



Two of Hearts

a film by mashie alam

5:30

Canada

35mm

Colour and B&W

1:85:1

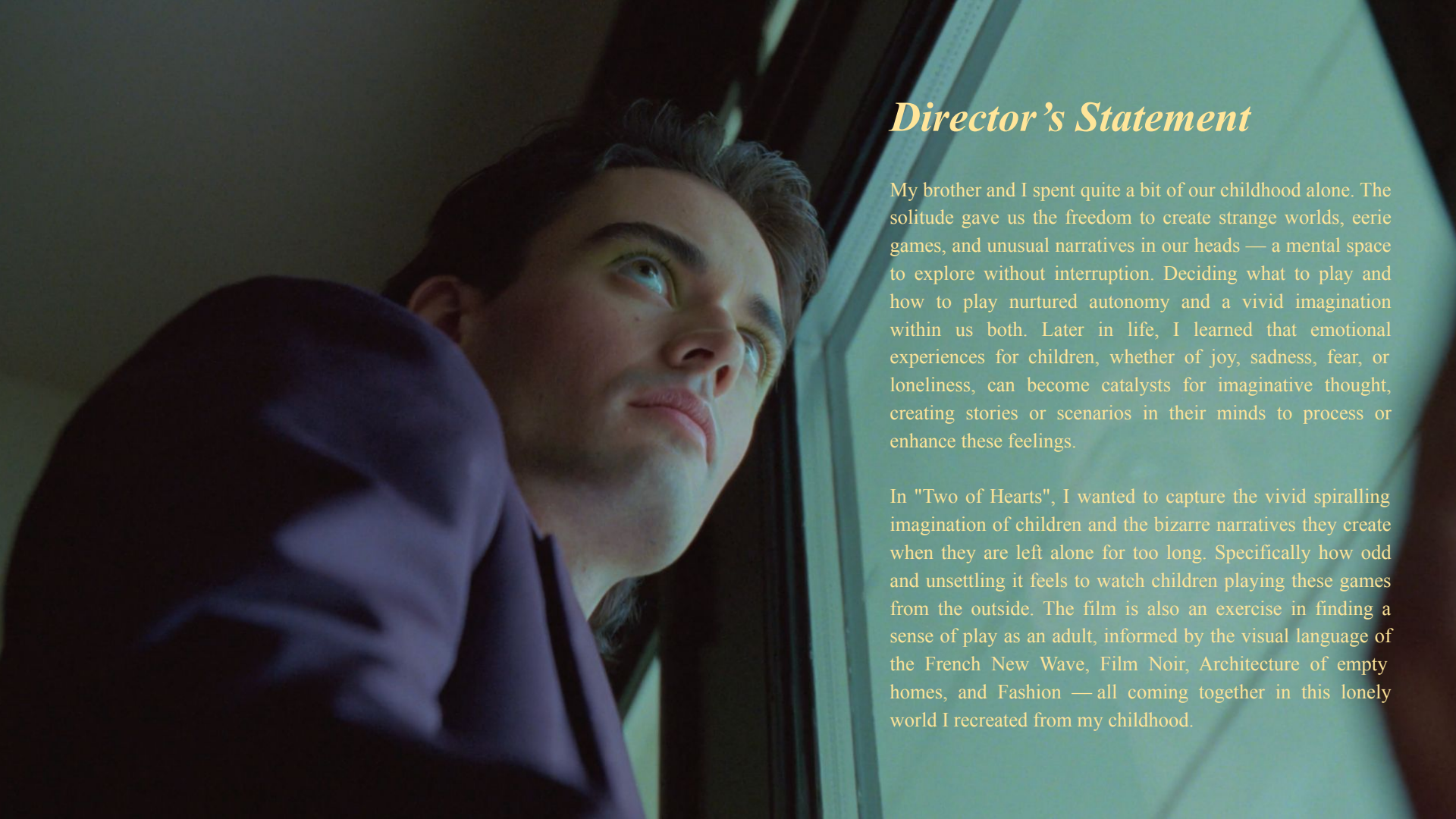
DCP

2024

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a patterned grey and white jacket, a black skirt, and white knee-high boots, stands in a bedroom. She is gesturing with her right hand towards a man standing by a large window. The man is wearing a tan ribbed turtleneck sweater and light-colored trousers. The room is brightly lit by sunlight coming through the window, casting long shadows on the floor. A bed with white linens is visible on the left, and a wooden coffee table is in the foreground on the right.

Logline

Faced with an uncomfortable dilemma, a brother and sister engage in a battle of wits.



Director's Statement

My brother and I spent quite a bit of our childhood alone. The solitude gave us the freedom to create strange worlds, eerie games, and unusual narratives in our heads — a mental space to explore without interruption. Deciding what to play and how to play nurtured autonomy and a vivid imagination within us both. Later in life, I learned that emotional experiences for children, whether of joy, sadness, fear, or loneliness, can become catalysts for imaginative thought, creating stories or scenarios in their minds to process or enhance these feelings.

In "Two of Hearts", I wanted to capture the vivid spiralling imagination of children and the bizarre narratives they create when they are left alone for too long. Specifically how odd and unsettling it feels to watch children playing these games from the outside. The film is also an exercise in finding a sense of play as an adult, informed by the visual language of the French New Wave, Film Noir, Architecture of empty homes, and Fashion — all coming together in this lonely world I recreated from my childhood.

Director's Biography

Mashie Alam is a director hailing from Scarborough, a city in Toronto, Canada. A childhood spent travelling the globe with her family introduced her to the abundant variety of film, architecture, and culture worldwide. This experience inspired her to study both Architecture and Film at the University of Toronto. She has directed numerous short-form content commercials and music videos. Her films favour a dry, humourous sensibility informed by a distinct visual style that blends movement, art direction and fashion.

Her film "Constant" (2021) was a Vimeo Staff Pick, featured on Booooooom, and was shortlisted at the Young Director Awards at Cannes Lions. Mashie's isolation-inspired fashion film "Boredom" (2020) was also shortlisted at the Young Director Awards and an official selection of the Vancouver International Film Festival, Liverpool Film Festival, and Moscow Short Film Festival. She is currently in development for her debut feature film.





Producer's Biography

Candice Napoleone is a Toronto-based producer. Recently, she has been collaborating closely with Medium Density Fibreboard Films (MDFF), producing director/co-founder Kazik Radwasni's latest film "Matt and Mara" starring Deragh Campbell and Matt Johnson, which premiered at the 2024 Berlin International Film Festival. She also served as Associate Producer on Graham Foy's debut feature "The Maiden" which played in the Giornate degli Autori sidebar of the Venice International Film Festival (2022), TIFF (2022) and New Directors/New Films (2023) screening at the MoMa and Film Lincoln Centre. Candice holds a BFA in Art History from the University of Guelph and infuses her experience in curation and visual culture within her producing practice.



Cast & Crew

Written and Directed by: Mashie Alam

Produced By: Candice Napoleone

Executive Producers: Eva Preger, Rob Burns,
Link York, Mashie Alam, Candice Napoleone

Starring: Basia Wyszyński, Anaiyah Lebreton

Image: John Ker

Editor: Raj Ramnauth

Costume Designer: Nadia Pizzimenti

Hair and Makeup Artist: Alanna Fennell

Sound Recordist: Jonah Blaser

Sound Design/Original Score: Retail Space

Colourist: Clinton Homuth



Contact

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