

Little SnowGirl Productions  
presents

# SPINNING



TRT: 00:12:07 – HD-CAM COLOR – ENGLISH – RED Camera

**Contact:**

Ramona Guentzel  
info@spinningmovie.com

www.SpinningMovie.com

**LOGLINE:**

Sometimes you're so busy in the past, you stop paying attention to the present.

**LONGER SYNOPSIS:**

Making breakfast for your child before school, watching your husband dance with your daughter, sewing a costume for the big school play. It's the little moments, the tender mercies, that we cherish. But, oh how easy it is for us to live in the past and forget to pay attention to the beauty of what lies in the present.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT:

This story was brought to me by one of my students at TheFilmSchool. Ramona Guentzel. Ramona is a lovely woman with a big heart, and her script touched me with its subtle understandings about love, marriage and family.

*Spinning* is a short film whose strength lies in its little moments. Making breakfast for your child before school, watching your husband dance with his daughter, sewing a costume for the big school play. It's the little moments, the tender mercies, that we cherish, but oh how easy it is for us to live in the past and forget to pay attention to the beauty of what lies in the present.

This is what touched me in Ramona's piece, and Ramona and I, along with our great producer Chris Oliver, set about to assemble a team of the best professionals we could to make this film as good as we could. Seattle has great acting and production talent, so it wasn't hard to find people, but it was hard to find people who were available as Seattle is also a city where we make a lot of indie films. But we managed to assemble a great crew, a lot of whom had worked with us on our previous film, *Arthur*, and we landed one of the best casts I have seen in Seattle.

We tried to stay present while we shot this film, and through post, paying attention to how lucky we were to have this opportunity. I hope those little moments in the film touch you as much as they have touched me.

- John Jacobsen, Director

## WRITER'S STATEMENT:

Spinning is a very personal story in many ways. It's about a complicated mother daughter relationship, which many of us have. We also have people in our lives that we have thrown away or shunned because of how they have "offended" us.

I have spent many a day and sometimes years holding someone at arm's length because of how they have treated me or because I think **they** need to apologize.

My hope is that this film will give us a child's lesson about forgiveness...that forgiveness is not to make my transgressor feel better. But that forgiveness is for me.

*I am so thankful for the many people who have helped me get this film to the big screen—especially my best friend and biggest supporter, Jeff Guentzel. And, for the amazing talents and mentorship of John Jacobsen. John has taught me so much about story telling and about having real passion for your work. The other man in my life right now is Chris Oliver, who is the most amazing producer ever! Chris, you rock! And to all my peeps, Kimberly, Nancy, Laurie Z, Carol, Chrissie, Nate, Nick, Eva, Paula, Mateo, Mikee, Lindsay, you are the wind (and prayer) beneath my wings!*

*Lastly, and mostly, thank you, my Lord Jesus, for the many blessings and for making my dreams a reality. "Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart." Psalm 37:4*

- Ramona Guentzel, Writer

## **FILMMAKER BIOS:**

### **JOHN JACOBSEN – Director**

John Jacobsen's career has encompassed direction, writing and production of feature films, films for television, short films, commercials, television shows and documentaries. He is the co-founder of TheFilmSchool and serves as its President. He was recently the Vice President of the ACT Theatre and still serves as a Trustee. He is a partner in the production company Moga/Jacobsen Productions and is the director and host of the show, Artist Toolbox. He has worked with such stars as Bill Pullman, Sandra Bullock, Eli Wallach, Marcia Gay Harden, Charlayne Woodard, Tara Reid, Stephen Tobolowsky, John Shea, Scott Bakula, Peter Boyle, among others.

The feature film "Around the Fire", which he directed, won top prize at the Giffoni Film Festival, and his short films also have received top awards at the Aspen Film Festival and the Houston International Film Festival. Jacobsen formerly ran the film and television department at UCLA Extension, the world's largest film school; has also directed more than 20 stage productions regionally and in New York; he lectures around the country on writing and teaches acting and directing at a variety of professional schools; worked as an assistant on Broadway to legendary director Hal Prince and sold several screenplays.

