Press Kit

Bend

a film by Jennifer Kierans

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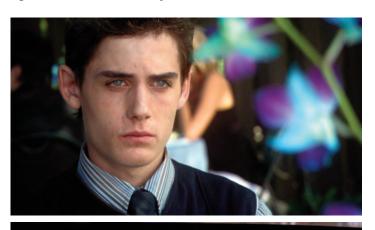
On the anniversary of a grad night tragedy three teenagers reunited for a memorial find themselves reliving the events of a year before.

THE BEND

A Film By Jennifer Kierans DRAMA - 85 min - HD - English

JASON CAMPBELL thinks he's losing his mind... and he could be right. His brother Mike died on grad night exactly one year ago, and Jason knows bi-polar disorder is hereditary.

With Mike's girlfriend and best friend home from college for a memorial, Jason vows to find out what happened the night Mike died, and if it could happen to him.







FILMOPTION INTERNATIONAL presents a DAY JOB and ENTOURAGE FILMS production THE BEND ADAM BUTCHER SOPHIE TRAUB TOMMY LIOUTAS PETER KELEGHAN SAMANTHA MUNRO MIKE MacDONALD SUSAN GLOVER with LEAH PINSENT and RYAN KENNEDY Music Composed by PATRICK KRIEF Edited by SIMON WEBB Production Designer JONAS BOUCHARD Costume Designer CHANTAL DI FILLIPO Director of Photography MARC CHARLEBOIS c.s.c. Executive Producer ANNE-MARIE GÉLINAS Produced by DEBRA KOURI JENNIFER KIERANS Written and Directed by JENNIFER KIERANS Ouébec a Canadä





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SYNOPSIS

Seventeen-year-old JASON CAMPBELL thinks he's losing his mind... and he could be right.

You see it's one year to the day since Mike, his brilliant but unbalanced brother, died mysteriously on prom night, and Jason's grief, along with the knowledge that mental illness can be hereditary, is freaking him out.

He can't go to his parents for answers: his mother JOANNE is still depressed, and his father ALAN is preoccupied with preparations for today's memorial ceremony, so when he hears that Mike's girlfriend KELLY, and best friend SCOTT, are back in town for the event, Jason decides recreate his brother's final night to find out exactly what happened, and if it could happen to him.

Because of last year's tragedy, Jason's graduating class isn't having a traditional prom – and Jason uses this fact to guilt Scott and Kelly into taking him out. They drive him to the liquor store, help him break into the high school, and decorate the gym, unaware that they are unwitting participants in an eerie reenactment.

At first an air of nostalgia pervades, but as the alcohol begins to flow, the mood turns darker. Tensions between Scott and Kelly rise to the surface and Jason's creepy ulterior motive is revealed.

Undeterred, Jason insists on knowing everything and demands to be taken to the beach where Mike drowned. The group pile in Scott's car and head up to "the Bend", where, in a final confrontation, Jason's illusions about his brother and the group he once idolized come crashing down. He learns that Kelly and Scott had a secret affair. Even more devastating, he realizes, that in order to go through with his final act, Mike had deceived them all.

Now Jason must decide whether to live with these new painful truths, or continue following in his brother's footsteps, and though he runs out into the water, there is only so deep he is willing to go.

As the three survivors watch the sunrise, Jason realizes that he'll never really know why Mike did what he did, but he thinks that the first big turn life takes can really throw you, in large part because you don't have the experience to know you can come out the other side. Maybe Mike just couldn't see around the bend.

GRANTS/AWARDS

2002: recipient Telefilm Canada SAP Grant - Outline to Treatment, 2003: recipient Telefilm Canada SAP Grant - Treatment to First Draft. 2005: accepted National Screen Institute Features First Development Program 2006: nominee Jim Burt Prize, best unproduced screenplay - Canadian Screenwriting Awards 2007: recipient Telefilm Canada CFFF - Production Financing



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Set in London, Ontario, and the nearby beach community Grand Bend, THE BEND is a teen drama by award-winning short filmmaker Jennifer Kierans, up-and-coming Montreal producer Debra Kouri, and executive producer Anne Marie Gelinas, produced with the assistance of Telefilm Canada's Feature Film Fund.

