

## THE DARK OF NIGHT – PRESS INFORMATION

June 12, 2018

ROBIN WRIGHT is an American actress and director who is the recipient of seven Primetime Emmy Award nominations and has earned a Golden Globe Award and a Satellite Award for her work in television, most notably as Claire Underwood in *HOUSE OF CARDS*. In the sixth and final season of the show, Wright takes over as the President of the United States in front of the camera and does double duty behind the scenes as both a producer and director on the popular Netflix series. Wright is also an activist in the Democratic Republic of Congo, supporting several charitable causes through Pour Les Femmes, a line of sleepwear that donates a portion of its profits to women in the Congo, and Sunny Lion, which supports the *Raise Hope for Congo* movement

Wright's first foray as film director is the short film *THE DARK OF NIGHT*, shot on location at the vintage diner that served as the principle location for the classic Barry Levinson feature, *DINER* in Baltimore. Shot in black and white to capture the film noir style of this richly detailed suspense drama, the nine-minute short stars Leslie Bibb, Sam Rockwell, Callie Thorne, Michael Godere, and Nini Le Huynh, who was one of the executive producers on the project as well.

*THE DARK OF NIGHT* had its red-carpet world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival in 2017. The film and was also an official selection for the Mill Valley Film Festival, the Palm Springs International Film Festival, the Seattle Film Festival and was named Best Short by the LA Femme International Film Festival.



*Screenwriter, Denise Meyers, Actor and Executive Producer, Nini Le Huynh, Robin Wright, and editor, Alfonso Carrion*

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*Director Robin Wright with Leslie Bibb and Michael Godere rehearsing a scene from The Dark of Night*

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*Leslie Bibb, as Madeline, with Michael Godere, as Douglas Young*

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LESLIE BIBB transitioned into film and television during the late 1990s after a successful career as a model. First appearing on television in 1996 with minor roles in a few television series, she scored her first recurring role in the TV show *The Big Easy* before her role as Brooke McQueen on the WB Network dramedy series *Popular*. She received a Teen Choice Award for Television Choice Actress for the role. Bibb later starred as journalist Christine Everhart in *Iron Man* and *Iron Man 2*. As Madeline Andersson. In *THE DARK OF NIGHT*, Bibb plays against type as a hardened dame with an axe to grind.

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*Sam Rockwell, as Officer Witt, with Callie Thorne, as Bernice*

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SAM ROCKWELL is an Academy Award winning actor best known for his supporting role as the troubled police deputy in **THREE BILLBOARDS OUTSIDE EBBING MISSOURI**. Rockwell won the Best Supporting Actor as well as numerous other accolades, including a BAFTA Award, a Golden Globe Award, and two Screen Actors Guild Awards. Rockwell stars in **THE DARK OF NIGHT** as Officer Witt, an earnest cop who harbors a dark secret.

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*Nini Le Huynh, as Li, and Callie Thorne, as Bernice*

CALLIE THORNE portrays waitress Bernice Watkins, a woman trapped in dead end job and a lifeless marriage, desperate for a way out. Thorne has enjoyed an extensive career in television as Dr. Dani Santino in the critically acclaimed series *Necessary Roughness* as well as roles on *Rescue Me* and *Homicide: Life on the Streets*

MICHAEL GODERE, a New York based writer, actor and director known for his work on the showtime original series *THE AFFAIR*, stars as Douglas Young, a calculating grifter who shares a secret with both Madeline and Bernice. Godere also wrote and starred in *Loitering with intent*, which had its premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2014.

NINI LE HUYNH plays Li, a young Vietnamese laundress in *THE DARK OF NIGHT*. A gifted actress who has also appeared on *House of Cards*, Huynh performed double duty on the short as one of the executive producers, pulling together cast and crew to help make *THE DARK OF NIGHT* a reality.

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Screenwriter DENISE MEYERS came up with the idea for the film after participating in a short film challenge where writers were given a genre, character, setting, and eight days to write a twelve-page script. Two hours after receiving the assignment, Meyers had a completed draft, about a mysterious woman who takes refuge during a downpour at in an isolated diner on the outskirts of Chicago where everyone harbors a dangerous secret and nothing is as it seems. Inspired by her passion for old movies, Meyers envisioned a film noir style suspense drama with a strong female character at the center of a traditionally male genre, creating a story with more twists and turns in nine short minutes than most films have in ninety.



*Robin Wright, Leslie Bibb, Callie Thorne and Denise Meyers*

Madeline Anderson may look like a dame from some Dashell Hammett potboiler but she's an all-American badass forced to survive by her wits during a period in history when female crime was at an all time high. Bonnie Parker, Stephanie St. Clair, Ma Barker, Opal "Mack Truck" Long and Evelyn Frechette were more than just celebrated criminals, they were women who lived during a period of time that has long been overlooked by even the most forward-thinking historians. Prohibition and the Great Depression brought out the worst in everyone, and women were no exception.

The decision to film in black and white was easy, both as a lost art form, and as a celebration of the genre. Black and white photography lends itself to an entirely different mood and tone, something the Director of Photography, Dave Dunlap provided through his superior use of light and shadow to create the look and film of the best noir classics.

The entire crew on House of Cards worked on the short film, generously volunteering both their time and talents to allow junior crew members to gain experience on set to perform the jobs they want to do, not just the jobs that got them started. The sound engineer on the film was a boom operator on House of Cards, one of the executive producers got his start in the catering department, and one of the actors who plays Claire Underwood's security detail was a production assistant.



For more information on the film, please contact Denise Meyers at [delicateflowerfilms@gmail.com](mailto:delicateflowerfilms@gmail.com)