### **RAMONA GUENTZEL - Writer**

Ramona Guentzel is a writer and director in the Seattle area. In 2009 she went after her longtime dream of becoming a screenwriter and director and attended TheFilmSchool in Seattle, Washington. Her short film, Spinning, was featured in TheFilmSchool's Caught in the ACT Screenwriting series performed live at the ACT Theatre in Seattle.

Guentzel started out as a photographer and features writer but her passion has always been in the dramatic arts. She has worked in the writing industry for such Northwest icons as Nintendo of America and Microsoft. She wrote and directed live theatre for several years as the director of Lake Sammamish Drama Team. She is the founder and managing member of Little SnowGirl Productions.

### **CHRIS OLIVER - Producer**

Chris Oliver is an award-winning producer currently working in the Seattle area. His career has included producing, directing, writing, and production of feature films, short films, commercials, and television shows. He is the President and Founder of Wishing Star Pictures. His most recent credits include the short films ARTHUR and SPINNING, a PBS Nova special, and the national television show THE ARTIST TOOLBOX. He has worked with such stars as Tom Skerritt, Eric Roberts, Elizabeth Rohm, and Jason Alexander.

Oliver graduated from the University of Washington – School of Business with degrees in Entrepreneurship and Marketing. In an effort to understand all elements of film production, Oliver chose to build a strong background in film by attending TheFilmSchool's competitive screenwriting program, directing courses, and personal acting classes in the Seattle area. He currently has numerous film projects in various stages of development.

### **ELIOT ROCKETT – Director of Photography**

For over fifteen years Eliot has been shooting feature films, commercials, documentaries, and music videos. Along with The House Of The Devil his feature credits include: "Liberty Kid" directed by Ilya Chaiken, "Dirty" directed by Chris Fisher starring Cuba Gooding Jr. and Clifton Collins, "The Specials" directed by Craig Maizin starring Rob Lowe, Thomas Hayden Church and Jamie Kennedy, "Around The Fire" directed by John Jacobsen starring Devon Smith and Tara Reid, "Late Last Night" directed by Steven Brill starring Emilio Esteves, and "My Tiny Universe" starring John Heard, Debra Mazarm and Leslie Ann Warren. Eliot was most recently hired to shoot an episode of the hit TV show CSI.

### **CHARLES-HENRI AVELANGE - Composer**

Charles-Henri Avelange is a French award-winning composer and producer residing in the greater Seattle area. In Washington State, he is known for his first symphony, The Age of Heroes composed in honor of the fire fighters in America and the servicemen and women in Iraq.

Charles-Henri's most recent work includes the score for the 2011 PBS TV series Official Best of Fest. He was the composer of the official music theme for the 2010 Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF), which was played at Benaroya Hall in front of a full house. In 2009, Avelange also scored the SIFF 2009 opening night film, directed by Rick Stevenson and starring Paul Allen, Tom Skerritt, Matt Hasselbeck, Howard Schultz and other Seattle luminaries. Avelange was awarded of a 2010 Accolade - Award of Excellence for producing and scoring the video BattleCell: Briefing 001 from the online strategy game BattleCell.

**FRED BEAHM - Editor**

Fred Beahm has been an active editor in the Pacific Northwest for nearly a decade. He is also the owner of Spliced Media, a well respected and established production company in Seattle, WA. Fred's past clientele include companies such as Amazon, Google, Microsoft, and Xfire, among others. In 2008, Fred edited a television spot for the Obama Presidential Campaign, which aired on many national networks. He has also received awards and critical acclaim for a variety of films including "Courage Doesn't Ask" (official Cannes entry), "Rock Zombie" (Telly Award for editing), "Shuffle" (winner, Best Regional Film: Tacoma Film Festival) and "The Taken" (winner, Best Editing: Oklahoma Horror Film Festival), his first feature film cut for Valentine Entertainment. With his unique background in film, graphic design, and web development, Fred has accumulated a wide variety of skills beyond the average editor. He is an Apple certified Final Cut Pro Editor, Visual Effects & Motion Graphics Artist, a Colorist, and an accomplished Web Designer.

