



Locarno Film Festival
Official selection
Cinéastes du Présent

Amka Films and RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera
present

LOVE ME TENDER

Written and directed by
Klaudia Reynicke

with
Barbara Giordano
Antonio Bannò
Gilles Privat
Federica Vermiglio
Maurizio Tabani
Anna Galante

a production by **Amka Films**
in co-production with **RSI Radiotelevisione svizzera**

supported by
Fonds de production télévisuelle, Repubblica e Cantone Ticino, FilmPlus della Svizzera italiana,
Migros Percento culturale, Succès Passage Antenne, Fondazione Ernst Göhner, Stagepool Focal,
Ticino Film Commission

Swiss distributor First Hand Films – International distributor Summerside International

Press Screening Thu 8th August | 4.15 pm | Teatro Kursaal

Official Screening Fri 9th August | 11 am | Palacinema 1

2nd Screening Sat 10th August | 4.15 pm | L'altra sala

3rd Screening Sun 11th August | 11.00 pm | Palacinema 2

Swiss release January 2020

Press Office in Locarno

Tina Boillat Communications, Tina Boillat, tina@videonet.ch, mob. +4179 423 78 44

CAST

Seconda *Barbara Giordano*
Santo *Antonio Bannò*
Henry *Gilles Privat*
Little girl *Federica Vermiglio*
Augusto *Maurizio Tabani*
Dominique *Anna Galante*
Augusto's lover *Jasmin Mattei*
Patient in hospital *Elena Gigliotti*
Head of Scouts 1 *Siro Pedrozzi*
Head of Scouts 2 *Thomas Mariniello*
Nursing Man *Max Zampetti*
Doctor *Cinzia Morandi*
Shop Assistant 1 *Giorgia del Don*
Shot Assistant 2 *Muriel del Don*
Cat *Zeus*

CREW

Director *Klaudia Reynicke*
Story and Screenplay *Klaudia Reynicke*
Assistant director *Giorgia De Coppi*
2nd Assistant director *Lisa Gyöngy, Simone Visparelli*
Script *Francesca Vegezzi*
Cinematographer *Diego Romero Suarez Llanos A.E.C.*
Focus Puller *Raul Garcia*
1st Assistant Photographer *Valentina Provini*
Dit *Leo Weissenbach, Gregory Terlikowski*
Editor *Paola Freddi*
Assistant Editor *Francesco de Matteis, Giulia Eppi*
Sound Director *Christophe Giovannoni*
Sound Engineer *Gautier Isern*
Perchman *Xavier Lavorel*
Music *Zeno Gabaglio, Klaudia Reynicke*
Art Director *Sara B. Weingart*
Props *Paola Genni*
Set Decorator *Daniele Crimella*
Assistant Art Director *Donatello de Mattia*
Set Builder *Mario Bugnano*
Stage *Leo Weingart*
Costume Designer *Laura Pennisi*
Stage *Noemi Colletta*
Hair & Make-up *Assunta Ranieri*
Stage *Simona Marconi*
Gaffer *Eric Walther*
Assistant Gaffer *Andrea De Stoutz*
Key Grip *Didier Lebel*
Best Boy *Emanuele Di Marco*
1st Assistant Grip *Stefano Mosimann*
Casting Director *Roberta Corrirossi*
Casting supporting roles and extras *Mladenka Radic*
Assistant casting children *Agnese Làposi*
Dance Choreographer *Elena Gigliotti*

Coach Diction *Andrea Panigatti*
Stage Production Manager *Micol Guido*
Assistant Production *Barbara Taddei, Lisa Fano, Miriam Avelli*
Bookkeeper *Ginevra Reymond, Sergio Vignati*
General Supervisor *Nicole Schwizgebel*
Set Supervisor *Marco Gil*
Assistant Set Supervisor *Edouard Duteil*
Runner *Luigi Ranieri, Mario Engelberger*
Stunt Coordinator *Marcel Stucki*
Stunt *Roland Siegenthaler*
Animal Trainer *Agenzia Animal Spot Milano,
Giulia Pasqualetti*
Mix Sound Director *Xavier Lavorel & Maxence Ciekawy*
Sound Editing Supervisor *Maxence Ciekawy*
Foley *Miguel Barbosa*
Mix Sound Effects *Diego Staub*
Post-produzione Audio *Giorgio D'Imperio*
Colorist *Yves Roy Vallaster*
Confirming *Pascal Isenschmid*
Producer *Tiziana Soudani
Gabriella De Gara
Michela Pini*
Co producer *Alessandro Marcioni
Walter Bortolotti*
Assistant co producer *Gabriella Domeniconi*

Switzerland - 2019 - 83 min - color

LOGLINE

Suffering from agoraphobia, Seconda is unable to leave her house. When she finally succeeds, new challenges push this assertive anti-heroine's limits even further.

