

the directors label



Celluloid Dreams presents
From the director of Reconstruction
Winner of the Camera d'Or 2003

Allegro

Directed by Christoffer Boe

Synopsis

After a long absence, famous pianist Zetterstrøm returns from New York to his native Copenhagen on the occasion of a gala concert.

A perfectionist by nature, he has one major personal flaw; he has lost the memory of his past. But when he is contacted by a messenger from a mysterious off-limits “zone” in the middle of the city, he connects with what lies behind him, what made him run away: his love for the captivating Andrea. He hopes for the past to come back to him but the “zone” does not sell dreams ... it leads him to remembrance of things past.

Christoffer Boe

Director

Christoffer Boe graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 2001 where he made the short films *Obsession*, *Virginity* and *Anxiety*.

His first feature film after graduation, *Reconstruction*, won the Camera d'Or at the 2003 Cannes Film Festival. He has since founded Alphaville Pictures Copenhagen with his producer Tine Grew Pfeiffer, and besides *Allegro* are currently in production with, *Offscreen*.

Prizes:

Anxiety: International Festival of the Film Schools, Poitiers 2002: Prix Découverte de la Critique Française,

Reconstruction: Cannes FF 2003, Critic's Week: Camera d'Or, Labels Regards Jeunes San Sebastian FF 2003: FIPRESCI Director of the Year. Haugesund International FF 2003: Amanda Nordic Début of the Year. Sofia FF 2004: Best Film. Newport International FF 2004: Best Director. Transilvania International FF 2004: Best Director.

Ulrich Thomsen Zetterstrøm

The Danish actor Ulrich Thomsen splits time between Danish and English language films. After attending the Danish National Theatre School, Ulrich acted on stage and in many films before breaking through with Thomas Vinterberg's, *The Celebration* ("Festen", 1998).

Thereafter he has starred in some of the most internationally successful Danish features, amongst them, *Brothers* ("Brødre", Susanne Bier, 2004), and, *Inheritance* ("Arven", Per Fly 2003).

He has also featured in the James Bond film, *The World is not Enough*, as well as Ridley Scott's upcoming *Kingdom of Heaven*.

He has won numerous prizes for his portrayals in different roles, most recently the Best Actor award from the San Sebastian Film Festival for *Brothers*.

Helena Christensen Andrea

Helena Christensen is among the most famous models in the world. Having won Miss Denmark as an 18 year old, she went on to become a super-model and now works successfully both as a photographer and a creative director for magazines. *Allegro* is her first starring role.

Tine Grew Pfeiffer

Producer

Tine Grew Pfeiffer started as the assistant to director Lars von Trier on *Breaking the Waves*, *The Kingdom II* and *The Idiots*, before enrolling in The National Film School of Denmark's producing program.

There she collaborated with director Christoffer Boe and produced the short films *Virgnity* and *Anxiety*. After graduation, they made their first feature film, *Reconstruction*, which won the Camera d'Or at the 2003 Cannes Film Festival. They have just finished their second feature, *Allegro*, and are currently in production with *Offscreen*.

Production Notes

In 2003, *Reconstruction*, an unusual, style-conscious love story, won the Camera d'Or in Cannes, drawing raves from critics linking the young iconoclast to the French New Wave of the 1960s.

Allegro is a science fiction film, though far from a conventional one. Like his idol Jean-Luc Godard, the 30-year-old director is engaged in redefining and re-energizing familiar genres. "To me, science fiction is a genre that asks, 'What if?' The film essentially takes place in what could be the present. I'm not interested in the science aspect, but in the genre's inherent desire to question conventional concepts – in the sense that things may well be different from how we normally perceive them. In *Allegro*, we take a love drama and see what happens to it within a science fiction setting."

Allegro is about a man, Zetterstrøm, who has lost the love of his life. And because of that, he denies his past. He wants to forget it, and certain people resent him for it. They kidnap his past and place it in the Zone in central Copenhagen. The Zone is kind of a city within the city that is closed to the outside world. The challenge for Zetterstrøm is to get inside the Zone and get his kidnapped past back.

Press Reviews for *Reconstruction*

After sowing its wild oats, Dogme has settled down and started a family. Christoffer Boe, one of the first products of this post-Lars generation.

Reconstruction is an ambitious and stylish urban love story that is shot through with filmic self-consciousness.

The director's attempt to ravish us with surging strings and unplugged emotions, at the same time pointing out the artifice of the whole exercise.

Reconstruction is a convincing debut for a director who is well aware of the ravishing, manipulative power of cinema.

Lee Marshall - Screen International – Cannes 03

Boe uses a fractured narrative and startling visuals to create a haunting rumination on the mysteries of desire (and the consequences of acting them out), rather than a romantic comedy.

IndieWire.

One of the most clever, most enjoyable thriller in years.

Michael Wilmington - Chicago Tribune