## **CAST BIOS:**

### **BHAMA ROGET – Ana**

Bhama Roget has been acting in Seattle for over twelve years, and has been seen in several productions at the Seattle Rep, Seattle Children's Theatre, and the dearly departed Empty Space Theatre. As a standup comedian and improviser, she has performed at the Hollywood Improv, Mbar, Largo, and El Cid in Los Angeles, and performs every first Saturday of the month with the Edge Improv at the playhouse on Bainbridge Island. She has been seen on Television in "The Fugitive", ABC's "Grey's Anatomy" and on TNT's "Leverage", She is also a regular cast member on the hit comedy cooking show "Cookus Interruptus" (cookus.tv).

### **HANS ALTWIES – Brad**

A 2010 Gregory Award winner for Best Actor (An Iliad) Hans regularly performs at the Seattle Repertory Theatre (THE GOD OF CARNAGE, THE SEAFARER, THE THREE MUSKETEERS, THE CURE AT TROY, Edward Albee's THE LADY FROM DUBUQUE, MISALLIANCE, ROMEO & JULIET, LIGHT UP THE SKY, and most recently AN ILIAD) Intiman Theatre (LINCOLN IN ILLINOIS, TITUS ANDRONICUS, RICHARD III, both directed by Tony winner Bart Sher), Seattle Shakespeare Company (MACBETH, OTHELLO, ROMEO & JULIET, COMEDY OF ERRORS, and A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM), ACT Theatre (CHRISTMAS CAROL), Book-It Repertory Theatre, Wooden O, and has appeared in more than ten shows at the Seattle Children's Theatre. Regional credits include Shakespeare Santa Cruz and GEVA Theatre in Rochester, NY. A former ballet dancer, Hans has performed in 11 full-length ballets as a principal dancer.

### **AMY THONE – Rita**

Winner of the 2007 Stranger Genius Award for Theater, Amy last appeared in THE GOD OF CARNAGE at The Seattle Repertory Theatre. In the past she has performed at Seattle Rep, Intiman, Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle Shakespere Company, Geva Theater, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Bathhouse Theatre, Wooden O, as King John in KING JOHN with Upstart Crow, ON THE NATURE OF DUST at NCTC, CYMBELINE for Freehold Theater's summer shows well as many others. At Cornish College of the Arts she is currently holding down the job of senior acting teacher. At Freehold Theater she is teaching the Shakespeare Intensive, she is the casting director for Seattle Shakespeare Company, and is a founding member of Seattle's New Century Theatre Company.

### **SARAH-EVE GAZITT – Lily**

When asked what she wants to do when she grows up, Sarah-Eve replied, "I want to be an actress until I'm about 40. Then I just want some peace." At 7 years old, Sarah-Eve already has a career path mapped out! Her first experience on a film set was as an extra. She was in a makeshift underground shelter for 8 hours and LOVED the experience. Since then, she has starred in Arthur (directed by John Jacobsen), an Intel corporate commercial, and has participated in various other fun projects. Other than acting, she loves "dance, art, animals, and making friends".

## SPINNING - Credits



Directed by.....John Jacobsen  
 Written by.....Ramona Guentzel  
 Produced by.....Chris Oliver  
 Executive Producer.....Jeff Guentzel  
 Director of Photography.....Eliot Rockett  
 Original Music by.....Charles-Henri Avelange  
 Edited by.....Fred Beahm

### CAST

Ana.....Bhami Roget  
 Lily.....Sarah-Eve Gazitt  
 Brad.....Hans Altwies  
 Rita.....Amy Thone  
 Christine.....Susan Corzatte  
 Christine's Husband.....Clayton Corzatte

