

# B-LOVE

MELISSA SAINT

ILARIA CIARDELLI

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RISERVATI PICTURES  
ILARIA CIARDELLI • MELISSA SAINT

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY MATTEO VALENTINI EDITED BY TOMMASO FURI

## LOGLINE

The unfaithful relationship between Amanda (Ilaria Ciardelli), her ex Luke (Matteo Valentini) and Luke's new girlfriend Kate (Melissa Saint).

## FULL SYNOPSIS

It's night time, the young Amanda (Ilaria Ciardelli) can't sleep, and starts to text to her ex boyfriend Luke (Matteo Valentini). The two argue about their troubled past, and Amanda asks for another chance to Luke, but the latter replies to have finally found the love of his life, Kate (Melissa Saint). Right in that moment, Amanda throws the phone on the floor, waking up someone next to her: this someone is Kate. She asks to Amanda what happened, but the latter ignores the question, and Kate goes back to sleep.

# AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

- AWARD WINNER: Best Director, Super Short Category, Alternative Film Festival – Fall 2018 (<https://bit.ly/2xG2cDV>) September 2018.
- NOMINEE: Best Drama, Super Short Category, Alternative Film Festival – Fall 2018 (<https://bit.ly/2xG2cDV>) September 2018.
- AWARD WINNER: Best Mobile Film, Short Cine Fest. (<https://bit.ly/2p7rW7X>) August 2018.
- NOMINEE: Top 10 films of the week, Short Category, DMOFilmFestival (<https://bit.ly/2PHKSXe>) August 2018.
- AWARD WINNER: Best Micro Short Script, Berlin Flash Film Festival, (<https://bit.ly/2L8ONgR>) April 2018.
- NOMINEE: Best Micro Short Drama, Berlin Flash Film Festival, (<https://bit.ly/2PikfYt>) July 2018.
- OFFICIAL SELECTION: London City Film Awards, October 2018.

## SPECIFICATIONS

Film type: Short

Runtime: 2 minutes

Genre: Drama

Release: 11 July 2018

Budget: 180GBP

Country of Filming: United Kingdom

Format: 2560X1440, anamorphic (moondog lab lenses), color

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

IMDb: [https://m.imdb.com/title/tt8705672/?ref=fn\\_al\\_tt\\_0](https://m.imdb.com/title/tt8705672/?ref=fn_al_tt_0)

Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/blovemovie/>

# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I want to thank everybody involved in the making of B-Love. A micro-short, about 2 minutes long, shot in 3 hours with an amazing cast composed by Ilaria and Melissa, two real actresses with a fantastic career in front of them, and editor Tommaso, whom work in post production gave the hint this short needed to be selected in festivals.

The idea came up for a screenwriting competition where I had 30 minutes time to write a 2 pages story.

So I took inspiration from a betrayal really happened to a friend of mine, and decided to make it a story of 2 minutes long, with a bedroom as the only location, and using the tool people nowadays use the most as the clue of the story: a smartphone.

Since the very low to no budget of this short (just 180 pounds), I decided to not lose time in finding a good camera and a good sound recordist but doing it in a 2018 style instead: smartphone 8Plus with moondog lab lenses and external mic directly connected with the phone. That's why, the only crew on the day, was me; eventually joined by Tommaso in editing room.

The message I wanted to share with this movie is that love can be in any form and orientation, and sometimes, your heart can beat for 2 people at the same time.

I'm truly thrilled on how the story came out, and I want to thank once again everybody involved.

# THE DIRECTOR – MATTEO VALENTINI

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Matteo Valentini (Vignola, MO, Italy - 16/11/1990) is an Italian screenwriter and director.

After leaving Italy for London, he studied screenwriting and filmmaking for two years, where he also expanded his knowledge of the field by attending many filmmaking workshops at the famous Raindance school in London.



In 2017, Valentini sold his horror feature "Acid Pit Stop" to the Silent Studios company in Southend, UK, where the movie was shot under the direction of Jason Wright, and with the participation of Bruce Payne. The same year, Valentini wrote, directed and produced the multi-awarded comedy web series "The Fridge: An Ugly Web Series", available on YouTube in Italian language with English subtitles, and awarded for "Best Web Series of the Month" at the AAB Film Festival. In 2018, Valentini wrote

and directed the micro-short drama "B-Love", which brought him to win the award for Best Director in the Super Short Category - Fall 2018 at the Alternative Film Festival in Toronto.

Valentini is mainly an action-comedy screenwriter who focuses his stories on a quirky mix of night life, drugs, pulp and crime, in the vein of "Crank", "Ocean's Eleven" or "I Can Quit Whenever I Want". Thanks to this style, his two latest action-comedy scripts "Tank Dust" and "We Just Need Some Money" have been included in many IMDB qualifying festivals like "The Monthly Film Festival", "The Rome Prisma Awards" and "The Monkey Bread Tree Festival".

He is now writing one comedy and one horror sci-fi feature, while busy with the pre-production of his comedy short "The Social Doctor".

