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THE 100-YEAR-OLD MAN WHO CLIMBED OUT THE WINDOW AND DISAPPEARED

A film by
Felix Herngren

114 min., Sweden. 2014

Rated TBD

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SYNOPSIS

Powered by the antics of a mischievous centenarian on the run, comic fable *The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed out the Window and Disappeared* abounds with irreverent charm. After a long and colorful life working in munitions and getting entangled in the Spanish Civil War, the Manhattan Project, and other definitive events of the 20th century, Allan Karlsson finds himself stuck in a nursing home. Determined to escape on his 100th birthday, he leaps out of a window and onto the nearest bus, kicking off an unexpected journey involving, among other surprises, a suitcase stuffed with cash, some wicked criminals, and an elephant named Sonya. Like an unruly Nordic cousin of *Forrest Gump*, Allan's youthful escapades and current adventures weave together into an offbeat treat for anyone who's young at heart. Starring beloved comedian Robert Gustafsson, this fanciful spin on world history is based on a best-selling novel and also the highest-grossing Swedish film of all time.

Q&A with director FELIX HERNGREN

How did it feel to make a film adaptation of such a successful book?

It is always difficult to adapt a book to film, but I could not resist *The 100-Year-Old Man...* when I got the chance. It is a delightfully twisted story with rich characters, and situational comedy at its best. I know the expectations are high for the film, and this is of course tough, but I'd rather shoot a good story with high expectations, than an unloved story without expectations.

What were your thoughts about the acting?

I wanted Allan to be portrayed by an actor who could do all the character's different adult ages in a credible way. When I had read half the book, I began to think of Robert Gustafsson. To me, he is the only one who would do the role with credibility and comic timing. When we tested him in complete makeup in the winter of 2012, I felt he was a very good choice. Besides that, I love strong characters and good acting. I hope it all shows when you see the film.

What is your vision for the film?

Allan Karlsson is doing what many of us Westerners should do. Do not worry about the future, use your gut instinct and don't fret over yesterday's troubles. If a fraction of the audience takes some of this to heart from the film, I will be very pleased.

ABOUT THE CAST

ROBERT GUSTAFSSON (Allan Karlsson)

Since the late 1980s, Robert Gustafsson has both amused and disturbed the Swedish people and has been named Sweden's Funniest Man several times. He received the Golden Gate Award for the movie *Torsk på Tallin*, the Guldbagge Best Actor Award for *Fyra nyanser av brunt*, and the Golden Mask four times.

For the stage, he has appeared in various productions at Stockholm City Theatre, Royal Dramatic Theatre, and Cirkus. On TV, Robert has starred in numerous shows including *Chefen fru Ingeborg*, *Rapport till himlen*, *Majken*, *En decemberdröm*, and *Tartuffe*.

On the big screen, he has starred in *Pariserhjulet*, *Drömkåken*, *Sunes Sommar*, *Lust*, *Fyra nyanser av brunt*, and *Skenbart*, to name a few titles. Since 2007, Robert has also toured around the country with his dance band Rolandz. In 2008, along with Vicky von der Lancken and Peter Dalle, Robert started Krusenstiernska Theater in Kalmar, where he also participated in several stage plays including *Rain Man*. He is widely admired for his talent and versatility

IWAR WIKLANDER (Julius Jonsson)

Iwar Wiklander, born in 1939, grew up in Nossebro (just outside Gothenburg) and became interested in the theatre while he was in school. From 1957-1960 he studied at Calle Flygares Theater School. He made his professional debut in 1959 with Kar de Mumma and also toured with him. In 1964, after a short period at the Stockholm City Theatre, he moved to Folkteatern in Gothenburg, left several years later to become director of Riksteatern in Växjö, and finally returned to Folkteatern before retiring in 1998.

Iwar lives in Gothenburg with his wife Birgitta Ulfsson, who is a director and actor. Since 1993 he has been a professor of artistic speech at the Theatre and Opera Academy in Gothenburg. In 2008 he was awarded Litteris et Artibus. He has played over 100 roles during his 50 years in the theater and received rave reviews. Since the 1960s he has also been involved with over 50 film and television productions.

He is one of Gothenburg's major actors, having played Vladimir in *Waiting for Godot* (twice), Peer Gynt, Faust, Hamlet, Don Juan, Carlsson, Jeppe, Markurell, and James Tyrone.