### CREW

Production Designer.....Etta Lilienthal  
 Key Costume Designer.....Rebecca Luke  
 Key Hair & Makeup.....Alisa Clark  
 Hair & Makeup.....Luce Cousineau  
 First Assistant Director.....Lacee Kloze  
 Second Assistant Director.....Lee Luna  
 Continuity Supervisor.....Suze Dunbar

Set Decorator.....Lisa B. Hammond  
 Property Master.....Lisa-Marie Moon  
 Wardrobe Assistant.....Tamra Van Wyk  
 Wardrobe Assistant.....Andrea Bushdorf  
 Art Department PA.....Daphne Stergides

Production Sound Mixer.....Scot Charles  
 Boom Operator.....Matt Sheldon

Surround Mixing by.....Scot Charles  
 Sound Design / Editing.....Len Delorey

Visual Effects by.....Fred Beahm

Color Correction by.....John Davidson

Graphic Design.....Kimberly Jackson  
 Website Design.....Roger Maddox

First Assistant Camera.....Coty James  
 Second Assistant Camera.....Alan Certeza  
 DIT.....Fred Beahm  
 Camera PA.....Henry Rochon

Gaffer.....Jeremy Mackie  
 Best Boy Electric.....Nate Peirson  
 Electrician.....Kevin Cook  
 Key Grip.....Shaun Bowlby  
 Best Boy Grip.....Niall James  
 Grip & Electric PA.....John Jacobsen III

Extras Coordinator.....Cherie DeKeyser

Chase Car Driver.....Rob Howell  
 Chase Car Driver.....Michael Scott Berry

Head Chef.....Jeff Guentzel  
 Chef's Assistant.....Karen Levy  
 Chef's Assistant.....Michael Scott Berry

Set Photographer.....Kimberly Jackson  
 Behind The Scenes Video.....Dannul Dailey

Key Production Assistant.....Mark Davidek  
 Production Assistant.....Rob Howell  
 Production Assistant.....Andrew Tribolini  
 Production Assistant.....Kristi Simkins  
 Production Assistant.....Joy Yaholkovsky  
 Production Assistant.....Margo Meck

## PRODUCTION STILLS:



Ana stands at the door watching her husband Brad take her daughter Lily to school.



Ana and Rita spend time together sewing Lily's dress for the school play.



Lily and Ana share a tense moment in the parking lot of the school.



Ana and Brad watch their daughter Lily perform the lead role on stage at the school play.

## BEHIND-THE-SCENES STILLS:



Writer, Ramona Guentzel, discusses the scene with Director John Jacobsen.



Director of Photography, Eliot Rockett, discusses the next shot with Director, John Jacobsen.



Producer, Chris Oliver and Script Supervisor, Suze Dunbar watch playback on the field monitor.




Coty James, 1<sup>st</sup> AC, preps the picture car for the night shoot, while Hans Altwies and Bhama Roget go through a quick rehearsal.

## **PREVIOUS & FUTURE SCREENINGS:**

No screenings yet.

## PRESS:



Office of Film & Music  
James Kebbas, Director

---


**News from the Office of Film + Music** 12/8/2010

---

**FILM PRODUCTION OF THE WEEK**  
This column highlights the amazing artistic efforts of our local filmmaking community and the broad positive economic impact it has on our region. This week we profile:

**LITTLE SNOWGIRL PRODUCTIONS' "Spinning"**  
[Spinning](#)

Spinning is a dramatic short film directed by John Jacobsen (*Arthur, Around The Fire*), produced by Chris Oliver (*Arthur*), written by Ramona Guentzel and featuring Bhama Roget, Hans Altwies, Amy Thone, and Sarah-Eve Gazitt on the cast. The production was filming this week in various Seattle locations, and plans to complete the project for submission to film festivals in early 2011. Little SnowGirl Productions is hiring over 30 local cast and crew.



"Seattle is one of the best places to shoot high quality film projects," says producer Chris Oliver. "The amazing talent and family atmosphere between cast and crew, and the attention John Jacobsen and others bring to the importance of story in filmmaking, provides the opportunity to create films that really shine and stand above the crowd."

---