



SLOT MACHINE
PRESENTS



TRINE DYRHOLM



the danish woman

A series of films

A SERIES BY
BENEDIKT ERLINGSSON

CREATION ORIGINALE : JEFF MAUNOURY

Slot Machine and The Party Film Sales
present



the danish woman



WORLD PREMIERE
TV series 6x47 minutes
Language Icelandic / Danish / English
Delivery November 2025

Produced by
SLOT MACHINE

In Co-production With
GULLSLOTTID, ZIK ZAK FILMWORKS

In association with
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TRUENORTH, WILD BUNCH GERMANY, THE PARTY FILM SALES,
JON PÁLMASSON, SIGURDUR G. PÁLMASSON

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SYNOPSIS

RAMBO, NAPOLEON AND PIPPI LONG STOCKING - ALL ROLED INTO ONE - AND SHE LIVES NEXT DOOR!

When Ditte Jensen retires with honors from the Danish Secret Service, she moves into an apartment block in Reykjavik, where she plans to tend to her garden and live out her life in anonymity.

But Ditte cannot stop being who she is: an elite soldier and a warrior. Soon, the apartment building becomes a battlefield for a better world. With her deep-rooted sense of justice, she sees her neighbors' problems and feels compelled to help - whether they want her help or not. And in her world, the end justifies the means. Always.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

THE BIG PICTURE

So... First off, *The Danish Woman* is based on a well-known theme - or a cliché.

The often-told story of the "Returning warrior".

This metaphorical narrative frame can be traced all the way back to Homer - at least. It's the story of Odysseus who returns home to Ithaca and finds the suitors in his palace. He kills them all and in doing so nearly starts a new war.

This story can also be found in more recent examples, for instance in Sylvester Stallone's film *Rambo*. A soldier returns home from the Vietnam war and... You know the rest.



But here we have "The Danish Woman".

Firstly, she is a "Foreign element" that joins the community of a small apartment building in Reykjavík. She is the "New neighbor".

But she is more than that. Being Danish has a meaning in an Icelandic context. She belongs to the old master race, the teachers of civilization - as Iceland was a colony of Denmark for nearly 400 years.

The history of the Nordic nations is here one of the threads spun into this narrative. Nations that today call themselves brothers and sisters and run joint cultural funds, but still have a blood-driven history that sometimes we can still feel under the surface.

Ditte Jensen moves into this apartment building in Iceland where she finds ordinary people with ordinary problems.

This enables us to put the story into a broader perspective.

Because Ditte is a “helper “- much like the Western empire that brought her up, and she behaves like an empire. A well-meaning but militant state, focused on spreading its ideology – even through brute force if necessary.

And here I hope that we, the Nordic and European audience, will see ourselves.

Because in some way we are like the Danish woman. We live in a culture that accepts Machiavelli's sentiment "The end justifies the means."

It's an underlying creed of the foreign policy of our humanistic Europe and our Western Empires.

It is the doctrine of war in general, despite all treaties and human rights declarations.

And despite of everything we somehow accept this “sacrifice.”

There are no uprisings even though we get news of “our” drone attacks at wedding parties or “our” waterboarding torture of teenagers or “our” bombs falling on children's hospitals etc.

Because “our” intention are always "good" or at least "understandable". Our armed forces have perhaps done wrong things, but for all the right reasons.

The underlying question is therefore: Can we build a healthy society and a better world with this mentality of the conquering warrior.

My aim as a storyteller is always to entertain, entertain and entertain - but also and maybe on a deeper level to reveal for the audience a "bigger picture" - a picture where, if you look closely enough, you might find yourself staring back.

