



PRESS KIT

THE RIGHT WORDS

A FILM BY
ADRIAN MOYSE DULLIN

PRODUCED BY
PUNCHLINE CINÉMA



SYNOPSIS

KENZA 15 YEARS OLD AND HER LITTLE BROTHER MAHDI 13 YEARS OLD REGULARLY HUMILIATE ONE ANOTHER ON SOCIAL MEDIA IN CRUEL WAYS. TODAY, AS THEY TRAVEL BY BUS, KENZA PUTS HER NAIVE AND ROMANTIC LITTLE BROTHER TO THE TEST: TO PROFESS HIS LOVE FOR JADA; A GIRL THAT MAHDI LOVES BUT THAT DOES NOT KNOW HIM. PLACED UNDER PRESSURE BY HIS SISTER, MAHDI ENDS UP CONFESSING.

A photograph of two young men standing outdoors, possibly on a balcony or near a window. They are both smiling and looking at their smartphones. The man on the left is wearing a dark beanie, a dark Nike t-shirt, and a blue backpack. The man on the right is wearing a red and black Nike jacket over a grey Nike t-shirt. The background is a blurred view of a city or urban area. The overall lighting is somewhat dim, suggesting an overcast day or indoor lighting.

LINK TO VIEW THE FILM

[CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW]

> THE RIGHT WORDS | ENGLISH VERSION | 15 MINUTES



TECHNICAL AND ARTISTIC INFORMATION:

DIRECTOR : ADRIAN MOYSE DULLIN

PRODUCER : LUCAS TOTHE (PUNCHLINE CINÉMA)

ACTORS : YASSER OSMANI (MADHI), SANYA SALHI (JADA), AYA HALAL (KENZA), RAMATOULAYE N'DONGO (AÏSSATOU)

SCREENWRITERS : ADRIAN MOYSE DULLIN, EMMA BENESTAN

CINEMATOGRAPHER : AUGUSTIN BARBAROUX

CASTING DIRECTOR : MARION PEYRET

WARDROBE : CLARA RENÉ

SOUND RECORDER : COLIN FAVRE-BULLE

EDITOR : PIERRE DESCHAMPS

COMPLETION DATE : APRIL 2021

BUDGET : 80 000 EUROS

**FUNDING : NATIONAL CENTER FOR CINEMA AND MOVING IMAGES (CNC),
GRAND EAST REGION, THE CITY OF REIMS, OCS**

LANGUAGE : FRENCH

FORMAT : DIGITAL 2K

VISA N° : 153.764

LENGTH : 15 MINUTES



PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

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INTRODUCTION

Sentimental stories often bring into play two irreconcilable desires that fight inside a character: our sometimes uncontrollable living impulses and the desire we have to be good people, to respect our values or those of our group. For Mahdi, it is the weight of other people's gaze on his desire that is an obstacle. The shame he feels, the anguish even, in front of an impulse that he lived only in a scopical way before this episode on the bus.

A confusion of feelings that is added to adolescence, a period during which we live each sentimental jolt as an existential drama. So I wanted to demonstrate the «cinemaH that one makes when going through this type of "ordeal" for the first time.

Moreover, I wanted to embody the weight of other people's gaze through the almost constant presence of social networks in the relationships of these young people on the bus. Another generational obstacle for teenagers who sometimes seem to be prisoners of their own image, of their group and desires .. A permanent staging of oneself, as if everything had to be validated by this means.

- ADRIAN MOYSE DULLIN

INTERVIEW WITH THE DIRECTOR

How did the idea of THE RIGHT WORDS come about ?

This question of social networks materialized itself in my life during a theater workshop I partook in with teenagers. I was immediately struck by the way they were putting one another on blast on social media; transcending reality, perverting it permanently, at regular intervals and sometimes impulsively. Being myself not very far from my own adolescence this vision immediately struck me and gave me the idea of this scene - the final scene - which would play out in several locations (outside on the sidewalk and inside on the bus) and would contain several levels of comprehension. So I started from this intuition; the scene would contain a film and a cinematic device. On the one hand an intimate, carnal reality between two teenagers who declare themselves for the first time. And on the other hand a reality that we observe from afar, on the networks, through the windows of a bus, which is what we think we see, that their bodies show us.

Why did you choose this title ?

THE RIGHT WORDS is the somewhat outdated and anachronistic expression that could be formulated by Mahdi's sister Kenza, the main character. Like a mantra that Mahdi would repeat to himself to get through the shame he feels. A shame that is the subject of the film, a feeling that the characters explore and experience in their own way.





How did you think of the casting for the film ?

I wanted to work with non-professional actors. Teenagers that we found in the street, in wild castings, on social media or that I had seen during workshops. I wanted to work with natures that would echo the characters I had written. I wanted each actor to have the same stake both in their life and in the film. I wanted to push the principle of «reality» as far as possible, to be on the border of documentary. Sometimes, the actors didn't even know whether they were playing their characters or themselves. We worked as a group, for two weeks, in rehearsals, like a theater workshop. The film is a kind of restitution of this residency, of the reality of these teenagers during this period, of their love situation and their resistance.



ABOUT PUNCHLINE CINEMA

Founded in 2011 by two longtime acolytes, Lucas Tothe and Sylvain Lagrillère, the production company Punchline Cinema has produced, to this day, over twenty short films. Their works have traveled the world in the most prestigious festivals such as those of Toronto, Clermont-Ferrand, Angers European First Film Festival, Stockholm, Vancouver, Locarno... In 2017, the production company sees two of its films compete for the César for best short film: Goliath and Marlon, respectively selected and nominated.

Leading international co-productions, they notably produced Matriochkas by Bérangère McNeese, which won the Magritte for best short fiction film in 2020. After producing their first feature film The Endless Days of Youth by Cosme Castro and Léa Forest, which premiered at the Locarno International Film Festival, Punchline Cinema continues to produce short films, extending its outreach to documentary and develops two feature films to be screened in theaters.

PUNCHLINE
Cinema

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Adrian was born in Lyon. He has a degree in philosophy, modern literature, and graduated from Sciences Po Grenoble.

THE RIGHT WORDS is his first fiction film. He is currently writing a feature film about love in his residency at the Groupe Ovest.

FILMOGRAPHY

2021 : THE RIGHT WORDS

(short film - 15'')