Although THE BEND deals with issues of mental illness and teen suicide, it is really about the more universal theme of surviving loss.

Like Jason, I grew up with a family member who suffered from mental illness, and like Jason I wondered whether I might share this genetic trait. More importantly, like almost every teenager, I experienced events that challenged my naïve assumption that life would unfold according to plan.

While this realization continues to surprise us as adults, I think it's particularly hard for teenagers to accept because their emotions are so raw, and because they don't have the experience to know it's possible to come out the other side.

For the main characters in this story, the unforeseen "bend" in the road comes in the form of Mike's suicide, and the film is about how the people who loved him manage to navigate the turn (or not). So while the film may provide a means to broach important topics like mental illness and teen suicide, I feel it contains an even more important message for teenagers, which is that surviving traumatic life events is possible.

Jennifer Kierans - 2009

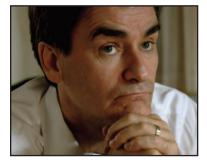


THE CAST



ADAM BUTCHER "Jason Campbell"

Adam began his acting career in 1998 by appearing in commercials. By 2000 he landed the lead title role in the TV series *Super Rupert*. Adam next appeared in several MOWs, including *The Pentagon Papers* and *Terry*. In 2003 Adam landed the lead role, Ralph, in the feature film *Saint Ralph*, which garnered Adam a "Best Actor in a Feature Film" Genie Nomination in Canada and a Young Artist Award Nomination from Hollywood. In 2005 Adam co-starred in the ten part mini series *Terminal City* - filmed in Victoria, British Columbia. 2006 saw Adam play the leading role in Gordon Pinsent's MOW *Heyday!* Adam made his first Hollywood film, Privileged, in 2007 along with *The Bend* filmed in Montreal. 2008 took Adam to Romania to shoot the SyFy Channel's *Hellhounds*. 2008 also took Adam to Moncton, New Brunswick to star in the youth prison film *Dog Pound*. Adam can also be seen in television series' such as *Life with Derek*, *Regenesis, Overruled, Angela's Eyes, The Bridge* and *Flashpoint*.



PETER KELEGHAN "Alan Campbell"

Peter is one of Canada's best-known comic actors and has an impressive array of film, television and theatre credits in Canada and the U.S. He was featured on Rick Mercer's "Made in Canada", as well as "The Newsroom", and "The Red Green Show". Peter has also been seen on "Murphy Brown", "Cheers" and "Seinfeld". Peter will be starring in the new CBC sitcom "Eighteen To Life" and five Canadian feature films to be released this year including *Cooper's Camera* with Jason Jones and Samantha Bee. Peter is a fourteen-time Gemini Award nominee and a four-time winner in the category of Best Performance in a comedy program for his roles in "The Newsroom" and "Made in Canada". He is also the recipient of the 2009 ACTRA award of excellence. Along with his partner Leah Pinsent, Peter is also the creator, co-writer and co-executive producer of "Love Letters".



LEAH PINSENT "Joanne Campbell"

The multi award winning and nominated actress, Leah Pinsent, has a diverse resume in film, television and stage. Her roles vary from vacuous journalist (*More Tears*), Scottish peasant (*Little Kidnappers*), bipolar serial-killer (*20:13*) to a British ballerina (*Brutal Glory*), and hard-nosed business woman (*Made In Canada*). Most recently she is starring in two feature films due to be released in 2009: *Eating Buccaneers*, where she plays a spiritual yoga-ite turned warrior woman, and *The Bend* playing a depressed alcoholic mom who lost her son to suicide. Leah is co-executive producer, star, and creator of *Love Letters*- a CBC special airing for Valentine's Day 2010.

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THE CAST



SOPHIE TRAUB "Kelly Lankin"

Most recently, Sophie starred in Liongate's *Tenderness* as 'Lori' opposite Russell Crowe and Jon Foster. Sophie also starred in the Miramax film *Daltry Calhoun* opposite Johnny Knoxville, Elizabeth Banks and Juliette Lewis. Earlier in her career, Sophie played the role of 'Young Silvia Broome' (Nicole Kidman) in Universal's *The Interpreter*, directed by Sydney Pollack. In her spare time, Sophie enjoys writing songs, playing the guitar and piano and hanging with her friends. Sophie currently resides in NYC where she is studying theatre at the Herbert Berghof Studio.



