

AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE
presents

FICKLE OR FAIR

starring JASMINE JESSICA ANTHONY AUSTIN MINCKS
ELIZABETH GREER and ROBERT STEPHENSON
costume design by DAKOTA KELLER music supervision by FEDERICO MIRANDA
edited by JONATHAN CONVERSE production design by JESSICA MAHNKE
cinematography by COLIN OH produced by JULIAN QUANES
written by VANI MACIASAAC directed by PAZ LEON

www.fickleorfair.com



FICKLE OR FAIR

LOGLINE: When she discovers her mother's birthday party is actually her parents surprise second wedding, teenage Eva struggles to accept their reunion.

SHORT SUMMARY: For Eva, life is a lot calmer with her argument prone parents divorced, so when she discovers that her mom's birthday party is a cover for their surprise second wedding her world turns upside-down. With just an hour to the ceremony Eva must come to terms with her parents decision and finds an unlooked for ally in the form of her awkward neighbor Oliver.

LONG SUMMARY: Eva, 16, hopes the guests at her mom's birthday party won't notice her parents loudly and embarrassing argument in the living room. After years of being divorced, they've started to date again and it's pretty clear to Eva that it will end in tears. To make matters worse, she has to suffer through the whole party serving food with her awkward neighbor Oliver, who has a huge crush on her.

When she steps out to sneak a quick cigarette, Eva is accosted by her mom's friend who hands her a cake box and rushes off. She's horrified to find that inside is not a birthday cake, but a *wedding* cake. Eva immediately confronts her mom, who confirms her worst fears. Her parents are getting remarried, here, at the party, in a hour. To her frustration, her mom seems not to understand Eva's concerns and encourages her to pick a reading to share during the ceremony.

Instead Eva locks herself in the bathroom to drink tequila, but Oliver intervenes before she can wreck havoc on the wedding materials and diverts her to the pool where she settles on eating the tell-tale cake. However, when her dad tracks the kids down he's furious about Eva's bad attitude and demands she rejoin the party. Eva decides to flee the party in her mom's car and Oliver joins her out of concern, but they make it just a few feet before they crash in the driveway. Eva takes off again amidst a hail of her parents reprimands. When the sun goes down she finds herself vomiting alone on a suburban street having alienated everyone.

When Oliver comes to find her, she finally has a honest talk about how scared the wedding makes her and they have their first kiss. They return to the house to find her parents have waited for her to start the ceremony. As Eva watches her parents exchange rings, she decides being right for someone mean a lot of different things.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Fickle or Fair comes from a personal experience. My parents have married each other three times. The third time, they decided to surprise their friends and myself by getting married during my dad's 50th birthday party.

I was 15 at the time and very much used to the dynamic that comes from having divorced parents. The fact that years later they started dating again seemed like a huge mistake to me. When they signed the papers in the middle of a drunken adult crowd, my world crumbled. I felt I had nothing to say about a decision that was made without me, and that will directly affect me.

I was drawn to that idea of how when we are younger we tend to have a very black and white understanding of love and relationships. And I wanted to take my experience as a starting point for a story told from a teenager's perspective because it's a period in which everything seems to be so dramatic and radical. I'm intrigued by adolescence, as it is a moment of transition where everything is constantly changing, we begin to define ourselves, and feel the need to have a voice, take risks and act out.

Fickle or Fair is the story of a girl who feels excluded by her parents decision and leads her to find her place while her world changes in one day.

Through the point of view of our main character I wanted to convey the need for consistency and stability, and how her parent's union bring her the exact opposite. By digging into her fear of uncertainty and the need to control everything that surrounds her she goes on a journey that forces her to reconsider her perspective on love.

The story follows a young girl who discovers that only by letting go and accepting uncertainty as part of her life, she can find stability within herself to finally find her place in the middle of her chaotic parents.

- Paz Leon

BIOGRAPHIES - FILMMAKERS

JULIAN OUANES



Julian is a graduate from Macalester College with a BA in Film & Media Studies. He has helped co-produce several features in the midwest and worked extensively with production companies on the east coast. Most recently, Julian worked at Twin Cities Public Television on “MN Original”, a show that features local artists of all varieties. Julian currently resides in Los Angeles and is studying Film Producing at the American Film Institute.

