

# TELL IT TO THE BEES

*\*\*\*World Premiere in Special Presentations Category  
at the 2018 Toronto International Film Festival\*\*\**



**Starring: Anna Paquin, Holliday Grainger,  
Emun Elliott, Steven Robertson, Lauren Lyle, Gregor Selkirk & Kate Dickie**

**Directed by: Annabel Jankel**

**Written by: Henrietta and Jessica Ashworth**

**Based on the novel by: Fiona Shaw**

**Produced by: Daisy Allsop & Nick Hill, Annabel Jankel, Nik Bower, Laure Vaysse**

**Executive Produced by: Deepak Nayar, Alison Owen, Lizzie Francke, Sunny Vohra, Ross McKenzie**

## **Public Screenings:**

Saturday, September 9th at 1:30PM at Winter Garden Theatre

Sunday, September 10th at 1:15PM at Scotiabank 4

Friday, September 14th at 6:30PM at Scotiabank 1

*\*Ticket required*

## **Press & Industry Screenings:**

Sunday, September 10th at 10:45AM at Scotiabank 4

Monday, September 11th at 11:00AM at Scotiabank 13

*\*Must be accredited through the festival to attend*

RT – 105 Minutes

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## **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

Dr Jean Markham (Anna Paquin) returns to the town she left as a teenager to take over her late father's medical practice. When a school-yard scuffle lands Charlie (Gregor Selkirk) in her surgery, she invites him to visit the hives in her garden and tell his secrets to the bees, as she once did. The new friendship between the boy and the bee keeper brings his mother Lydia (Holliday Grainger) into Jean's world. In the sanctuary of the doctor's house the two women find themselves drawn to one another in a way that Jean recognises and fears, and Lydia could never have expected. But, in 1950's small-town Britain, their new secret can't stay hidden forever.

## **LONG SYNOPSIS**

Based on the best selling novel by Fiona Shaw, *Tell It To The Bees* is set during the 1950's in a small town in Scotland where Lydia Weekes (Holliday Grainger) and her son Charlie (Gregor Selkirk) struggle to be accepted. As seen through Charlie's eyes, we are taken back to his childhood summer and the story of an illicit love that will change their lives forever.

Lydia works at the local mill but as an outsider is looked upon with suspicion by many of the townspeople especially her sister-in-law Pam (Kate Dickie). Lydia finds herself facing eviction when her husband Robert (Emun Elliott) leaves her and stops paying the rent.

Dr Jean Markham (Anna Paquin) returns to take over her late father's medical practice moving into his old house on the edge of town. She finds it difficult to establish herself not only as a female doctor, but also because there are many that remember that she left the town under mysterious circumstances some years before. Charlie witnesses her arrival at the house and is fascinated by the bee hives in her garden. After Jean treats Charlie following a playground accident she invites him to visit the house to see the bees. Their friendship grows as Jean teaches Charlie about bee keeping and encourages him to share his secret thoughts by telling them to the bees. He confides in the bees about his parents broken marriage, his mother's unhappiness and his fears for their future. As he starts to lose stability and witness things he doesn't understand, he longs to believe the bees are listening.

Through Charlie, Jean and Lydia meet and are drawn together as outsiders in this claustrophobic and socially inhibited small town. Unexpectedly and knowing the dangers, the two women fall in love. Confused at first, Charlie begins to see the happiness that his mother's relationship with Jean brings to her. Against all odds, and ultimately through Charlie's relationship with the bees, these three people find the courage to be true to themselves at last.

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

I wanted to do a love story, and in this book, I discovered a compelling story that was wrapped up in a world I was keen to explore. The story was mainly about a relationship at odds with the time, between two women, from different classes but the same gender, and a love story between a boy and Nature.

The bees provided an added element, that imbued the small world of our three main characters, with a hive like enclosure, in which to examine the blossoming love, and inevitable fallout, of secrets revealed, of a forbidden love.

