

**Fár** English Title: Intrusion

# A film by Gunnur Martinsdóttir Schlüter

# Logline

A bird hits a window of a café and disrupts its customers. A woman faces a decision on whether to ignore nature or to react.

# Story

At a downtown café, three business colleagues, Gunnhildur (37), Oddur Björn (41) and Anna Ýr (32) are discussing a future investment opportunity. Between Gunnhildur and Oddur Björn there is a sense of competition.

Around them are muted conversations from nearby customers at the café, the odd laughing and atmospheric sounds from the busy city. Among customers is a young mother with a shopping bag from a high-end clothing store, a young man working on his laptop and a senior sitting alone and reading the newspaper.

In the sky a drifting seagull flies against the wind and as the sun shines through the clouds he crashes the café's window right in front of Anna Ýr. The seagull falls down to the pavement outside. People at the café notice the incident but shortly after stop paying attention and continue ignorantly their previous actions.

Anna Ýr tries to ignore the event too but is unable to shake off the incident as she notices the seagull is still alive but greatly suffering.

She steps out of the meeting and heads outside to euthanise the bird. A few nearby children watch as she tries unsuccessfully to hit the bird with a stick. The children comment on her actions and criticise her for trying to kill the seagull. One child cries while the other quietly asks Anna Ýr permission to kill it which she refuses. She tells the other kids that killing is wrong.

Anna Ýr twists the birds neck and the children move on back to their games. Anna Ýr takes the bird to a nearby flower bed and shoves dirt over the dead bird. Her colleagues and the café's customers stare at her in that moment.

The sun once again shines and Anna Ýr turns towards it. Her face rests in the sunlight as she closes her eyes. In the far distant sounds of seagulls can be heard.

# **Director's statement**

### excerpt

It's been part of human nature and civilisation to control nature. First and foremost to survive but also in its' insecurity to control life. In *Fár* an example is given about the unexpected and the unorganised, as nature itself, crashes directly into the organised. Anna, an individual and fruit of the modern world, follows her instinct and conviction, in contrast to her peers and fellow citizens' perspective, in an attempt to save a bird that has just crashed into the café's window by euthanising it.

At the same time Anna's decision shows how far the modern human has come from its' natural capabilities, like to kill - despite daily consuming mass produced meat. The children interpret the innocent and the still developing humans that are still learning societies' rules. They know it's wrong to kill, however it raises their curiosity to also try.

# The Team

## Director & writer – Gunnur Martinsdóttir Schlüter

Gunnur is an Icelandic / German actress and director, currently based in Reykjavik. Through stories she aims to mirror and dissect human actions and desirers in daily life, using both the tools of theatre and film. Born in Reykjavik and living over a decade in Germany where she gained a B.A. in theatre directing at the University of Music and Theatre in Hamburg, Gunnur is currently studying acting at the University of Arts in Iceland. Gunnur has created, acted in and been part of the creative process of numerous projects, she is an EDDA AWARD nominee and has received other recognition.

### Producer – Sara Nassim

Sara Nassim is a prolific producer who was practically raised on movie sets and has never really gotten away. She has an extensive background in physical production and early on in her career served as a Production Coordinator on the Iceland unit of HBO's Game of Thrones and Darren Aronofsky's Noah. Sara studied Film Theory at the University of Iceland and received a master's degree in producing from The American Film Institute in 2015. In 2018, Sara was nominated for a Grammy Award for the music video Mumbo Jumbo by Tierra Whack that she produced. Sara produced Lamb, directed by Valdimar Jóhannsson which had its world premiere in the official selection at Cannes in 2021 where it also received the Prize of Originality. In addition it was shortlisted for the Oscars and BAFTA and received the Nordic Council Film Prize in 2022. The film was distributed by A24 in North America and screened in over 800 theatres becoming the highest grossing Icelandic film in the USA.

### Producer – Rúnar Ingi Einarsson

Runar Ingi is a director and founder of Norður. His narrative films and commercial projects as a director have garnered global awards and nominations from Camerimage, Icelandic Academy Awards, Webby, Epica and Icelandic Ad Awards to name a few. His short film *Apology* (2016) premiered at RIFF and is currently being developed into a four part series for RÚV through Norður. His latest short film, *Animalia* (2020) was premiered and awarded Jury's Special Mention at RIFF 2020 and screened at numerous film festivals. As a producer he has produced several award winning short films and documentaries.

### Cinematographer – Eli Arenson

Eli Arenson started his career as a war correspondent and photojournalist before shifting into commercial and narrative films. A cinematography graduate of the AFI Conservatory, his passion for long-form narrative filmmaking is rooted deep. His credits include A24's supernatural drama LAMB, Lee Daniels' THE DELIVERANCE, and New Line Cinema's upcoming thriller THE WATCHERS by

Ishana Night Shyamalan. Often shooting on 16 and 35mm film, his distinct style has garnered the attention of the leading voices in commercial and fashion, filming for frequent collaborator Dexter Navy and director/photography duo Mert & Marcus. Eli believes in cinematography that is simple and graceful - his visual approach always begins from the minds of the characters. The world as perceived through their eyes. He currently resides in Iceland with his partner and son.

