



MY SAILOR MY LOVE



CONTACT

Runtime: 103 minutes

Genre: Drama

Country: Ireland

Language: English

Not Rated

A FILM BY KLAUS HÄRÖ

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LOGLINE

A widowed sailor living on the coast of Ireland unexpectedly falls in love with his new housekeeper. This new romance opens old wounds with his daughter, threatening their idyllic seaside love story.

SYNOPSIS

Howard (James Cosmo) is a widowed sailor living alone on the coast of Ireland and struggling to care for himself. His daughter, Grace (Catherine Walker), hires Annie (Bríd Brennan) to help out around the house. Though Howard initially rejects this imposition, Annie's charm and gentle care win him over, and the two fall in love. Annie's large and loving family welcomes Howard into their lives, but these new relationships only serve to illuminate the depth of pain and hurt between Howard and Grace, who is facing challenges of her own. Grace's resentment tears at Howard and Annie's otherwise idyllic seaside love story. This windswept drama deftly balances a universal family saga with a tender and timeless romance.



KLAUS HÄRÖ DIRECTOR

Klaus Härö is one of his country's most beloved filmmakers. His wide acclaim is based on films that are as emotionally charged as they are visually beautiful.

Härö's film *The Fencer* (2015) was nominated for the Golden Globes as well as the Oscar shortlisted in the Best Foreign Film Category.

Elina (2003), Mother of Mine (2005), and Letters to Father Jacob (2009) were all selected to represent his native country Finland in the Best Foreign Film Category at the Oscars.

His films have won more than 60 prizes at festivals all over the world including The Crystal Bear at the Berlin Film Festival and the prestigious Ingmar Bergman prize, the winner of which was chosen by Ingmar Bergman himself.

Härö now returns to Toronto Film Festival with *My Sailor My Love* (2022). Of his previous films *Mother of Mine* (2006) and *One Last Deal* (2019) have been in the official selection of Toronto Film Festival.



DIRECTOR KLAUS HÄRÖ ON THE ACTORS

The cast has been an immense joy, from the moment the roles were confirmed and when we first went on set. I would often sit very close by to the actors and get to witness what goes into their work, which left me very impressed. Sometimes when I looked around, I could see the emotions brought to surface after a take. Someone might have tears in their eyes, or the crew might burst into applause after a scene. This isn't very common on a movie set, and it might even seem unprofessional in a way. The atmosphere at the set has been exceptional, and the actors left a very strong imprint on the whole crew.



CAST BIOGRAPHIES

James Cosmo - Howard

Cosmo shot the leading role in the Amazon Prime series *Jack Ryan*. Cosmo has starred in films *Highlander*, *Braveheart*, *Trainspotting*, *The Chronicles of Narnia and the Last Legion*, *The Four Feathers*, *Troy* and the MGM movie *Ben Hur*. Cosmo won the BAFTA Scotland Award for Best Actor for his performance in *Donkeys*, Best Performance in a British Feature Film for his stunning performance in *The Pyramid Texts*. Notable TV includes *Sons of Anarchy* and as Lord Commander Mormont in *Game of Thrones*.

Catherine Walker - Grace

Catherine recently worked with Ridley Scott on *House of Gucci* and in his forthcoming film *Napoleon*. She is known for playing Madame de Maintenon in two series of the hit Canal+ drama *Versailles* and also won the award for Best Actress at Fantasporto for her performance in the cult feature film *A Dark Song*. Catherine's outstanding theatre work has garnered her three Irish Times Theatre Awards for her commanding performances. She has worked extensively at the Royal Shakespeare company, The Irish National Theatre and The West End, as well as various international stages in Europe, Australia and the U.S.

Catherine has four IFTA (Irish Film & Television Awards) nominations for her screen work.

Bríd Brennan - Annie

Bríd Brennan is a Northern Irish actress who has the leading role at the film *My Sailor, My Love*. She has starred in *Brooklyn, Calm With Horses* and *Florence Foster Jenkins*. Brennan has been listed at number 37 on The Irish Times list of Ireland's greatest film actors. She won IFTA for Best Supporting Actress Film for *Shadow Dancer* and IFTA for Best Actor in a Female Role in *Dancing at Lughnasa*. She won a Tony Award in 1992 for Best Performance by a Featured Actress in a Play for portrayal of Agnes in *Dancing at Lughnasa*. She is also a three-time Olivier Award nominee; for *Rutherford and Son, The Little Foxes* and *The Ferryman*. Brennan is known for her theatre work.



