

FORGOTTEN MAN

NFA FILMS IN ASSOCIATION WITH GREENDALE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS AN ARRAN SHEARING FILM OBI ABILI ELEANOR McLOUGHLIN "FORGOTTEN MAN"
TOBY WHARTON AND JERRY HALL MUSIC BY PETER GREGSON PRODUCTION DESIGN STUDIO LUNE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY RYAN PETEY
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER DAVID GOTHARD PRODUCED BY ANNA JANCÓSÓ MARC PETEY JOE KITSON WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ARRAN SHEARING

FORGOTTEN MAN

A 2016 NFA Films Production
In association with Greendale Productions

WRITER & DIRECTOR | **Arran Shearing**

PRODUCERS | **Anna Jancsó, Marc Petey, Joe Kitson**

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER | **David Gothard**

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY | **Ryan Petey**

PRODUCTION DESIGN | **Studio Lune**

MUSIC | **Peter Gregson**

STARRING | **Obi Abili, Eleanor McLoughlin,
Toby Wharton, Errol McGlashan & Jerry Hall**

SYNOPSIS

LOGLINE

A young actor in an East London Theatre Company for the homeless romances a wealthy out-of-towner in the bustling streets of contemporary London.

LONG

Forgotten Man tells the story of Carl, a troubled young writer and actor with a history of incarceration who belongs to an East London Theatre Company for the homeless. When a performance of his new play ends with another actor fighting an audience member, Carl, in the affluent attire from his play, escapes the theatre for the bustling streets of contemporary London. He meets Meredith, a wealthy out-of-towner who is in London for a funeral. Their sweet romance has Carl risking parole violation to pursue another life, but when Meredith invites Carl to see the play in which he is a lead actor, and the theatre erupts in violent conflict, Carl is found trapped between his desire and obligation.

Read the Film Jerk review of Forgotten Man [HERE](#)





DIRECTOR NOTES

When visiting London in 2009, I was invited by a friend to see a theatre production, *Mince meat*, being performed by “Cardboard Citizens”, a theatre company that makes life-changing theatre with and for homeless people. I was deeply affected by the performance, which stayed with me as a beautiful example of the potential, talent and depth that is not often included in public perceptions of homelessness.

In 2011, when I was living and working in London, I led discussions on film at Open Cinema, a film exhibitor for excluded communities that was run out of the CRISIS building in East London. Through my work at Open Cinema, I heard about Only Connect, a creative criminal justice charity that provides creative outlets, including theatre, to men and women transitioning out of the prison system. In each place, I was introduced to talented and inspiring people with dramatic stories and daily struggles.

The friends I made during this time and the creative works I was seeing inspired the first draft of this film. I had wanted to express what I experienced during the performance in 2009: a small glimpse into a world with more depth, character and struggle than we might otherwise notice. I was fortunate to work with Cardboard Citizens members Errol McGlashan and Terry O’Leary on the approach to the script and through subsequent drafts.

The black and white aesthetic and approach to first features was inspired by great debuts such as *Shadows*, *Stranger Than Paradise* and *She’s Gotta Have It*. There was a rough and ready approach to camera and subject that felt like the right way to tell a story about a rough and ready life. Those films not only taught me that I could go out and make a film but also showed a method to do so. There were also smaller lessons to be found, like how long a shot might be held for, how to motivate the camera and when to take the camera out into the streets. In doing so, we achieved a distinct contrast to the one second edits and ever-moving camera of modern Hollywood.

The approach to the script was very much inspired by classic Hollywood’s romantic comedies like *Roman Holiday* and *Sullivan’s Travels*. The title comes from the film, *My Man Godfrey*, which describes the homeless poor during the great depression as ‘Forgotten Men.’

The inspirations were many, but none more so than the people with whom I made the film. When we finally went to camera with our talented cast, many from the theatres that inspired the film, our production team and my exceptional technical collaborators, we captured a film of which I could not be more proud. I hope it is as enjoyable to watch as it was to create.

PRODUCTION NOTES

Forgotten Man tells a very contemporary story about class, fortune and luck by sensitively exposing the experiences of those who fall through society's cracks. The film's audience are "civic-minded" millennials with a strong sense of community, both local and global. For them opportunities should exist regardless of class and skin colour.

Wrapped in the cloak of a romantic dramedy, Forgotten Man blends the experiences of hipster millennials and their less fortunate counterparts. It provides thoughtful entertainment in the age of a shrinking middle class and wealth concentration, topics hotly debated by its target audience.

The film's black and white palette is at once colour blind and exposes in absolute terms the extremes that define young people's lives in cities across the western world. Skin colour and class hinder opportunities, but take away the visible clues and roles easily reverse.

