

HOW FAR
YOU GO
IS UP
TO YOU

MICHAEL LEGGE
ALLEN LEECH
AMY SHIELS

COWBOYS & ANGELS

VIDE EYE FILMS PRESENTS A FILM BY BORD SCANNÁN NA hÉIREANN/IRISH FILM BOARD, FILMFÖRDERUNG HAMBURG
BKM, FFA AND PETER STOCKHAUS FILMPRODUKTION, BROSVENDOR PARK, OCTAGON FILMS AND COWBOYS & ANGELS
STARRING MICHAEL LEGGE, ALLEN LEECH, AMY SHIELS COSTUME DESIGNER GILLIAN REYNOLDS PRODUCTION DESIGNER GRAMIA PRESTON
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STEPHEN MCKEON AND ANDREW BIRD PRODUCED BY JIM FURLONG AND VOLKER TITTEL
WRITTEN BY PATRICK O'DONOGHUE DIRECTED BY PETER STOCKHAUS COSTUME DESIGNER CHRIS CHRISAFIS EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JAMES FLINN
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER NATHALIE LICHTENTHAELER PRODUCED BY DAVID GLEESON



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COWBOYS & ANGELS

SYNOPSIS

Shane Butler is a handsome but geeky 20 year old who feels that life is passing him by. A talented artist who longs to go to Art School, he spends his days stuck in a horrible job behind a desk in the civil service. When he moves into an apartment in Limerick city with Vincent Cusack, a gay fashion student, things begin to look up. Despite being poles apart on almost every level, Shane and Vincent soon become close friends.

Vincent's artistry, evident in everything he puts his hand to, inspires Shane to greatness. When he meets and falls head over heels in love with Gemma, an ex-art student and best friend of Vincent's who now works in a fast food joint, he feels compelled to make some radical changes to his life.

Fate steps in to lend a hand in the form of Keith, a drug dealer who lives downstairs. Keith offers Shane the opportunity to make a lot of money by going on a drugs run to Dublin. At first Shane refuses. But he desperately needs the cash.

He goes on the drugs run and lives to regret it. With the money he has made Vincent transforms him - "Pretty Woman" style - into one of the hippest cats in town. Unknown to Shane though, some shady figures have tailed him back from Dublin and are now watching his apartment.

When Vincent finds out the source of Shane's cash they have a terrible confrontation which spells the end of their friendship. With the death of Shane's closest friend at work Shane goes off the rails and plunges into an emotional abyss, culminating in an unforgettable night at the "Mud Club" after which Shane re-examines his whole life.

Shane renews his friendship with Vincent and helps him complete the collection for his graduate fashion show. At home that evening, celebrating their success, the police burst in and arrest them both.

Convinced that this is the end of the road, Shane and Vincent are totally unaware of the forces conspiring to secure their release. When they march out of the police station, free men - with only hours to spare before Vincent's graduate fashion show -

Vincent finally recognises the new Shane for the mature and genuinely cool person he has become.

Never one to miss an opportunity, he uses Shane as his lead model on the catwalk. Shane is a natural and steals the show. Gemma finally falls for him. When Vincent flies off to New York to pursue a career in the fashion industry - with a ticket which Shane bought for him - Shane and Gemma are at the airport to say goodbye. The world has opened up for Shane now and all he ever wanted from life is his for the taking.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

David Gleeson hails from a family of cinema owners. He learnt his craft in a darkened theatre. One of Ireland's hottest emerging filmmakers, David has written and directed several award winning short films. "Cowboys & Angels" is his feature debut. David currently lives in Dublin, Ireland.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

"Although COWBOYS & ANGELS is set in Ireland and incorporates elements which are very specific to Irish culture, the mythic nature of the story and its universal theme of belonging and acceptance makes it relevant to everyone. Not only is COWBOYS & ANGELS a story about Shane Butler's personal growth it is also the story of a warm and touching friendship between two souls - Shane and Vincent.

COWBOYS & ANGELS is a film about young people for young people. It is an upbeat film with a cheerful, positive outlook. But there is a deeper level to all of this. A sense of poetic lyricism imbues Shane's every action and adds a certain emotive quality to his journey.

The colours of COWBOYS & ANGELS are the steely blues of the coolest clubs, the velvet blacks of the darkest night and the scarlet red of the hottest kiss. The lighting, sets and costume design reflect a richness which is impossibly seductive. A world which challenges the viewer not to long to be a part of it."

David Gleeson, May 2003

CAST

Michael Legge is Shane Butler

Michael played the lead role of Frankie McCourt in Alan Parker's "Angela's Ashes". He also recently played the lead in

Intermedia's "Whatever Happened to Harold Smith?". As well as his impressive body of film work Michael is a veteran of London's West End stage.

Allen Leech is Vincent Cusack

Tipped as the "next big thing" from Ireland, "Cowboys & Angels" represents Allen's feature debut in a lead role. Having made quite a splash on the stage at Dublin's Abbey theatre and on Irish TV, Allen is currently hot in demand.

Amy Shiels is Gemma

Another hot newcomer, Amy Shiels recently made her film debut in Joel Schumacher's "Veronica Guerin". A native of Dublin, the character of Gemma in "Cowboys & Angels" promises to be Amy's breakthrough.

Frank Kelly is Jerry

A veteran of countless film and TV projects Frank Kelly is one of Ireland's best known actors. Well known in the UK for his role in the "Father Ted" TV series and most recently on film opposite Pierce Brosnan in "Evelyn", the role of Jerry represents a departure for Frank.

David Murray is Keith

Part of new generation of young Irish talent in the Colin Farrell mold, David Murray recently wrapped a major role in Joel Schumacher's "Veronica Guerin". David first made his name in theatre. He is highly regarded on both sides of the Atlantic.

Writer/Director David Gleeson

Cast Michael Legge, Allen Leech, Amy Shiels, Frank Kelly, David Murray
Director of Photography Volker Tittel, BVK
Music Stephen McKeon
Editor Andrew Bird
Costume Designer Grania Preston
Production Designer Jim Furlong
Co-Producers Peter Stockhaus, Chris Chrisafis

Exec Producer James Flynn
Producer Nathalie Lichtenthaeler
Production Company Wide Eye Films (Irl)
in co-production with Peter Stockhaus
Filmproduktion (Ger), Grosvenor Park (UK)
and Octagon Films (Irl)
With backing from Irish Film Board,
Filmförderung Hamburg, BKM, FFA

Genre Drama with comedic elements
(15 to 24 year old target audience)

Length 89 min

Format 35mm, color, 1:1.85

Original Version English

Sound Dolby Digital Surround EX

Ireland, 2003



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