PAZ LEON



Paz was born in San José, Costa Rica. She went to college in Lyon, France and lived there for 5 years, graduating with an MA in Literature and Film studies. She has worked in several film festivals including Sundance, as well as in modern art museums in Costa Rica. Besides from directing four short films, she has worked twice for director Hernan Jimenez as Art Director and First AD in feature films *A Ojos Cerrados* and *El Regreso* (New York City International Film Festival, Mar del Plata Film Festival.) She currently lives in Los Angeles and earned her M.F.A in directing from AFI.

COLIN OH



Colin Oh was born in New York and grew up in Princeton, New Jersey. He has been surrounded by art since birth, his mother being a trained painter and his father being a still photographer. He graduated from Drexel University in 2008 and moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in cinematography. He has shot music videos and short films, many of which have gone the festival circuit. A true believer that the next project is his greatest, Colin is always looking towards the horizon for unique and interesting stories to tell.

VANI MACISAAC



Vani Macisaac grew up at an ashram in the Virginia countryside, of all places. She received her B.F.A. in Digital Filmmaking from Ringling College of Art and Design, in Sarasota, FL, where she discovered her attraction to film had more to do with keyboards than with celluloid. She currently lives in Los Angeles and is earning her M.F.A. in Screenwriting from the American Film Institute.

JONNY CONVERSE



Jonny graduated from The College of William and Mary in 2010 with a BA in Government. However, throughout his undergraduate study, he also pursued an education in film theory and production. While in college, he edited two short narratives and a short documentary while studying abroad. Over the course of his studies at AFI, he has edited 9 short narrative films. Most recently he worked as an assistant editor on Lucy Walkers latest feature documentary *The Crash Reel*, which premiered at Sundance this year. Jonny and Paz have had a rich collaboration as “Fickle or Fair” marks the third film they have worked on together.

BIOGRAPHIES - TALENT

JASMINE JESSICA ANTHONY



At the age of five Jasmine Jessica Anthony was cast as Leonardo DiCaprio's younger sister in the blockbuster feature film, *Catch Me If You Can*. Her work on stage includes notable shows as *A Christmas Carol*, and *Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Jasmine has work in television as the youngest daughter of Oscar winner Geena Davis in the hit ABC one hour drama series, *Commander in Chief*; a role that earned the young performer a Young Artist Award as the Best Actress in a Television Series. Jasmine returned to the big screen in the horror blockbuster from Dimension Films thriller, *1408*, filmed in London. Starring with John Cusack, and Samuel Jackson. Another notable film performance garnered her the Most Outstanding Performance Award, from the prestigious Florida Film Festival for her role playing opposite Winona Ryder in *Water Pills*.

AUSTIN MINCKS



Austin Mincks was born in Illinois and moved to California at the age of 6. He has appeared in commercial's for Kellogg's Frosted Flakes, Coca Cola, Walmart, Discover Card, Arby's, Game Stop, Scott Paper Products and Playstation PSP. He landed his first TV role on Matthew Grey Gubler's directorial episode of *Criminal Minds*. Shortly after, Mincks got another role on *Melissa and Joey* opposite Joey Lawrence and Melissa Joan Hart. He had his first voice over role on Genndy Tartakovsky's *Sym-Bionic Titan* for Cartoon Network as Baron. *Fickle or Fair* was his first AFI film experience and one he will treasure for life.

ELIZABETH GREER



Elizabeth Greer (BFA NYU, MFA Yale) has been cast in guest starring roles on many TV series, including *Cold Case*, *The Shield*, *My Own Worst Enemy*, *Charmed*, *Rendez-View*, and *West Wing*. She was also case in such films as *Smiley*, *The Gunrunner Billy Kane*, *Djinn*, *Interference*, *Transformers*. She appeared in the awarded short, *Sexting*, written and directed by Neil LaBute. Elizabeth works regularly in theater in Los Angeles and has appeared in many of the East-La festivals, such as *Winterfest*, *Plays du Jour*, and *fESTivity*. She appeared in the Murray Mednick world premiere, *Daddy-O Dies Well*. She appeared in the Sophie Treadwell play, *Machinal*, with the Open Fist Theater Company. She has performed leading roles in over 70 plays at venues such as the Yale Repertory Theater, Lincoln Theater, The American Jewish Theater and many more.