TOMMY LIOUTAS "Scott MacDonald"

A Toronto native, Tommy fell in love with acting in New York City, where he studied at the New York Film Academy. He returned home and quickly landed roles on CTV's *Degrassi: The Next Generation*, ABC's *The Circuit*, TBS's *Lovebites*, NBC's *Darcy's Wild Life*, and Lifetime's *Will You Marry Me*, *Once Upon a Dream, Wisegal*, and *A Life Interrupted*. Tommy went on to play the superstar snowboarder, Griff on CTV's *Whistler*, and most recently, Rich Powell in the The N Network's *The Best Years*. Tommy's film credits include the award-winning *Ninth Street Chronicles* and *The Cross Road*, for which he shared The Monaco International Film Festival's Best Acting Ensemble award. *The Bend* is his latest co-starring role.



RYAN KENNEDY "Mike Cambpell"

Ryan Kennedy unintentionally fell into the film industry in 2003, and after performing a supporting role in a large mini series for CBS, he moved to Vancouver to pursue acting full time. Some of his past work includes a supporting role in David S Goyer's thriller The Invisible. After wrapping the film, Ryan was asked by Goyer to work on his new series, *Blade* (SpikeTV) as the hash-dealing vampire-hunting "Cain." Ryan was also a lead alongside Dean Cain in the acclaimed Hallmark film Crossroads: A Story of Forgiveness, as well as a lead on the second season of CTV's award winning drama Whistler, playing arrogant hotshot "Travis Hollier." Ryan then won the "Best Supporting Actor" at the Oklahoma Trail Dance Film Festival for his dark and chilling portrayal of the meth-cooking "Ethan" in the film Chasing The White Dragon. His most recent work includes a recurring portrayal as "Cosmic Boy" on Smallville, as well as guest star performances on: CBS' Flashpoint, NBC's Psych, SyFy's Sanctuary, and the highly anticipated first season of *Stargate: Universe*. Ryan can also be seen in the soon to be released feature thriller, Hybrid from director Eric Valette.



THE CREW

JENNIFER KIERANS

Writer/Director/Producer



Jennifer Kierans is a Montreal-based screenwriter, director and producer whose film debut, a short entitled *The Rogers*` *Cable*, screened at over 25 festivals around the world, including a world premiere at the International Critic's Week section at Cannes in 1998.

In 2000, while writing and story editing for children's television, she founded Day Job Productions and began developing and producing her own projects. Jennifer's second short film, *Brush with Fame*, was sold to the Bravo! arts channel and The Comedy Network, while a third, *Soother*, won a grand prize at the Uppsala Short Film Festival in Sweden. A fourth short film, *Chute*, won the prize for best short at the inaugural Actra Shorts Film Festival in Montreal. She also wrote and performed in a one-act play entitled *Departure Lounge* which won "Best Text" at the 2006 Montreal Fringe Festival.

Her 3rd feature screenplay, *The Bend*, was developed through the NSI's Features First Program, the Women in the Director's Chair workshop, and the Telefilm Screenwriter's Assistance Program. With funding from Telefilm Canada's Canadian Feature Film Fund, *The Bend* is premiering at the 2009 Montreal World Film Festival.

Jennifer recently finished co-writing the screenplay *Best Restaurant in the World. Ever.* for Irreverent Media in Vancouver, and is currently writing the feature film *Blue Movie* which is in development with *The Bend* co-producer Debra Kouri.