I found in this tale, I had a wide canvas to explore the drama of the relationships between the triangle of Jean, Lydia and Charlie. As a director, I felt an added kinship with the supernatural cinematic quality that the extraordinary world of the bees could provide, for an audience, both visually, and sonically.

It is ultimately a story that encompasses the embryonic change coming in time, to a wider society, and the power of generosity to fulfil another person's potential.

- *Annabel Jankel, 2018*

## ABOUT THE CAST

### ANNA PAQUIN – “JEAN”

Anna Paquin’s work in film, television and theater has proven her as an extraordinary and diverse performer in the entertainment industry.

Paquin was recently cast in Martin Scorsese’s upcoming film, *The Irishman*. Earlier this year, she wrapped shooting for Stephen Moyer’s *The Parting Glass* in which she co-produced and co-starred alongside Cynthia Nixon, Denis O’Hare, and Ed Asner. The film follows a family who, after their sister’s death, embark on a journey to collect the remnants of her life.

Paquin is set to produce and star in *Flack*, an original television comedic-drama which follows witty publicity maven Robyn, who is an expert at her craft but a self-saboteur in her personal life. *Flack* is scheduled to air in the UK in 2019.

Most recently, Paquin starred on *Bellevue*, a CBC & WGN America detective eight-part drama series set in a blue-collar Canadian town. She also recently appeared in *Electric Dreams* alongside Terrence Howard, Rachele Lefevre, and Jacob Vargas. The science fiction show is based on Philip K. Dick’s anthology series. It is airing on Channel 4 in the UK and Amazon Video in the United States.

In Fall 2017, she was seen on CBC and Netflix’s *Alias Grace*, based on the novel by Margaret Atwood. The show tells the story of Grace Marks and James McDermott, who were convicted of the brutal murders of their employer, Thomas Kinnear and Nancy Montgomery (Paquin) in 1843.

In 2016, Paquin was seen as ‘Nancy Holt’ in HISTORY’s remake of *Roots* in “Night Four.” She was nominated for a Critics’ Choice Award for her role.

For seven seasons, Paquin starred in the HBO drama *True Blood* for which she won a Golden Globe for Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series – Drama. Paquin’s other television credits include starring in the CBS Hallmark Hall of Fame movie *The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler* and HBO’s original film *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*.

Additional film credits include *Margaret*; *X-Men*; *X-Men 2*; and *X-Men: The Last Stand*; *The Squid and The Whale*; *25th Hour*; *Finding Forester*; *Almost Famous*; *Amistad*; *Buffalo Soldiers*; *A Walk on the Moon*; *Fly Away Home*; *Jane Eyre*; *The Romantics*; and *Straight A’s*. Her performance in *Margaret* earned her Best Actress Awards from both the London and Chicago Critics Circle. Paquin also starred in and co-produced *Blue State* with her brother Andrew, under their banner Paquin Films. Paquin’s film debut in Jane Campion’s *The Piano* led to her winning the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress at the age of eleven.

On stage, Paquin performed the lead in *The Glory of Living* for director Phillip Seymour Hoffman. Other stage credits include Kenneth Lonergan’s *This Is Our Youth*, *After Ashley* directed by Terry Kinney, and Neil LaBute’s *The Distance from Here*.

In 2014, Paquin and Stephen Moyer, through their production company CASM, signed a two-year, first-look deal with HBO to develop series, films, and miniseries for them to produce, direct, and star. In 2013, Paquin starred in *Free Ride*, which she produced through CASM. Based on a true story, the film follows Christina (Paquin), an abused single mother in the 1970’s who is caught up in the Florida drug trade.

### HOLLIDAY GRAINGER – “LYDIA”

Last year we saw Holliday star in a number of productions across television and film. She was seen in *My Cousin Rachel* alongside Rachel Weisz and Sam Claflin. The film, based on the classic Daphne du Maurier novel is directed by Roger Michell. Holliday also featured prominently in television, firstly in the BBC's adaptation of JK Rowling's "Cormoran Strike". Alongside Tom Burke, the duo star as private investigators searching for the answer behind a London model's mysterious suicide. This 7-part mini-series was released in August of last year and aired its final episode in February. The series is set to TX in the US in June.

