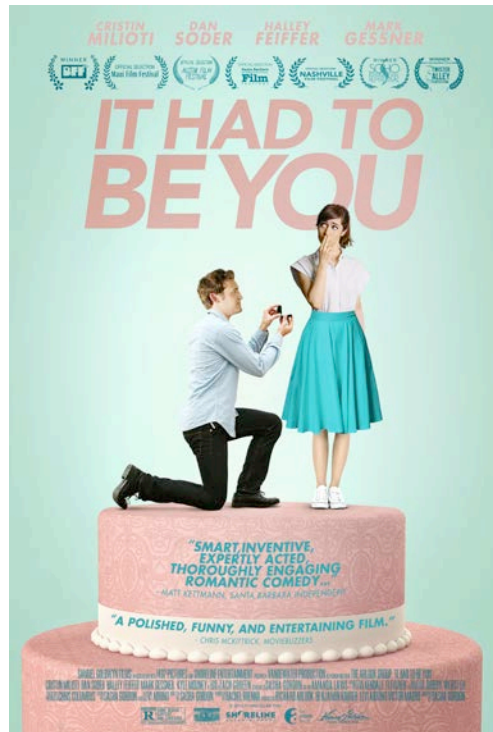




Presents

IT HAD TO BE YOU



A Film by Sasha Gordon

Winner, Bentonville Film Festival 2016 (Best Narrative Feature, Jury Award)

Winner, SoHo International 2016 (Best Narrative Feature)

Official Selection, Maui Film Festival 2016

Winner, Twister Alley International Film Festival 2016 (Best Feature Film; Best Comedy Film; Best Actress Cristin Militia)

Official Selection, Nashville Film Festival 2016

Official Selection, Destiny Film Festival 2016 (Opening Night)

Official Selection, Santa Barbara Film Festival 2016

Official Selection, Woodstock 2015

Official Selection, Austin Film Festival 2015

Theatrical Release Date: October 21, 2016

Running Time: 95 min.

Rating: R

Website: <http://ithadtobeyouthemovie.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ItHadToBeYouTheMovie>

Assets and Materials: <http://press.samuelgoldwynfilms.com> (login: press / Password: golden!)

Publicity Contact:

MPRM Communications

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SYNOPSIS

Sonia is a neurotic jingle writer who's always dreamt of a big and exciting life. Surprised by a sudden proposal and subsequent ultimatum from her easy-going boyfriend, Chris, Sonia has to decide whether she'll join the ranks of her married friends or take a leap and pursue her fantasies.

A whimsical romantic comedy that's raunchy and yet gentle, *IT HAD TO BE YOU* explores the choices women face today while satirizing cultural expectations of gender and romance.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

IT HAD TO BE YOU is a very personal film. When my husband proposed (or tried to), rather than seeing hearts and hearing violins, I was filled with a panic and terror reserved for climactic horror movie scenes. I yelled, waved my arms in the air like a lunatic attempting to indicate that he should stop, and pretty soon was unable to see or hear as adrenaline took over my body. And keep in mind this was a man I loved very much.

I must admit, this was not the first time in my life that my reaction to or an experience of an event greatly clashed with cultural expectations or norms. It was often anxiety-provoking and confusing, but thankfully it was also usually very funny. At least in retrospect.

As I got a little older I encountered a lot of women friends and colleagues of all ages who described a similar dissonance between expectation and reality. My proposal debacle was the pinnacle of that dissonance for me and so I decided to make a film about it. And as I started working on this film, I had countless women confess to me that when their husbands popped the question, the feelings and thoughts that they experienced were also quite complicated and far from the pure bliss that was expected of them. It was both great fun and a relief to learn that I wasn't alone in my fears and I loved hearing the stories of others' bumpy journeys to "I do".

And lastly, I wanted to make this movie because I'm a rom com junkie and I wasn't seeing the kind of movies that I wanted to see anymore in the theaters. I wanted to see a movie that had a flawed, funny, searching protagonist that was a woman and not a man. I wanted to see a movie that echoed the older romantic comedies ("*Annie Hall*", "*When Harry Met Sally*") and was truly character and not set-piece driven, but that was dressed with the modern trappings of today's frank/carnal humor. I wanted to portray a relationship in all its flawed everyday beauty and I wanted to do so through my particular female lens. More than anything, I wanted to create a film that was current in its humor, but timeless in its heart.