DEBRA KOURI

Producer

Debra Kouri's first foray into the film and television industry began over 12 years ago when she was hired as a producer's assistant. Since then, she has worked her way up the ladder as an associate producer, production manager, line producer and then inevitably, to becoming a producer herself. Her first feat had her serving as a producer on the feature *1st Bite*, starring Michael Ironside, Leah Pinsent and David La Haye. After completing this movie in 2005, Debra founded her own production company, Entourage Films. She has been actively developing film and television projects ever since, and has added 6 new projects to her company's development roster. She recently completed Entourage Films' first feature, *The Bend,* coproduced, written and directed by Jennifer Kierans. The film will premiere at the 2009 Montreal World Film Festival and will released theatrically shortly thereafter. She is currently the Head of Film & Television at Janidée Productions and is their principal Producer for all of their projects.



THE CREW

ANNE-MARIE GELINAS

Executive Producer

Anne-Marie Gélinas has over fifteen years of experience in Montreal's film, television and video industry. With a BA from Concordia's acclaimed Communications Studies program, Anne-Marie has broad experience in hands-on production and expertise in corporate management. Her present and future projects scan the globe. Co-founder and president of Productions Jeux d'Ombres from 1990 to 2008, Anne-Marie is now working with a new corporation EMA FILMS Inc., focusing on international coproductions. *Where are you going Moshé?*, her latest international coproduction, was released in Montreal in May 2009, to critical acclaim.

MARC CHARLEBOIS

Director of Photography

After graduating from Arts and Communications at Loyola Concordia, Marc Charlebois got his first break working on the set of Robert Altman's *Quintet* film (Feb 1978). He was in charge of de-icing the stairway to the set. Not much of a job, but he did have the opportunity to get inspired by the direction of Altman and the cinematography of legendary DP, Jean Boffety. Over the following 20 years, Marc Charlebois worked as a Lighting Technician and then as a Chief Lighting Technician. He has had the chance and the pleasure to work with extraordinary Directors of Photography such as Thomas Vamos, Alain Dostie, Guy Dufaux, Pierre Mignot, Karol Ike, Lajos Koltaï, Raoul Coutard, François Catonné, Michel Brault, and Philippe Rousselot. Their work has served as inspiration to Marc as he became a cinematographer himself in 1993.

JONAS VEROFF BOUCHARD

Production Designer

À sa sortie de l'École nationale de théâtre du Canada, on a pu apprécier son travail à travers une relation de longue durée avec Projet Porte-Parole (théâtre documentaire). Artiste versatile, sympathique et passionné, il a contribué, par la conception de décors et/ou d'accessoires, au développement de plusieurs créations québécoises .(La Marche de Rama, Mille feuilles, Le boson de Higgs, Oreille, Tigre et bruit) à des pièces classiques (Britannicus, Antigone, Les femmes savantes) et contemporaines (Autobahn, Le mystère d'Irma Vep). Concepteur polyvalent, il a aussi créé des décors de variété (La Fabuleuse histoire d'un Royaume, Soirée des Masques, Galas Juste pour rire, Laurent Paquin, Carte Blanche, André Sauvé, Les Parlementries Jean-Michel Anctil) et a fait la conception d'éclairage de quelques spectacles (King Dave, Ubu sur la table, L'ardent désir des fleurs de cacao). Grâce à ses nombreux talents, Jonas continue de surprendre avec des réalisations toujours efficaces et audacieuses.

CHANTAL DI FILIPPO

Costume Designer

After graduating in fashion design in 1987 and working in the fashion industry for a few years, Chantal realised that what she really loved was costumes. She started out doing amateur theatre, then went to work in a costume shop where she learned the ropes of period dressing alongside François Barbeau, one of Montreal's top Costume designers. After 5 years, she began working in the film industry, working as a dresser on television series like *The secret adventures of Jules Verne, Durham county, Random passage*, and on such films as *Timeline, Le collectionneur, L'ange de goudron, 300, The Punisher II, The greatest game ever played, The day after tomorrow, The aviator, Human trafficking*, and finally as Costume Coordinator on the television series *The last Templar. The Bend* is Chantal's first feature film as costume designer.