Holliday was also seen in Sci-Fi anthology series "Philip K. Dick's Electric Dreams" where she starred in stand-alone episode 'The Hoodmaker' alongside Richard Madden. 2017 saw the release of *Tulip Fever* in which Holliday plays 'Maria' opposite Dane DeHaan, Alicia Vikander and Jack O'Connell and she also starred with Jack O'Connell and Daniel Kaluuya in Kibwe Tavares' short film *Robot & Scarecrow*.

Holliday has a number of upcoming projects in the pipeline. In television she will star as Bridget Watson Scott in mini-series "Patrick Melrose" with Benedict Cumberbatch. The drama is based on the novels by Edward St. Aubyn and will be released towards the end of the year. Also upcoming, Holliday will star alongside Lily Collins in Anthony Lucero's drama *Halo of Stars*.

In 2016, we saw Holliday in Craig Gillespie's *The Finest Hours* in which she played the female lead alongside Chris Pine and Casey Affleck. The Disney adaptation of Casey Sherman and Michael J. Tougas' book is based on a true story about a coast guard's rescue attempt in the 1950s. 2016 also saw Holliday in the BAFTA winning *Home* a short-film by Daniel Mulloy highlighting the refugee crisis. *Home* was released to coincide with World Refugee Day, 20<sup>th</sup> June and is supported by the UN Refugee Agency.

2015 saw Holliday star in the much awaited BBC adaptation of "Lady Chatterley's Lover". Holliday tackled the role of 'Lady Chatterley'. 2015 also saw Holliday in Kenneth Branagh's critically acclaimed adaptation of *Cinderella* as one of the stepsisters. The film also starring Lily James, Cate Blanchett and Richard Madden is a visually stunning re-telling which was a huge box office success worldwide.

In 2014, Holliday was seen in Lone Scherfig's film *The Riot Club*, based on the London stage play *Posh*, alongside Sam Claflin, Max Irons and Douglas Booth. The film, follows students at Oxford University's infamous Riot Club. Holliday's was also seen in one of the titular roles, 'Bonnie Parker', in the mini-series "Bonnie & Clyde" opposite Emile Hirsch. The show aired simultaneously in December 2013 on three US networks (Lifetime / History, A&E) to great critical acclaim and aired in the UK in February 2014. Television audiences also saw Holliday in the third series of Sky Atlantic's hugely successful series "The Borgias", as she returned to her lead role of 'Lucrezia Borgia' alongside Jeremy Irons.

Past film credits have seen Holliday in the pivotal role of 'Estella' in the critically acclaimed feature adaptation of the Charles Dickens classic *Great Expectations* directed by Mike Newell. Prior to this Holliday was seen alongside a stellar cast including Jude Law and Keira Knightley in *Anna Karenina*. Holliday also played the role of 'Suzanne Rousett' in *Bel Ami*, a film drama in which she starred alongside Robert Pattinson.

Holliday first garnered attention when she played the role of 'Emily' in *The Scouting Book for Boys*, the film previewed to critical acclaim at the London Film Festival. In the same year, she played the role of 'Mollie' in Pat Holden's feature *Away Days*. She was also seen in a much lauded adaptation of Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* alongside Dame Judi Dench and Michael Fassbender.

Holliday's extensive television portfolio includes the BBC's drama "Five Daughters" as well as her role as 'Sharon Bilkin' in "Above Suspicion". She also starred as 'Dirty Debbie' in the BBC Three pilot

“Stanley Park” and has also taken on roles in “Demons” (ITV), “Merlin” (BBC), “Robin Hood” (BBC), “Any Human Heart” (Channel 4) and “Blue Murder” (ITV). Holliday was also recognized for her character of ‘Charlie Cooper’ in a one-off television adaptation of Kate Long’s novel “The Bad Mother’s Handbook”; Holliday starred opposite Catherine Tate and Robert Pattinson in this popular comedy drama.

