

A STUDY OF EMPATHY

SARA KLEIN LARSEN

EMILIE CLAUDIUS KRUSE



Locarno Official Selection
Pardi di domani

Super16 & Frau Film
presents a film by
Graphic Designer
Colorist
Production Designer
Gaffer
Costume Designer

HILKE RÖNNFELDT
DARJAN HARDI
MARIAM LATIF
JOSEFINE FRIIS LANGE
ASLAK LYTTTHANS
FREDERICKE KELLBERG

Make-up Artist
Sound Designer
Composer
Editor
Cinematographer
Producer
Writer & Director

LOUISE WEILAND
JUUSO OKSALA
LESLIE MING
JOSEFINE SVENNINGSEN
ROXANA REISS
ASBJØRN H. KELSTRUP
HILKE RÖNNFELDT

Super16



TUBORA
FONDET

AG Kurzfilm

FRAU

PRØ

strong

german
films



BEO POST

Feelings are art. Or is art feelings?

SYNOPSIS

LOGLINE

Dana wants to show empathy. Penelope wants to explore empathy. Penelope's artistic experiment unfolds and Dana's feelings are whirled around.

SYNOPSIS

Dana welcomes art student Penelope to her home to participate in her performance. The meeting between both women takes an unexpected turn for Dana and leaves her disturbed.

To find out what actually has happened between them, Dana musters up the courage to meet Penelope at the opening of her graduation show.

actress Sara Klein Larsen as main character Dana





Hilke Rönnfeldt, writer & director with lead actress Sara Klein Larsen

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

A STUDY OF EMPATHY studies indeed the behavior of our two main characters, but it also studies the relationship between me as a filmmaker and the viewer.

It is the aspect of sculpturing two parallel rooms, inside the film itself and outside in the reality with the person watching it, that I was interested in retrieving through the form of a performance or experiment in the film and its consequences on the film's narrative and in the relationship to the viewer.

A fundamental aspect on which I wanted to reflect on in this film, is the pressure I feel in our society to be empathetic towards each other and demonstrate a permanent emotional availability.

I think in the times we live, we have the chance to be physically and virtually connected to as many people as ever before. But how do these connections feel like?

From this perspective of insecurity about empathetic connection, the two main characters in my story walk on a thin line on what empathy and connection appear to be.

They explore, manipulate and give up on each other while I would like to invite the viewer to delve into their own feelings of empathy within the film's room, but also beyond it.

With this film, I don't want to judge how we empathize, rather understand how our relationship towards empathy has changed.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY



Hilke Rönnefeldt, born by the Baltic Sea coast in Northern Germany with Danish-Icelandic roots, graduated as a screenwriter at Swedish Alma Education and as a film director at independent film school collective Super16 in Copenhagen.

She is a Berlinale Talents, Oxbelly Episodic Lab, Pustnik Residency and European Short Pitch alumna. Her films have screened at international film festivals such as Montréal Festival du Nouveau Cinema, Warsaw IFF, Gent FF, and Gothenburg IFF.

Her projects revolve around life in rural communities, worlds of work, intimacy, and the sea. She has a strong faith in the poetic capabilities of the image.

A Study of Empathy / 15' / comedy drama / 2023

Opera Night / 16' / musical / 2022

Fence / 12' / experimental drama / 2021

Silence of the Fish / 19' / drama / 2019

www.hilkeroenfeldt.com

[IMDB](#)

[showreel](#)



A
STUDY
OF
EMPATHY



actress Emilie Claudius Kruse as Penelope

actress Sara Klein Larsen as Dana



Asbjørn H. Kelstrup is an aspiring producer working out of Copenhagen. He has strong ties to Aarhus, Jutland, where he graduated from the independent film school Super8 in 2020. He holds a BA in business administration from Aarhus University and a master's degree in film and media studies from the University of Copenhagen.

He is a Young Nordic Producers Club (2021) and Rotterdam Lab (2022) alumna.

Since 2019, he has been a part of Beofilm and involved in various fiction and documentary films, of which the vast majority are linked to partners abroad.

A Study of Empathy / 15' / comedy drama / 2023

Ketty / 38 episodes / 2022

If You Knew / 43' / drama / 2022

Kandis for life / 80' / documentary / 2021

Night of the Living Dicks / 20' / horror / 2021

www.beofilm.dk

[IMDB](#)

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY



A STUDY OF EMPATHY



With *A STUDY OF EMPATHY*, Hilke Rönnefeldt showcases her flair for subtle humor as she directly leads the viewer to reflect on our own empathetic capabilities. Is this a matter of who we are, or who we believe and want our selves to be?

Contemplating on this topic, the film demonstrates an underlying social criticism that recurs in the films of Hilke Rönnefeldt, as she provokes our self-consciousness rather than giving away answers.

With its delicate but humorous mood, this film is accessible to a wider audience as it transcends social and cultural boundaries.

PRODUCER'S STATEMENT

CAST & CREW

WRITER & DIRECTOR
PRODUCER
CINEMATOGRAPHER
EDITOR
SOUND DESIGNER
SOUND RECORDIST
FOLEY
COMPOSER
GAFFER
LIGHTNING ASSISTANT

1ST ASSISTANT CAMERA
2ND ASSISTANT CAMERA
PRODUCTION DESIGNER
COSTUME DESIGNER
MAKE-UP ARTIST
MAKE_UP ARTIST ASSISTANT
GRAPHIC DESIGNER
1ST ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
2ND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
STILL PHOTOGRAPHER
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
COLORIST
VFX_ARTIST
TRAILER EDITOR

Hilke Rönnfeldt
Asbjørn H. Kelstrup
Roxana Reiss
Josefine Svenningsen
Juuso Oksala
Simon Pedersen, Giulio Conversi
Oscar Metcalf-Rinaldo
Leslie Ming
Aslak Lyththans
Jonah Pinny, Anders Hess, Zakarias Valtrup,
Lukas Plesner
Kristian Kjer
Tine Valentin
Josefine Friis Lange
Fredericke Kellberg
Louise Weiland
Pernille Stubkjær
Darjan Hardi
Lovisa Dröfn
Susi Castelo
Nina Moog
Maria M. Christoffersen
Laura Valentiner-Bohse, Julie Carla Mortensen
Mariam Latif
Bruno Edelman
Janis Abele





FILM INFO

TOTAL RUN TIME: 14 min 35 sec
ASPECT RATIO: 1.66:1
SHOT ON: Canon K35 zoom / 25 fps
EXHIBITION FORMAT: DCP with 5.1 PCM audio
PRODUCTION COUNTRIES: Denmark / Germany
PRODUCTION COMPANY: FRAU FILM, NORTH SHIP FILM
DIALOGUE LANGUAGE: Danish
SUBTITLES: English / German

[download film info sheet](#)

[download materials](#)

[download stills](#)

[link trailer](#)

FESTIVALS & INTERNATIONAL SALES: SHORT/CUTS
Elise Notseck
festival@shortcuts.pro
<http://shortcuts.pro>

UNTOUCHABLES

PENELOPE BRØNNUM
MFA Degree Show
11-21. JUNI 2022
GALLERI MOGENSEN

Royal Academy
of Fine Arts'
Schools of
Visual Arts



CONTACT

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NORTH SHIP FILM

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