

**JONATHAN
ST-ARMAND**

**LILI-ANN
DE FRANCESCO**

**LÉVI
DORÉ**

**KARL
WALCOTT**

**SIMON
DUCHESNE**

**MARIANNE
FARLEY**

**GABRIEL
SABOURIN**

**DEVON
O'CONNOR**

**SOMETIMES HIGH SCHOOL CAN BE A BLAST
BUT SOMETIMES IT FEELS LIKE HELL**

MUSIC

BY:

**CHAFIK
MANU MILITARI
MUZION
AND
LA BRONZE**

FEAT.

RYMZ

**BASED ON THE BESTSELLER BY
BIZ**

**THE FALL OF
SPARTA**

A FILM BY TRISTAN DUBOIS



THE FALL OF SPARTA

Synopsis

When you're young, sometimes it feels like the whole world is against you. At least, that's how sixteen year-old Steeve Simard (Lévi Doré) feels. Having just begun his last year of high school at suburban Gaston-Miron High, he's sharp-witted and bookish, and has a hard time relating to his parents and other students. He hides behind his books and music, keeping the world at bay, except for his one close friend, Virgil (Jonathan St-Armand). But an unexpected incident involving the Spartans' linebacker – the biggest, toughest guy in school – will force Steeve to take charge of his own destiny.

With	LÉVI DORÉ JONATHAN ST-ARMAND LILLI-ANN DE FRANCESCO KARL WALCOTT SIMON DUCHESNE	MARIANNE FARLEY GABRIEL SABOURIN DEVON O'CONNOR AMÉLIE GLENN JEAN-MARC GÉNÉREUX	GABRIEL TREMBLAY CHARLES-ANTOINE PERREAULT ÉRIC K BOULIANNE JEAN-CHARLES LAJOIE
Written by	TRISTAN DUBOIS BIZ	Casting Sound Recordist	NATHALIE BOUTRIE SIMON GOULET
Production Manager	YANNICK SAVARD	Editor	HUBERT HAYAUD
Cinematographer	DANIEL VILLENEUVE	Visual Effects	JONATHAN LEGRIS
Art Direction	ANDRÉ CHAMBERLAND	Sound Editors	CHRISTIAN RIVEST CAROLE GAGNON
Costume Design	SOPHIE LEFEBVRE	Sound Mixing Original Music	GAVIN FERNANDES SOPHIE LUPIEN LA BRONZE CHAFIK
		A Production by	SONIA DESPARS MARC BIRON
		Director	TRISTAN DUBOIS

Special contribution
 LES ASTERIX DE FARNHAM with ÉTIENNE BOULAY - football expert and coordinator
 LE WONDER PACK DU CENTRE COYOTES DE CANDIAC with MARIE-SOPHIE MORIN - cheerleading coach
 LOUIS-PHILIPPE RAYMOND - lacrosse coach



Technical Information

Support: DCP/Bluray/DVD
 Length: 84 minutes
 Format: 2:39
 Sound: 5.1
 Language: French
 Subtitles: French and English

Authors' Vision

The Fall of Sparta is an homage to the youth of Quebec – and what more fitting a tribute than to view the world through their very eyes? Like Copernicus, who put forth a heliocentric vision of the world, *The Fall of Sparta* proposes a 'teen-centric' universe. Our story centers around the quest for happiness of 16-year-old Steeve Simard, who is about to finish high school

The heroes of *The Fall of Sparta* are the young protagonists themselves, yet we encounter them as seen through the eyes of one of their own, without outside adult opinion or judgment. Our world is presented throughout from this teenage 'insider' viewpoint – we experience the friendship, the love and the humour of our young characters' universe – as well as, the anguish of bullying and the self-doubt, the questioning and uncertainty that follows.

Behind a confident facade, the vulnerability of youth can be deeply moving. It can be hard to know how much young people suffer from the cruelty and bullying of their peers. This 'invisible' layer adds a tragic dimension to adolescence. Adults often look back on this carefree yet deeply-serious time with wistful regret, remembering how everything was amplified by the intensity of it being experienced for the first time.

We wanted to keep our tale simple and focused on the real life of teens. The storyline addresses a number of current issues in young people's lives, most notably solitude, falling in love for the first time, the complex relationship with parents, intimidation, homophobia and suicide.

With realistic dialogue and powerful imagery, our aim was to connect with teenagers as well as adults. To do so, we endeavoured to create an accessible and positive film, telling a deeply-human story in a modern visual style, an intriguing tale presented within a popular contemporary form.

"Every teenager who finishes high school is an authentic Greek hero who has completed a quest, just like Ulysses returning home after 20 years of exhausting adventures. With CEGEP about to begin, the best is fortunately ahead for most of those tortured through high school. So there is, indeed, hope after *The Fall of Sparta*..."