He continues to work effectively in both film and theatre, believing that he is in his prime now with a lot of experience that can enhance his acting. Last spring, he was seen in *Som löven i Vallombrosa* at the Royal Dramatic Theatre.

His drive is to achieve genuineness and authenticity – to give the story credibility – whether on the stage or in front of the camera.

MIA SKÄRINGER (Gunilla)

Maria Elisabeth Skäringer was born in 1976 in Kristinehamn, Värmland. Her dream of being an actor was born when she was only four years old, and the result was an active involvement in Thespis, the local amateur theatre.

When she was 17, Mia got the chance to try acting in P3's *Morgonpasset*. And she became "Glue-Mia" to the Swedish people... The following year, she was a host on Z-TV for the program *Sanning och Konsekvens*. The following year, she became a stand-up comedian and starred in *Släng dig i brunnen*.

In 1997, Mia met the person who would be her sidekick for many years, Klara Zimmergren, on the radio show *Bossa Nova*. This collaboration led to *Frank, Sommarsalva* and *Roll On*, where *Mia & Klara* got their big break.

In 2007, *Mia & Klara* took the leap to television. Both critics and viewers praised their humor for its innovation. In 2009, the second season of *Mia & Klara* had about a million viewers per show and was presented with the television award Kristallen.

The television series *Solsidan*, which she starred in with Felix Herngren, became a formidable success with over two million viewers per show. It has also been shown in Norway, Finland, Denmark and Belgium. Her own television program *Mia på Grötö* premiered in January 2013 and immediately became a favorite owing to its soft style and idyllic archipelago.

Mia has also been a columnist for various newspapers, as *Mama*, where she wrote her own blog with great success. In 2009, her book "Dyngkåt och hur helig som helst" was published, based on her columns. In the spring of 2010, the book also became a performance act and played almost 100 times in various venues around Sweden, including Cirkus in Stockholm and Kajskjul 8 in Gothenburg. Mia's second book, *Avig Maria*, was published in 2011.

DAVID WIBERG (Benny)

David Wiberg was born in 1973 in Lund. Based in Stockholm, he works as a comedian, actor, screenwriter, author, illustrator, architect, and artist. He studied at Chelsea College of Art and Design in London, Lunds tekniska högskola and the Escuela Técnica Superior de Madrid.

Between 1992 and 2003 he belonged to the comedy group Varanteatern, the makers of the TV show *Varan-TV*. He has also made music videos, starred in radio theatre, dance productions, performances, entertainment programs, and feature films. In recent years, he has been especially praised for his portrayal of the teenage girl Linnea in the plays *Dagboksanteckningar från ett källarhål* and *Svart tulpan*. In 2013, he released his debut novel *Dagboksanteckningar från ett källarhål*, based on the aforementioned performances, from Lilla Piratförlaget.

JENS HULTÉN (The Boss)

Jens Hultén, born in 1963 in Stockholm, began his acting career at Theatre Galeasen in plays such as *Mojo* and *Körkarlen*. From there, he went on to succeed as a film and television actor with bigger and bigger roles over the years.

As his father was a jazz musician who worked with greats such as Monica Zetterlund and Povel Ramel, Jens grew up with music. He starred in the musical *Cabaret* with Peter Jöback and sang a duet with Anne-Lie Rydé.

He also has a background in martial arts such as Karate, Kick Boxing, Taekwondo and Kung Fu, having won numerous awards in the 1980s and 90s. When he was 25, he started his own martial arts club.

For many years he has also worked as a doorman at a pub, which has proven to be an excellent school for studying different characters and human behavior.

Though he never had any formal training and his career blossomed late in life when he was 30 years old, he enjoyed many roles in film and television in the 90s. He is probably best known for his role as gang leader Seth Rydell in *Johan Falk*, who he played in twelve movies. He has appeared in *Wallander - Hämnaden*, *Höök*, *Winter*, *Graven*, *Morden*, *LasseMajas detektivbyrå – Stella Nostra*, and *Den perfekta stöten*, about the criminal gang Jönssonligan.

He also made an international appearance as a henchman to the villain Silva (Javier Bardem) in the James Bond film *Skyfall*.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Felix Herngren (Director/Screenwriter)

Felix Herngren works as director, screenwriter, producer, and actor. He directed THE 100-YEAR-OLD MAN WHO CLIMBED OUT OF THE WINDOW AND DISAPPEARED and wrote the screenplay along with Hans Ingemansson.

