





*Title:* **The Face**  
*Project type:* **Short film**  
*Genre:* **Dark comedy, Horror**  
*Length:* **8m 2s**  
*Production year:* **2025**  
*Premiere:* **Oct 4th 2025**

*Original title:* **Ansiktet**  
*Country of origin:* **Sweden**  
*Language:* **Swedish**  
(English subtitles and .srt available)

*Shooting format:* **Digital 4k**  
*Aspect ratio:* **4:3**  
*Sound mix:* **5.1 & 2.0 Stereo**

*Production company:* **Duga Film**  
*Co-production company:* **Film i Väst**

*Writer & director:* **Andreas Mortensen**  
*Producers:* **Andreas Mortensen  
& Johan Valentin Falklind**

[en.mortensenandreas.com/ansiktet](http://en.mortensenandreas.com/ansiktet)

# LOGLINE

Mia tries to break up with Tim, but isn't honest about her feelings. Instead she lets a sock puppet do the talking. But at night, the reason why she's afraid of being blunt is made apparent when Tim's true face, the way only she sees him, is revealed.

# SYNOPSIS

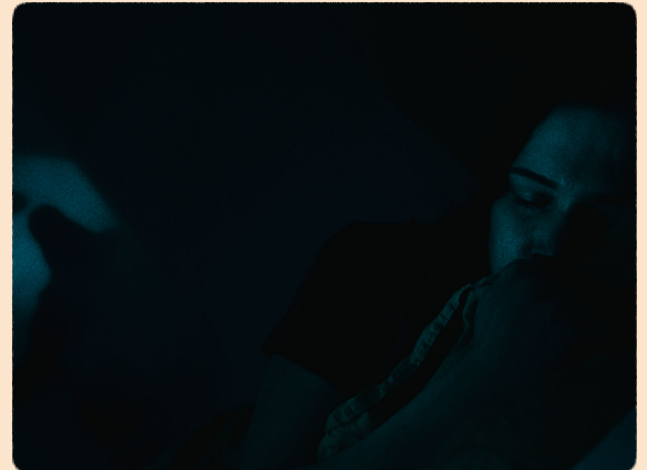
In the middle of a breakup, Mia and Tim meet to talk things through. Tim, sad and hurt, explains how he feels lonely and misses Mia contanly. Mia in return waits, with an apathetic expression, for him to finish talking. She's already wearing her jacket and is ready to leave. But she's not the one Tim is talking to. On Mia's hand is a sock puppet, and the puppet replies with empathy and softness. It absolves Tim of any wrongdoing or responsibility in their breaking up, and tells him only things he wants to hear. That is, until he asks whether she'd want to give their relationship another chance.

The sock puppet stops itself from replying to this, while Mia herself shakes her head. Tim starts crying, and the sock puppet, unable to comfort him with the truth, kisses him softly. As the kissing intensifies, Tim and the puppet end up in bed. And Mia, at the other end of the sock, lies uncomfortable and cold, waiting for it to be over.

At night, Tim gets up to get a glass of water, while Mia stays in bed. In the dark, she listens to him walking back from the kitchen. But the sock puppet, haplessly thrown on the floor, starts whispering to her, telling her that it's sorry. And meanwhile, Tim's footsteps grow heavier and more menacing as they approach. Once outside the door, he stops with a final, loud bang which shakes the room. Mia closes her eyes quickly, pretending to sleep.

Through the bedroom door comes a large, dark figure. Heavy and growling, it walks towards the bed. When it lays in the bed, it puts its arm around Mia from behind. The arm embracing her is inhuman and vile, with long, dark nails.

The next morning, Tim wakes up alone in bed. When he gets up and looks for Mia, he realizes that the apartment is empty. And when he does, the pitiful, hurt person from the night before disappears, and he angrily punches a violent hole in the wall.



## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

*The Face* is a surreal but true story about being trapped in an abusive relationship, and how domestic violence is invisible from the outside. A dark comedy which morphs into a horror film with retro film aesthetics.

The absurdity of the opening scenario, with a guy pouring his heart out to a sock puppet, is inherently funny. But there are no jokes added, as none are needed nor welcome. It's not a breakup story with an anthropomorphic sock; it's a story of navigating manipulation and emotional entrapment.

