



NOW FORAGER

A FILM ABOUT LOVE AND FUNGI

WRITTEN BY JASON CORTLUND DIRECTED BY JASON CORTLUND & JULIA HALPERIN

USA / POLAND 2012

PRODUCTION SMALL DRAMA

PRODUCERS JULIA HALPERIN & KIT BLAND

CO-PRODUCTION MONTERNIA.PL

DRAMA, 93MIN, HD

WWW.NOWFORAGER.COM

U.S. THEATRICAL/NON-THEATRICAL BOOKINGS

ARGOT PICTURES

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WORLD SALES & PROMOTION

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LOGLINE

Lucien and Regina are foragers - they gather wild mushrooms and sell them to New York restaurants.

SYNOPSIS SHORT

Lucien and Regina are foragers - they gather wild mushrooms and sell them to New York restaurants. They live simply, according to the seasons. When Regina seeks more stability, their marriage is put to a test. A food lovers' film.

SYNOPSIS MEDIUM

Lucien and Regina are foragers - they gather wild mushrooms and sell them to New York restaurants. Their lifestyle is simple, their income unstable. As Regina seeks more stability and Lucien wants to devote himself to full-time nomadic foraging, their individual desires put the marriage to a test. A food lovers' film.

SYNOPSIS LONG

Lucien and Regina are foragers - they gather wild mushrooms in the woodlands of New Jersey and sell them to restaurants in New York. Their lifestyle is simple, their income unstable. To improve the financial security and to follow a more fulfilling personal career path, Regina decides to take a job cooking at a high-end restaurant. Lucien disapproves and instead, he proposes to give up their apartment and live as full-time itinerant foragers. As individual desires take them down divergent paths over the course of a year, their marriage slowly comes apart.

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

Based on our interests and experiences, we decided to make a narrative film where the food and cooking was real—a film that honored the lessons of our grandparents, but one that could also appeal to the rapidly expanding Slow Food generation.

While fungi are a key inspiration and structuring element within the film, the substance of the story is human. Now, Forager is about a relationship—one that is changing because of the individual needs of the participants. It's a story about mature love—about the compromises and conflicts that can only come from years spent living in close quarters.

We shot the film over the course of a year to capture seasonal changes in the natural world that have an impact on the couple's life. We intended for Now, Forager to show food, work, and love in an authentic way, with honesty and passion.

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FESTIVALS

International Film Festival Rotterdam (World Premiere)

New Directors/New Films (North American Premiere)

International Film Festival Mannheim-Heidelberg (Germany)

Gothenburg International Film Festival (Sweden)

Leeds International Film Festival (UK)

Glasgow Film Festival (UK)

Cinecity Film Festival (UK)

International Film Festival Prague (Czech Republic)

Brasilia International Film Festival (Brazil)

Provincetown International Film Festival

New Orleans Film Festival

Vermont International Film Festival

Napa Valley Film Festival

Santa Fe Film Festival

Rural Route Film Festival

Bend Film Festival

Victoria Texas Independent Film Festival

Nacogdoches Film Festival

International Film Festival Kerala (India)

Durban International Film Festival (South Africa)

Kaunas International Film Festival (Lithuania)

American Film Festival (Poland)

Food Film Festival (Netherlands)

Food & Film Bergen (Netherlands)

Green Film Festival (South Korea)

Lighthouse International Film Festival

Three Rivers Film Festival

Flyway Film Festival

Fusebox Festival

Feast for the Eyes Film Festival

Texas Independent Film Network

THEATRICAL

US (Limited)

Poland

Belgium

Netherlands

Luxembourg

Lithuania

Latvia

Estonia

AWARDS

IFP Gotham Award Nomination - "Breakthrough Director"

Museum of Modern Art - "The Contenders" Series (Best of 2012)

The Independent - "10 to Watch"

Eugene Hernandez - Top 25 Films of 2012

IFF Mannheim-Heidelberg - Viewer's Choice Award

IFF Mannheim-Heidelberg - Cinema Owners' Award

Royal Belgian Film Archive - Age d'Or/Film Finds Award Nomination

US-In-Progress - Special Jury Mention



NOMINEE

GOTHAM INDEPENDENT FILM AWARDSTM





REVIEWS & PRESS QUOTES

“***½, Outstanding, Two Thumbs Up--The images of wild mushrooms by Cortlund himself and the shots of food prep by cinematographer Jonathan Nastasi, approach art. NOW, FORAGER is an uncompromising film about two people who don't deserve each other...” - **ROGER EBERT**

“NOW, FORAGER has charm, intelligence and a cool passion for its principled characters — an appealing off-menu slice for hungry indie admirers.”
LOS ANGELES TIMES

“Refreshingly devoid of the romantic glow emanating from most foodie pics...”
VARIETY

“A delicate affair of subtle and original flavors...”
HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

“The film is refreshing...relying on subtle performances and uncluttered dialogue.”
SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

