

ROCOCO PRESENTS

# COPAIN

A FILM BY JAN AND RAF ROOSENS



SHORT FILM

competition

FESTIVAL DE CANNES



rococo

VAF  
FILM

flanders©



### **synopsis - short**

Fré is a teenager stuck between his conservative, wealthy family and his lower-class friends. He manages to keep the two worlds separated, until he falls in love...





## synopsis - medium

It's a hot summer in Antwerp. Fré (17) is looking for coolness with his friends, whether it's on rooftops of social buildings, or in a questionably polluted lake by the port. Fré is from the suburbs. His family is French-speaking, rich, and conservative. Even though it's not supposed to be his scene, he prefers hanging out with friends from the other side of town. Since his brother Henri died, his parents' world seems far away. He looks for distraction and friendship with kids who don't know that he's gotten quiet since his brother died. Without asking questions, they accept the way he is. Fré knows that his father will disapprove and keeps them away.

When he succumbs to his crush for Jana, he lets go of these boundaries, and takes her to his parent's fancy house and cool swimming pool to teach her how to swim. Jana doesn't care about what he has been hiding. But when his parents come home unexpectedly, Fré urges Jana to hide and leave. Humiliated, Jana challenges him. On one of the following hot summer days she invites the others over to a fancy house with a cool pool that she knows of, without telling them that it's Fré's house. She wants him to come clean and to stop being ashamed of the person he really is. But what Jana doesn't realize is that Fré is most ashamed of his friends. He will be forced to choose and deal with the consequences...



## cast

Copain's mainly young cast comes from a diverse mixture of backgrounds and interests. Hicham Mallouli and Desmond Badu, the young men who play Copain's alter ego, have had a rough time growing up, and have literally found their way out of prison by being creative. They're both involved in Young Age Music, an Antwerp Hip Hop and Rap collective for young creative musicians and entertainers, keeping each other on their toes and off the streets. In contrast, the main actors Felix Meyer and Anne-Laure Vandeputte are from a different background, and busy studying acting. These differences in background and culture, yet similarities in creative interests, developed an interesting and enriching dynamic between the actors, giving their play a sense of realism, naturalness and chemistry.

For the actors playing Fre's parents, the directors immediately thought of Jan Hammenecker and Jeanne Dandoy, both actors in Oscar nominated films. Taking part in only a few intense scenes, it was important that these actors held the experience and finesse to instantly represent the atmosphere of a world that the directors were looking to create.



## cast

Fre (Copain)	Felix Meyer
Jana	Anne-Laure Vandeputte
Hicham	Hicham Mallouli
Desmond	Desmond Badu
Ludovic	Jan Hammenecker
Madeline	Jeanne Dandoy
Violet	Violet Braeckman
Salimah	Gulay Oguz
Dog 'Garçon'	Gizmo





## crew

Directed & Produced by  
Written by  
Production Company  
Line Producers Rococo

1st Assistant-Director  
Director of Photography  
Gaffer

Jan & Raf Roosens  
Bert Van Dael & Sanne Nuyens  
Rococo  
Danaé Van Vyve  
Caroline Van Ranst  
Wannes Destoop  
Grimm Vandekerckhove  
Gert-Jan Coorevits

Sound Engineer  
Art Director  
Make Up  
Costume  
Editor  
Composer  
Sound Design & Mix  
Grading

Alexander Baert  
Tom Schiltz  
Sigrid Volders  
Carmen Lauwers  
Maarten Janssens  
Raf Keunen  
Matthias Hillegeer  
Olivier Ogneux

**rococo**



## technical info

Original title	Copain
English title	Buddy
Original language	Dutch/French
Subtitles	English
Duration	15 minutes
Genre	Short film / Drama / Coming of age / Live Action
Producer	Rococo
Aspect ratio	2,35: 1
Sound	5.1
Year	2015



## directors

The Belgian brothers Jan & Raf Roosens teamed up after graduating, and founded the Antwerp based production company Rococo where they produce and direct together.

Busy making commercials and music videos on the regular, fiction is where their heart is. In 2012 they shot their first short film 'Rotkop' (English: Skunk), which won several awards at internationally acclaimed festivals including Slamdance Film Festival, qualifying 'Rotkop' for Oscar selection in 2013.

In 2015, they completed 'Copain', their second short film. Meanwhile they are working on their first feature film that recently received support from the Flanders Audiovisual Fund.

**rococo**





## filmography

**COPAIN** | short film, drama | 2015 | **supported by VAF**

**ROTKOP** | short film, drama | 2012 | **supported by VAF**  
([www.rotkopfilm.com](http://www.rotkopfilm.com))

**FRANCO** | Feature, drama | **supported by VAF** (*in development*)

## awards - ROTKOP

Slamdance Film Festival | 2013 | Grand Jury Award for Short Film, (*Oscar Qualifying*)

Hollyshorts Film Festival | 2013 | Best Drama

Gijon Film Festival | 2012 | Best Director & Best Script

Film Festival Oostende | 2012 | Best Flemish Short Fiction

Guanajuato International Film Festival | 2012 | Best International Short Fiction,  
(*Oscar Qualifying*)

Short Film Corner Cannes Film Festival | 2012 | Selected as 'Coup de Coeur'

**rococo**



## **contact**

Rococo Content bvba  
Van Diepenbeeckstraat 10  
2018 Antwerp  
Belgium  
[www.rococo.be](http://www.rococo.be)

Jan Roosens  
+32 478 97 04 95  
[jan@rococo.be](mailto:jan@rococo.be)

**rococo**