SYNOPSIS

The daily life of a 32-year-old woman suffering from agoraphobia, SECONDA, suddenly changes when her mother dies and her father abandons her. Alone and unable to leave her home, she clings to the phone messages of a snarling bailiff who one day stops calling. Unable to end her life, she offers a deal to SANTO, a bottle collector: she will give him her house in exchange for her own murder. Santo runs away, leaving Seconda alone in her despair.

The only link she has left with the outside world is the repetitive and disconcerting visits of a little girl who attacks her from the outside, pushing her to the brink.

In order to feel protected, Seconda wears her blue suit and goes out, walking in the streets of her city in search of her freedom, until she confronts her own demons that she will have to face.

A tough and determined anti-super heroine, she will achieve this with her own resources.

AUTHOR'S NOTE OF INTENT

Non-conformist superheroes have always inspired me: the ones who stand out for their excess of humanity, their mistakes, their fears. Those who use their fragility and turn it into a weapon. Those who are out of step, on the margins and who make it their strength. This type of superhero or anti-superhero are difficult to find in the feminine gender. So I decided to create one.

This is how Seconda was born, an anti-superheroine that is an archetype of human psychological complexity, a model of the vulnerable being that transforms with her own strength. She goes forward by fighting against her own paradigms and nothing stops her.

I wanted to create a character capable of digging into the depths of isolation, until she found the light, "her" light. A character trapped by her own demons, who manages to confront them. An anti-super-heroine who inspires us with her firmness, courage, strength, but also with her fragility, precariousness, vulnerability and above all with her uncertainty, because this is what makes a fictional character true and human.

Love Me Tender tells the story of a woman who lives on the fringes of the world and who suddenly finds herself catapulted out of her comfort zone, having to confront the outside world, instigating new challenges.

Her story is that of a life journey, an existential quest, a passage that other people may make at one time or another in their lives.

Klaudia Reynicke

KLAUDIA REYNICKE – Writer & Director

Klaudia Reynicke is a Swiss Peruvian scriptwriter and film director. Before dedicating herself to film, she studied visual arts and sociology. In 2005 she attended the Tisch School of Arts at the NY University where she directed her first short. Later, her encounter with the Swiss director Jacqueline Veuve whom she assisted during 2006, confirmed her desire to become a film director herself. In 2010 she obtained a M.A. in filmmaking from the ECAL-HEAD. *Love Me Tender* is her 2nd feature film.

BARBARA GIORDANO - Seconda

She studied at the Silvio D'Amico National Academy of Dramatic Art. She made her debut at the age of 15 as a protagonist at the Teatro Stabile in Catania in *I Beati Paoli* directed by G. Di Pasquale. Before being the protagonist of *Love Me Tender* she starred in *Meraviglioso Boccaccio* by the Fratelli Taviani (2015). For television she participated in the TV series *1994* (2018), *Prima Che La Notte*, tv movie on Raiuno (2017), *Don Matteo 9* (2015) and many others. In theater she starred in *Pescheria Giacalone e Figli*, by Rosario Lisma, *Malia* directed by Armando Pugliese (2019), *Ocunto di O' Surdato*, by Lello Arena (2018), *Edipo a Colonio* by Glauco Mauri (2018/2017), *Edipo Re*, by A. Baracco (2017) and others. Her mother was well-known actress Mariella Lo Giudice. At the age of 18 she moved from her native Sicily to Rome where she still lives.

ANTONIO BANNÒ - Santo

He attended the Scuola di recitazione Stabile in Genoa as well as several specialization courses, seminars and internships. For cinema, in 2017 he starred in *Go Home - at their home* directed by Luna Gualano and for television in *Rocco Schiavone 2* directed by Michele Soavi in the role of Davide Mariotti (2017). He frequently acts in theatre, in 2017/18 in *King Lear* directed by Giorgio Barberio Corsetti, in 2016/17 in *La cucina di Valerio Binasco*, *Ritratto di una nazione* directed by Fabrizio Arcuri, *Il gioco dell'amore e del caso* directed by Lorenzo Lavia, *Il funerale del padrone* directed by Massimo de Michele, *Egle, the Queen of the Serpents* directed by Oskaras Korsunovas and others.