“NOW, FORAGER self-assembles something profound and elegant...”
HUFFINGTON POST

“Likely the first narrative feature to spring from the slow-food movement...the drama plays like SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE for foodies.”
VILLAGE VOICE

“...an earnest, absorbing drama set at the intersection of countercultural idealism and gastronomical sophistication.”
THE OREGONIAN

“NOW, FORAGER beautifully depicts the connection between nature and our plates...”
AUSTIN AMERICAN STATESMAN

“...an extremely accurate depiction of the food world, both outdoors, where the foragers search for ingredients, and in the kitchen. The cinemagraphic treatment of food prep is both strikingly real and artistic.”
CORNELL DAILY SUN

“This film knows food...Watching NOW, FORAGER made me happy, simple as that. It speaks my language. It made me want to take a walk in a quiet wood, cook a big pan of something delicious, and share it with someone I love.”
CINESPECT



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DIRECTORS

JASON CORTLUND (Director, Screenwriter, Cast)

Jason Cortlund studied film and writing at University of Oregon and earned a Master's in screenwriting at University of Texas. He's been a postgraduate fellow at the James Michener Center for Writers and a resident at Yaddo. Jason served as a senior programmer, curator at large, and board member for the Cinematexas International Film Festival from 1997-2004. Jason was named as one of The Independent's "10 Filmmakers to Watch in 2012". His script *Lumberjunkies* was a finalist and received an honorable mention for the 2011 Hearst Screenwriting Grant. He was nominated for a Gotham Award for "Breakthrough Director" in 2012.

JULIA HALPERIN (Director, Producer, Editor)

Julia Halperin received her B.A. summa cum laude from Hunter College and her M.F.A from the University of Texas. She was a senior programmer and board member for Cinematexas International Film Festival from 1997-2004. Julia's work has earned support from the Texas Filmmaker's Production Fund, Liberace Foundation, City of Austin Cultural Contracts, and The Texas Commission on the Arts, and Yaddo. She was named as one of The Independent's "10 Filmmakers to Watch in 2012". Julia has also worked as an editor for filmmakers such as Greta Schiller, Heather Courtney, and Redmond Entwistle. She was nominated for a Gotham Award for "Breakthrough Director" in 2012.

WORLD SALES & PROMOTION

New Europe Film Sales is a boutique film distributor based in Warsaw, Poland but working across the world. The company holds full worldwide rights to a number of short films and works with theatrical, TV, VOD and internet buyers. NEFS has so far specialized in short film sales and worked with award-winning directors, such as Ruben Östlund, Tomek Baginski and Jonas Odell. Feature-film titles include: *It Looks Pretty From a Distance* (Poland, 2011), *Now, Forager* (USA, Poland, 2012), and Matt Porterfield's *I Used to Be Darker* (2013). WWW.NEWEUROPEFILMSALES.COM

U.S. THEATRICAL/NON-THEATRICAL BOOKINGS

Founded by Jim Browne in 2005, **Argot Pictures** is a distribution company that focuses on unique, independently produced, high-quality documentaries & features. We work in partnership with directors and producers from festival launch all the way through theatrical, digital, VOD & broadcast. Our recent films include: *Almost In Love*; *High Tech, Low Life*; *The City Dark*; *Resurrect Dead*; and *The Agony and Ecstasy of Phil Spector*. WWW.ARGOTPICTURES.COM

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CREW

PRODUCERS	JULIA HALPERIN, KIT BLAND
PRODUCTION COMPANY	SMALL DRAMA/NOW FORAGER LLC 2803 LAFAYETTE AVENUE AUSTIN, TEXAS, USA TEL. +1 512 478-4741 WWW.SMALLDRAMA.COM
CO-PRODUCER	MONTERNIA.PL UL. ZDROJOWA 42/1 02-927 WARSAW, POLAND TEL +48 22 651 52 57 WWW.MONTERNIA.PL
DIRECTORS	JASON CORTLUND & JULIA HALPERIN
SCREENPLAY	JASON CORTLUND
CAST	JASON CORTLUND, TIFFANY ESTEB, GABRIELLE MAISELS, ALMEX LEE
DOP	JONATHAN NASTASI
SOUND	JEREMY FLEISHMAN
EDITOR	JULIA HALPERIN
MUSIC	CHRIS BROKAW
SOUND MIX	JEREMY FLEISHMAN

FILM INFO

TITLE	NOW, FORAGER
INTERNATIONAL TITLE	NOW, FORAGER: A FILM ABOUT LOVE AND FUNGI
CATEGORY	DRAMA
GENRE	FOOD FILM, LOVE STORY
DIALOGUE	ENGLISH
COMPLETION	JANUARY 2012
WORLD PREMIERE	INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ROTTERDAM
N.A. PREMIERE	NEW DIRECTORS/NEW FILMS
DURATION	93 MIN
SHOOTING FORMAT	HD
PICTURE	COLOR
SCREEN RATIO	1:1.78 (16X9 VIDEO)
SOUND SYSTEM	STEREO (LTRT)
AVAILABLE FORMATS	HDCAM, BLURAY, DVD, DCP

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