

Frances Lea

Director / Writer

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Multi-award winning Filmmaker Frances Lea became *UK Screen Star of Tomorrow* after co-writing & directing critically acclaimed Feature Film *Strawberry Fields* with BBC Films, BFI, Spring Pictures and Film London Microwave with Soda Pictures 2012 UK Cinema & DVD release. *Strawberry Fields* had its world premiere at London Film Festival, BBC2 primetime screenings, extensive Festival screenings Netflix & iTunes UK & US VOD.

Frances has a comedy drama series in development with What Larks TV and Feature Film *Hoo-ha* with Overactive Imagination NZ. Before that Frances developed a number of projects with Mia Bays at M.I.A. Films. Frances has been guest Lecturer at LFS and University of Hertfordshire, run Directing workshops for Film London's Best of Borough Shorts, Writing Mentor for Film Agency Wales. She's done panel & solo talks at Underwire Film Festival, BFI, & Birds Eye View Film Festival and created an Independent Cinema at Treadwell's Art Mill, Bradford. She was Arts Council funded Film-maker-in-Residence at HMP Bedford for 2 years & directed theatre in Paris for Glasshouse Theatre Company.

Frances is clearly an original and daring director who dares to explore complex psychological relationships as well as bizarre comic situations. Such hutzpah is rare in today's world of formulaic, genre-driven filmmaking. Simon Beaufoy

FILM

STRAWBERRY FIELDS
(director, co-writer)

BBC Films, BFI, Spring Pictures and Film London Microwave with Soda Pictures 2012 UK Cinema & DVD release.

REVIEWS:

** Strawberry Fields is an intense ambitious low budget psycho drama from director Frances Lea. It's very well directed and it looks terrific. And the landscape becomes something quite ethereal, quite strange, quite other worldly at certain times and it's a very handsome film and not without a point. In fact the way the film looks very much ties up with the psycho drama that is playing out between the two central characters.... it does have a strange sort of haunting melancholic, slightly chilling edge to it and, and actually, particularly when you consider the small resources on which it's done, it is rather impressive. MARK KERMODE BBC Radio 5*

** An intelligent script, beguiling performances, A Streetcar Named Desire meets My Summer of Love. Total Film *****

** Beautifully Shot, with striking visual metaphors...Lea has produced a fine piece of cinema, and is a talent the British film industry should cherish. Hollywood News *****

EVERYONE'S HAPPY
(director)

65 min film written by Simon Beaufoy and produced by Footprint Films.

** Marvelously played by a no-name cast, it puts many flashier Britpics to shame. Derek Elley, Variety*

TELEVISION

FUGEE GIRL
(director)

Half hour drama, Channel 4 Outcasts series.

SAMSON SUPERSLUG
(director)

A 13 part Comedy Drama series for ITV network, written by Jeff Povey, with Producers Jill Green and Linda James.

RELEASE ME
(director)

BBC2 Disability 7 International awards.

** For me it is a surprising and brave film, and an inspiration to watch. Jane Campion*

SHORTS

OH JULIE!
(director/writer)

9 min animation for Channel 4. 4 international awards with US Manga cinema and DVD release as part of General Chaos Uncensored animation.

DOCUMENTARIES

FRIERN HOSPITAL CLOSURE
(director)

50 mins documentary financed by N.E. Thames Health Authority, Produced by Never Never Films.

FACE-ON
(director)

Pilot funded by Screen East, with interviews and performances recorded over 2 years at HMP Bedford.

THEATRE

THE QUEENS
(director)

Glasshouse Theatre Company, Paris.

** Spirited and utterly absorbing.. nuanced performances capturing the blend of power and paranoia which defines their characters...The result is memorable and attention-grabbing theatre. Time Out (Paris)*

ONLINE

GET A LIFE HARRY
(director)

17 part interactive internet comedy drama series written by Judith Johnson for IMP Corporation. Creative Director Simon Beaufoy.