

presents

LI'L QUINQUIN

A Film by Bruno Dumont

Cannes Film Festival- Directors' Fortnight 2014
Toronto International Film Festival 2014
New York Film Festival 2014

France | 2014 | 197 minutes | In French with English Subtitles

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A Kino Lorber Release Kino Lorber, Inc. 333 West 39th St. Suite 503 New York, NY 10018 (212) 629-6880

Publicity Contacts:
Rodrigo Brandão – rodrigo@kinolorber.com
Matt Barry – mbarry@kinolorber.com



CAST

CREW

Director Bruno Dumont

Screenplay Bruno Dumont

Photography Guillaume Deffontaines

> Sound Philippe Lecoeur

Editors Basile Belkhiri and Bruno Dumont

A coproduction

3B PRODUCTIONS – ARTE France
With PICTANOVO
With the support of de la Région Nord-Pasde Calais and
LE FRESNOY Studio national des arts contemporains
In partnership with CNC
In association with Cofinova 10
With the participation of CNC and TV5 Monde



SYNOPSIS

French auteur Bruno Dumont, best known for uncompromising and austere dramas, proves with the comedy *Li'l Quinquin* that he is capable of shifting gears without conceding his signature style. This absurdist, metaphysical murder mystery opens with the discovery of human body parts stuffed inside a cow – a literal bête humaine — on the outskirts of the English Channel in northern France. The bumbling and mumbling Captain Van der Weyden (played by Bernard Pruvost) is assigned to investigate the crime, but he has to contend with a young prankster, the mischievous Quinquin (Alane Delhaye), as he proceeds to investigate the case. Dubbed an "epic farce" by the New York Film Festival, *Li'l Quinquin* has been compared to Twin Peaks and True Detective. But simply speaking, *Li'l Quinquin* is "a wonderfully weird and unexpectedly hilarious" (Scott Foundas, Variety) masterwork from one of the most important contemporary French directors.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Comedy has almost the same firepower as drama: the power to go right to the heart of things, as comedy does in a rather direct way (laughter is the detonation, that of an inner explosion). Comedy came to me from the dramas that I directed: strangely enough, it was always lurking around during the shooting and the takes.

Comedy lurked there simply because it is cut from the same cloth: it was always in the equation during the delicate balancing of a drama, because it was always a possibility and a risk. In other words, comedy does not have a nature of its own: it exists in the natural suspense of beings and things, like a germination. Human life is thus a mechanism with a single trigger: tragedy, drama and comedy are simply its variations. *Li'l Quinquin* is a tragicomic film, because it is a dog chasing its tail!

BRUNO DUMONT FILMOGRAPHY

2014 LI'L QUINQUIN (P'tit Quinquin)

-Cannes Film Festival- Directors' Fortnight 2014

2013 CAMILLE CLAUDEL 1915

- Berlin Film Festival Official Competition 2011 **OUTSIDE SATAN** (*Hors Satan*)
- Cannes Film Festival Un certain regard

2009 HADEWIJCH

- Toronto Film Festival Fipresci Award 2006 **FLANDERS** (*Flandres*)
- Cannes Film Festival Grand Jury Prize 2003 TWENTYNINE PALMS
- Venice Film Festival Official Competition 1999 **L'HUMANITÉ**
 - Cannes Film Festival Grand Jury Prize
 - Cannes Film Festival Best Actor
 - Cannes Film Festival Best Actress

1997 THE LIFE OF JESUS (La vie de Jesus)

- Directors' Fortnight
- Cannes Film Festival Golden Camera Special Mention