and directed by David Prior; and the Danish film SUICIDE TOURIST opposite Nikolaj Coster-Waldau.

On the small screen, from 2016 to 2017, Aramayo played the role of young ‘Eddard Stark ’in the sixth and seventh season of the critically acclaimed HBO television series GAME OF THRONES. His other television credits include the role of ‘Bill Harley ’in the Discovery Channel miniseries HARLEY AND THE DAVIDSONS; ‘Rob ’opposite Eve Hewson in the 2021 Netflix/Left Bank psychological thriller limited series BEHIND HER EYES; and famed killer ‘Emer Wayne Henley Jr. ’in David Fincher’s MINDHUNTER for Netflix.

MAXINE PEAKE

One of the nation’s favorite actresses, three-time BAFTA nominated Maxine Peake has enjoyed a prolific career on stage and screen.

Maxine can currently be seen in the role of ‘Sister Aloysius ’in a new production of John Patrick Shanley’s award-winning drama DOUBT at the Theatre Royal Bath. Upcoming this year, Maxine will be seen starring as the late Russian journalist ‘Anna Politkovskaya’, in the political drama WORDS OF WAR, opposite Jason Isaacs and Ciarán Hinds with Sean Penn executive producing. She will also be starring in I SWEAR (directed by Kirk Jones), alongside Robert Aramayo, Peter Mullan and Shirley Henderson.

At the end of 2024, Maxine starred in the critically acclaimed Disney/FX TV series SAY NOTHING portraying Dolours Price. The series is based on the bestselling book by Patrick Radden Keefe.

Shooting to fame in Victoria Wood’s DINNERLADIES, her success has continued with roles in some of the most popular and acclaimed TV series of the last twenty years including SILK (BBC), BLACK MIRROR: METALHEAD (Netflix), THREE GIRLS (BBC), THE VILLAGE (BBC), SHAMELESS (Channel 4), THE BISEXUAL (Hulu/Channel 4), and RULES OF THE GAME (BBC). In 2023, she received her third Best Actress BAFTA nomination for her eponymous lead role in ANNE (ITV), which follows the true story of Anne Williams, a mother seeking justice after the Hillsborough tragedy.

Maxine’s film credits include Sky Original DANCE FIRST, Irish dystopian sci-fi WOKEN, Mike Leigh’s PETERLOO, Oscar nominated THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING, a BIFA-nominated turn in independent British feature FUNNY COW (for which Maxine served as Executive Producer through her own production company, Vexed Pixie), Thomas Clay’s FANNY LYE DELIVER’D and HANCOCK & JOAN.

Theatre acting credits include the title roles in BETTY! and HAMLET, both at the Manchester Royal Exchange, as well as Blanche in A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE and Winnie in Samuel Beckett’s HAPPY DAYS, also at the Royal Exchange. In addition, Maxine has been seen at the Barbican in AVALANCHE, and returned to the National Theatre to lead Lucy Kirkwood’s THE WELKIN as well as Alan Bennett’s TALKING HEADS (both at Bridge Theatre, and televised for

the BBC). Her theatre company MAAT (Music, Art, Activism and Theatre), co-founded with Sarah Frankcom and Imogen Knight, has now produced five plays that Maxine has starred in: ROBIN/RED/BREAST, THEY, THE NICO PROJECT, THE SKRIKER and THE MASQUE OF ANARCHY.

Maxine is also an established writer, with credits including the critically acclaimed stage and radio play BERYL (BBC Radio 4/West Yorkshire Playhouse/The Rose Theatre). Additionally, Maxine wrote QUEENS OF THE COAL AGE for Radio 4, which she later adapted for the stage (Manchester Royal Exchange), THE LAST TESTAMENT OF LILLIAN BILOCCA (Hull Truck Theatre) and radio play ONLY MOUNTAINS (BBC Radio 3).

SHIRLEY HENDERSON

Shirley Henderson is a multi-award-winning actress, whose film and television career has made her a household name throughout the UK. In 2023 Shirley was awarded an Outstanding Contribution by BAFTA Scotland for her contribution to Film and TV.

Shirley can currently be seen reprising her role of Jude in the Bridget Jones sequel BRIDGET JONES: MAD ABOUT THE BOY. She also recently starred in Matt Winn's THE TROUBLE WITH JESSICA alongside Rufus Sewell and Olivia Williams, for which she was been nominated a Scottish BAFTA for Best Actress in Film.

