

L'ARPÈGE

"Trauma doesn't give us poetry. People do."

BEST SHORT FINALIST
1904
DEAF FILM FESTIVAL
DEAF VISUAL ARTS FESTIVAL
2020

WINNER
REALE
FILM FESTIVAL
BEST SOUNDTRACK

AUDIENCE CHOICE FINALIST
1904
DEAF FILM FESTIVAL
DEAF VISUAL ARTS FESTIVAL
2020

FINALIST
FLORENCE
FILM AWARDS
2019

PARIS
LIFT-OFF
FILM FESTIVAL
PARIS
2019
ONLINE OFFICIAL SELECTION

OFFICIAL SELECTION
uhva*ti*film
SEIZE THE FILM
2020

FINALIST
EURASIA
FEST
2020

PRISMA
OFFICIAL SELECTION

Tanya Jutras
Producer
226.340.4120
tanya.jutras1@gmail.com

Joshua Maheu
Director
514.947.9516
joshuamaheuproductions@gmail.com
www.joshmaheu.wixsite.com/larpege

LOGLINE

After locking herself from the outside world, Élyse, a former deaf pianist, begins to perceive the sounds around her as rays of colour. Yet, this gift is not as radiant as it seems. Through connection and love, Élyse navigates the treacherous waters of confidence and true happiness.

*"The release of **L'Arpège** is sure to wow audiences big and small! Bringing to life a colourful tale of grief, love and passion, **Joshua Maheu**'s most recent success will truly warm your heart."*





STORY

***L'Arpège** is the coming of age story of Élyse, a former deaf pianist who, after the death of her daughter, struggles with isolation. We meet Élyse at her most timid and elusive self, avoiding human connections at all costs; going even as to reject her closest acquaintance Audrey's jazz concert invitations. One night, by chance, she begins to develop the temporary ability to perceive sound as colour (i.e. chromesthesia). This kaleidoscopic ability reinvigorates her appreciation for the little things. Pushing her to find the beauty within her life that she had once envisioned. As Élyse rediscovers her love for the piano, her relationship with the instrument has profoundly changed; she plays as if she is painting an awe-inspiring and colourful tableau. Over time, her chromesthesia fades, and Élyse loses the safety net and meaning that these colours gave to her life. In the end, despite losing her ability, Élyse comes to understand how her connections were at the source of her confidence, happiness and healing over the chromesthesia itself.*

THE CAST

Featuring the stellar performances of

MARIE DUPREZ

NATASHA QUIRKE





Natasha Quirke

*Born in Ireland and raised in the midlands, **Natasha Quirke** had dreams of becoming an actress from her earliest memories.*

Quirke has always been inspired by some of the world's great directors, among them - Martin Scorsese, William Wyler, Jane Campion and Darren Aronofsky. The versatile actress discovered her love for acting and singing when she booked the role of 'Eliza Doolittle' from 'My Fair Lady' in a primary school musical.

*Having appeared in hit television series such as **DC's Legends of Tomorrow** (2018), **When Calls The Heart** (2016-2017) and **The Tudors** (2010), Natasha always brings high energy, experience and professionalism to set.*



Marie Duprez

*Born and raised in France, near Paris, **Marie Duprez** discovered acting at the age of 9. She practiced stage acting until she graduated from high school with a Performing Arts diploma.*

*She later enrolled in the Parisian acting school, **Côté Cour, école de l'acteur**, where she acquired professional training in stage and film acting alongside film directing.*

She wrote and directed her 1st short movie in 2009, "Le mystère de l'Oiseau Bleu".

*She has starred in multiple and enticing projects since then such as the television series **Les pénétristes** (2013-2014) and **La fidélité** (2014).*

DIRECTOR & WRITER



Joshua Maheu

*French Canadian director **Joshua Maheu** pursued an educational path in Communications Studies at Concordia University before fully committing to his passion of storytelling.*

*Within his curriculum, his final film project **S.U.G.A.R.** (2017) truly led him to his filmic debut while winning his first award at the North American Film Awards.*

After completing his bachelor's degree, his pursuit took him to the sought-after Vancouver Film School where he completed a one-year film production degree.