Benedikt Erlingsson

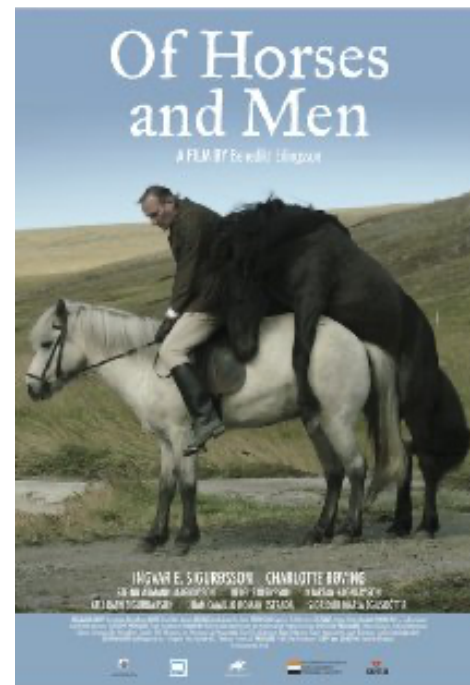
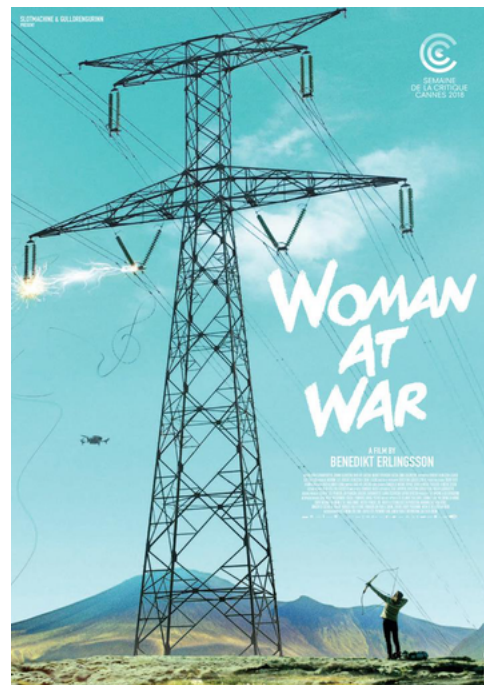
DIRECTOR



BENEDIKT ERLINGSSON is an Icelandic director, author and actor.

Of Horses and Men, Erlingsson's first feature film as a writer-director, won over 20 international awards including the New Directors prize at the 2013 San Sebastián Film Festival and the 2014 Nordic Council Film Prize.

Woman at war, his second feature film as a writer-director, won over 36 international awards including the SACD Award at the 57th Semaine de la Critique in Cannes in 2018, The Lux prize of the European Parliament and the Nordic Council Film Prize of the same year.



WRITER - DIRECTOR

2018 **WOMAN AT WAR**
 FEATURE FILM - PRODUCED BY SLOT MACHINE AND GULLDRENGURINN
 Has been released in over 40 countries

2016 **SHOWS OF SHOWS**
 DOCUMENTARY - PRODUCED BY SAGAFILM FOR BBC STORYTELL

2013 **OF HORSES AND MEN**
 FEATURE FILM - PRODUCED BY HROSSABRESTUR

2008 **THE NAIL**
 SHORT FILM - PRODUCED BY MARKELL
Special Mention at the Clermont Ferrand International Short Film Festival in 2008

2007 **THANKS**
 SHORT FILM - PRODUCED BY ZIKZAK
Jury Prize and Audience Award at the BE-Film Festival in New York in 2008.

WRITER FOR THEATER AND TV

2010 **THE ICELANDIC BELL**
 A PLAY FOR NATIONAL THEATRE BASED ON HALLDÓR LAXNESS NOVEL

2009 **LITTLE JESUS**
 A PLAY CO-WRITTEN AND DIRECTED FOR CITY THEATRE BASE ON THE NEW TESTAMENTS

2006 **MR. SKALLAGRÍMSSON**
 ONE MAN SHOW BASED ON THE SAGA OF EGILL SKALLAGRIMSSON

2000 **WORMS-TONGUE - A LOVE STORY**
 TV FILM BASED ON THE SAGA OF GUNNLAUGUR WORM'S-TONGUE

1997 **BLOOD BROTHERS/ FOSTBRÆÐUR**
 TV SERIES

CO-WRITER



ÓLAFUR EGILL EGILSSON is an established actor and director in the Icelandic theater scene who lives in Reykjavik with his wife and two children. He writes for both theater and screen and has received several nominations and awards for his work in both fields, among them the Nordic Council's Film Prize, the Lux Prize of the European Parliament and the Cannes SACD award in 2018 for *Woman at War* and the Prix Europa for the TV series *Trapped*.

