

THE DIRECTOR

Christian Sønnerby Jepsen, born 1977. Graduated from The Danish Film School in 2007 with the film "There is a war outside my window". In 2008 Sønnerby Jepsen won international recognition for his film about neighbors at war, "Side by Side", which was screened at festivals worldwide and won numerous prizes. "The Will" (Testamentet) (2011) was the director's first feature length documentary. The film describes how money and abuse can destroy a family when they inherit from their rich grandfather. The Will received the prestigious Bodil award for the year's Best Documentary in 2012, won the CPH: Dox award in 2011, was selected for the official IDFA program and won the International award DOC ALLIANCE in 2012.

Christian Sønnerby Jepsen's second feature length documentary Blood Ties "Blodets Bånd" (2013) was shown in the Danish cinemas. It is a film about a socially challenged family caught up in the Danish welfare system.

Christian's ambition is to find the great unknown stories and give them cinematic and universal appeal.



THE PRODUCERS

Sidsel Lønviig Siersted, Sidsel has worked professionally with TV, digital media, documentaries and documentary series for ten years. Currently she is working as producer closely with renowned Danish producer Sigrid Dyekjær in the company Danish Documentary production.

Sidsel holds a master of Fine Arts in Film & Media Studies from the University of Copenhagen and University of California, Santa Barbara.

Malene Flindt Pedersen, Co-owner of Hansen & Pedersen since October 1997, has produced documentaries since 1995. She worked as Head of development, Short and Documentary at The Danish Film Institute from 2006-2012. Prior to working at the institute she has produced creative documentaries, documentaries series and formats for ten years in Hansen & Pedersen film and television.

Malene is educated as a producer from the Danish Film School from 1991-95.



SYNOPSIS

DOES IT HAVE A PRICE WHEN SCIENCE DEFIES EVOLUTION?

The stand-up comedian Jacob Nossell is spastic. He could have been 'deselected' by scientists and his parents before he even was born. And realistically he is now, a burden on society and at best an interesting case for scientists to study. When the world looks at Jacob, they see the physically handicapped spastic body and not the person trapped inside the body. With an intact intellect in a damaged body, Jacob Nossell is a living demonstration of the dilemma of defining 'normality' – he is too handicapped to be accepted as normal and too normal to accept himself as handicapped. On a quest to understand his own lot in life, he decides to challenge what being normal means, as well as challenging his own lack of skills. He wants to play an active part in his own life, put on a sold-out show at The Royal Theatre and be applauded by the audience. The film follows Jacob Nossell on his quest among family, scientists and the audience, trying to figure out what the meaning of life is for him and others like him. But he is forced to face his own limits, when he gets knocked down by his own intangible fate as well as by a real-life number 1A bus.