With a well-established film career spanning over two decades, she is perhaps most well known as Moaning Myrtle in the HARRY POTTER franchise and for her role as Bridget Jones ' chardonnay-swilling sidekick, Jude in the BRIDGET JONES franchise alongside Renee Zellweger. Shirley starred alongside James McAvoy in FILTH, where she was nominated for the BIFA's Best Supporting Actress award and won multiple awards for Juliet McKoen's FROZEN.

Shirley has a wealth of film credits including Danny Boyle's TRAINSPOTTING, Michael Winterbottom's WONDERLAND and 24 HOUR PARTY PEOPLE, Mike Leigh's TOPSY TURVY, Shane Meadows 'ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE MIDLANDS, Lone Scherfig's WILBUR (WANTS TO KILL HIMSELF) and Jon S. Baird's STAN & OLLIE to name but a few of the amazing filmmakers she has worked with. Shirley won over audiences in STAR WARS: EPISODE IX in the fan favourite role of Babu Frik. She played alongside Steve Coogan in GREED which also saw her collaborate with Michael Winterbottom for the 8th time in her career.

Shirley has also starred in many television dramas, most notably the highly anticipated second series of Sally Wainwright's HAPPY VALLEY for the BBC. She won the Scottish BAFTA Award for Best Actress in Channel 4's SOUTHCLIFFE and played the leading role in THE TAMING OF THE SHREW opposite Rufus Sewell for BBC. Shirley starred as the lead in THE HOUSE ACROSS THE STREET directed by Dominic Leclerc for Channel 5 and at the start of 2024 filmed a role in DEPARTMENT Q from Leftbank Pictures for Netflix. Shirley can also be seen starring in BBC's THE NEST alongside Martin Compston as well as starring in the Mackenzie Crook remake

of WORZEL GUMMIDGE. In 2023 Shirley provided the voice for the Anzellans in the TV series THE MANDALORIAN for Disney+, created by Jon Favreau.

2018 saw her return to the stage, where Shirley won an Olivier Award for Leading Actress in a Musical for her critically acclaimed performance in Conor McPherson's GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY.

PETER MULLAN

Peter Mullan, a veteran Scottish actor and filmmaker has a huge body of work but is probably best known for his portrayal of Joe in the 1988 Ken Loach film MY NAME IS JOE. For this work, he won the highly prized Best Actor Award at the Cannes Film Festival. A few years later in 2011, the Sundance Film Festival awarded Mullan a World Dramatic Special Jury Prize for Breakout Performances for his role as Joseph in Paddy Considine's TYRANNOSAUR (2011).

His feature film work over the last several decades stretches across every genre. This includes roles in RIFF-RAFF (1991), BRAVEHEART (1995), TRAINSPOTTING (1996), MISS JULIE (1999), YOUNG ADAM (2003), CHILDREN OF MEN (2006), THE RED RIDING TRILOGY (2009), WAR HORSE (2011), THE HARRY POTTER film series (2010–11) and THE VANISHING (2018).

Mullan's work behind the camera as a director has also collected prestigious awards. He received a Golden Lion at the 59th Venice International Film Festival for helming THE MAGDALENE SISTERS. Feature film NEDS (2010) saw Mullan take the gong for Best Picture at the San Sebastian Film Festival. He also picked up Best Director and Best Writer for NEDS at the BAFTAs in Scotland in 2011.

In television, Mullan appeared in Jason Bateman's Netflix series OZARK, HBO's WESTWORLD, Netflix series CURSED and BBC's MUM which saw him nominated for a BAFTA. He was nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award for his portrayal of Matt Micham in Gerard Lee and Jane Campion's acclaimed miniseries TOP OF THE LAKE in 2013. Back in 2008 Mullan took the lead role in ITV series THE FIXER.

Mullan can currently be seen in the critically acclaimed AFTER THE PARTY for Channel 4, Jed Mecurio's PAYBACK for ITV and Britbox, and THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RINGS OF POWER for Amazon. He also recently starred in the series LIAISON with Eva Green and Vincent Cassel for Apple TV+, and feature THE HANGING SUN, which premiered at the Venice Film Festival.

