

OFFICE SONG

PRESS INFORMATION

It's another office affair – one of thousands. But in Office Song, the inner world of ordinary office workers and their humdrum lives bursts into life with poetry and something greater than the sum of their tedious working day is revealed.



Director & Writer

MARCUS MARKOU

Marcus's last short, *Two Strangers Who Meet Five Times* (2017), was screened at over 60 festivals and won 'best short' for many of them. He is passionate about the form, having directed his first short *The Last Temptation of Chris* in 2010.

His debut feature was *Papadopoulos & Sons* (2012) starring Stephen Dillane. A film Marcus wrote, directed, produced and successfully self-distributed in the UK in April 2013. It achieved the second highest screen average of any film in its opening weekend, with a marketing budget of just £40k. The film went on to be bought by Netflix, the BBC and ARTE.

In 2014 he was nominated by the London Critics Circle Awards in the Breakthrough British Filmmaker category.

He is currently working on a new feature film called *Ali's English*, about a Syrian refugee caught in the crossfire of an increasingly hostile nation.

DIRECTORS STATEMENT

I wanted to explore poetry in film. It's been notoriously difficult to get right. Often what would normally be spoken out to an audience in a theatre, becomes an internal monologue on screen. We see the character on screen and then we hear the poetry in voice over. This film was an opportunity to explore how poetry could be spoken direct to camera, which is a theatrical device, whilst at the same time making it feel cinematic. To do this we used a Cine-fade motor on the camera for the poetry sections – thus blending out the background to make it feel as if the character was now in another world- a fantasy. We also worked on the performance style and consciously dubbed these poems in a studio to capture that intimate "radio" voice. We scored the music at these points to raise the idea of another world. When we were shooting this, we didn't really know if we could achieve this other worldly feel. There were no other films – shorts or features – that we could reference and we were genuinely making something we'd not seen before. My mantra on set and beforehand was that we would have to make this film to find out if it worked. It involved a leap of faith by all involved. The story wasn't so important but the manner in which we told it was everything. But what this did was raise the engagement of what is normally a familiar story into something engaging, different and fresh.

THE CAST



TERRY MYNOTT

Steve

Terry is best known for playing the lead role in Channel 4's critically acclaimed comedy drama *The Mimic*. Further film and TV credits include; *The Reluctant Landlord* (Sky1), *Murder in Successville* (BBC3), *Motherland* (BBC2), *Theresa V Boris: How May Became PM* (BBC2), *Toast of London* (C4), *Very Important People* (C4) and *Captain Webb* (Miramax). Terry is also a well-known impressionist and voice over artist.



GEORGIA MAGUIRE

Amanda

Georgia's most recent TV credits include *Modern Horror Stories* (Comedy Central), *The Stand Up Sketch Show I & II* (ITV2), *Patrick Melrose* (Showtime / Sky Atlantic), *Vera* (ITV), *The Halcyon* (ITV), *Birds of a Feather* (ITV), *Doctors* (BBC), *6Degrees I, II & III* (BBC), *Pete Vs Life* (C4), *Missing* (BBC) and *Ashes to Ashes* (BBC). She is also a regular on the BBC *Quickies*. Film includes leading roles in *Love me till Monday* (Verve Pictures), *Captain Webb* (Miramax) and *Razors* (Magic Mask). Theatre includes *Bash* (Royal Court), *The Dover Road* (Jermyn Street Theatre), *Hayfever* and *As You Like It* (Rose Theatre), and *Laburnum Grove* (Finborough). Georgia trained at LAMDA and is also a writer and improviser. You can hear her on new podcast *You've Been Watching* in early 2020, produced by Warner Bros.



TIM PLESTER

Barry

Tim Plester is an actor and a filmmaker. Credits for film and TV include; *Game Of Thrones* (HBO), *Ricky Gervais' After Life* (Netflix), *Lockout*, *Kick-Ass*, *Worzel Gummidge*, *Control* and *Bohemian Rhapsody*. His award-winning documentary work includes the films *Way of the Morris* and *The Ballad of Shirley Collins*.



FARSHID ROKEY

Michael

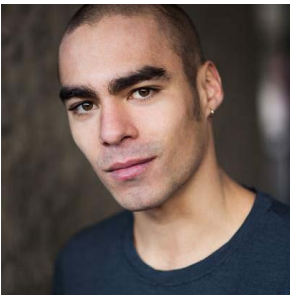
Farshid is originally from Afghanistan. He has worked extensively in theatre for companies such as the National Theatre and Royal Court in London. Film and TV work includes; *Four Weddings and a Funeral* (Hulu), *Home* (Channel 4), *The Trial* (Channel 4), *Tyrant* (Fox USA) and *Leave to Remain* (Indefinite Films/BBC Films). Farshid has been nominated for awards for his radio work.



KELDA HOLMES

Shelly

Kelda is best known for playing Sarah Jackson in the hit, long running series *Press Gang* (Richmond Films). Further film and TV credits include; *Acting with Anna* (C4), *Casualty* (BBC), *The Sisters Brothers* (Annapurna Pictures), *The Work of Mourning* (Lucy Beech) and *1984* (Umbrella Films). Recent audio credits include the character 'Ghost' in *Count Turnip* (The Academy of Media Arts Cologne). On stage, Kelda recently played Olivia in Alison Williams' play *Three Degrees of Separation* (Tempest Productions).



SEAMUS DILLANE

Jim

Seamus's theatre credits include *Lone Star Diner* (Omnibus Theatre), *The Seagull* and *Norway Today* (The Barebones Project). Television credits include *Doctors* (BBC).



JONATHAN SCHOLEY

Office Worker

Actor, theatre maker, and highly trained drag idiot, Jonathan is at home on the legitimate and illegitimate stages. Sumer 2019 he played the lead in JB Priestly's *Dangerous Corner* in theatres across the country including the Windsor Theatre Royal. As his drag clown persona Mrs Jonjo, he can be found at The Royal Vauxhall tavern, The Glory and this year at The Royal Festival Hall as part of the Imagine Festival (ok, not so illegitimate then).

THE CREW

Director & Writer

MARCUS MARKOU

Executive Producer

ANDREW MARKOU

Editor

PAULYNE ANTONIOU

Costume Designer

GABBI EDMUNDS

Music Composer

JAMES WELLAND

Post Production

WEST DIGITAL

Producer

MUIREANN PRICE

Director of Photography

CHRIS FERGUSSON

Production Designer

JONATHAN PAUL GREEN

Hair & Make-up Designer

SARAH BUITELAAR

Sound Recordist

GRAEME WILLETTS

STILLS

We have a large selection of film stills and behind the scenes photos for use. Please contact muireann@doublemfilms.co.uk for public use – all images are under copyright.



FURTHER INFORMATION

You can find out more about the film, the director and Double M Films by following us on Twitter and Facebook.

T: [@PapaSonsFilm](#) #OfficeSongFilm F: [@Papadopoulosandsons](#)
www.OfficeSongFilm.com www.doublemfilms.co.uk

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