Holliday made her stage debut in the four-handed play *Dimetos* alongside Jonathan Pryce, Anne Reid and Alex Lanipekun. Holliday played the role of ‘Lydia’ in Athol Fugard’s 1975 tale of a reclusive engineer harboring a destructive passion for his niece. Most recently on stage Holliday has been seen in *The Three Sisters* at the Southwark Playhouse.

### **EMUN ELLIOTT – “ROBERT”**

Emun Elliott trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama where he was awarded the Gold Medal.

Emun’s television credits include “Game of Thrones” (HBO), “Threesome” (Comedy Central), “Clique” (BBC) and most recently “Trust Me”(Red Production Company).

His theatre credits include *Red Velvet at The Garrick Theatre*, *A View from the Bridge* at The Young Vic, *Measure for Measure* at the Almeida and *Blackwatch* for The National Theatre of Scotland.

Emun’s film credits include working with Ridley Scott on *Prometheus* and *Exodus*. He also appeared in *Filth* (John Baird), *Black Death* (Chris Smith), and plays the lead in Peter Greenaway’s upcoming feature *Walking to Paris*.

### **KATE DICKIE – “PAM”**

For her feature debut *Red Road* (2006) Kate received the Best Actress award from BIFA (British Independent Film Awards), Best Actress award Festival Nouveau Cinema Montréal (2006) and Best Actress BAFTA award (Scotland) 2006. In recognition of her work Kate was the UK Shooting Star at the Berlin Film Festival 2007, and in 2013 Kate received the Spirit of Scotland Screen Award for career achievement. In 2016, she received the BAFTA (Scotland) Best Actress award and a BIFA Best Actress nomination for *Couple In A Hole*.

Feature film credits include leading roles in *Tell It To The Bees*, *Boyz In The Woods*, *The Witch* (2016 Spirit US award nominee) and *Couple In A Hole* (2016 BAFTA/BIFA nominee) and supporting roles in *The Silent Storm*, *For Those In Peril*, *Filth* and Ridley Scott’s *Prometheus*. Previous features include *Shell*, *Now Is Good*, *Outcast*, *Donkeys*, *Sommers Town* and *Summer*. She has led many short films, most notably *Operator* (BAFTA Best British Short Film award 2016). Kate actively supports the talents of new directors and writers in the UK.

Kate has a distinguished television career, critically acclaimed as 'crazy lady' Lysa Arryn in HBO's “Game Of Thrones”, and has had recurring and guest roles in international successes “The Alienist”, “The Pillars Of The Earth” and the award winning BBC drama “Five Daughters”. She has played leading and featured roles in “Vera”, “One Of Us”, “The Frankenstein Chronicles”, “Midwinter Of The Spirit”, “By Any Means”, “The Escape Artist”, “Injustice”, “Dive”, “New Tricks”, “Garrows Law”, “He Kills Coppers”, “Taggart” and “The Vice”. Kate was nominated for a Best Actress award BAFTA (Scotland) for the BBC drama “Tinsel Town” in 2000.

Highlights in her stage career include the London production of David Cromer's award winning *Our Town* at the Almedia Theatre, AALST (at the Soho, London, touring Australia and UK with National Theatre of Scotland) for which she was nominated for the Best Actress award by UK Theatre

Managers' Association. Other notable stage performances include a one time only performance in the title role as *The Hard Man* at EIFF 2017, *Any Given Day* (nominated Best Actress Critics Theatre Scotland) and *Electra* (nominated Best Actress, the Stage awards).

Kate trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (now the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland).

### **LAUREN LYLE – “ANNIE”**

Lauren Lyle is one of the UK's most exciting young actors. Since graduating from the National Youth Theatre, Lauren has gone on to play a leading role in the multi award-winning TV series “Outlander” (Starz) and a standout role in Jimmy McGovern's BAFTA-nominated BBC1 drama “Broken”, opposite Sean Bean. *Tell it to the Bees* marks Lauren's feature film debut.