SCREENWRITER

2018 **WOMAN AT WAR**

FEATURE FILM - PRODUCED BY SLOT MACHINE AND GULLDRENGURINN

Has been released in over 40 countries

2021 **KATLA**

TV SERIES 10X60

THE VALLEY

SHORT FILM

THE OATH BY BALTASAR KORMAKUR

FEATURE FILM

TRAPPED

TV SERIES 10X60

THE GRANDAD BY BJARNI HAUKUR THORSSON

FEATURE FILM

2011 **SURF** BY ARNI OLAFUR ASGEIRSSON AND OTTO BORG

FEATURE FILM

Nomination to the Nordic Council's film prize Feature Film 2011

2009 **SUMMERLAND** BY GRÍMUR HÁKONARSON

FEATURE FILM

2007 **WIGHT NIGHT WEDDING** BY BALTASAR KORMÁKUR

FEATURE FILM

MAIN ACTRESS

TRINE DYRHOLM



Trine Dyrholm is a Danish actress and one of the most acclaimed and award-winning talents in the Nordic region. She is known for her powerful performances in both film and television. She gained international recognition in Thomas Vinterberg's *The Celebration* and later starred in the Academy Award-winning *In a Better World* by Susanne Bier. In 2016 she reunited with Thomas Vinterberg in *The Commune* and won the Best Actress Silver Bear.

Her other credits such as the DR family drama *The Legacy* by Pernilla August, *Nico 1988* by Susanna Nicchiarelli, *Queen of Hearts* by May el-Toukhy, or *The Almond and the Seahorse* by Celyn Jones & Tom Stern, further solidified her status as a top talent.

More recently, she starred in *The Girl with the Needle* by Magnus Von Horn, nominated for 2025 Best International Feature at the Academy Awards and the HBO mini-series *Rematch* by Yan England, winner of the latest edition of Series Mania.

HER CHARACTER

DITTE JENSEN

A former single and childless army nurse and secret service agent who wants to start a new life in Iceland. Ditte is a legend among Nordic intelligence agents. She has now turned her back on intelligence work and warmongering and start a new life, a life dedicated to helping people, to become a guardian angel and vigilante serving her neighbours and local community, to make up for all the communities she undermined and destroyed in her previous line of work...

SELECTIVE FILMOGRAPHY

2024 **THE GIRL WITH THE NEEDLE** BY MAGNUS VON HORN
FEATURE FILM

2024 **REMATCH** BY YAN ENGLAND
SERIES

2024 **MARY & GEORGE** BY D.C. MOORE
SERIES

2022 **THE ALMOND AND THE SEAHORSE** BY CELYN JONES & TOM STERN
FEATURE FILM

2019 **QUEEN OF HEARTS** BY MAY EL-TOUKHY
FEATURE FILM
GÖTEBORG FF - DRAGON AWARD FOR BEST ACTRESS

2017 **NICO 1988** BY SUSANNA NICCHIARELLI
FEATURE FILM

2016 **THE COMMUNE** BY THOMAS VINTERBERG

2014 **THE LEGACY** BY PERNILLA AUGUST
SERIES - 3 SEASONS

2010 **IN A BETTER WORLD** BY SUSANNE BIER
FEATURE FILM

2007 **A ROYAL AFFAIR** BY NIKOLAJ ARCEL
FEATURE FILM

2007 **3096 TAGE** BY SHERRY HORMANN
FEATURE FILM

2007 **DAISY DIAMOND** BY SIMON STAHO
FEATURE FILM

1998 **THE CELEBRATION** BY THOMAS VINTERBERG
FEATURE FILM

CAST

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Trine Dyrholm | Ditte Jensen |
| Hilmar Guðjónsson | Thorir |
| Kristín Póra Haraldsdóttir | Gulla |
| Halldóra Geirharðsdóttir | Soffia |
| Björn Thors | Magnus |
| Halla Vilhjálmsdóttir | Ástrídur |
| Hjálmar Hjálmarsson | Kristinn |
| Björk | Edda Guðnadóttir |
| Jens Albinus | Jens Jørgensen |

CREW

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Directed by | Benedikt Erlingsson |
| Written by | Benedikt Erlingsson & Olafur Egill Egilsson |
| Produced by | Marianne Slot & Carine Leblanc |
| Cinematography | Bergsteinn Björgúlfsson (ÍKS) |
| Editing | Davíð Alexander Corno |
| Sound design | Gunnar Árnason |
| Music | Matti Kallio |
| Sound mix | Skúli Helgi Sigurgíslason |
| Production design | Dóra Hrund Gísladóttir |
| Costumes | Helga Rós Hannam |
| Hair & Makeup | Mari Vaalasranta |





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