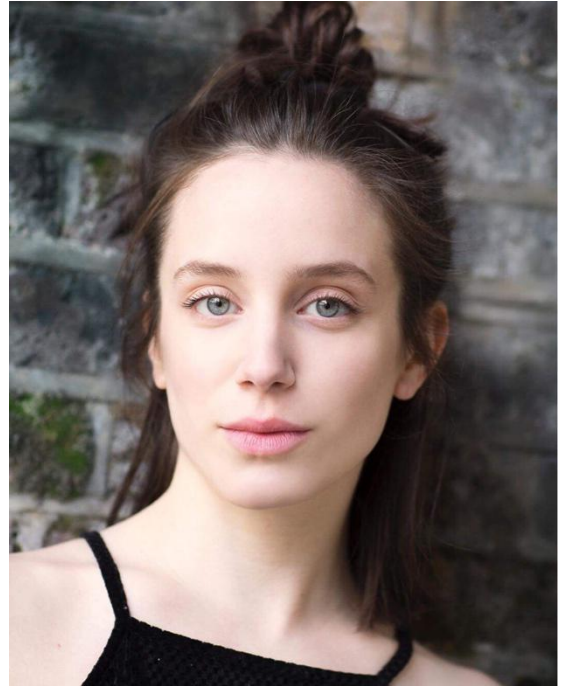
# CAST

## Ilaria Ciardelli (Amanda)

Ilaria was part of the Venti Lucenti Theatre Company, in Italy.

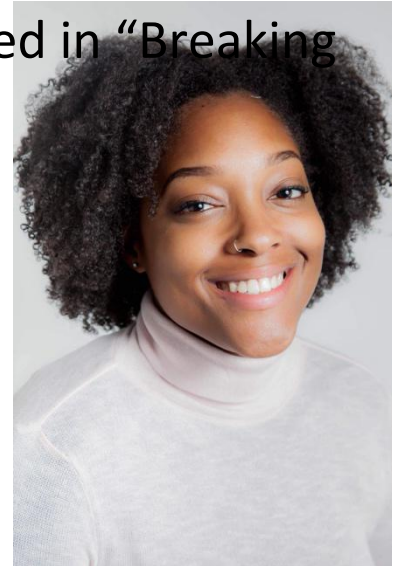
She then moved to England where she trained at the London School of Dramatic Arts.

Theatre credits include: The Blind Truth (Lyric Hammersmith), Maps to Zodiac (National Theatre), Infinity Series (Lyric Hammersmith), Boy Stroke Girl (Etcetera Theatre), The Blue Room (Drayton Arms).



## Melissa Saint (Kate)

Melissa is currently training at Identity School of Acting where her roles have included Anna in Closer and Sandra in Clubland. She has also appeared in “Breaking Borders” (Etcetera Theatre) and “Free Hugs” (Katspace Theatre). She graduated from University of Exeter with a degree in English, Drama and French before deciding to pursuing her acting career. In her spare time, Melissa is also a singer-songwriter. She will be playing Erycah in “PYNEAPPLE” (Tristan Bates Theatre) in November.



## CREW

Tommaso Furi - Editor (Cesena, FC, Italy 19/11/1998) is an Italian videomaker, D.O.P. and editor. He worked for independent short films for instructional projects “I Nativi Digitali” and “Fair Play – il calcio vincente” and the web series “Bronx stadium”. His first feature film as D.O.P. is "Amigdala", out in 2019.



He also makes corporate videos, events (weddings, parties) and commercials.

<https://vimeo.com/tommasofuri>

# INTERVIEW WITH MATTEO VALENTINI

## **1) How did you come up with the idea?**

I needed to produce a story simple and engaging at the same time. Two characters, one bed, and a quick conversation on the phone with a final twist: there's the conflict, the resolution and a good connection with today's relationships. Thanks to the hint I had by a real relationship gone wrong happened to a friend of mine, I turned it into this 2 minutes drama.

## **2) Where was the film shot?**

The film was shot in my own bedroom. We moved the bed away from the wall so that Melissa Saint (Karen) could hide between bed and wall until the frame where she showed up next to Ilaria.

## **3) What camera did you use?**

I shot the short using my smartphone: iPhone 8Plus with moondog lab lenses and external mic connected.

#### **4) What's the message of this movie? And why did you write a LGBT subject?**

I've always been intrigued by b-sexual relationships, I simply love the freedom of loving people of any gender. The message is very simple: love is love, no matter which orientation you have; and sometimes, you can just love two people at the same time, even if they are from two different genders.

#### **5) How long did you take to have the whole movie completed?**

I wrote it in one day as said before, then I submitted it to the "Berlin Flash Film Festival" where I won the April 2018 edition for "Best Micro Short Script". Thanks to this award, I felt more confident, and I found the two actresses in early May. I wrote the shot list, organised the shooting

day, shot the short in about 3 hours on May 29th, then about a month of editing, and the movie was finally ready by July the 11<sup>th</sup>. I then uploaded the short on Vimeo on the same day, about 3 months after I wrote it.

## **6) How did you find the actresses?**

Ilaria Ciardelli (Amanda), auditioned for a role in my very first short in 2017 but didn't get the part. I was so impressed by her performance though that I decided to give her the part for this short without even another audition. Eventually, she told me about one of her classmates looking for a new role in order to increase her experience, and since Melissa Saint (Kate) matched perfectly the role thanks to her skills, I've cast her right away. Couldn't make better choice.

## **7) Any funny thing happened on set?**

Well, Melissa kindly loaned her phone for the whatsapp part, so she had to change her profile picture with mine. Basically, while shooting, every five minutes she was getting messages from her relatives and friends asking like "who's that dude on your profile pic? New boyfriend?"

# STILLS



# CREDITS

Amanda – Ilaria Ciardelli

Kate – Melissa Saint

Luke – Matteo Valentini

Edited by Tommaso Furi

Written and Directed by Matteo Valentini

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