



## Chacun sa nuit

### One to Another

Jean-Marc Barr,  
Pascal Arnold

FRANCE, 2006  
French

95 minutes ■ Colour/35mm  
Production Company: **Toloda**  
Producer: **Pascal Arnold, Jean-Marc Barr, Karina Grandjean**  
Screenplay: **Pascal Arnold**  
Cinematographer: **Jean-Marc Barr, Christopher Keohane**  
Editor: **Chantal Hymans**  
Production Designer: **Serge Borgel**  
Sound: **Pascal Armant**  
Music: **Irina Decermic**  
Principal Cast: **Lizzie Brocheré, Arthur Dupont, Pierre Perrier, Nicolas Nollet, Guillaume Baché**

Production: **Toloda**,  
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*Chacun sa nuit* exemplifies the sexual and cultural questioning that drives so many films in this year's Festival. The film is propelled, both narratively and emotionally, by human bodies enraptured by sex, exploring erotic ideas and dealing with overwhelming physical desire. The deployment of casual nudity is constant and unsettling, not least because its characters are just on the cusp of adulthood.

The restlessness and uncertainty of being young is also reflected in the film's persistent flips through time and tone. In their fourth film, frequent collaborators Pascal Arnold and Jean-Marc Barr (the well-known actor) have found a unique rhythm and voice to explore this world.

We are introduced to the story through its female protagonist, Lucie (Lizzie Brocheré). She is surrounded by four handsome young men sunbathing on the rocks, and a reticent voyeur several metres behind. We quickly learn, though, that she is not the object of everyone's desires and dreams here: rather, the object is Pierre (Arthur Dupont), her brother and occasional lover. He intersects with all of their lives, often sexually, always emotionally and even musically, as front man for their small-town rock band. He is a magnet for every character, but he himself is unstable and narcissistic. We soon skip through time and learn that he disappears, leaving the others yearning for him – and then he is discovered dead.

As we flash back to the events leading up to Pierre's disappearance, Lucie explores the vast power he had over her, their friends

and people she had never met, including a local city councillor who had made Pierre the centre of his occasional orgy nights. As we get deeper into the story, we learn of complexly cross-hatched dependencies and humiliations; bodies are casually traded and ransomed. The surprise ending prompts as many questions as it answers about how sexuality can both inspire and defeat us.

Finally, perhaps the most extraordinary thing about *Chacun sa nuit* is that it is closely based on actual events that occurred in provincial France a few years ago.

■ **Noah Cowan**

**Jean-Marc Barr** was born in Bitburg, Germany. An accomplished screen actor, he has worked with several noted filmmakers, including Carole Laure, John Boorman, Luc Besson and, most frequently, Lars von Trier. He made his directorial debut in 1999 with a Dogme film entitled *Lovers* and has since co-directed four films with Pascal Arnold. *Chacun sa nuit* (co-director, 06) is his most recent film.

**Pascal Arnold** was born in Paris and is a producer, director, screenwriter and cinematographer. He co-wrote and co-produced Jean-Marc Barr's directorial debut, *Lovers* (99), and co-produced Carole Laure's *CQ2*, which screened at the Festival in 2004. He has co-directed four features with Jean-Marc Barr: *Too Much Flesh* (00), *Being Light* (01), *Without Love* (04) and *Chacun sa nuit* (06).

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