### **GREGOR SELKIRK – “CHARLIE”**

Gregor was born in Glasgow and is the younger of 2 boys. He attends Vivace Theatre School where he has attained distinctions in both his London College of Music and London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art exams. Gregor's interests are learning to play the guitar, dance and making gaming videos with friends for YouTube.

In 2013 at the age of 6 years, he featured in the award winning short film *The Magic Box*, which was named The Indie Demand short film of the year 2014. Other short films include *The Wider Sun* and *To the Sea* which will be entered in to film festivals in 2018. Gregor's greatest success to date was to play a lead role in the feature film *Tell It to The Bees* due for release in 2018. Gregor has worked in various children's programmes and TV Dramas along with numerous commercials.

In 2014, he took to the stage along with his brother John in his first professional theatre performance where he completed 32 shows as a Lost Boy in the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pantomime of *Peter Pan* at the King's Theatre, Glasgow. The following year he made his debut for Rapture Theatre's production of Arthur Miller's *All My Sons* and spent the following month touring theatres around Scotland. He was the first child ever to be chosen by this accomplished touring company. While working on this production he auditioned for another *Peter Pan* pantomime and successfully landed a lead role playing Michael Darling at the SECC, Glasgow.

### **STEVEN ROBERTSON – “JIM”**

A well loved regular on British screens Steven Robertson's impressive television drama career includes BBC's “Tess of the D'urbervilles,” “Hustle,” “Ashes to Ashes,” “Luther,” “Parade's End,” “Being Human,” “Ripper Street” and “Inspector George Gently”. For ITV he has appeared in “Vera,” “The Bletchley Circle” and “Murderland”. Channel 4 audiences will remember him from hit show “Shameless” and the “Red Riding” trilogy.

For film Steven's credits include Ridley Scott's *Kingdom of Heaven*, Peter Mullan's *Neds* and Danny Boyle's *Trainspotting 2*.

## **ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS**

### **ANNABEL JANKEL – DIRECTOR**

Annabel, with Rocky Morton, was the creative force behind Cucumber Studios, founded in the late 70's and celebrated for pushing the boundaries of film-making with innovative combinations of animation, CGI and live action. Cucumber produced many award-winning commercials, titles and music videos including the seminal "Accidents Will Happen" for Elvis Costello and "Decoy" for Miles Davis. Several of these works reside in the permanent collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and the Museum of Modern Art in NYC.

In the mid-eighties, Jankel co-created and co-directed Max Headroom - 20 minutes Into The Future - a TV movie and 13-part series for Channel 4 in the UK and HBO that led to its US re-visioning in 1986. Offers from Hollywood followed including the cult movies DOA, with Meg Ryan and Dennis Quaid, and Super Mario Brothers, with Dennis Hopper and Bob Hoskins.

In 1991, she was a founding partner of Commercials Production Company MJZ (Morton Jankel Zander Inc.) based in Los Angeles, with offices in New York and London.

Relocating from LA back to London, Jankel then went on to create the pilot and direct the music/documentary multi-camera TV Series Live From Abbey Road, broadcast by Channel 4 in the UK and Sundance Channel in the US. Over the course of the series, seventy of the world's leading artists were filmed in the Studios, including Herbie Hancock, Paul Simon, Brian Wilson, The Killers, The Red Hot Chili Peppers, Massive attack and Mary J Blige.

Soon after Live From Abbey Road, she directed the feature length film Skellig, starring Tim Roth (Reservoir Dogs; Lie To Me) John Simm (Intruders; Life on Mars) and Kelly McDonald (No Country For Old Men; Boardwalk Empire) for Sky TV in the UK and international theatrical distribution.

Working in 3D, Jankel directed the full-length music and documentary show 'Live on Air' featuring Elbow, the Manchester based band, culminating in a Live performance at London's O2 Centre, broadcast by Sky in the UK.

A US and UK citizen, DGA and Directors UK member, she divides her time between London and Los Angeles.

### **DAISY ALLSOP – PRODUCER**

Daisy produced 'Tell It To The Bees', a BFI funded period drama starring Anna Paquin and Holliday Grainger which will premiere in Toronto. She produced David Leon's first feature 'Orthodox' starring Stephen Graham and Michael Smiley which was longlisted for a BIFA for Best Debut Director and theatrically released in 2016.

