



Lullaby

Press Kit



twothreefive pictures/Medb Films Present

Haydn Gwynne

Lullaby

Producers Elaine Wickham Jan Dunn

Director of Photography Ole Bratt Birkeland Music Stephen Barton

Editor Emma Collins Sound Neil Collymore

Writer Director Kevin Markwick



Synopsis

Morning, a mother is seeing her kids off to school with the usual high stress levels, shoes, bags, coats, lunches. After they have gone, a brief moment of quiet and another child comes into the kitchen.

As she watches him intently he asks, "What are we going to do today?" "The usual", she replies.

The mother and the boy drive to a hill overlooking the countryside, where he asks her to tell the story. It soon becomes apparent he is the memory of an unborn child and she tells the story of the day he died five months into her pregnancy.

On every one of his birthdays she comes up here and thinks about what happened, but this will be the last time. She has decided to move on from this painful memory and makes her way back down the hill alone.

Writer/Director - Kevin Markwick

Although he has 25 years experience in the film industry, this is Kevin's first film as a director.

He co wrote and produced the low budget feature *Neil's Party* in 2005, picked up by Warner Bros for international release on DVD.

Kevin is also an exhibitor, owning and running one of the UK's most successful independent cinemas, The Picture House in Uckfield, East Sussex.

Upcoming projects as a writer include *Wild Blue* a coming of age comedy set in Gatwick Airport, which he is also producing.

Producers - Elaine Wickham Jan Dunn

Jan and Elaine's first feature film *Gypo*, made by their independent company Medb Films was made in 2004 with Jan directing and earned industry recognition as well as invitations to festivals around the world. The film won the 'Outstanding Achievement in Production' Award at the 2005 British Independent Film Awards and numerous cast awards internationally. Two years later, Elaine produced Jan's second feature as director *Ruby Blue* with Bob Hoskins.

Since completing *Ruby Blue*, Medb have signed a three-picture deal with production and sales company Target Entertainment. The first feature, *The Calling* wrapped in August 2007 with a top UK cast, including Brenda Blethyn, Susannah York and Rita Tushingham.

Composer - Stephen Barton

Up-and-coming composer Stephen Barton has been working at Wavecrest Music with Harry Gregson-Williams for a number of years as an orchestrator and additional composer for such projects as *Kingdom of Heaven*, *Shrek 2* and *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Beginning to take on projects of his own, his first feature film score was for the comedic drama *Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont*.

While the projects Barton has spent the most time on are epic or thriller scores with Gregson-Williams, he also worked on romantic comedy scores such as *Passionada*, and *Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason*.



Mother - Haydn Gwynne

Haydn's recent credits include *Rome* for HBO and *Consenting Adults* for the BBC. Nominated for Best Actress at the 2006 Olivier Awards for her role as Mrs Wilkinson in the original West End production of *Billy Elliot*, a role she will be reprising on Broadway when the show opens in New York, November 2008.

A star of popular shows on British television including *Peak Practice* and *Mersey Beat*, Haydn has also guest starred in most of the top shows including *Dalziel and Pascoe* for which she won Best Actress at the Royal Television Society awards.

Directors Statement

Lullaby is a deeply personal film that attempts to show a very common but not often told story. In Britain at least one in four women will suffer a miscarriage before the full term of their pregnancy. I wanted to show what appears to the outside world as the ending of a life that didn't meaningfully exist, is in fact a real and terrible bereavement for the mother involved.

Although essentially a very simple story, I was aware that the script I'd written was unusually wordy for a movie. To counter this I made the decision to shoot on 35mm in the Cinemascope ratio giving the whole film a very cinematic look. The casting of the central role was key and I was very lucky indeed when Haydn Gwynne agreed to do the film. She brings a maturity and humanity to the part that is entirely truthful.

It was never my intention to exploit the story simply to have a tale to tell. Every word of the script and every frame of the film is an honest attempt to show the emotional truth of a situation to which in the end there is no solution, only acceptance.



Running Time: 15 Mins English Language UK Completed Sept 2007

Camera Format: Super 35mm 2:35:1

Screening Formats: HD Cam, Digibeta, DVD.

Sound: Dolby Digital, Dolby E, Analogue Lt Rt

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