ROBERT LEWIS STEPHENSON



Robert has spent many years performing on stage, film and television in a variety of roles ranging from the very dramatic to heartfelt comedies. He particularly enjoys working with young new directors who are finding their voice in film. His most recent film *Extracted*, which received rave reviews at Sundance, an *Incident in San Ysidro*, where Robert plays an alcoholic struggling to keep his relationship and life from falling apart, were directed by first time filmmakers.

PRODUCTION STILLS



Justin Kane (Camera Operator), Connor O'Brien (Gaffer), and Colin Oh (Cinematographer) plan the next shot.



Paz Leon (Director), blocks the shot with Austin Mincks (Oliver), Michelle Stumpf (Prop Master) Jessica Mahnke (Production Designer), and Colin Oh (Cinematographer).



Paz Leon (Director), explains to her crew why she needs just 1 more take!



The team preparing for another wonderful day of production.

















AFI PRESENTS

FICKLE OR FAIR

END CARDS:

For my parents, Patricia and Juan Jose

Directed by: Paz Leon

Written by: Vani Maclsaac

Story by: Paz Leon

Produced by: Julian Ouanes

Cinematography by: Colin Oh

Production Design by: Jessica Mahnke

Edited by: Jonathan Converse

Starring: Jasmine Jessica Anthony
Austin Mincks
Elizabeth Greer
Robert Stephenson

Casting by: Lisa Essary and Stephanie Blume

Music Supervisor: Federico Miranda

END CRAWL

CAST

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Eva | Jasmine Jessica Anthony |
| Oliver | Austin Mincks |
| Margaret | Elizabeth Greer |
| Edward | Robert Stephenson |
| Cindy (Cake Lady) | Jane Oppenheimer |
| Reverend | Bobby Reed |

| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Stunt Coordinator | Deven MacNair |
| Stunt Player | Nicole Randall |

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Party Goers | Brad Grusnick |
| | Susan Hickman |
| | Amber Hood |
| | Matt Kavanaugh |
| | Charlene Mora |

BACKGROUND ARTISTS

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Ann Doty | Janice Spearlman |
| Armon Y. Altan | John De Firo |
| Catherine Burns | Karl Mermann |
| Christopher Zanderholm | Leigh Ann Clark |
| Colleen Crandall | Marcela Gomez |
| DK Keinemer | Mary Magdalene |
| Dontamelle Davis | Nishiro Fitzgerald |
| Duane Avery | Rhoda Pell |
| Erin Dorkin | Steven Goodman |
| Errol Jackson | Tonie Marie Spers |
| Hiram Illaraza | Vivian Luther |

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Unit Production Manager | Robert Powell |
| First Assistant Directors | Lucille OuYang |
| | Kelly Stevens |
| Second Assistant Director | Tina Clark |

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Art Directors | Heather Drouillard |
| | Nicole Girard |
| Camera Operator | Justin Kane |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| First Assistant Camera | Kristin Fieldhouse |
| Second Assistant Camera | Molly Becker |
| Still Photographer | Sara Ross-Samko |
| Script Supervisors | Shawn Tira |
| | Charise Mongiello |
| Production Coordinator | Molo Alcocer |
| Accountant | Josh Talley |
| Gaffer | Connor O'Brien |
| Best Boy Electrics | Johanna Coelho |
| | Boyd Hobbs |
| Electric | Rose Fadem-Johnston |
| DIT | Derrick Cohan |
| Key Grip | Andrew Shankweiler |
| Best Boy Grip | Mykee Del Mundo |
| Dolly Grip | Ludwig Linnekogal |
| Grips | Max Margolin |
| | Peter Koocheradis |
| | Quinn Feldman |
| | Gareth Paul Cox |
| | Tim Kang |
| 2nd Second Assistant Director | Molo Alcocer |
| Post Sound Services Provided By | Tab Sound Design |
| Sound Desginer & Re-recording Mixer | William Tabanou |
| Additional Post Sound Facility | Monkeyland Audio |
| Foley Engineer | Greg Mauer |
| Foley Walker | Jim Baily |
| Production Sound Mixer | Fred Schultz |
| Boom Operator | Joe Jeszek |
| Costume Designer | Dakota Keller |
| Key Make-up Artists | Cortney Heiser |
| | Kari Cottom |
| Property Master | Michelle Stumpf |
| Set Dresser | Justine Smith |
| Art PAs | Cinti Bencomo |
| | Daniel Stevens |