Daisy began her career as a script reader for Working Title, Intermedia and Momentum, then as acquisitions assistant for UK distributor Downtown Pictures. She worked for sales agent and financier Capitol Films as Acquisitions and Marketing Exec for 3 years before she joined producer Nick Hirschhorn to work on the production of *Five Children & It* starring Ken Branagh and Eddie Izzard, and helped launch the film arm of commercials company Feel Films in 2004. As head of development for Feel she managed a slate of literary adaptations including BBC series *Jonathan Strange and Mr Norrell*. She was Associate Producer on *Skellig* starring Tim Roth, John Simm and Kelly Macdonald. She worked with Enlightenment Films as Associate Producer on *I Can't Think Straight* and the award winning *The World Unseen*.

Daisy has taught script development and film business at Central Film School, Bournemouth Film School, and for Industrial Scripts. In 2016 and 2017 Daisy was selected for training schemes including Rotterdam Producers Lab, Guiding Lights, Market Trader and Audience on Demand. As a writer Daisy is represented at Casarotto Ramsay.

### **NICK HILL – PRODUCER**

Having started his career in the music industry in the late 1970's working for labels that included Island Records, Chrysalis, Arista and MCA, Nick moved into the film business with the iconic video label Vestron. As Managing Director he oversaw distribution of many successful films including *Dirty Dancing*, *Young Guns* and *Buster*.

In 1992 he joined Guild Distribution just as it was being acquired by the French company Pathe. Promoted to General Manager in 1994 he released theatrical hits such as *Stargate*, *Judge Dredd*, *The Fifth Element*, *Breaking the Waves*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Austin Powers*, *Swingers* and *An Ideal Husband*. He was also the co-creator of a successful bid by Pathe to acquire lottery funding to develop and produce British feature films. The scheme was the first to utilise public funds to directly support the British film industry and was the forerunner of today's BFI Film Fund.

In January 1999, Nick joined Icon Productions and set up a new distribution business in the UK for the US based outfit. Icon Film Distribution released all Icon Productions films and the slate was enhanced by local British productions and numerous third party acquisitions. Nick acquired and released more than 50 films including the huge British hit *Kevin and Perry Go Large*, *The Little Vampire*, *What Women Want*, Australian director Rob Sitch's *The Dish*, *We Were Soldiers*, *Ghost World* directed by Terry Zwigoff, Alfonso Cuarón's *Y Tu Mama Tambien* and Ken Loach's *Sweet Sixteen*.

In 2003 Nick became Chief Executive Officer of the UK Icon Group taking responsibility for all aspects of the companies operation in the UK including distribution, international sales and local film development and production. Films released included Stephen Fry's *Bright Young Things*, *Maria Full Of Grace* directed by Joshua Marston as well as both the UK and international release of Mel Gibson's controversial film, *The Passion*. He executive produced *On A Clear Day* starring Peter Mullan and with Joel and Ethan Coen, *Romance and Cigarettes* directed by John Turturro. He also set up a joint venture between Icon and Barnaby Thompson's Fragile Films to develop British films with the UK Film Council.

In 2013 Nick established Cayenne Film Company (CFC) to develop and produce a slate of feature films and TV projects. He's currently in post production on *Tell it to the Bees* co produced with Daisy Allsop.

### **JESSICA & HENRIETTA ASHWORTH – WRITERS**

Selected for Screen's Stars of Tomorrow in 2012, named as Broadcast 'Hotshots' in 2013 and listed in the BBC's New Talent Hotlist in 2017, Jessica and Henrietta wrote their first script "The Shakespeare Club" – a farce about authorship controversy – at the age of 15. Their feature script "Olivia & Jim" was placed third on the Brit List in 2011 and is currently in development with producer Ivana Mackinnon, supported by the BFI. Their short film 'Fan Girl', directed by Kate Herron was Nominated for the Grand Prix at Encounters Film Festival and also at the Oscar-qualifying Rhode Island Film Festival in 2016. Following on from their TV work on the third series of "Fresh Meat", the BAFTA-winning "Dixi" (CBBC) and the second series of Phoebe Waller Bridge's Emmy-nominated "Killing Eve", Jessica and Henrietta are developing projects with Warp, Baby Cow, Fable Films, the BFI, and their first US Project, "Code Name Verity", with Levantine Films.