Upcoming releases include LOCKERBIE for BBC and Netflix, Outlander prequel BLOOD OF MY BLOOD, and the feature films THE FALL OF SIR DOUGLAS WEATHERFORD and I SWEAR.

SCOTT ELLIS WATSON

Scott Ellis Watson is from Glasgow. He is a fluent Gaidhlig speaker and has an exceptional ability to master various accents. He made his first film debut in a leading role, portraying Young John Davidson in the film I SWEAR

BIOGRAPHIES - CREW

JOHN DAVIDSON

John Davidson was born in Galashiels on June 1st, 1971. One of four children, his father was a joiner and his mother a nurse.

John's diagnosis came from a young doctor seconded to the local hospital, who had had experience of this condition. There was no information available to the public at that time. His parents were at a loss about how to deal with the developing symptoms and sadly separated when John was a teenager, which contributed to his difficulties in learning to live with the condition.

Davidson went to live with Dottie and Chris from the age of 17 and eventually, he got his own accommodation. After some part time work as a handyman, he was employed as Caretaker at Langlee Community Centre, Galashiels, and has continued in this work to the present day.

While still a teenager, John was the subject of a BBC documentary which was widely viewed and greatly contributed to public awareness of Tourette's Syndrome. He has participated in several follow-up documentaries as an adult.

Over the past thirty-five years, John has also been heavily involved in supporting children and adults with Tourette's, and creating and running Tourette's Syndrome support groups in Scotland. Dottie and several friends with Tourette's have assisted John, and in 2019, he was awarded an MBE in recognition of this work.

DIRECTOR / WRITER / PRODUCER - KIRK JONES

Kirk Jones was born in Bristol, England. He attended Newport Film School in 1985, specialising in directing comedy, drama and TV commercials.

After directing award-winning TV Commercials in the UK, Europe and the US, he wrote his first feature film, for which he was nominated for a BAFTA. Proportionate to budget, WAKING NED DEVINE was one of the highest grossing films in the world in 1999 and won awards throughout the US and Europe.

In 2004, he directed his second feature NANNY MCPHEE for Working Title and Universal Pictures. Starring Emma Thompson and Colin Firth, it was a top ten highest grossing film in the UK that year.

2010 saw the release of Kirk's third feature film which he wrote and directed. EVERYBODY'S FINE starred Robert De Niro, Drew Barrymore, Kate Beckinsale and Sam Rockwell and was produced by Miramax.

In 2012, Kirk directed Cameron Diaz, Jennifer Lopez, Chris Rock and Anna Kendrick in the romantic comedy WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARE EXPECTING, through Lionsgate Films.

In 2015, he directed a sequel to MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING, produced by Tom Hanks, Rita Wilson, Gary Goetzman, Paul Brooks and Nia Vardalos.

In summer 2024, Kirk wrote, directed and produced I SWEAR, the true story of John Davidson MBE who has lived with Tourette's for forty years. Starring Robert Aramayo, Maxine Peake, Shirley Henderson and Peter Mullan, the film is due to be released in 2025.

Kirk is a member of The Directors Guild of America, The Writers 'Guild of Great Britain, The Writers Guild of America, BAFTA and in 2013, was invited to become a member of The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

He was instrumental in setting up The Mark Milsome Foundation, in memory of his friend who was a cameraman and was killed on a film set in Ghana in 2017. Kirk spent three years researching and writing the Mark Milsome Online Film and TV Health and Safety Passport, with a desire to deliver engaging and modern Health and Safety training for crew, cast and production and help prevent death and serious injury in the Film & TV industry. The course has been adopted by Sony, Netflix, ITV, Warner Bros. and many Film and TV schools.

Having worked in the UK, Europe, Canada and the US, Kirk recently moved back to Bristol where he grew up and continues to develop projects through his newly formed company, One Story High.

PRODUCER - GEORGIA BAYLIFF

After working briefly in publishing at A&C Black (Bloomsbury Publishing), Georgia worked for independent producers across their slates in legal and development, and on production on films for 20th Century Fox, Millennium Films, Rainmaker Films, and GTS Films.

Formerly Producer and Head of Operations at a London-based commercial content company, she worked internationally across all aspects of filmmaking: narrative story-telling, self-shooting, editing, and producing larger scale projects for global clients.

With an LLB, Georgia went on to receive a distinction in her Masters in Entertainment Law, focussing her thesis on the functions of European State Aid in film.

