

SILVER BULLETS

A Film by JOE SWANBERG



WORLD PREMIERE AT THE 2011 BERLINALE

70 MINUTES – HD COLOR – ENGLISH – NOT RATED

FESTIVAL & SALES CONTACT

Joe Swanberg

+1 312.404.7164

joe@joeswanberg.com

www.joeswanberg.com

For images please visit: <http://www.joeswanberg.com/silverbullets>

SHORT SYNOPSIS

An actress and her filmmaker boyfriend experience turbulence in their relationship when she accepts a role in a werewolf film. The actress connects with her new director while her boyfriend spirals into a dangerous depression.

SYNOPSIS

Claire, a beautiful young actress, is in a comfortable relationship with Ethan, a filmmaker who aspires to make meaningful art films. She is his muse and they are finishing a project together. She accepts the lead role in a werewolf film to be directed by a talented young horror filmmaker named Ben. Ethan is instantly weary of her relationship with Ben and suspects she is more interested in fame than the pursuit of art.

As Clair and Ben prepare the werewolf film together, Ethan begins to spiral into depression and self-doubt. In retaliation against Claire, he casts her best friend, Charlie, also an actress, as his girlfriend in his new film. As both productions move forward, Claire's life becomes more surreal and starts to resemble the werewolf film she is working on.

Inspired by Chekhov's "The Seagull," SILVER BULLETS examines the cinema and asks questions about art, commerce, power and desire. Using David Foster Wallace as a reference point, the film also explores fame, depression and suicide.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

In November of 2008 I traveled to New York to make a film. After one day of shooting the film fell apart. I was tired and depressed and I wanted to quit making films, which I no longer enjoyed. Chekhov's "The Seagull" was playing on Broadway and I was encouraged to read the play. I thought of David Foster Wallace, who had committed suicide a few months earlier, and whom I was becoming increasingly obsessed with. I started shooting a new film with some friends. We shot several scenes each day, changing and rearranging the story constantly until I flew home in December. I continued to work this way for two years, getting together with my actors every few months when I could afford to shoot new scenes and re-shoot old ones. I slowly emerged from the depression and found myself enjoying the process. "The Seagull" continued to provide inspiration as the film became more autobiographical and dreamlike. David Foster Wallace is still on my mind.

- JOE SWANBERG

CAST AND CREW BIOGRAPHIES

JOE SWANBERG – WRITER/DIRECTOR/PRODUCER /EDITOR (“ETHAN”)

Joe Swanberg (b. 1981) has directed the features *KISSING ON THE MOUTH* (2005), *LOL* (2006), *HANNAH TAKES THE STAIRS* (2007), *NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS* (2008), *ALEXANDER THE LAST* (2009) and *UNCLE KENT* (2011). His films have premiered at Sundance and the SXSW Film Festival. He created the series *BUTTERKNIFE* for Spout.com and also directs and stars in the web series *YOUNG AMERICAN BODIES*, which he produces with his wife, Kris. It can be viewed for free on Nerve.com and IFC.com. Swanberg studied film production at Southern Illinois University where he developed an interest in emerging video technology and a crippling addiction to the Internet. All of Joe's films are owned by IFC Films and can be viewed on www.sundancenow.com

KATE LYN SHEIL – “CLAIRE”

Kate holds a BFA in acting from New York University's Tisch School and the Lee Strasberg Institute. Past film credits include *IMPOLEX*, which premiered at CineVegas in 2009, won Best Foreign Film at the Melbourne Underground Film Festival and was featured in the Anthology Film Archives Migrating Film Festival. She also starred in the short film *KNIFE POINT*, which premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival. Her performance in *Knife Point* won her the best actress award at the Brooklyn Underground Film Festival and NYU First Run Festival. Kate was also featured in the September 2008 issue of *Vogue Magazine*.

TI WEST – “BEN”

Ti West is a noted independent filmmaker with such films as *THE ROOST* (2005) and *THE HOUSE OF THE DEVIL* (2009) to his credit. *SILVER BULLETS* is his acting debut.

AMY SEIMETZ – PRODUCER/ACTOR “CHARLIE”

Amy Seimetz grew up in St. Petersburg, Florida, and studied film, English literature and art history at FSU and NYU. Seimetz has performed comedy along with Ann Maddox as Machu Picchu, performing at Comedy Deathray, UCB and the HBO comedy fest in Las Vegas. She has been a producer on several notable projects, including *Medicine for Melancholy*. As an actress she has appeared in Joe Swanberg's *Alexander the Last* (SXSW 2009), Lena Dunham's *Tiny Furniture* (SXSW 2010), David Mitchell's *Myth of the American Sleepover* (SXSW 2010, Cannes 2010), Adam Wingard's *A Horrible Way to Die* (Toronto 2010, winner "Best Actress" Fantastic Fest 2010) and Megan Griffiths' *The Off Hours* (Sundance 2011). She also wrote and directed a feature film entitled *City on a Hill*, which took part in the 2009 IFP Director's Labs.

CAST

Kate Lyn Sheil.....Claire
Ti West.....Ben
Amy Seimetz.....Charlie
Joe Swanberg.....Ethan
Jane Adams.....June
Larry Fessenden.....Sam

CREW

Directed, Photographed, and Edited by.....Joe Swanberg
Produced by.....Joe Swanberg, Amy Seimetz
Written by.....Joe Swanberg
Make-up Effects.....Brian Spears
Sound Design.....Graham Reznick
Original Music by.....Orange Mighty Trio

DIRECTOR'S COMPLETE FILMOGRAPHY

MIKEY (2003) - Drama - 7 mins. - DV
KISSING ON THE MOUTH (2005) - Drama - 78 mins. - DV
HISSY FITS (2005) - Comedy - 5 mins. - DV
YOUNG AMERICAN BODIES (2005 - 2009) - Web Series - 38 episodes - DV
LOL (2006) - Comedy/Drama - 81 mins. - DV
THANKS FOR THE ADD! (2006) - Comedy - 5 mins. - DV
HANNAH TAKES THE STAIRS (2007) - Drama - 83 mins. - HD
RUN OFF THE ROAD (2007) - Music Video - 5 mins. - Super 8mm
SWEDISH BLUEBALLS (2008) - Comedy - 5 mins. - DV
BUTTERKNIFE (2008) - Web Series - 8 episodes - HD
NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS (2008) - Drama - 78 mins - HD
ALEXANDER THE LAST (2009) - Drama - 72 mins. - HD
THE STAGG PARTY (2009) - Web Series - 10 episodes - HD
BIRTHDAY SUIT (2009) - Comedy - 4 mins. - HD
UNCLE KENT (2011) - Drama - 72 mins. - HD
SILVER BULLETS (2011) - Drama - 70 mins. - HD
ART HISTORY (2011) - Drama - 74 mins. - HD