FEATURING

CRISTIN MILIOTI as Sonia

Born in Cherry Hill, NJ, Cristin Milioti is a Tony-nominated, and Grammy- winning actress known for her work on "How I Met Your Mother" in the titular role of the Mother, "Wolf of Wall Street", "30-Rock", 'A to Z", "The Mindy Project" and the Tony-winning musical, "Once". Cristin has recently joined the cast of FX's critically acclaimed series "Fargo."

DAN SODER as Chris

Originally from Aurora, CO, Dan Soder started doing stand-up at 21 while attending the University of Arizona. He eventually moved to New York City and has become a regular on MTV2's "Guy Code", Comedy Central's "The Half Hour", "Inside Amy Schumer", "Conan", "Opie and Anthony", "The Anthony Comia Show" and the "You Know What Dude!" Podcast with Robert Kelly.

HALLEY FEIFFER as Nora

Halley Feiffer is an American Actress and playwright. Her television and film credits include "Squid and the Whale", "Mildred Pierce", "Bored to Death" and "Flight of the Concorde". Feiffer's work as a playwright have been produced, commissioned and developed by Manhattan Theater Club, Second Stage Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, LAByrinth Theater Company, The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Cape Cod Theatre Project, Partial Comfort Productions and the Amoralists. She holds commissions from Manhattan Theater Club, Williamstown Theatre Festival, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and Playwrights Horizons.

MARK GESSNER as Mark

Mark Gessner is a New York City based actor and writer. In spite of his nearly absurd leading-man good looks, he chooses to focus primarily on comedic roles. To wit: you can see him in the upcoming IFC show "Benders" playing the role of Dickie. He has appeared in many wonderful television shows such as "Orange is the New Black", "The Blacklist", "Power", and "Law and Order: SVU". You may also spy him regularly in pithy and well-written national commercials.

KYLE MOONEY as Gary The Midwife

Kyle Mooney just completed his second season as a featured player on "Saturday Night Live." In addition to co-founding the G.Q2d Neighbor sketch group, which also features SNL cast-mate Beck Bennett, Mooney has been a regular writer and performer at UCB since 2007. He starred in the FIBO series "Hello Ladies" opposite Stephen Merchant and appeared on NBC's "Parks and Recreation." Kyle studied film at the University of Southern California. He is from San Diego and lives in NYC.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKER

SASHA GORDON (Writer, Director, Composer)

Sasha Gordon is an award-winning filmmaker and composer. Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Sasha immigrated to the US in 1989. Sasha has scored over 50 features and shorts (among them the Oscar-winning "God Of Love"); directed several award-winning shorts (including "Manhattan Melody", which premiered at the Telluride Film Festival and went on to play all over the world);and is thrilled to have just completed her debut feature, "It Had To Be You", a subversive romantic comedy starring Cristin Milioti and Dan Soder. Sasha is currently scoring Amazon's "Gortimer Gibbon's Life On Normal Street" while writing her second feature.

1. Written and directed by Sasha Gordon
2. Story by Sasha Gordon and Levi Abrino
3. Cristin Milioti
4. Dan Soder
5. Halley Feiffer
Mark Gessner
6. Kate Simses
Erica Sweany
7. Danny Deferari
Kyle Mooney
8. Rachel York
9. And Nick Mennell
10. Executive Producer
Chris Columbus
11. Produced by
Rachel Brenna
12. Producers
Richard Arlook
Benjamin Kruger
Levi Abrino
Sasha Gordon
Victor Magro
13. Co-producers
Alexandra Vivas
Joshua Hume
14. Cinematography
Bobby Webster
15. Production Design
Kendall Fleisher
16. Editor
Amanda Laws
17. Costume Designer
Amanda Bujak
18. Original Score
Sasha Gordon
19. Casting
Avy Kaufman

Credit Scroll –

1st Assistant Director Niccolo Vitelli
2nd Assistant Director Jesse Harbold
Associate Producer Kaiser Wahab
Andrew T. Berkowitz

CAST

Sonia Cristin Milioti
Chris Dan Soder
Nora Halley Feiffer
Lee Kate Simses
Anna Erica Sweany
Mark Mark Gessner
Fabrizio Danny Deferarri
Lara Rachel York
Gary the Midwife Kyle Mooney
Zach Nick Mennell
Dezi Nicolo Grelli
Bus Driver William Stephensen
Katie Autumn Stein
Receptionist Rana Roy
Eli Bing Baby Lucas
David Michael Simon Hall
Amanda Marie-Agnes Geha
Noam David Ross
Professor Laura Sametz
80's Woman Kate Cullen Roberts
Woman on Beach Hutchison Hancock
TV Psychopath Bryce Pinkham