As Head of Film at Silver Reel, Georgia worked across the film & TV slate, sourcing and steering projects, from development and finance through production to release, including Oscar-nominated THE WIFE starring Glenn Close, Jonathan Pryce and Christian Slater, THE LUMINARIES with BBC and Fremantle, starring Eve Hewson, Eva Green and Himesh Patel, amongst other projects, and in 2022 producing PARADISE HIGHWAY with Morgan Freeman, Juliette Binoche and Frank Grillo, in Mississippi, US.

Georgia exited her role at Silver Reel after over 7 years working with established global producers, studios, broadcasters and distributors, to join Tempo as it continues its strong foothold in the industry.

With Tempo, in 2023 Georgia Co-Produced the epic story of legendary crossbow-wielding warrior WILLIAM TELL, starring Claes Bang, Connor Swindells, Ellie Bamber, Golshifteh Farahani, Jonah Hauer-King, Rafe Spall, Emily Beecham, Academy-Award nominee Jonathan Pryce and Academy-Award winner Sir Ben Kingsley and most recently, in 2024, Georgia produced I SWEAR, starring Robert Aramayo, Maxine Peake, Shirley Henderson and Peter Mullan, shot on location in Glasgow with Kirk Jones and Piers Tempest.

PRODUCER - PIERS TEMPEST

Recent releases Tempest has produced include EMILY, starring BAFTA winner Emma Mackey, as well as the Netflix hit BANK OF DAVE, UNWELCOME and the Amazon Prime worldwide number one film UPGRADED.

Previously, Tempest produced OYSTER FARMER, which was nominated for Best Picture at the AFI Awards and opened the Commonwealth Film Festival; LIKE MINDS starring Academy Award winner Eddie Redmayne; GRABBERS, which premiered at Sundance and was the recipient of five film festival audience awards; CHURCHILL starring Brian Cox; Sony Pictures Classics 'THE WIFE starring Glenn Close, who won a Golden Globe, SAG Award, Critics Choice and Independent Spirit Award and was nominated for a BAFTA and Academy Award.

He also produced Nick Hamm's DRIVEN, which was selected as the closing film at the Venice Film Festival in 2018; the feature documentary TEDDY PENDERGRASS: IF YOU DON'T KNOW ME with BBC Films; IFTA Best Picture winner ORDINARY LOVE; MILITARY WIVES starring Kristin Scott Thomas and Sharon Horgan; and LOVE WEDDING REPEAT for Netflix.

As well as the epic WILLIAM TELL, 2025 releases for Tempest include BANK OF DAVE 2, the KJ Apa romantic comedy FALLING, BALLERINA OVERDRIVE with 87 North and Gulfstream Pictures and Kirk Jones 'directed I SWEAR.

CINEMATOGRAPHER – JAMES BLANN

Originally from Canada, James began his career in cinematography as a student of the National Film and Television School. His graduation film ROOM 55 directed by Rose Glass (SAINT

MAUDE) was selected in competition at Camerimage Film Festival, the world's only film festival dedicated to cinematography.

After graduating, James quickly became one of Vision Artist's most popular and sought after commercial DOPs. James has shot for a wealth of high profile brands such as Land Rover, Cadbury's, Spotify and Ikea. He often collaborates with emerging long form filmmaker Raine Allen Miller (RYE LANE).

As well as commercials, James has continued to shoot a range of long form projects such as series 2 of Netflix TV comedy FEEL GOOD (dir. Luke Snellin), as well as long form docu-dramas such as CHASING CHAPLIN for Film 4 and THE MYSTERY OF DB COOPER for HBO.

PRODUCTION DESIGNER – SABRINA LINDER

Sabrina Linder began her career in film under the fine character textiles of costume design. Understanding the great influence on the complexity of the character through garments and their surroundings was the start of a deeply personal relationship with film.

Sabrina gained a design degree at FEDISA in Cape Town and spent her foundational years designing for features and commercials. Within quick succession Sabrina transitioned to production designer in the fast paced commercial industry, undergoing a rapid schooling of international service work for brand giants PepsiCo, the Super Bowl and extensive work within the music industry.

In 2022 Sabrina ventured to the UK to sign with WPA creating work that has generated millions of views globally.