*Having curated summers and worked at camps for children with disabilities for ten years, **L'Arpège** remains a truly introspective and intimate project. He wrote the piece as a response to his final thesis at Concordia on the representation of people with disabilities in cinema.*

*As he is excited to premiere **L'Arpège**, Joshua is currently developing his first web series, which is the tale of gender-bending courtesans, neon light districts and murder mysteries of the night.*

THE CREW

Showcasing the incredible talent and skill of



Tanya Jutras

Producer

*Tanya Jutras' producing career began long before entering the world of film. Having been in leadership positions for years, her ascension to the filmic world felt simply natural. Having produced short films for her circle, **L'Arpège** was the next step to elevate her career.*

Alexandre Pilon

Director of Photography

*Born in Ottawa, Alexandre's filmic rearing includes dozens of shorts films and music videos alongside friends and peers. Alexandre is renowned for his aesthetic approach to character subjectivity and framing. He is currently working on Joshua Maheu's upcoming webseries **Sugar**.*

Taryn Alexandra Birkett

Production Designer

*Originally from Toronto, Taryn's artistic debut began when her work has won at the United Nations Alliance of Civilization's Plural+ Youth Video Festival, in New York, in 2019. Since then, she has revitalized film who touch themes of feminism and black identity. She is currently working on Joshua Maheu's **Sugar**.*



CRITIC REVIEW

Prisma Independent Film Awards

*"**Joshua Maheu**, in a riot of colors, signs a jewel of short cinema, unique in its style. If the most surprising thing is the strong identity of the film, which distinguishes it from the thousands of other shorts produced every year, it is the sensitivity that then accompanies and cradles us for the rest of this wonderful film. With a somewhat naive style, "**L'Arpège**" paints (perhaps this is the most suitable term) an engaging and very delicate work, which becomes a much broader sensory experience than a simple cinematic story. Through this elaborate and exciting "mise en scene" the film is able to express with tender empathy the depth of memories, hope and the link that exists with creativity.*

*With a poetic and evidently mature visual narrative, the director reconstructs a small universe that seems only to touch reality, giving us a nostalgic and almost dreamlike atmosphere. Through this aesthetic filter, **Joshua Maheu** opens to us a glimpse of his imagination, and the cinematic experience becomes intimate and engaging, like a whispered secret. A praise to the soundtrack that not only enhances the narrative but becomes a fundamental part of the script.*

*On the other hand, the dialogical structure is set on the same tone of music, in a perfect combination between music and silences, which perhaps reflect the whole nature of the protagonist. The film never seems to lose its balance, remaining in all its components perfectly in line with **Maheu's** beautiful poetics. Thanks to this rare and exciting cinematic coherence, the short seems to last much longer, extending lightly on the notes of the piano, which remain in mind for a long time, after the end."*





THE MUSIC

Jean-Michel Blais

Music By

***Jean-Michel Blais** is an award-winning composer and pianist from Québec, Canada. His music is influenced by a range of composers and pianists such as Frédéric Chopin, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Maurice Ravel, classical minimalists (Steve Reich, Philip Glass, Erik Satie), and modern composers such as Chilly Gonzales and Yann Tiersen.*

*His debut studio album **II** was released in April 2016 on Arts & Crafts, garnering critical acclaim, including making Time magazine's top ten albums of the year list. **L'Arpège** showcases two pieces from this successful album (i.e. **Nostos** & **II**).*

*He won the "Prix d'honneur du Jury" at the 2019 Cannes International Film Festival for his soundtrack composition on Xavier Dolan's **Mathias & Maxime**.*

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

L'Arpège is all about connection. Connection with the self. Connection with others. Connection with our past. It is about finding your inner light, with the guidance of external stimuli, through the darkest of times; allowing yourself to actualize your outlook on life as well as your confidence.

We want to tell this story to help people grow. To heal. To understand their behaviour. To allow people to witness how trauma does not have to take control over one's life. Rather, to see how the people we love can inspire us. Change us. Move us.

- *Joshua Maheu*





Production Manager **Kelly Lee** First Assistant Director **Gauri Lad** Second Assistant Director **Morgan Bowles**
Script Supervisor **Daniel Moreno** Camera Operator **Kyle Eastwood** First Assistant Camera **Carolina Mazo Correa**
Second Assistant Camera **Anna Tsai** Gaffer **Tian Fu** Key Grip **Harpinder Singh** Dolly Grip **Luke Sarazin**
Grip **Kento Takahashi** Electric **Arthur Ku** Art Director **Cara Jameson** Art Assistant **Eman Mahmood**
Art Assistant **Mina Barry** Art Assistant **Joshua Maheu** Key Makeup Artist **Alison Jefferys** Key Hair Stylist **Toni Kozlowski**
Makeup Assistant **Jessica Wong** Boom Operator **Nathan Schiltz** Sound Mixer **Frank Munro** Stills Photographer **Cara Jameson**
Editor **Jade Olson** Assistant Editor **Aaditya Bhardwaj** Second Editor **Joshua Maheu** SFX Editing **Jordan Andrew**
Re-Recording Mixing **Jordan Andrew** Post-Supervisor **Tanya Jutras** Colourist **Joshua Maheu** VFX Specialist **Tanya Jutras**

...

Special Thanks

Equipment **VFS Productions** Costumes & Accessories **Community Thrift Shoppe** Music **Arts & Craft Music Inc.**

...



MERCI!