Director Arran Shearing's interest in reviving and rethinking the oddball comedy genre through the black-and-white aesthetics of Jim Jarmusch was an exciting proposition after the Noah Baumbach hit *Frances Ha*. The world has since caught up with Forgotten Man's central subject, the morality of judging others by their wealth and their "looks", rather than their true qualities.

The production was, one could argue, a tribute to the film's theme. Forgotten Man is a micro-budget film of great ambitions: 13 shooting days, a dozen locations, extras, over 30 speaking parts, shot in one of the most production-savvy and expensive cities in Europe: London.

At every step of the process, the production collaborated with individuals and institutions who know first hand the life on the merciless streets of a metropolis like London. Forgotten Man is an act of love from everyone who participated in its making: some subsisting on the fringes of society, others belonging to the global elite. We all joined together to give a positive message of self-discovery, hope and belief in a world where love exists for the sake of love and even the most unfortunate have the possibility to shine.



CREW BIOGRAPHIES

ARRAN SHEARING | Writer & Director

Arran Shearing is a Writer/ Director working between Canada and the UK. *Forgotten Man* is his first feature film. Arran had previously directed award winning music videos for independent and major labels alike, for artists including Felix Da Houscat, K-OS, Mac Demarco and The Other Tribe (Sony Music). He has directed stage visuals and trailers for several theatre productions including *Everything Else Happened* (Edinburgh Fringe Festival) and *If What I hear is True* (The Yard). Having worked as a technical consultant for the British Film Institute, Arran continues to provide technical assistance during *Flare* and The London Film Festival. He is currently developing his second feature film with the Norman Jewison Canadian Film Centre.

DAVID GOTHARD | Executive Producer

David Gothard was artistic producer and director of the Riverside Studios in the eighties after completing a post graduate at the Bela Balasz Studio in Budapest and a trainee directorship at the Royal Court and at the Traverse Theatres. At Riverside he initiated the launch of Stephen Frears and Hanif Kureishi's work *My Beautiful Laundrette*, which became the founding film of Working Title. He produced Kureishi directorial debut *London Kills Me*. In the USA Gothard has been regularly associated with the Writers Programme and Film Department at the University of Iowa, working closely with the producer Jim Stark. In addition he spent a season in workshop with Arthur Penn and Eli Wallach at the Actors Studio. He regularly teaches the fiction directors at the National Film and Theatre School. David is member of the Board of Prishtina International Film Festival with Vanessa Redgrave.

ANNA JANCSÓ | Producer

London based Anna Jancsó began her career producing documentary films and arts programming in Europe and Latin America. Her feature documentary *El Destello*, produced with the support of IDFA's Bertha Fund, in coproduction with Chello Multicanal/AMC Networks International Iberia, was in official competition at Visions du Réel; BAFICI; É Tudo Verdade and the Rhode Island IFF. *Forgotten Man* is her first narrative feature. In 2016 she produced the London Calling Special Jury Award winning short *Little Soldier* from director Stella Corradi, with photography by Robbie Ryan. Anna is currently developing original feature films both in Hungary and in the UK, and is also working with Adventure Pictures for writer/director Sally Potter. She is one of 10 European producers selected for EFP's 2016 Producers Lab Toronto.

CREW BIOGRAPHIES

MARC PETEY | Producer

Marc Petey is a founding member of Greendale Productions and a recent graduate of the Canadian Film Centre's Producers' Lab. He has produced five features including the sci-fi crime film *Helix*; *CANDiLAND*, starring Gary Busey; and *Forgotten Man*. His recent feature, *Dark Harvest*, starring Cheech Marin, will be released in 2016.

JOE KITSON | Producer

With a background in finance (finishing top of his class at Sauder School of Business, Analyst for the Bank Of Montreal) Joe Kitson moved into film production, structuring co-productions and monitoring business and financial affairs for NFA Films London. He has Produced short films and features for clients including the Canadian Film Centre, Greendale Productions and NFA Films London. Joe is currently based in London.

PETER GREGSON | Composer

Peter Gregson is a cellist and composer "working at the forefront of the new music scene" (The New Yorker). He has premiered works by composers including Max Richter, Jóhann Jóhannsson, Joby Talbot, Gabriel Prokofiev, and Steve Reich; he also collaborates with many leading film composers, including Lorne Balfe, Rupert Gregson-Williams, Alex Heffes, and Michael Price. His score for Alan Rickman's *A Little Chaos* was nominated for the Public Choice Award at the 2015 World Soundtrack Awards, and was Vanity Fair's score of the year. He is currently finishing the music for Sony Playstation's *BOUNDLESS*, his first computer game score.