#### Sound designers — Björn Viktorsson & Haraldur Þrastarson

Haraldur Thrastarson is an Icelandic composer and sound designer based in Berlin. A multi-instrumentalist and a choir conductor, his output focuses primarily on film where he explores the sonic boundaries between scoring and sound. A graduate of the Conservatorium van Amsterdam Haraldur finished his degree in trombone performance in 2017, while in his studies he started moving towards music and sound production and eventually switched completely from performing with orchestras and ensemble to the world of post-production for film and video. Haraldur has worked on sound design and music for films premiered at Berlinale, Locarno, Palm Springs as well as most recently working on projects from A24, Netflix and ZDF.

#### Editors — Guðlaugur Andri Eyþórsson and Brúsi Alison

Guðlaugur Andri Eyþórsson is an experienced film and TV editor, boasting 9 years in the field. Having collaborated with many of Iceland's finest directors, he has contributed to a number of acclaimed productions such as The Valhalla Murders, Trapped, End of Sentence, Trom, and As Long as We Live (which debuts in Europe this year). In recognition of his work, he was honored with an Edda award (Iceland's most prestigious film award) for film editing in 2021, which he shared with Valdís Óskarsdóttir and Sigurður Eyþórsson for their work on The Valhalla Murders. Guðlaugur also has extensive experience editing commercials for major brands in Iceland, as well as music videos for artists such as Ólafur Arnalds and Of Monsters and Men, among others.

Brúsi Ólason is a director, editor and writer. He has a BA degree in film theory with a creative writing minor from the University of Iceland and an MFA degree in film directing from Columbia University in the City of New York. His short films, See Ya (2017), Viktoría (2018) and Dalía (2020) have all played at multiple festivals and won awards all over the world. He also worked as an editor on Materna (2020) and August Sky (2021) both of which have been awarded at major festivals. He is currently developing his first feature and teaching filmmaking at the Icelandic University of the Arts.

#### Production Designer — Rebekka Ingimarsdóttir

Rebekka A. Ingimundardóttir was born and raised in Iceland. She studied stage and costume design in Prague - Czech Republic and Objekt Theater Design and Making in Amsterdam - Netherlands. Rebekka is an EU based Production Designer, Art Director and Set Decorator for Film, Television, Commercials and Live events. She has decades of experience in stage- and costume design for theatre - among others the Icelandic National Theatre and City Theatre Reykjavík, the Czech National Theatre in Prague and various theatre groups in the Netherlands. Along with her work in theater she has designed sets and costumes for over 40 films and TV series. Her work includes The Quiet Storm 2007 (Costume Design), Vitjanir 2022 (Production Design), Secret Life of Walter Mitty 2013 (Set Decorator in Iceland). One of Rebekka's latest Art Direction includes the film Godland by Hlynur Pálsson.

#### Supporting actor — Jörundur Ragnarsson

Jörundur Ragnarsson studied acting in The Iceland Academy of the Arts and graduated in 2006. He has mostly been working as an actor and screenwriter since, besides the years 2012-2016 when he took a break to study screenwriting and directing at the Film MFA program at Columbia University in New York. In his career he has co-written five television series and one feature film. Besides acting in

all of these projects he's performed in various other Icelandic films and television series and been in over 25 theatre plays. He has received numerous awards and nominations for his work both as a screenwriter and actor in theatre, films and television. As a director he has made one short film, "Hjónabandssæla" ("Chum"). The film won multiple awards at film festivals around the world and an EDDA award as the best Icelandic short in 2015.

#### Supporting actress — Þrúður Vilhjálmsdóttir

Prúður Vilhjálmsdóttir is an Icelandic actress known for her versatile range and captivating performances on stage and screen. Born in Reykjavik, Iceland, 1973, she studied acting at the Icelandic Academy of Arts, and graduated in 1997. Her notable film credits include 101 Reykjavik, Pale Star and Parents. Her stage work includes acclaimed performances in productions such as Hamlet, 39 Steps, Trainspotting and How I learned to drive. She has also starred in TV productions and commercials and does a lot of voice over work along with audio book readings.

## Credits

Title: Fár English title: Intrusion

Language: Icelandic Director: Gunnur Martinsdóttir Schlüter Screenwriters: Gunnur Martinsdóttir Schlüter, Anní Ólafsdóttir Producers: Rúnar Ingi Einarsson, Sara Nassim Director of Photography: Eli Arenson Editors: Brúsi Ólason, Guðlaugur Andri Eyþórsson Sound design: Björn Viktorsson & Haraldur Þrastarson Cast: Gunnur Martinsdóttir Schlüter, Jörundur Ragnarsson, Þrúður Vilhjálmsdóttir Costume designer: Hulda Halldóra Tryggvadóttir Production designer: Rebekka Ingimundardóttir

Production Company: Norður Website: <u>www.nrdr.is</u>

Sales & Distribution: TBD

## **Technical information**

Sound: Stereo Length: 5 min Film format: Digital Screening format: DCP Screen ratio: 4:3 Premier: Cannes Film Festival 2023 Country of origin: Iceland

## Film stills

<u>Link</u>

# Contacts

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