Her debut feature film as a production designer was SALVABLE with Toby Kebbell, Shia LaBeouf and James Cosmo (due to be released 2025). The world building with great intricacy and detail for a British working class period film was a career highlight, and paved the path to her second feature film in 2024. Sabrina detailed the personal world of I SWEAR; a narrative period film documenting the inspiring life of John Davidson; a man with Tourette’s starring Robert Aramayo (THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RINGS OF POWER).

Sabrina continues with passion and curiosity for human nature, lighting, and construction, calling for endless refinement in the process of filmmaking. From layered location sourcing, to in depth character analysis, and vigorous colour testing, Sabrina always strives for a highly considered and immersive picture.

HAIR & MAKE UP DESIGNER – DEB KENTON

Deb is an experienced designer who is fully qualified in all aspects of hairdressing & makeup, and prides herself in being hands on. Her most recent designer credits include I SWEAR and THE CROW. Deb was honoured to be nominated for a BAFTA Award in 2023 for her Design work on

DANGEROUS LIAISONS, and a Hollywood Guild Award in the same year for the same production.

From an early age, she was inspired by her grandparents, both stage actors. Deb fondly recalls spending time in her grandmother's dressing room, fascinated by how dramatically her appearance transformed with each wig, even back then.

After completing her secondary education, she pursued a two-year program in hairdressing and wig making at college, which provided her with a comprehensive understanding of the craft. Following her training, Deb gained valuable experience as a stylist in a salon.

Eager to explore the world, she applied to work on cruise liners, where she spent four rewarding years enhancing her skills while travelling throughout the Caribbean.

Deb's career took a significant turn when she secured her dream role at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon, joining the Wig Department. Over the course of more than a decade, she served as Wig Mistress for both regional and international touring productions, taking their shows around the globe.

Approximately ten years ago, she transitioned into the Film and Television industry, a move that has proven immensely fulfilling. Deb has had the privilege of collaborating with extraordinarily talented individuals and has embraced the diverse opportunities within her department.

COSTUME DESIGNER – DENISE COOMBES

Denise Coombes 'career as a Costume Designer began in the late 1990s, prior to which she ran her own fashion design company, Prankster. Her designs proved popular and were sold by boutique clothing outlets in Glasgow and London.

After relocating to New York for a period, Denise returned to Scotland where she kickstarted her career in the film industry working with actors including Oscar winner Adrien Brody, Keira Knightley, Laura Linney, Gillian Anderson and Dan Ackroyd. Her career blossomed over the following decade as Denise established herself as a designer in both Television and Film.

In 2011, she designed costumes for the Sundance Film Festival award winning film GOD HELP THE GIRL. Her other credits include HECTOR, an emotional journey following the struggles of a homeless man trying to find his brother at Christmas, starring Peter Mullan; BALANCE NOT SYMMETRY, a film about two aspiring artists discovering themselves and overcoming personal barriers; GLASGOW GIRLS, a TV Movie which tells the real-life story of a group of schoolgirls in Glasgow fighting the injustices of inhumane immigration policies.

Throughout her career Denise has shown incredible aptitude for recreating reality on screen through her costume design. This has been particularly important in I SWEAR, a film which follows the life of a young man dealing with the, initially unknown, condition Tourette's Syndrome. Her

costume helps establish the characters and support the storyline across a number of key life moments spanning several decades.

COMPOSER – STEPHEN RENNICKS

Award-winning composer Stephen Rennicks has been crafting inimitable soundtracks for the best of Independent Cinema and Television for over twenty years.

Rennicks' latest projects include CONVERSATIONS WITH FRIENDS; the highly anticipated follow up to NORMAL PEOPLE. The 12-part TV Drama, directed by Lenny Abrahamson and Leanne Welham and produced by Element Pictures, aired on the BBC and Hulu. GOOD LUCK TO YOU, LEO GRANDE; written by Katy Brand and directed by Sophie Hyde, the sex-positive tale of empowerment and self-discovery stars Emma Thompson and Daryl McCormack. And AN CAILÍN CIUÍN/THE QUIET GIRL is adapted from a short story by Claire Keegan and directed by Colm Bairéad. The mesmerising feature tells the story of a neglected girl sent away from her dysfunctional family to live with foster parents for the summer.

