A FILM BY
DOMINI MARSHALL

# HOML



WILDEBEEST PRESENTS A FILM BY DOMINI MARSHALL STARRING INGRID TORELLI AND INTRODUCING KRISTINA BOGIC WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY DOMINI MARSHALL PRODUCED BY JOSIE BAYNES EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS THOMAS WALLIS AND DOMINI MARSHALL DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MATTHEW CHUANG ACS PRODUCTION DESIGNER TIFFANY DIAS COSTUME DESIGNER ELIZABETH NEGLINE EDITOR GERI DOCHERTY COMPOSER PATRICK GRIGG SOUND DESIGNER ROISIN GLEESON

WILDEBEEST

## ABOUT THE FILM

### Logline

At a suburban house party, best friends Daisy and Lila navigate shifting desires and tough choices, forcing them to confront their place in the world and what they mean to each other.

## **Short Synopsis**

Daisy and Lila are figuring out who they are and who they want to be. At a party, Daisy meets Drew, someone who makes her feel seen in a way she's never felt before. But when Lila needs her, Daisy doesn't answer—and when she realises the consequences, everything changes. Howl is a quiet story about growing up, the weight of missed moments, and finding your way back to the people who matter.

## **Long Synopsis**

Sixteen-year-old best friends Daisy and Lila are inseparable, sharing everything—until cracks begin to show. Daisy has started her period and Lila, still waiting for hers, feels left behind.

At the party, their promise to stick together falls apart when Lila ditches Daisy for a boy. Left alone, Daisy drifts to the pool, searching for quiet but finding Drew—confident, magnetic, and everything Daisy wishes she could be. When Drew leans in for a kiss, Daisy feels something shift.

Caught up in the moment, Daisy ignores Lila's call for help. But later, when she finally finds Lila, she isn't sure she made the right choice.

Howl is a quiet, honest story about friendship, identity, and the moments that test who we are to each other.

## **Project Specifications**

Genre Short film drama

Running Time 15min 56sec

Country of production Australia

Format Digital

Filmed on Arri Alexa 35 with Cooke Xtal Express lenses

Aspect Ratio 3:2

Audio Format Stereo 5.1 Surround

Original Language English

Release Format DCP

Filming Locations Naarm, Australia (a.k.a Melbourne)

Contact Details Domini Marshall

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Film social media Instagram <a>@howl\_shortfilm</a>

Howl short film | EPK

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Howl is a film that's important to me for two reasons.

The first is that our protagonist – the wonderful Daisy – finds the confidence to lean into her queer identity – something I only felt safe doing much later in life.

The second is that it's a coming-of-age drama located in the intense experience of being a teenage girl in a patriarchal world. As such, it aims to explore gender, sexuality and consent in a nuanced way. This wasn't something I had access to as a teenager, and I think if I did, I might have been better equipped to initiate conversations on consent or navigate the entitlement of boys and men. At the very least, I would have been able to recognise when an abuse of power had occurred (something that took me many years to do).

While Howl is a work of fiction, many elements of it are drawn from my own experiences growing up – experiences that I know are still happening today. And as a victim-survivor of sexual violence myself, I continue to grapple with how we might reconcile different 'perspectives' and how we might move from an individualist approach to a collective one, centred on care. I think perhaps, some of the answers to the problems we're facing, lie there.

Importantly, through that same lens, the film explores the complexities of female friendship and the ways in which women are taught to compete with one another. Despite this, I've found my friendships with women to be some of the most grounding and healing connections - I'll never be able to thank the women in my life enough. In this way, Howl is really a love letter to your best friend.

Thank you so much for watching (and reading). I hope it's meant something to you too, and I hope it does to viewers, wherever they're watching from.



## DIRECTOR'S BIO

Writer/director Domini Marshall (she/her) believes in the power of storytelling to not only reflect the world we live in, but create it. As a queer woman and artist, she's interested in stories that explore social justice issues through a nuanced gender lens.

In 2021, Domini completed a Masters in Film and Television at the Victorian College of the Arts in Australia. Her screenplay, 'Howl' was awarded the FTV Docklands Award for Best Narrative Script, and her short film, 'Slap' premiered at the Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF), in the Accelerator Shorts Program. Her most recent short film, 'Go with Grace' premiered at MIFF in 2022 and was nominated by the Australian Director's Guild Awards. From 2017 - 2018, she directed 'her words' – an interview-based web series amplifying the voices of women with an intersectional lens, which released 50 episodes. 'her words' was awarded TOM Organic's inaugural Female Empowerment Grant (2017) and Domini was recognised as one of the Foundation for Young Australians' Young Social Pioneers (2016).

## **NOTABLE CAST**

#### INGRID TORELLI | ACTOR (DAISY)

Ingrid Torelli (she/her) is an Australian actress known for her work across film and TV. Most recently, she starred in the award-winning Late Night with the Devil (IFC Films, 2023) and previously The End (2020), Five Bedrooms (2019-2020) and more. Ingrid began her career in theatre, playing Matilda in the Melbourne season of Matilda the Musical in 2016 before turning her focus to film and television. While doing so, she won the 2016 Helpmann Award Winner (jointly awarded) for Best Female Actor In A Musical and was nomimated for a Green Room Award in 2017 for Best Actress in a Musical.