Jessica also works as an actress, appearing in Julian Jarrold's "Becoming Jane" and writing and performing with sketch group The Dudes. Henrietta directed their Dave's Leicester Comedy Festival 'Best Debut' award-winning show "Call Of Dudey" in 2016, and is a graduate from the University of Sussex. She was awarded the prestigious Arts & Humanities Research Council Award scholarship and studied for a Masters in Film at University College London, completing it in 2013 with a Distinction. The Ashworths are developing their first film directorial work in 2018, with a feature called "Siren", about a young girl who develops terrifying powers, and forthcoming horror short "Night Bus", both produced by Helen Gladders of Gingerbread Pictures. "Tell it the Bees" is their feature film debut.

### **FIONA SHAW – NOVELIST**

Fiona Shaw's memoir, *Out Of Me*, was described by *The Observer* as 'an exceptional memoir, written with a discipline that outfaces chaos. At times, it makes Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar* ring hollow.' *Tell It To The Bees* is one of four highly praised novels. Jackie Kay described it as 'Emotionally charged and compelling. It draws you into a rich world of secrets and passion' and Andrew Davies said that 'It gripped me like a vice, and I stopped doing anything else to get to the end.' Most recently, Fiona had a dream about a young boy trying to leave England which was the start of her first Young Adult novel, *Outwalkers*, has just been published by David Fickling Books, and was described by *The Daily Mail* as 'Gripping, action-packed, but with moments of tenderness ... tackles contemporary issues, balancing them with timeless themes of love, loyalty and freedom.'

### **BARTOSZ NALAZEK – DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY**

Bartosz Nalazek is a polish cinematographer based in Los Angeles. He studied photography at the Warsaw School of Photography then cinematography at the Polish National Film School in Lodz.

Bartosz assisted worldwide famous cinematographer Janusz Kaminski on feature films *War Horse*, *Lincoln*, *The Judge* and *Bridge of Spies*. He was selected for The Emerging Cinematographer Award in 2014 by The International Cinematographers Guild and nominated for the Streamy Award for his work on "Making A Scene" - a series of short films made for The New York Times Magazine including Oscar contending actors such as Cate Blanchet, Forest Whitaker, Bradley Cooper and others.

Bartosz debuted with "The Artists" directed by Monika Strzepka that were nominated for the best TV series of 2016 by the Polish Academy and had positive reviews complementing the visual style of the show.

Most recently Bartosz was a cinematographer on the feature film *Tell It To The Bees* directed by Annabel Jankel, which is awaiting its international premiere. Bartosz was a cinematographer on *Song of Back and Neck*, directed by Paul Lieberstein, selected for US Feature Competition at Tribeca Film Festival 2018 and a comedy *The Stand-In* directed by Chis Nelson, currently in post-production.

Bartosz also worked as 2nd Unit Director of Photography for Steven Spielberg's *The Post*, *Bridge of Spies* and *The Choir* directed by Francois Girard.

### **ALI MITCHELL – COSTUME DESIGNER**

Ali Mitchell trained at Edinburgh College of Art in the 90's, where she gained a Masters Degree in Costume Design. Since then she has been riding the rollercoaster of freelance life, learning her craft working across Europe within costume teams on studio pictures such as *Sleepy Hollow*, *Tombr Raider*, *Eragon & Guardians of the Galaxy*. As head of department she has designed for a diverse range of Independent Features and Television Drama, including George Lucas's WW2 Flying Picture *Red Tails*, Steve Barker's *Outpost* films and Adrian Shergold's BAFTA winning *Low Winter Sun*. A passionate storyteller and filmmaker, she also co-produced the award winning short film *1745*, with Moyo & Morayo Akande.