So through the bizarre nature of the film's first half, the emotion is played completely straight, performance-, visual-, and music-wise, with hints of the darkness that will come in the second half's change of perspective. The horror comes from seeing Tim the way Mia sees him, and through that transition between viewpoints and genres, the style remains consistent. Something we worked very hard for, in order to keep the film's unique tone and identity intact.

A deeply personal story for me, inspired by both personal experiences, and my parents' relationship. The monstrous foot-

steps I heard as a child walked past my room, and the horror in the film grew from me realizing that many people do share a bed with it.

But my own experiences of living with a manipulative partner lack a level of fear that women in abusive relationships endure. As a man living with a woman, the physical fear of someone larger, who can easily overpower me, isn't there. Thinking of the level of fear I've experienced in a violent relationship, I have immense empathy and grief for those who endure that which I didn't.

And so, we don't portray the violence overtly, as I don't see that as my story to tell. With *The Face*, we do portray the physically imposing figure that an abusive partner is, but we do not illustrate the violence on screen.

The final shot is of a hole punched angrily in the wall, as I feel that an image of a broken wall is a symbol for a violent home.

**Andreas Mortensen**

writer / director / editor / special-FX artist / composer



## PRODUCER'S STATEMENT

As a producing duo we are also a creative team, making films, commercials and music videos together for over ten years. Andreas is a writer and director, and Johan is a prolific cinematographer. Producing our projects ourselves has given us the freedom to evolve our filmmaking in a way that complements each other's respective strengths. Which is what Duga Film was born out of.

*The Face* was shot on location in Gothenburg, Sweden, in the apartment of Andreas' mother, as an homage to one of the people who inspired the story. The crew are all seasoned professionals who we've worked with before, and who bring a level of quality that's as high as anything in the Swedish industry. We knew first-hand that their dedication and trust would elevate the overall production value and our intent as producers and artists.

It was always important for us to stay true to the initial creative vision, regardless of budgetary or other practical means. Therefore, as the project grew in size as it gained interest from financiers and co-producers, the ambition remained the same: to tell a poignant but unconventional story, with all the quirks unique to the writer-director. A clear and simple story, with symbolic imagery and splashes of surrealism in its concept. Plenty for the audience to latch onto and be intrigued by.

Our goal is to reach a larger audience with the *The Face's* unique tone and weight, and to solidify our brand as producers of quality films with elements of horror. To reach the audience we see ourselves as part of.

**Andreas Mortensen & Johan Valentin Falklind**  
*producers, Duga Film*

## CAST BIOS



**CHARLIE GUSTAFSSON**

*Tim*

Charlie Gustafsson is one of Sweden's most prolific and celebrated actors, starring in multiple large film and TV productions for nearly twenty years. Most recently in Netflix's top Nordic show *The Åre Murders* and the Netflix film *Love Forever*. He solidified his place in the hearts of Scandinavian audiences as the male lead in every season of *The Restaurant*.



**EMELIE DAHLSKOG**

*Mia*

Emelie Dahlskog is prolific as both actor and director in both Sweden and the UK. With a BA in acting from Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London and a degree in Screenwriting in Scotland, and more, they are experienced in all facets of film production. To audiences, they are most known for their starring roles in *Borg vs. McEnroe* and the remake of *The Emigrants*.

## KEY CREW BIOS



**ANDREAS MORTENSEN**

*writer / director / producer / editor / special-FX artist / composer*

Andreas Mortensen is an award winning screenwriter, director and producer from Sweden, with roots in arctic Norway, with a degree in commercial screenwriting. Since 2013, he has written, produced and directed short films and music videos, which have received international critical acclaim, as well as winning multiple prestigious awards for unproduced screenplays. A multi-disciplined artist, he retains creative control over all stages of his films; writing, directing, editing and composing the music himself.

His love for 70's and 80's horror film shines through with *The Face* as well as with his upcoming projects: the Nordic ghost story *Phantom Questions* and the horror satire feature *Video Violence*.



**JOHAN VALENTIN FALKLIND**

*producer / director of photography*

Johan Falklind is a prolific and celebrated cinematographer, currently based in Sweden and The Netherlands. He serves as director of photography on the nature documentary series *Kingdom of Fish*, and has worked on multiple Swedish and international productions such as *UFO Sweden* and *The Unthinkable*. His production company Duga Film has produced countless short films, music videos and commercials since its foundation in 2018.