- Biz and Tristan Dubois



Tristan Dubois – Co-screenwriter and director

Tristan was born in Switzerland in 1975, immigrating to Quebec in 1984. After graduating from college in film studies, he opted for on-the-job training to expand his skills as a director. He joined the Montreal's Conservatory of Dramatic Art in 1997. Leaving the program in 2000, Tristan landed a lead role in the hit series, *Tribu.com*.

In 2005, he was one of a select group of 29 directors accepted at Hollywood's American Film Institute Conservatory (AFI). Since then, Tristan has directed several feature-length television projects (including Best Directing and Best Film nominee at the 2015 DGC Awards, and the 2016 Canadian Screen Awards). He has also directed numerous acclaimed short films, music videos, commercials and video games. *The Fall of Sparta* is his first feature film.

Biz – Co-screenwriter

Singer-songwriter in the Loco Locass rap group, Biz is also the author of five novels: *Dérives* (2010), *La chute de Sparte* (2011), *Mort-Terrain* (2014), *Nauffrage* (2016) – a resounding critical and popular success – and *La chaleur des mammifères* (2017).

In 2012, Biz won both the Montreal Libraries' Young Adult Readers Book Prize and the Quebec Booksellers' Young Adult Prize for *La chute de Sparte*, as well as 2015's Prix France-Québec for *Mort-Terrain*. With *The Fall of Sparta* Biz has taken a fresh step into screenwriting, co-writing with Tristan Dubois the film adaptation of his hit novel.



THE FALL OF SPARTA



Cast and Crew Biographies

Lévi Doré – Steeve Simard

A talented young actor, Lévi has appeared on the small screen in several productions, including *Un gars le soir* and *Ces gars-là*. He was also featured as a junior reporter in *La grande rentrée TVA*. Since 2014, he has played Zacharie in the popular TVA series, *Au secours de Béatrice*. On stage, Lévi has worked alongside Denis Drolet in the Just for Laughs Gala *Les immatures*. In 2015, he appeared for the first time on TNM's stage, playing Leo in *The Divine Illusion*, directed by Serge Denoncour. Their creative collaboration continued, with Lévi next appearing in the role of Brother John in *Romeo and Juliet*, also at the TNM. In the winter of 2018, he appeared on stage at the Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui, in Olivier Choinière's acclaimed play, *Jean dit*.



Lili-Ann De Francesco – Véronique Plourde

Her career began around the age of seven when she appeared on stage for the first time. Four years later, the Prévost Star competition recognized her growing talent, awarding her the top prize in her category. In 2015, she took part in the popular show *La Voix Québec*, reaching the semi-finals. In addition to music, Lili-Ann has also studied dance for several years, and clearly has the multi-disciplinary qualities of being a well-rounded artist. A year later, she was recruited by *Salut Bonjour* to host some of the youth segments. In 2016 and 2017, she also served as host for the web section of *La voix junior*.



THE FALL OF SPARTA

Karl Walcott – Maxime Giroux

From an early age, Karl Walcott has had two parallel passions, acting and sports. He played college football as well as junior hockey. But then the acting bug took firmer hold, and he decided to put his full efforts in that direction.

His acting career began in earnest in 2012 when he was selected to play the role of Akim in the François Blouin-directed web series *Les Béliers*. Many television roles quickly followed: *30 vies*, *Lance et compte*, *Sur Vie*, *19-2 III*. The *Demain des hommes* series, to be broadcast in 2018, is his most recent TV project.

Alongside his francophone career, Karl has established a growing presence in the English-speaking community. He was featured in *This Life I*, *21 Thunder* and *X-Men: Apocalypse*.

Always with an eye to improving his craft, this self-taught actor has honed his skills by participating in numerous courses and acting workshops, including those given by the Lee Strasberg Theatre and the Film Institute in New York.

Yet, it was the hit TV series *Le Chalet* that marked a major turning point in the young actor's career. Indeed, his role as a jock with an unexpectedly sensitive side has showcased Karl's many special talents to a far wider audience. In the wake of this exposure, numerous film roles have been offered to him, such as in *Junior Majeur* and *The Fall of Sparta* to be released in the spring of 2018.

Marianne Farley – Steeve's Mother

At 19, Marianne's career was already under the brightest spotlights. She recorded an album with several Top10 hits on it. In the wake of this early success, she then recorded an adapted version of the album *Histoire Sans Prénom* for France. But it was acting that most deeply attracted her, and she has devoted her main focus to that profession. Her unique talent was quickly recognized. With a perfect command of English, she appeared in youth-oriented shows such as *Big Wolf on Campus*, *Vampire High* and *Seriously Weird*. Then Marianne became a librarian in *Macaroni Tout Garni*, a very popular kids' show. Next came her first film role, in Daniel Roby's *La Peau Blanche*, winner of the Best Feature Film Award at the Toronto Film Festival and the Claude Jutra Genie Award.