### **ANDY HARRIS – PRODUCTION DESIGNER**

Andy's varied feature credits include Terence Davies' *Sunset Song*, John Harrison's *Book of Blood*, Hugh Hudson's *My Life So Far*, Don Coutts's *American Cousins*, Michael Corrente's *A Shot at Glory* and Bill Eagles's *Beautiful Creatures*. Andy has collaborated extensively with Gillies MacKinnon on a number of projects including *Whisky Galore*, *Castles in the Sky*, *The Escapist*, *The Playboys* and BAFTA nominated *Regeneration*, for which Andy was also nominated for the Genie Award for Best Achievement in Production Design. Andy has two Scottish BAFTAs to his name, the Robert McCann Award for Craft in 2006, and the Glasgow Film Office Production Award in 2000.

Andy's TV credits include Brian Kelly's "The Loch," Charles Martin's "Stonemouth," Don Coutts's "Katie Morag", and ITV's "Rebus", which was awarded the Scottish BAFTA for Best Drama in 2006.

### **HELEN CANNON – HAIR AND MAKE-UP DESIGNER**

With over thirty years as a makeup designer/artist Helen has worked on a wide variety of films, television programmes and commercials.

Helen has worked on many period productions during her career, however she has recently found herself returning to the 1950's for television series Agatha Christie "Ordeal by Innocence," "Rillington Place," "In Plain Sight" and "Outlander" as well as for *Tell it to the Bees*.

Helen's film credits also include *Whisky Galore*, *The Eagle* and *Sunset Song*.

### **DAN HUBBARD – CASTING DIRECTOR**

Dan has worked in casting for over 20 years. He has cast such movies as *The Bourne Ultimatum*, *King Kong*, *United 93*, *Harry Brown*, *The Damned United*, *Green Zone*, *6 Days*, *Churchill*. Television work includes "Downton Abbey," "The Jury," "American Odyssey," "Omagh". Upcoming films include: *Norway* (Paul Greengrass), *Lords Of Chaos*, *Hellboy*, *Angel Has Fallen*, *Polar*, *The Professor & The Madman*.

### **ATTILA BOA – BEE UNIT - DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY**

Attila Boa is a freelance cameraman and author. Born 1966 in Switzerland he studied philosophy and dramatics in Bern. He worked both on the on the film set and on the production side in various positions from director to grip. He was assistant cameraman to Wolfgang Thaler on many projects around the globe and on several films by Ulrich Seidl. He worked as cameraman with directors like Michael Glawogger, Markus Imhoof and Hannes Schmid and was involved in film projects with artists such as Allan Sekula and Muntean/Rosenblum. He specialized also in swarm intelligent animals for international wildlife films, like the 2013 cinema release *More than Honey*. "Zur Verteidigung der Traurigkeit" (2015 Verlag Bibliothek der Provinz) is his first published essay.

## **CREDITS**

**Starring** Anna Paquin  
Holliday Grainger  
Emun Elliott  
Steven Robertson  
Lauren Lyle  
Gregor Selkirk  
Kate Dickie

**Directed by** Annabel Jankel

**Produced by** Daisy Allsop  
Nick Hill  
Annabel Jankel  
Nik Bower  
Laure Vaysse

**Screenplay by** Henrietta Ashworth & Jessica Ashworth

**Based on the novel by** Fiona Shaw

**Executive Producers** Deepak Nayar  
Alison Owen  
Lizzie Francke  
Sunny Vohra  
Ross McKenzie

**Co-Producers** Sean Wheelan  
Tomas Eskilsson  
Hannah Leader

**Director of Photography** Bartosz Nalazek

**Editors** Jon Harris  
Maya Maffioli

**Casting by** Dan Hubbard CDG

**Production Designer** Andy Harris

**Costume Designer** Alison Michell

**Hair and Make-Up Designer** Helen Cannon

**Composer** Claire Singer

**Line Producer** James Cotton