In 2020 Rennicks scored NORMAL PEOPLE, continuing his working partnership with director Lenny Abrahamson. The 12-part adaptation of Sally Rooney's bestselling novel tells the coming of age story of two young people moving from adolescence to young adulthood against the backdrop of Ireland during the global economic recession. It was one of the most watched shows in 2020 on the BBC and Hulu, with the music on the show receiving outstanding reviews in publications such as Rolling Stone, Vanity Fair, Vice, The NY Times and The Hollywood Reporter.

Prior to Normal People, Rennicks and Abrahamson collaborated on the feature ROOM, based on Emma Donoghue's bestselling novel of the same name starring Brie Larson (who picked up the Oscar for Best Actress), Jacob Tremblay, Joan Allen and William H. Macy, the film was nominated for four Academy Awards, including Abrahamson's first Oscar nomination for Best Director. And the breakout cult hit, FRANK, starring Michael Fassbender, Maggie Gyllenhaal and Domhnall Gleeson, a film with music at its heart saw Rennicks' standout songwriting, score and musical direction unanimously praised. Rennicks won the 'Best Technical Achievement in Music' award at the British Independent Film Awards for his incredible work on the film. In addition, the soundtrack was named number three in Mojo's soundtrack albums that year.

Among Rennicks' other credits are DEATH OF A LADIES MAN - a feature about a carousing college professor played by Gabriel Byrne, whose life becomes blighted by surreal hallucinations; Maya Zinshtein's, FOREVER PURE, an extraordinary feature-length documentary on the transfer of two Chechen Muslim soccer players to Israel's Beitar Jerusalem FC; Spanish language film VIVA, directed by Paddy Breathnach and set in the crumbling beauty of Havana, is an emotionally charged drama about a hairdresser who is forced to quit performing at the local drag club by his boxer father; MUSE, a psych-thriller about an academic who slips into a world controlled by the ancient spirits of inspiration, the Muses; while BIRTHMARKED, starring Toni Collette, is an off the wall comedy about genetics, destiny and ultimately, family.

EDITOR – SAM SNEADE

Sam Sneade has had a diverse career as an editor stretching over 40 years, 25 of which has been spent running his own commercials company Speade which though concentrating on the TV commercials still found time to cut BIRTH and SEXY BEAST for Jonathan Glazer and films as diverse as STONED for Stephen Woolley, WHITE LIGHTNIN ’for Dominic Murphy and contribute towards numerous other films such as GOZO, THE FAVOURITE and ISLAND.

Since 2016 he has also cut OLD BOYS for Toby MacDonald. He closed Speade in 2020 after 25 years and has since devoted himself to long form, cutting THE TRAINER for Tony Kaye, RABBIT TRAP for 1st timer Bryn Chainey, 2 NEIGHBORS for Ondine Vinao as well as TV dramas for Netflix and ITV.

PRODUCTION SOUND MIXER – SIMON HAYES

Simon Hayes received an Academy Award, BAFTA Award & CAS Award for Tom Hooper’s ground-breaking LES MISERABLES, which featured live sung vocals.

Simon has formed collaborative relationships with several directors including Rob Marshall on THE LITTLE MERMAID and MARY POPPINS RETURNS, Matthew Vaughn on LAYER CAKE, STARDUST, KICK ASS, X-MEN: FIRST CLASS and ARGYLLE, Ridley Scott on THE COUNSELOR and PROMETHEUS, Kirk Jones on NANNY MCPHEE and I SWEAR, Danny Boyle on YESTERDAY and TRANCE and with Guy Ritchie on LOCK, STOCK & TWO SMOKING BARRELS, SNATCH, (for which he received the Golden Reel Award), ALADDIN, KING ARTHUR: LEGEND OF THE SWORD and most recently, FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH.

Simon’s other varied feature credits include Jon M. Chu’s WICKED Parts 1 & 2, Marc Webb’s DISNEY’S SNOW WHITE, Paul Greengrass ’GREEN ZONE, Edgar Wright’s SHAUN OF THE DEAD, Daniel Barber’s HARRY BROWN and Phyllida Lloyd’s MAMMA MIA!

Simon received Academy, BAFTA and AMPS nominations for Cary Fukunaga’s NO TIME TO DIE and a BAFTA nomination for David Yates ’FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM.

Simon also won the UK Screen Association’s Conch Award for 'Production Sound Mixer of the Year' in 2008, 2009 and 2012.