#### KRISTINA BOGIC | ACTOR (Lila)

Kristina Bogic (she/her) left school at sixteen to pursue a career as a musician. Her love of music began with her first piano lesson at the age of seven, from which she began songwriting and composing. Howl is her first foray into film and she is excited to continue acting and experimenting with creative pursuits, including directing.

#### SAFE SHAHAB | Actor (Drew)

Safe Shahab (they/them) is a disabled artist and youth worker who has been building their career as an actor in Naarm (Melbourne), recently appearing in the Logienominated TV series Crazy Fun Park, and multiple short films. They love to skate and have been a facilitator for Youth Disability Advocacy Service's Young Leaders Program.

#### LIAM MOLLICA | Actor (Matt)

Liam Mollica (he/him) is an Australian actor who's performed in award-winning shorts, TV series, and most recently, the feature film, Sunflower (Rapt Films, 2023) for which he won Best Performance in a Feature Film at the One Fluid Night Independent LGBTQIA+ Film Festival in London. Liam is passionate about complex characters and visual storytelling that reflects the Australian landscape he grew up in.

## **NOTABLE CREW**

#### MATTHEW CHUANG ACS | DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Matthew Chuang (he/him) is known for his exquisitely crafted feature films, music videos and award winning commercials. His body of work includes Justin Chon's "Blue Bayou" 2021 (Cannes Official Selection) starring Academy Award Academy Award winner Alicia Vikander. Matthew was Nominated for 'Best Cinematography' at the Film Independent Spirit Awards for "Blue Bayou".

He worked with Goran Stovleski on two of his films released in 2022 "You Won't Be Alone" (Sundance 2022) and "Of An Age" 2022 (MIFF 2022), and recently filmed 'CHIEF OF WAR' for Apple TV+ starring Jason Momoa, directed by Justin Chon, and JIMPA, written and directed by Sophie Hyde.

#### JOSIE BAYNES | PRODUCER

Josie Baynes (she/her) is an experienced executive producer with over 12 years in Melbourne's commercial production industry. Throughout her career, Josie has been fortunate to produce award-winning short films and music videos. Notably, her most recent short film, Hafekasi, premiered at Tribeca, where it was recognised as the runner-up for Best Short Film. Its success continued with screenings and accolades at prestigious festivals such as BFI London, Palm Springs, and MIFF.

#### **TIFFANY DIAS | PRODUCTION DESIGNER**

Tiffany Dias (she/her) is a production designer and proud member of The One Stop Art Shop, a collective for freelance film crew across art department, and has contributed to VicScreen's DEI Strategy for the screen industries. With a passion for visual storytelling and character, Tiffany recently designed James Robinson's Australian-Filipino coproduction, First Light, in the Phillipines, and has designed numerous short films, commercials, music videos and more.

#### **GERI DOCHERTY | EDITOR**

Geri Docherty (she/they) is a film editor whose work is guided by a shrewd intuitive touch and a perfectionist's attention to detail. Geri views editing as much more than a technical craft; it's her way of channelling sensitivity and human emotion into the narrative. Geri's work has been screened at various film festivals including MIFF, St Kilda Film Festival & The Atom Awards. One of her latest works, Eden Alone Surpasses Thee, won best short form documentary at the Australian International Documentary Conference (A.I.D.C). Geri has just completed her debut feature film, FIRST LIGHT, directed by James Robinson and set to premiere in 2025.

#### PATRICK GRIGG | COMPOSER

Patrick Grigg (he/him) is a composer, music producer and sound designer. Classically trained in piano and violin, Patrick is known for his unique synthesis of modern electronics with western classical melody. Patrick has brought his distinctive style to three feature length documentaries, 'Clean' (2022, SXSW premiere/ MIFF closing night film), 'Big in Japan' (2018, Amazon Prime), and 'Hakamada' (2020, Al Jazeera). Patrick has also scored award winning short films as well as a number of Australian and international advertising campaigns. He has also written music for Netflix series Heartbreak High. Patrick also writes and performs electronic music under the moniker 'Hektor', where he is known for meticulously blending synthesized sounds with raw,

## **NOTABLE MUSIC**

Alongside original composition by Patrick Grigg, Howl features a soundtrack that includes music from both emerging and established, much-loved, Australian bands and musicians.

#### **PRETTY MOI**

Pretty Moi are a six-piece indie-rock band based in Melbourne, Australia. Originally formed in Brisbane by Ruben Vasconez and Riley Fletcher, the group blends a range of styles from 60's psychedelia, classic soul and music from around the world. They deliver a unique new sound and high energy live performances.

