

BEYOND DREAMS

Original title "Dröm vidare"



SYNOPSIS

Mirja and her friends Sarah, Nina and Emmy never wanted to become a part of the society they grew up in. Their dream is to leave Sweden for Montevideo and a house at the beach, were they could live as they want without being judged.

After serving her first ever prison sentence for a failed robbery, being without the gang and their rules for the first time in her life, Mirja returns home and confronts new circumstances. She brutally finds out that her mother is seriously ill and very demanding. Mirja has to find a job – or be thrown out. In her ambition to handle the situation, Mirja begins to live a double life between the family and the gang. She needs to be a better daughter to her mother and an independent individual. But by becoming a part

of society, she must betray her friends and their dream.

Mirja isn't ready for the consequences that her new life brings. She tries to avoid conflict and friction as long as possible, but that's easier said than done. Her fight to become an independent person turns out to be more difficult than she could ever have imagined.

As soon as she feels independent from her past, the gang and her mother is there to drag her down again.



DIRECTOR'S VISION

We're all products of our society and expectations. Some of us have to fight an extra fight to be something other than the colour of our skin, what's between our legs or the postcode of where we live. And in that extra fight you can find a lot of laughter and a lot of pain.

I want to invite you to a beautiful world where nature blossoms. A world where love is real, though it may seem tough. Where bonds don't break easily and where the poor suburban concrete is no longer grey but painted in beautiful colours.

With this film I wanted to explore the individual against the collective. I wanted to challenge the liberal thought of "where there is a will, there is a way" that my generation is so affected by.

It was important for me to challenge the way we

often portray women in a group. What sounds do we use, what type of missions do we give them and what subjects do we want them to talk about?

This is a film about survival and how the different characters make their own way to survive and some may not even want to survive.

I wanted to make a beautiful movie that appeals to our senses and touches our hearts. A movie that can maybe make a few more people feel more included and less alone in a cold, beautiful and fucked up world.



Rojda Sekersöz was born in 1989. Apart from completing the Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts in 2012, she has written and directed several shorts and independent plays. *Beyond Dreams* is her first feature film.

Filmography

2017 *Beyond Dreams* (Dröm Vidare)
2015 *STUCK* (FAST)
2012 *The Voyage* (Jungfrufärd)
2011 *Cuntdown* – from a youth detention center (Fittbacka – ett jävla ungdomshem)



Mirja

Evin Ahmad was born in Sweden with roots in Kurdistan.

She made her feature film debut at the age of 15 in *An Eye Red*, and is a graduate of The Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts acting program.

Evin is a leading member of Folkteatern in Gothenburg, Sweden, where she has performed in several plays. Currently she portrays the lead role in the new, human rights themed play *Marie Antoinette*.



Sarah

Gizem Erdogan is a Swedish actress. She is educated at the The Swedish Academic School of Drama. After graduating in 2015 she has been working at the Gothenburg City Theatre and Stockholm City Theatre. At both theaters she has played the lead as Alice in *Alice in Wonderland* and Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*. During her education she was granted the Anders Andrews foundation scholarship. She is an upcoming actress in film and theatre.



Nina

Segen Tesfai, 23, with Eritrean heritage has since childhood had a passion for acting and music. She is a singer/songwriter who studied the vocal music performance program at the Tech Music School, currently BIMM, in London 2013. Since then she has been featured in a Redline Records song, done back-up vocals and also acted in a music video. Nina is her debut feature roll.

Currently she is working as a youth recreation leader.



Emmy

Malin Persson is a Swedish actress located in Stockholm. Born in 1992, she was the youngest actress ever to be accepted to The Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts at 17. Since completing the Bachelor of Fine Arts, she has been working non stop with film, television and on-stage drama.

Her biggest strength is performing over a broad spectre of characters. In 2016 she premiered with three feature films and two TV series, holding the lead role in one.