His creative and technical approach to filmmaking has earned him a reputation for quality work internationally, and his growing repertoire of advanced and critically hailed productions shows his broad talent and commercial viability.

# HOD BIOS

## **ELLEN LAGERSTRÖM – Textile artist**

Ellen Lagerström an experienced textile artist who has worked in world-renowned fashion houses and textile labs in Denmark, Sweden and The Netherlands. She has degrees in fine arts and textile design from The Swedish School of Textiles. *The Face* is her first film, and her emphasis on various knitting techniques made her the perfect fit to design and hand-make the central sock puppet, as well as creating the monster suit.

## **Albin Abrahamsson – Colorist**

Albin Abrahamsson works at Tint studio in Gothenburg, Sweden, where he's assigned various post-production duties on film and television projects like *The Last Journey*, *A White White Day*, *Pleasure* and last year's Méliès d'Or winner *Handling the Undead*.

## **DAVID KUUSE – Sound designer & mix**

David Kuuse is a sound designer, sound recordist and foley artist working at the European Film Award winning Auditory Sound Studio. Credits include award winning short films and the hit series *The Pirate Bay*.

## **Sofie Eliasson – MUA, costumer & special-FX makeup artist**

Sofie Eliasson is one of Sweden's most prolific makeup artists in short film and commercial work, having worked with most of the major studios in the country. Her makeup work in the photography business shows off her skills in creating a unique visual style and tone for each project.

# CREDITS

## KEY CREW

*Writer & Director* **Andreas Mortensen**  
*Producers, Duga Film* **Andreas Mortensen & Johan Valentin Falklind**  
*Co-producer, Film i Väst* **Jenny Luukkonen**

## CAST

*Tim* **Charlie Gustafsson**  
*Mia* **Emelie Dahlskog**  
*Monster* **Jonathan McIntyre**  
*Body-double* **Love Bolin**

## CREW

*Director of Photography* **Johan Valentin Falklind**  
*1st Assistant Camera* **Maxime van Erp**  
*Gaffer* **Mikael Linell**  
*Best-boy* **Johannes Strömer**  
*Sound Recordist* **Otto Båth**

*Textile Artist & Creature Design* **Ellen Lagerström**  
*Costume & Makeup Artist* **Sofie Eliasson**  
*Special FX & Puppeteer* **Andreas Mortensen**  
*Special FX Makeup* **Sofie Eliasson**

*Editor* **Andreas Mortensen**  
*Colorist* **Albin Abrahamsson / Tint**  
*Sound Designer & Mix* **David Kuuse / Auditory**

*Composer* **Andreas Mortensen**

*Poster Illustrator* **Carl Jönsson**  
*Location* **Elisabeth Holmén**

“The Face” is produced by **Duga Film** in co-production with **Film i Väst** with support from **KulturUngdom**, **FilmCloud** & **The City of Gothenburg**

Copyright © 2025 Duga Film AB & Filmi Väst AB



# SCREENINGS & AWARDS

British Horror Film Festival	Oct 4th 2025 [World Premiere]
Abertoir Horror Festival	Nov 15th 2025
Light Till Dark Fantastic Film Festival	March 26th & 28th 2026 [Swedish Premiere]

- WINNER Best Short Film [BHFF]  
WINNER Best Actor, Charlie Gustafsson [BHFF]  
WINNER National Short Film Honorary Award [LtD]  
NOMINEE Best Director, Andreas Mortensen [BHFF]  
NOMINEE Méliès d'Argent [Abertoir]  
NOMINEE Best Short Film [Abertoir]

# USEFUL LINKS

[Production Company's Website](#)

[Co-production Company's Website](#)

["The Face" Website \(mortensenandreas.com\)](#)

[IMDb](#)

[Letterboxd](#)

[Teaser \(Vimeo\)](#)

[British Horror Film Festival 2025](#)

[Abertoir Horror Festival of Wales 2025](#)

**Andreas Mortensen**

[contact@mortensenandreas.com](mailto:contact@mortensenandreas.com)

+46 739 752 987

[en.mortensenandreas.com](mailto:en.mortensenandreas.com)

[@dugafilm](http://dugafilm)

**Johan Valentin Falklind**

[johan.falklind@gmail.com](mailto:johan.falklind@gmail.com)

+46 701 408 606

[johanfalklind.com](mailto:johanfalklind.com)

[@johanfalklind](https://www.instagram.com/johanfalklind)