#### **TEETHER AND KUYA NEIL**

When rapper Teether & producer Kuya Neil began to collaborate in late 2020, two powerful forces in the Naarm/Melbourne underground came together to create something rare and special. At 26, Teether already has a deep dive catalogue of solo releases to his name. Kuya Neil is just as prolific. His CV ranges from membership of NZ "family rap ensemble" Fanau Spa, to collaboration with local heroes Papaphilia and Various Asses, to his work with Melbourne Sound School. Together, Teether & Kuya Neil make future-focused rap informed by modern club styles like footwork, gqom and bass music.

#### **BANOFFEE**

Banoffee is a Melbourne-born, Los Angeles-based singer/songwriter and producer with a transgressive and deeply vulnerable approach to music. She has toured with Taylor Swift on a worldwide stadium tour as part of Charli XCX's troupe, and represents the new wave of mutant pop bubbling up from the queer club underground. She has been described as one of pop music's "recent great forward thinkers" (FACT) and is known for infectious melodies that belie more unsettling, experimental textures and beats.

#### **BIBLEMAMI**

Raised on a diet of mainstream and indie pop, biblemami now counts Hole's Celebrity Skin album as her musical doctrine and cites Lorde, Doja Cat, King Princess, and Brockhampton as her biggest influences. In her words, "I love pretty and sparkly things that have been stepped on a lot of times and my music always communicates that."

#### **NATASHA BIANCA**

Natasha bianca is a rising pop/rnb sensation hailing from Adelaide. Her steady rise to the main stage has been marked by features on Spotify's fresh finds AU&NZ and the drip playlists, and recognition on fresh 92.7 Radio, cada, triple j, and unearthed feature artist. Natasha was celebrated as one of the top 5 soul/funk/rnb artists at the SA Music Awards in 2022 and 2023 and shone at Groovin the Moo 2023, her first major festival appearance. Central to Natasha's work is her upcoming debut EP, anchored in themes of female empowerment.

## **FULL CREDITS**

Writer / Director

Producer **Executive Producer**  Domini Marshall Josie Baynes Thomas Wallis Domini Marshall

Cinematographer **Production Designer** 

Editor

Music Composer **Casting Directors**  Tiffany Dias Geri Docherty

Patrick Grigg Alley Reynolds Ellie Honigman

Elizabeth Negline

Matthew Chuang ACS

Costume Designer

Cast:

Daisy Ingrid Torelli Lila Kristina Bogic Drew Safe Shahab Matt Liam Mollica

First Asst. Directors

Second Asst. Director **Production Manager Production Assistants** Director's Assistant

Production Runner

Micky Dimarco Jes Evans

Lily McMillan-Merahi

Jess O'Farrell

Vikki Blinks

Senie Priti Tim Clifton Mitch Pelns Ross Archie Jacka

Georgia Stewart

First Asst. Camera Second Asst.Camera **DOP Shadow** 

Gaffer

**Electrics Assists** 

Sound Recordist

Leigh Schilling Nyssa Mitchell Hamish Palmer Cooper Dalbo

Coco Mata Heppenstall

Lewis McQueen

Art Director Art Assists

Gigi Harbridge Katerina Axarlis Samantha Gan Annika Rigg **Emily Stacey** 

Joyce Ying

Kristy Milliken

Timothy McAlpin

Hair & Makeup Artists

Intimacy Coordinator Lifequard

Music Assist

Colourist Colour Producer

Sound Designer

Stills Photographer

Yvette Scott Jack Blandford Roisin Gleeson Hamish Keen **Boom Tracks** 

Sam Rogers

Ryan Squires

Foley Foley Artist Foley Recordist

Re-recording Mixer

Abe Wynen **Emily Skeffington** Post-Production Asssist Jack O'Mullane

Colour Facility Title Design

Redlab Anita Shao

Music:

'Real Love'

Written by Ruben Vasconez Swett and Riley Fletcher and performed by Pretty Moi.

'Lung'

Written by Luigi Chisenga and Neil Cabatin and performed

by Teether and Kuya Neil.

'Flex'

Written by Natasha Bianca, Erin McKellar and Daniel Duque-Perez, performed by Natasha Bianca and produced by Daniel Duque-Perez.

'Anael Girl'

Written by Martha Betty Glenn Brown and performed by

Banoffee.

'She'

Written by Natasha Bianca and Erin McKellar, performed by

Natasha Bianca and produced by Jamie Muscat.

Written by Natasha Bianca and Erin Mckellar, performed by

Natasha Bianca and produced by Jamie Muscat.

'\$Ilver \$word'

Written and performed by biblemami.

Olivia Wilkie Senuki Thotahewage Malainey Davison **Ned Mathers** Daniel Sultana Alex Hulme Perry Moon Jordan Edwards Jim Sid Josh Karlik Tyler Zimaris Daniela Rene Fink

This film was made on unceded land belonging to the

Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nations.

Made with the help of:

Northside Casting Offshoot Rentals

Panavision Redlab Loose Unit The Quarry

Hyperdynamic Studio

Wildebeest Films

A film by Domini Marshall @2025