THE CREW

PATRICK KRIEF

Composer

Patrick Krief is a Montreal-born Songwriter, musician, performer and producer. Exposed to music at the young age of 3, by age 14 he began performing regularly as a special guest in local Montreal blues bars. In 2004 Krief joined Montreal indie rock sensation The Dears which went on to perform on David Letterman, Jimmy Kimmel, Carson Daily, Jonathan Ross (UK) and many more. The band was nominated for a Juno award and a Polaris prize. In 2007 Krief released his first solo record entitled "Take it or Leave" and in 2009, he left The Dears and formed Black Diamond Bay and released "Calm Awaits" Over the years, Krief has composed hundreds of songs for many different projects and artists. With this, he honed his skills as an arranger and producer and finally, as a composer. *The Bend* is the first feature film that he has scored, but definitely won't be his last!

SIMON WEBB

Editor

Simon has been editing films and television series since 1996. He has edited projects for Showtime, Polygram Filmed Entertainment, MTV, CBC, CTV, Hallmark, Sci Fi, ITV, Granada, and others. He has also acted as Second Unit Director on a number of series, as well as Director on his own independent (and award winning) projects. A dual citizen of the UK and Canada, his mother describes him as a "charming and personable" individual who always calls her when he needs money.



FILMOPTION INTERNATIONAL presents

a DAY JOB and ENTOURAGE FILMS production

a JENNIFER KIERANS film

executive producer melissa MALKIN

music supervisors chris ROBINSON andrea HIGGINS

music composer patrick KRIEF

edited by simon WEBB

costume designer chantal DI FILIPPO

production designer jonas BOUCHARD

director of photography marc CHARLEBOIS

executive producer anne-marie GÉLINAS

produced by debra KOURI jennifer KIERANS

written and directed by jennifer KIERANS

Produced with the Participation of Telefilm Canada

Cast

Jason Campell	ADAM BUTCHER
Kelly Lankin	SOPHIE TRAUB
Scott MacDonald	TOMMY LIOUTAS
Alan Campbell	PETER KELEGHAN
Joanne Campbell	LEAH PINSENT
Mike Campbell	RYAN KENNEDY
Sarah MacDonald	SAMANTHA MUNROE
Dan MacDonald	MIKE MACDONALD
Nancy MacDonald	SUSAN GLOVER
Mr. Nero	DAVID GOW
David Nesbitt	DANIEL RINDRESS-KAY
Mrs. Nesbitt	CAROLINE ANDRÉ
Liquor Store Cashier	JENNIFER KIERANS
Waiter	RADEK HAJDA

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Production Managers

Story Editors

First Assistant Director Second Assistant Director Script Supervisor **Casting Associate** Extras Casting **1ST Camera Assistant/Focus Puller** 2ND Camera Assistant Camera B Operator Camera Trainee Stunt Coordinator Making Of Director Making Of Sound Recordist Sound Recordist **Boom Operator** Key Hairdresser & Make-Up Assistant Daily Hairdresser & Make-Up Assistant hair Assistant Wardrobe Dresser Set Decorator **Assistant Props** Gaffer & Key Grip Best Boy Electrician Electricians

> Best Boy Grip Grips

Location Manager Unit Manager Production Managers (London)

Set Production Assistant Production Assistants/Drivers

Craft Services Assistant to Debra Kouri On-Set Medic Water Safety Scuba Divers CREDITS

DEBRA KOURI **ISABELLE GRÉGOIRE** MARGUERITE PIGOTT JOËLLE BOURJOLLY PAUL DROUIN JEAN-PAUL FIGASSO MARIANNE GIRARD JENNIFER PILON LINDA RONA **EVA PERCEWICZ** MARC-ANDRÉ LAPIERRE ÉTIENNE BOILARD MARIA DAWSON DAVID RIGBY MARK JASTER STEPHEN STRANGWAYS CHRISTIAN MARCHAND RENÉ PORTILLO **PASCALE JONES** ALEXANDRA CARRIÈRE **OFELYA TEVONIAN IULIANA PETRESCU** MICHEL OSTASZEWSKI DANIEL D'AUCLAIR CLERMONT LAPOINTE MARTIN LAPOINTE MATHIEU POIRIER DOMINIQUE THIBAULT VINCENT DESROSIERS PAWEL POGORZELSKI JOCELYN S. FORGET JEAN-SÉBASTIEN LAMBERT **ROMAN MARTYN** DAVID PIEROPAN **ERIN JARMAIN ROSANNA ROTH** VÉRONIQUE DENIS VICKY LALANCETTE MARIA DAWSON STÉPHANE PERRAULT JULIEN FRECHETTE JEAN-FRANÇOIS RABY **KAILA JARMAIN** JULIE AUBÉ **IULIANA PETRESCU** PIERRE ARANCIO, STARMÉDIC INC. FRANÇOIS DÉNOMMÉE JOSEPH ALLAN NATALIE LANDRY