GILLES PRIVAT - Henry

After a piano baccalaureate in Geneva in 1979, Gilles Privat studied at the Jacques Lecoq school in Paris from 1979 to 1981. He was a resident of the Comédie Française from 1996 to 1998. He works with the greatest directors, including Alain Françon, Matthias Langhoff and Benno Besson, of whom he is one of the most loyal actors. In cinema, he played among others in *La crise* and *Romuald et Juliette* by Coline Serreau.

MAURIZIO TABANI - Augusto

Maurizio Tabani was born in Bergamo and trained in the Scuola di recitazione del Teatro Tascabile with teachers of the calibre of Ernesto Pagani, Alarico Salaioli and Renzo Vescovi. He is part of numerous theater companies in Bergamo, Milan and the province. At the cinema he played in *Milano Underground* by Giovanni Esposito (2014), *Io, Arlecchino*, by Matteo Bini and Giorgio Pasotti (2012), *Romanzo di una Strage* by Marco Tullio Giordana (2012), *I Giorni della Vendemmia* by Marco Righi (2010), *Barbarossa* by Renzo Martinelli (2009), *Il Resto della Notte* by Francesco Munzi (2008), *Hotel Meina* by Carlo Lizzani (2007), *Il Mattino ha l'Oro in Bocca* by Francesco Patierno (2007), *Casomai* by Alessandro D'Alatri (2002).

AMKA FILMS - production company

Tiziana Soudani founded Amka Films in 1988 and has since been committed to producing independent works mainly in Europe but also in Africa and elsewhere. Amka Films has produced and coproduced fiction films, among them Alice Rohrwacher's "Lazzaro Felice" (Best Screenplay, Cannes Festival 2018) and "Le meraviglie" (Grand Jury Prize, Cannes 2014), "Vodka Lemon" by Hiner Saleem, winner of the Controcorrente competition at the 2003 Venice Film Festival, "L'intrusa" by Leonardo di Costanzo (Quinzaine des Réalisateurs, Cannes 2017) and "L'intervallo" by the same author (Venice 2012) and different other movies like box office hit and winner of 9 David di Donatello "Pane e Tulipani" (Bread and Tulips) by Silvio Soldini in 2000, "Waalo Fendo, where the earth freezes", by Mohammed Soudani (Swiss Film Prize for best fiction in 1998), and many other documentary, films and TV-movies.

Amka Films is member of the European Film Academy (EFA), of the Swiss GARP (Groupe Auteurs Réalisateurs Producteurs) and member of ACE (Atelier Cinéma Européen). In 2018 Michela Pini, also executive producer and founder of production company Cineddoké, and Gabriella De Gara, former Head of fiction production at Swiss television RSI, joined in.

FIRST HAND FILMS – Swiss distributor

Founded in Zurich (1998) and Berlin (1999) by Esther van Messel, First Hand Films distributes independent fiction and documentary films for television and cinema.

As a Swiss theatrical distributor since 2013 FH has released a number of Swiss documentary and fiction films such as the Caméra d'Or Cannes 2013 PARTY GIRL, CITIZENFOUR (Oscar Best Documentary), its follower RISK and more recently the Cannes selected films CHRIS THE SWISS (Semaine de la Critique) and MON TISSU PRÉFÉRÉ (Un Certain Regard). FHF took BURMA VJ to the Academy Award® nomination in 2010, and in 2014, it receives an Honorary Award by the MiradasDoc festival for "having been able to rejuvenate the language of documentary filmmaking and bring it closer to our living rooms."

SUMMERSIDE INTERNATIONAL - International distributor

Summerside International is a production company and a worldwide film boutique acting as intermediary agent for producers and offering a persistently renewed lineup of quality feature films from all over the world: Oscar qualified titles, family and children's films, animation, art-house, director-driven, commercial, documentaries, regularly selected at both European and worldwide festivals.

With a small team of top executives and experienced managers, thanks to their knowledge of the film business and a recognizable and strong brand and identity, Summerside International facilitates the packaging, promotion and international distribution of high quality contents.

Run by Francesca Manno and Nicola Tassoni, Summerside International is member of Europa International and UNEFA.