Screenwriter

Johanna Emanuelsson was 25 when she had her breakthrough as a playwright with her debut *I'm Falling*, performed at The Swedish Royal Dramatic Theatre in 2011.

The year before she became the Swedish winner of New Baltic Drama, and the same year she was the youngest playwright ever awarded with the Colombine Theatre Agency's debutante scholarship. She has written three plays for Riksteatern and written for children's theatre companies, radio plays.

Production Info

SWEDISH TITLE Dröm Vidare
INTL. TITLE Beyond Dreams
PRODUCTION YEAR 2016
GENRE Drama
RUNNING TIME 90 minutes
NATIONAL PREMIERE 2017
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN Sweden
LANGUAGE Swedish
SUBTITLES English
SCREEN RATIO 2.66:1
SOUND FORMAT 5.1
FPS 24

DIRECTOR Rojda Sekersöz
WRITER Johanna Emanuelsson
PRODUCERS Annika Hellström, Agneta Fagerström Olsson
CINEMATOGRAPHER Gabriel Mkrttchian
PROD. DESIGNER Elle Furudahl
COMPOSER Lisa Holmqvist
EDITORS Linda Jildmalm, Hanna Storby

PRODUCERS' VISION

2afilm has the ambition to challenge society with stories that open up for broader perspectives. *Beyond Dreams* came through in a collaboration together with Johanna Emanuelsson and Rojda Sekersöz.

We wanted to see young women in focus. Young women in the suburbs who are struggling to live their lives and to capture their dreams. We wanted to make a film about their friendships, their challenges, and their struggles to find their way into their own lives without losing themselves, or their dreams. These choices, struggles and dreams, exist everywhere, not just in Swedish suburbs.

They are shimmering between the block towers in Paris, Berlin and London too. Our young women are no victims, they don't step aside. They are taking themselves very seriously and as they are ready to fight, they are ready to laugh.

Agneta Fagerström Olsson and Annika Hellström founded 2afilm in 2012. The company's first feature *Flocken (Flocking, 2015)* won the Crystal Bear in Generation 14+ at Berlinale 2015, received three Swedish Guldbagge awards (Best Supporting Actress, Photography and Composer) and Best Original Music award at Aubagne Film Festival. The feature also received Best Word Fiction award at Los Angeles FF, and Best Director, Screenplay and Young Actress at the 18th Olympia International Film plus the Golden Goat at the ALE Kino in Poland among several other awards worldwide.

Beyond Dreams is 2afilm's second feature.



Agneta Director, producer. Crystal Bear and multiple award winning *Flocking*. Prix Italia winner several times with *Hammarkullen* and *Knife in the Heart*. Won Prix Europa with *First Gypsy in Space* together with scriptwriter Peter Birro and received the Ingmar Bergman Award and the Bo Widerberg Award. Received the Nordic Film Award for *Knock Out*. Made several Wallander films.



Annika Crystal Bear and multiple award winning *Flocking*. Multiple award winning *Underdog*. Co-producer for the Norwegian/French animated fiction *The Tower* and the Icelandic/Belgian feature *And Breathe Normally*. In addition, several award winning shorts, and the feature films *Shall we dance* and *Almost Elvis*.





Production Company

2afilm AB

Djupedalsgatan 2, 413 07 Göteborg

Annika Hellström, +46707866416, annika@2afilm.se

Agneta Fagerström Olsson, +46705519685,
agneta@2afilm.se

Produced by

2afilm ab in co-production with Filmpool Nord and Apricot Studio, with support from the Swedish Film Institute/Magdalena Jangard, Filmbasen Stockholm Debut Stockholm Mälardalen, Film I Dalarna and in collaboration with SVT, DR, and C More.

Swedish Distributor

NonStop Entertainment AB

Norra Stationsgatan 93, 11364 Stockholm

+46707976671

jacob.abrahamsson@nonstopentertainment.com

nonstopentertainment.com