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Post-Production Supervisor **Assistant Editors** Sound Designer Assistant sound designer Titles Designer and color **Online Editor Dialogue Editor** Foley Recordist Foley Artist **ADR Recordists** Re-recording mixer Assisted by Audio Post-Production Services Coordinators **Dolby Sound Consultant VTR** Operators **Technical Coordinator Technical Directors** Assisted by Quality Control Voice Recording Coordinator **Closed Captioning Production Counsel Production Accountants**

JULIE LABARRE SAMUEL DRAGON NELLY-EVE RAJOTTE LOUIS DUPIRE MICHEL LAMBERT DEAN LEWIS PHILIPPE CARBONNEAU PHILIPPE ATTIÉ SEVAN KORYAN STÉPHANE CADOTTE COLIN MCLELLAN JOE PETRELLA MICHEL GAUVIN LUC BERNARD MARIE-JOSÉE DUPONT AUDIO ZONE RACHEL BERGERON **GUILLAUME BOURSIER** STEVE F.B. SMITH **ISABELLE GARIÉPY** SIMON-BENOÎT BOISVERT MARTIN LAPOINTE SIMON CLICHE JÉRÔME CORBEIL CHRISTOPHE LYGRISSE ANAË BILODEAU MATHIEU LOBRY GUILLAUME MAYRAND-BOUCHARD VANESSA BOIVIN VIRGINIE DORÉ-LEMONDE VÉRONIQUE PAPILLON MATTHIEU PARADIS MARIE-PIERRE JOHNSON-GAGNÉ ANNE-ÉMANUELLE ROMANELLI SAM COPPOLLA, JOSEPH SISTO BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS REMY KOUZAM, LUSSIER & KHOUZAM NATHALIE BÉLANGER KARINE SIMARD HABIB ELIAS THIERRY NIQUEL GLOBALEX

Production Insurance



Songs

"Born Too Late" Written by Patrick Krief Performed by Krief

"We're All Whores" Written by Patrick Krief Performed by Krief

"Black Empty Hearts" Written by Patrick Krief Performed by Krief

"Never Say Goodbye" Written by Patrick Krief Performed by Lesley Lane

"Broken Mirrors" Written by Patrick Krief Performed by Krief "What We Wanted" Written by Patrick Krief Performed by Black Diamond Bay

> "In This World" Written by Patrick Krief Performed by Krief

"First Time I See You Again" Written by Patrick Krief Performed by Black Diamond Bay

"New Soldier" Written by Patrick Krief Performed by Black Diamond Bay

"Weekend War" Performed by Black Diamond Bay Written by Patrick Krief

"When I'm With You" as performed by Sheriff Written by Arnold David Lanni Courtesy of EMI Music Canada Published by Lanni Tunes Music (SOCAN)

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

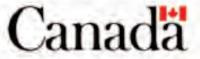
Natalie Bedard Robert Baird Paul Cadieux Melanie D'Astous Gavin Drummond Jonathan Finklestein Dipti Gupta and her Dawson College Students Marc Hamou Melanie Hartley Gord Hume Shannon Joutel Barry Julien Joan Kierans J. Murray Kierans Peter Knight Ronald & Susan Kouri Robert LaCerte Patrick Leroux Mike MacDonald William Mercer Eric McCormack Andrew Noble Ron Proulx Maryse Rouillard Kate Rusko Natasha Rybina **Christos Sourligas** Mark & Barbara & Erin Uchwat Carol Whiteman Women in the Director's Chair Workshop 2006 Margaret Young





Film and Television Tax Credit SODEC

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Developed through The National Screen Institute - Canada NSI Features First Program in association with Telefilm Canada



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