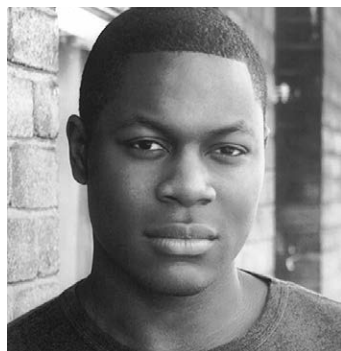
STUDIO LUNE | Production Design

Annabel Maguire and Bethan Smith run Studio Lune, an art direction and design studio based in east London, specialising in hand made, and surreal designs. Tess Newall has been a frequent collaborator since 2012 after the three worked on an advert for Jaffa Cakes. Their work spans film, television, fashion with a client list that includes H&M, Puma, Samsung, Sony and the Brit Awards 2016.

RYAN PETEY | Cinematography

Ryan Petey is a Canadian cinematographer. He began his career specialising in camera technologies, working for Panavision and Libra. He continues to assist in specialised camera shots for productions including *The Revenant* and *Once Upon A Time*. He has shot four feature films including *Dark Harvest*, *Helix*, *Underdogs* and *Forgotten Man*. He is currently filming his fifth feature film for Universal Pictures.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



OBI ABILI | Carl

Obi Abili is a RADA trained film and theatre actor based in New York. He was born and raised in South London. Theatre includes: *Taking Part* (Criterion Theatre); *Play House* (The Orange Tree); *Sixty-Six Books, Beardy* (Bush Theatre); *Six Degrees of Separation* (The Old Vic); *Dido Queen of Carthage* (National Theatre); *The Brothers Size* (Young Vic); *Quiet and We Hear* (Royal Court Theatre/BBC World Service); *Angels in America* (Headlong Theatre); *Darfur: How Long is Never* and *Fabulation* (Tricycle Theatre).

Film includes: *London Fields*, *The Rules of the Game*, *Tula*, *The Revolt*, *Gambit* and *World War Z*. Television includes: *Quirke*, *Moses Jones*, *Ten Days to War* (BBC); *Strikeback II* (Sky/HBO); *Injustice* (Gasper) *Nativity* (Kudos/BBC); *Foyle's War*, *The Take*, *Kingdom* (ITV); *Life is Wild and Afterlife* (Clerkenwell Films/ITV).



ELEANOR McLOUGHLIN | Meredith

Eleanor McLoughlin graduated from Drama Centre in 2014. She is currently playing Perdita in the International tour of Cheek By Jowl's *The Winters Tale*, directed by Declan Donnellan. Her previous theatre work includes *Ah, Wilderness!* (Young Vic, Natalie Abrahami) and *Smart Everything* (Platform).



TOBY WHARTON | Allan

Toby Wharton is an English playwright and actor who trained at RADA. His theatre credits include *Shalom Baby* (Theatre Royal, Stratford East), *Days of Significance* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Ajax* (Riverside Studios), *Transient* (Pleasance Edinburgh and Shunt Vaults Theatre), *Home* (Tristan Bates Theatre) and *Six Days* (Camden People's Theatre). Television includes *Marcella* (ITV) and *Silent Witness* (BBC). His first play, *Fog*, cowritten with Tash Fairbanks, premiered at the Finborough Theatre in 2012.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



JERRY HALL | Holly

Jerry Hall is an American model, theatre and film actress. She has multiple supporting roles in feature film including *Batman* (Tim Burton) and *Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie* (Jennifer Saunders). Her theatre work includes the West End production of Cole Porter's *High Society*, and A.R. Gurney's *Love Letters* at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. In 2010 her autobiography, entitled *Jerry Hall: My Life in Pictures* was published.



ERROL McGLASHAN | Errol

Errol McGlashan is an London Actor, Writer and Spoken Word Poet. He is a contributing member of Cardboard Citizens, a theatre company for the homeless and at-risk. He was invited to join Cardboard Citizens after attending a performance at the prison where he was serving a short sentence. Upon his release he became a permanent member. [CLICK HERE](#) to view a short interview with Errol McGlashan speaking to the BBC about the role the theatre played in avoiding reoffending.

ADDITIONAL CAST INCLUDE: Tyler Dawson, Sari Mercer, Anna Maguire, Kit Redstone, Harry Ditson, Eiji Mihara, Christopher Leveaux, Adam Lenson





TECHNICAL SPECS

83:31 MIN / ARRI ALEXA/ BLACK & WHITE/ 2016/ 1.85:1/ 5.1 SURROUND/
DCP, DIGITAL FILE, BLU-RAY

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