Transportation Jonny Ware
Chad Lavoy
Chris Di Marco

Key Set PA Derek Taylor
Production Assistants Jared Jacovich
Devin Law
Nadia Roberts

Extras Casting Robert Powell
Catering Impeccable Taste Catering
Craft Service Arts & Crafty
First Aid Cathy Strangis
Studio Teachers Frank Gieb
Stella Pacific

"I'm Through With Romance"

Composed by: Richie Milton

Published by: AudioSparx

"Muppets on the Titanic"

Composed by: Don Julin

Published by: AudioSparx

"Old Fashioned Waltz With Me"

Composed by: William Peklinksy

Published by: Skip Peck Music

"Your Heart (Instrumental)"

Composed by: Howard Herrick

Published by: Minster Hill Publishing Company

"All I Need Is You"

Written by: Regina Paglia-Smoler

Published by: AudioSparx

THE FILMMAKERS WISH TO THANK

DONORS

Catherine Abbate
Sara Brenes Akerman
Doryce Anderson
Prem Anjali
Neal Asthana
Chloe Bailly
Paul Barsel
Monika Beutel
Carol Binstock
Peter Bognanni
Drew Callister
Jennifer Carr
Elias Carranza
Patricia Cartin
Stephen Cases
Michelle Casteleyn
Lea Caufin
Julia Colton
Michael Coulter
Nate H. Crocker
Jenny Darwent
Susan Darwent
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Daniel Day
James Driver
Yael Fachler
Giancarlo Fagon
Joe Feldman
Terence Ferrant
Kevin Fillette
Robert Freund
Clayton Frey
Mohannad Ghawanmeh
Anna Giraud
Elliot Goodzeit
Heidi Haaland
Luke Harris
Hernan Jimenez
Maureen Kader
Marta E. Kidd
Killian Kiely
Katherine Kohls

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Fernanda Leon
Maria Barbara Leon
Vadim Leonov
Manuel Lestruhaut
Nolan Levenson
Titus Levy
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J.L. MacIsaac
Mohammad Majd
Janice Matthews
Charles Matthews
Andrew McIntyre
Elizabeth McLoughlin
Elena Mendez
Claire Mercusot
Jorge Monge
Maria Monge Salazar
Jamie Nguyen
Jung Ja Oh
Phillip Oh
Kevin Oh
Won Oh
Jacqueline Ouanes
Suzan Anderson Ouanes
Arun Pillai-Essex
Kevin Poore
Patrick Powers
Molly Reardon
Mariana Rivera
Benedicte Roy
Robert Schwed
Alec Schwimmer
Ross Sheil
Brenda Sherwood
William Siegel
Zane Smith
Christina Thuermer
Tina Thuermer
Elodie Trevoux
Cyndi Trissel
Loes van Riel

Kurt Kramer
Callie Krzyzaniak
Swami Lalitananda
Alonso Leiton
Ana Leon

Daya Verity
Maricruz Vicente
Christos Voutsinas
Melanie Wainberg
Megan Winkley
Nicolas Wong

SPECIAL THANKS

Susan Anderson
Ari Aster
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Ric Halpern
Hernan Jimenez
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Ron Kilgard
Lynzee Klingman
Akis Konstantakopoulos
Edouard de Lachomette
Enrique Latapi
Jnanam MacIsaac
Ganesh MacIsaac

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Sasa Numic
Jong Oh
Phillip Oh
Soonae Oh
Abdessatar Ouanes
Jacqueline Ouanes
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Jonathan Converse, AFI Editing Fellow
Paz Leon, AFI Directing Fellow
Vani Maclsaac, AFI Screenwriting Fellow
Colin Oh, AFI Cinematography Fellow
Julian Ouanes, AFI Producing Fellow

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