Set Decorator Laura MacDonald
Set Decorator Daniela Clementi
Set Dresser Christina Cook
Propmaster Natalie Garcia Mayor

Script Supervisor Levi Abrino

Camera Operator Michael Rossetti
1st Assistant Camera Matthew Manning
2nd Assistant Camera Jordan Bush
Additional 1st Assistant Camera Nolan Maloney
Additional 2nd Assistant Camera Matthew Cutola
Nigel McKain

Additional Photography Benjamin Rutkowski

2 nd Unit Director of Photography	Kai Orion
Sound Recordist	Michael McMenomy
Department Head Hair and Makeup	Kate Tsang
Additional Hair and Makeup	Ana Marie Salamat
Costume Designer	Amanda Bujak
Wardrobe Assistant	Ari Fulton Isabel Fields Christina Rumery
Location Manager	Christopher Dimitrov Matt Garland
Assistant Location Manager	Jimmy Hang
Locations Intern	Chris Celestino
Production Coordinator	Mai Arakida Izsak
Assistant Production Coordinator	Victoria Lynn Beckett
Rome Unit Production Manager	Taneisha Berg
Gaffer	Michael Rosetti
Best Boy	Sean Gradwell
Key Grip	Lydia Sudall
Additional Key Grip	Joe Wannamacher
Grip and Electric	Julien Wellbery Jeremy Sickels Alexander Prokos Ben Logan David Anthony
Art Production Assistant	Alyssa Gold Mary Kate Golding Tsfaye Hamanat Spenser Granese
2 nd 2 nd Assistant Director	Nicholas Grau
Key Production Assistant	Louis Caggizno
First Team Production Assistant	Matthew Berns
Production Assistant	Annie Tompkins Allesandro Vitelli Elliot Isaac Pedro Miqui Joelle Joseph Andrew Jackson NJ Agwuna Jared Biunno Dennis Frias

Tony Mendez
Tracey Pine
Chris Sparacino
Tarik Walmsely
Charlie Muentes

Casting Associate Leeba Zakharov
Casting Assistant Jom Goracy
Background Casting Tonya McCornell

Assistant Editor Joshua Hume

Color Outlier Post
Special Effects Jonathan Cooper

Sound Design Zach Goheen
Dialogue Editing Michael McMenomy

Accountant Anita Katzen
Bookeepers Janisa Navarro
Ana Candelaria

Legal Services Kaiser Wahab

Camera and G&E Equipment provided by Handheld Films

Score produced by Sasha Gordon
Additional Music Adam Hochstatter
Gordon Minette
Victor Magro

“It Had To Be You”

Written by Isham Jones and Gus Kahn
Published by Gilbert Keys Music co., Bantam Music Co..
and Warner/Chappell Music

“Closer to Fine”

Performed by the Indigo Girls
Courtesy of Epic Records
By Arrangement with Sony Music Licensing

SPECIAL THANKS

Christopher Columbus
Michael Brenna
Jonathan Lamond
Bolt Bus
The Town Shop

Michael Barnathan
Ron Lawrence
Esther Noh
Luke Matheny
James Carmichael

NY Transit Museum
Human Worldwide
Community Bookstore
Blackstones Hair Salon
Gordon Minette
Leah Meyerhoff
Lev and Tanya Gordon
Helen and Jane Shaw
Carol Dysinger
John Tintori
Suzy Elmiger
Harry Kellerman
Nora Friedman
Emily Young
Bryce Pinkham
Marc Altshuler
Andy Bloch

Bernard Kruger
Elyse Steinberg
Julie Feldman
Ira Schreck
Glenn Vecchione
Frank Regan
Audrey Caliguri
Kit Winter
Rachel Dobkin
ANika Tam
Anat Grosfeld
Eleonora Rodshteyn
Gail Segal
Mick Casale
Dan Silk
Jordon Ross
Brian Snow

This film was made possible by generous support from the NYU Christopher Columbus/Richard Vague Production Fund

Film on location in New York, New Jersey and Rome

SAG AFTRA * MADE IN NY (logos)

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