CREW

Director Klaus Härö

Screenwriters Kirsi Vikman

Jimmy Karlsson

Producers Kai Nordberg

Kaarle Aho

David Collins

Co-Producers Belgium Cloé Garbay

Bastien Sirodot

Executive Producer for Fis Eireann/Screen Ireland Lesley McKimm

Executive Producer for Wrap Fund Sarah Dillon

Director of Photography Robert Nordström F.S.C.

Production Designer John Hand

Costume Designer Allison Byrne

Make-Up & Hair Designer Pia Mikkonen

Editor Philippe Ravoet

Composer Michelino Bisceglia

Sound Designer Kirka Sainio

Casting Director Emma Gunnery

Line Producer Edwina Forkin

WRITERS BIOGRAPHIES

Kirsi Vikman & Jimmy Karlsson, Writers

The writers have developed and written several drama productions in both Finland and Sweden. They wrote Klaus Härö's internationally renowned *Mother of Mine*, that won IPA's Satellite Award for Best Foreign Film 2005, among many other international prizes (runner-up in Toronto 2005, Kairo, Palm Springs, et al). The script was selected by Margaret Herrick Library, Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences as the first Finnish script ever.

Kirsi Vikman's latest production as co-writer is the TV series *Bullets*, (Production: Vertigo Production, Nadcon Film, Lunamina, 2018), a political thriller with focus on broken families, lost identities and terrorism. It won the Buyers Coup de Coeur Award as the audience's favorite show presented at MIPDrama Buyers' Summit on April 8th, 2018. Kirsi is passionate about psychological character study, stories about family secrets and traumas. Her interest in psychology led her to study psycho- and sociodrama for several years. KV also works as head teacher at Nordens Folkhögskola Biskops Arnö, responsible for educating film and TV students.

Jimmy Karlsson has written *A Breach in the Wall* (Tribeca, Kairo 2003, Khanty-Mansiysk Spirit-of Flre 2004 et alt), which he also directed, and the TV-series *Where We Once Walked* (based on Kjell Westö's novel, 2011). He has co-written *The Apprentice*, with Roland Fauser (Finnish Oscar entry 2013) and several other films, among them two more of Klaus Härö's previous films. JK has script doctored films like Tarik Saleh's *Boy from Heaven* (best screenplay Cannes 2022) and *The Nile Hilton Incident* (winner at Sundance and awarded best Swedish film 2017), and *Tove* (Best Finnish film and Oscar entry 2021). He script consulted advised and lectured on several international seminars and script labs (the latest at Scripteast Poland 2019/2020) as well as at film schools and institutes in the Nordic countries. Previously, in the 80s and 90s, JK worked as producer at his own company, and as assistant director to Jan Troell and Bo Widerberg, among others.

ABOUT MUSIC BOX FILMS

Music Box Films is the prestigious North American distributor of acclaimed international, independent, and documentary feature films. Recent releases include Eric Gravel's César nominated thrilling social drama *Full Time*, starring Laure Calamy; Rebecca Zlotowski's New York Times Critic's Pick adult drama *Other People's Children* starring Virginie Efira; and *The Unknown Country*, Morrisa Maltz's SXSW Road Trip Drama starring Lily Gladstone. Since its formation in 2007, Music Box Films has distributed award-winning films and art-house favorites that include Academy Award winner *Ida*, *Meru* (from Oscar-winning filmmakers Jimmy Chin and E. Chai Vaserhelyi), Christian Petzold's *Transit*, the popular Swedish comedy *A Man Called Ove*, and the original *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. Music Box Films is independently owned and operated by the Southport Music Box Corporation, which also owns and operates the Music Box Theatre, Chicago's premier venue for independent and foreign films.

For more information, visit <u>www.musicboxfilms.com</u>.



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