



SHADOW PLAYERS

AN ATTIC OCEAN PRODUCTION AMY MOLLOY RUBEN VAN KEER "SHADOW PLAYERS"
MUSIC BY OWAIN LLWYD EDITOR HEIKE GNIDA PRODUCED BY MEL PIPER VISUAL EFFECTS BY PLANET X PRODUCTION DESIGNER DANIELA HERZBERG
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY BELLA HALBEN COSTUME DESIGNER MAREIKE ALEXANDER SOUND DESIGNER SIMONE WEBER WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY MEL PIPER

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SYNOPSIS

Diver Polaris is trapped in an underwater cocoon and the ocean around her is dead. So falling in love with this story traveller is a really bad idea. And he refuses to travel on, tired of all the sad endings out there. Alas Polaris' story is ending, too.

Cracks begin to break across the story traveller's skin like they tear across the hull of the cocoon. He will die if he stays. To save his life she comes up with the beginning of a new story, one into which only he can travel. All he has to do is follow the shadow lynx into the forest.



“The water was full of phytoplankton. Bioluminescent.”

TRAVELLING

The team includes creatives from Belgium, The Netherlands, Wales, Northern Ireland and Germany, and we shot the film in an attic in Hamburg. I wanted to bring together European talent in front of and behind the camera.

The screenplay is a ScreenCraft Film Fund Finalist 2019, Semifinalist 2020 and a Top Rated Fantasy Screenplay on Coverfly's The Red List. When post-production was brought to a halt due to the pandemic we raised funds through a crowdfunding campaign supported by the Startnext Corona Relief Effort.

Amidst rising segregation the love between people and the telling of stories keep us connected. Polaris falling in love with the story traveller fills me with hope. With one story ending another one might begin.

Magical Realism · 2021 · Germany · English · 19'30" · Cinemascope · Dolby / Stereo



"I think I am extinct, like this ocean."



WRITER & DIRECTOR

Mel Piper is a European nomad who writes and directs films concerning heroines, monsters and music. ScreenCraft finalist, Stowe Story Lab Final Draft Fellowship finalist, two-time WeScreenplay Diverse Voices semifinalist and BlueCat quarter-finalist. Selected for the European Genre Forum 2018, Reykjavík Talent Lab 2019 and the Works in Progress at Brussels Genre Film Market 2020. Operetta-fed by Silesian grandparents she grew up in a German fairytale forest. Studied drama in New York City, film studies in London and never returned home. Member of WIFT and EWA.



"I'm not falling in love with you, you know."

AMY MOLLOY · CAST

starred in Emma Jane Unsworth's BIFA Award-winning film *Animals*. Her stage credits include Bridget in Ian Rickson's production of *Translations* at the National Theatre, and she starred opposite Stephen Rea in David Ireland's play *Cyprus Avenue* at the Royal Court and the Public Theatre NY. Amy Molloy is represented by [Curtis Brown](#).

RUBEN VAN KEER · CAST

is a Belgian actor and singer. He recently played Grantaire in the UK /Ireland Tour of *Les Misérables*, and Wolfgang Mozart in *Mozart! The Musical* in Antwerp. Ruben Van keer is represented by [Global Artists](#).



“Once upon a time there lived a boy in a secluded town.”



CREATIVE TEAM

Director of Photography BELLA HALBEN · Production Designer DANIELA HERZBERG · Costume Designer MAREIKE ALEXANDER · Effects Makeup Artist CLAUDIA GAERTIG · Production Sound Mixer PER RUSCHKE · Editor HEIKE GNIDA · Film Music by OWAIN LLWYD · Sound Designer SIMONE WEBER · Re-recording Mixer DANIEL WULF · Character Designer STIJN WINDIG · Visual Effects by PLANET X · Post-Production at STUDIO HAMBURG POSTPRODUCTION



“The lynx and the boy just sat there and stared at each other.”

ATTIC/OCEAN

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imdb.com/title/tt11536260/



“He promised himself never to look back.”



CINE-MOBIL

UNVERZAGT
RECHTSANWÄLTE





"If you stop travelling now, people, places, creatures will be forgotten."