As a result, she won important roles in *Les Invincibles* and *Nos Étés*, two leading series in Quebec. She was also featured in the popular American series *The Dead Zone*, as well as in productions such as *Christmas Choir* (Hallmark), *The Forbidden Secrets* and *No Brother of Mine*. Marianne has also appeared in the series *Le Gentleman*, *Bienvenue aux dames* and *Les Rescapés II*. In addition, she was featured in Finnish director Stobe Harju's fantasy-drama *Imaginaerum*, and in *Uvanga*, Marie-Hélène Cousineau's second feature film. In recent years, Marianne has held major roles in *Heroes Reborn* on NBC, *This Life* on CBC, *Bellevue* on CBC and *19-2* on CTV. In Quebec, she has personified Judith Laramée in the very popular *Mémoires Vives* series, and is also a lead cast member in the acclaimed *Cheval Serpent* series.

Truly passionate in her field, Marianne also has, among her many acting and music credits, produced four short films, including Claude Brie's *Mon Cher Robert* (nominated for a Jutra in 2010). In the summer of 2018, she will co-produce her first feature film (Jeanne Leblanc's *Les Nôtres*) with Marie-Hélène Panisset from Films de l'Hydre. Along with producing, Marianne will also play one of the lead roles. She has also directed two short films (*Saccage* and *Marguerite*) and is currently developing her first feature film as director, *Warriors*, written by Céleste Parr (*Gurov & Anna*).

Gabriel Sabourin – Steeve's Father

Since graduating from the National Theatre School in 1994, Gabriel Sabourin has played more than twenty roles on all our major stages, notably in *Race*, *The Empire Builders*, *Le prince des jouisseurs*, which he also authored, *La leçon d'histoire*, *L'avare*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Les peintres du charbon* and *Le prénom*. Also active on television, Gabriel has appeared in *District 31*, *Au secours de Béatrice*, *La galère*, *C.A.*, *Vice caché*, *Une histoire de famille*, *Les super mamies*, *Les machos*, *Sous le signe du lion* and *Harmonium*.

Passionate about all aspects of creation, Gabriel Sabourin has co-written and appeared in *Les gymnastes de l'émotion*, has co-directed *Le Grand Théâtre Émotif du Québec*, and has both written and directed *Tzung-mai* (Momentum). In 2011, he co-scripted, with Stefan Miljevic and Louis Champagne, the feature film *Amsterdam*, in which he also played one of the main roles. He continued his creative work in 2012 with the film *Miraculum*, directed by Daniel Grou (Podz), in which he plays the role of Simon. In 2017, he starred in the film *C'est le cœur qui meurt en dernier*, which he also wrote. Coming soon, he will be featured in *The Fall of Sparta*.

Jonathan St-Armand – Virgile Chèrenfant

A young, self-taught actor, Jonathan has put a great deal of effort into achieving his career goals. Courses and workshops in theatre and cinema, private coaching, English lessons, etc. There's little he won't do to improve and expand his already-impressive emotional range. Jonathan took his earliest steps in his chosen craft by playing small roles in the following productions: *Dans la Tête d'Eddy King*, *The Angry Angel*, and in the English version of *19-2* – along with appearing in a handful of commercials, including one directed by Ricardo Trogi. His first significant role was playing Théo Mangonès in Radio-Canada's *30 Vies*. He next appeared as Hugo for two seasons in the web-series *Mère Fille*. Jonathan will be gracing the big screen in 2018, as Virgile in *The Fall of Sparta*, adapted from a Biz novel and directed by Tristan Dubois. He is slated to appear next year, in 2019, at the Denise-Pelletier Theatre, in *Harmattan*.



PARALLAXES

Parallaxes – Production

Founded in 2010 by Sonia Despars and Marc Biron, Parallaxes is a well-established production company in the Quebec City region, dedicated to developing and producing cinematographic, fiction and documentary works and, more recently, to producing TV series. Parallaxes is adept in structuring co-productions and partnerships in order to cohabit with different talents and to combine unique areas of expertise, both creative and financial.

The company has produced the feature film *2 Temps, 3 Mouvements* and the documentaries *Un film de chasse de filles* and *Coureurs des toits*. In 2018, they are launching their first Club Illico dramatic series: *La Dérape*, as well as theatrically release their latest feature, *The Fall of Sparta*.

www.parallaxes.ca

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Filmoption International – Distribution

Created in 1979, Filmoption International is a full service Canadian distribution company active in all aspects of distribution.

The company represents a wide range of television programs and feature films for both the domestic and international markets. The company also imports feature films and television programs for the Canadian marketplace.

With offices in Montreal, Rome and London, Filmoption maintains an active presence at all the major television markets and film festivals including NATPE, Berlin Film Festival, MIPTV, Cannes Film Festival, Montreal and Toronto Film Festival, MIPCOM and AFM on an ad hoc basis.

Filmoption has an active educational sales department that distributes titles in many different languages all over the world.

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