Since *S * M * A * S * H* (1990), Herngren has worked in television, commercials and film and is one of Sweden's most respected comedians and directors, responsible for several hundred commercials. He was named the world's fifth best commercial director in The Gunn Report. His production company, FLX 2.0, represents stars such as Johan Rheborg, Tova Magnusson, and Måns Herngren.

Herngren got his big break writing sketches for the talk show *Sen kväll med Luuk*, where we got to know his characters Papi Raul, Tim Hibbins, and Dan Bäckman. He has also participated in major TV shows like *Help*, *Ulvesson & Herngren*, *Extra! Extra!*, *Parlamentet*, and more.

In 1999, along with Fredrik Lindström, Herngren made his feature film debut with the Swedish comedy *Vuxna människor*, starring Mikael Persbrandt and Cecilia Ljung

In January 2010, his award-winning television series *Solsidan* premiered. With more than 2 million viewers per episode, it has become one of today's most beloved series. Three years later in 2013, TV4 broadcast Season 4 of the TV show.

Solsidan won the Swedish television prize Kristallen two years in a row for Best Swedish comedy series. Herngren was the originator, screenwriter, director, and an actor in the series during seasons 1-3. For Season 4, he left the reins to his brother Måns Herngren.

JONAS JONASSON (Author)

Jonas Jonasson was born in the city of Växjö in southern Sweden in 1961. He first started writing while working as a journalist for several Swedish newspapers. He later went on to start his own production company. After several years in the media industry, Jonas felt the need to do something else. That was when the character Allan Karlsson came to him and he started to write his first novel *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared*, which went on to become a huge international success, was published in 38 countries, and has sold more than six million copies worldwide. His second novel, *The Illiterate Who Could Count*, was released in 2013.

Cast

ROBERT GUSTAFSSON (Allan Karlsson)
IWAR WIKLANDER (Julius Jonsson)
DAVID WIBERG (Benny)
MIA SKÄRINGER (Gunilla)
JENS HULTÉN (The Boss)
ALAN FORD (Pim)
RALPH CARLSSON (Detective Chief Inspector Aronsson)
BIANCA CRUZEIRO (Caracas)
SVEN LÖNN (Bucket)
SIMON sEppÄnen (Bolt)
GUSTAV DEINOFF (Ricky)
DAVID SHACKLETON (Herbert Einstein)
KOLDO LOSADA (General Franco)
ALGIRDAS ROMUALDAS (Josef Stalin)
JOHAN RHEBORG (Tage Erlander)
KERRY SHALE (Harry S. Truman)
SIGITAS RACKYS (Gorbachev)
KEITH CHANTER (Ronald Reagan)
PHILIP ROSCH (Robert Oppenheimer)
GEORG NIKOLOFF (Popov)
MANUEL DUBRA (Esteban)
PATRIK KARLSON (Sigvard Eklund)
GUHN ANDERSSON (Director Alice)
ANDERS SANZÉN (Ronny Hulth)
DONALD HÖBERG (Professor Lundborg)
VIKTOR FRIBERG (District Police Superintendent)
JAN BERGLUND (Wholesale Merchant Gustavsson)
GUNILLA JANSSON (Mistress of Gustavsson)
ALFRED SVENSSON (Young petrol station assistant)
MIGLEN MIRTCHEV (Vladimir)
LATEEF LOVEJOY (Douglas Freeman)

Crew

Director: FELIX HERNGREN
Screenplay: FELIX HERNGREN & HANS INGEMANSSON
Based on the novel *Hundraåringen som klev ut genom fönstret och försvann*
by JONAS JONASSON
Producers: MALTE FORSSELL, FELIX HERNGREN, HENRIK JANSSON-SCHWEIZER &
PATRICK NEBOUT
Director of Photography: GÖRAN HALLBERG
Film Editor: HENRIK KÄLLBERG
Casting: CLAES STENMARK
Production Designer: MIKAEL VARHELYI
Costume Designer: MADELEINE Kihlbom THOR
Make-up Artists: EVA VON BAHR & LOVE LARSON
Music by: MATTI BYE
Sound Design: MATTIAS EKLUND

About Music Box Films

Founded in 2007, Music Box Films is a leading distributor of international, American independent, and documentary content in North America along with the best in international TV series and mini-series.

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