

A  
MATTER  
OF  
TRUST

The title 'A Matter of Trust' is displayed in large, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The letters are filled with a greenish-tinted image of several people's faces, including eyes and mouths, which are partially obscured by the letter shapes. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with a warm, golden light.

A FILM BY ANNETTE K OLESEN

# OFFICIAL SELECTION

# TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL 2022

105 mins

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# SYNOPSIS

On a perfectly ordinary late summer day, the lives of five unrelated people are turned upside down. A husband, a doctor, a wife, a student, and a young daughter are unsuspectingly put on a collision course with each their own fateful crossroads. In search of love, identity, and moral gauge they all risk the most precious aspect of life: Trust. But trust is vulnerable, and the consequences will be irreversible, forbidden and embarrassingly amusing.

# CAST

Trine Dyrholm	Eva
Emil Aron Dorph	Emil
Ellen Rovsing Knudsen	Laura
Jakob Cedergrén	Adam
Sofie Juul Blinkenberg	Maja
Morten Hee Andersen	Simon
Lisbet Dahl	Hanne

# FILMMAKERS

Adapted for the screen by	Maren Louise Käehne & Annette K Olesen
Directed by	Annette K Olesen
Producer	Jonas Frederiksen
Executive Producers	Bo Ehrhardt & Birgitte Hald
Director of Photography	Anders Nydam
Production Designer	Heidi Plugge
Editor	Denniz Göl Bertelsen
Composter	Kåre Bjerkø
Sound Designer	Mick Raaschou

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

A couple of North American economists wondered why the Nordic countries, which in comparison with many other countries, have so relatively few natural resources, are still among the absolute richest, most politically stable, safest, and most progressive societies in the world. Especially Denmark. They asked a Danish colleague for an answer. The research concluded that the cause is an unusually high degree of trust. That is our natural resource. From the small scenes in people's lives, to the big scenes in the political meeting rooms, we subscribe to the same concept and to a handed down, unspoken consensus that trust is better than control. But when the banks cheat tax authorities, when government employees and elected politicians steal from common funds and when we, during an invisible COVID pandemic, are suddenly forced to trust the authorities and each other, we can feel the concept vibrating - trust is fragile and exposed.

This film is about trust. It will explore what that is. As a concept, as a sensory perception and as a universally humanistic mechanism. If this IS the raw material we live on in Denmark it feels extremely important to engage in and to explore the matter. The film will immerse into the concept. In practice. Between people – ordinary people in this world.

Maren Louise Käehne and I gave five of the country's most talented literary writers a few conditions, which were primarily to ensure that we would be able to produce the film on a relatively modest budget. Apart from that they were given complete freedom in terms of interpreting our common main theme. We had no idea what was coming; they, in turn, had to confidently hand over the baton to us. Maren Louise has bravely and curiously moved out of her well-trained, dramaturgically linear form, and has respectfully managed and interpreted the five stories so that together, they have now become one of the strongest scripts I have worked with.

Trust is present as the focal point, and common impulse, in 5 independent narratives with 5 independent main characters. The main characters' common space is the late summer landscape, and the progress is, in addition to the action of the individual narrative, the ticking 24 hours of the day. It has been my intention to cherish, and at the same time continue to explore every single narrative, its particular tonality, visual sensuality and mood.

- Annette K Olesen

# ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Annette K Olesen was born on November 20, 1965 in Denmark. She graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 1991. Fresh out of film school, she wrote and directed several experimental shorts, the most prominent one being 'Julies Balcony' from 1992.

Her feature film debut came in 2002 with 'Minor Mishaps,' a family drama with sharp and dark humor, created with the so-called Mike Leigh Method where the script at large is based upon the actors' own improvisations. The film was selected to compete at the Berlin International Film Festival and won the Blue Angel Award. Olesen then went on to make the Dogme film 'In Your Hands' (2004) starring, among others, Trine Dyrholm who went on to win both a Bodil and a Robert for her performance, a film made to commemorate the 10 year anniversary of the Dogme 95 movement. With its outstanding female depictions, it was also selected to enter the Berlin Festival and has won a great deal of prizes such as the Jury Special Prize at the Valladolid Festival in Spain, and the Audience Award at the Bordeaux International Festival. 'Little Soldier' (2008) was the third of Olesen's films to compete at the Berlin Festival and won the Prize of the Ecumenical Jury.

After a fantastic start to her career, Olesen made her first genre movie in 2013: 'The Shooter,' a thriller starring Trine Dyrholm and Kim Bodnia, known from The Bridge and Killing Eve. Olesen wanted to explore and debate the matter of terrorism and idealism, and did so with flying colors. She has also directed episodes of cult-classic 'Borgen' (2010) as well as 'Bankerot' (2014). Most recently, Olesen has conceptualized the HBO show 'Kamikaze' (2021). She has also been teaching at the National Film School of Denmark, and has taught in the Netherlands, Norway and Egypt.

# ABOUT THE CAST

A Matter of Trust brings together renowned actors known from the big screen with actors from independent film, theater, and television as well as young talents.

Trine Dyrholm plays a doctor in an internal struggle with her morals; Jakob Cedergren and Ellaha Lack star as an unfaithful husband and mistress who secretly meet at a rented summer house; Sofie Juul Blinkenberg plays a newlywed, extremely pregnant woman who begins to distrust her husband, played by Morten Hee Andersen, when attending a stranger's funeral. Emil Aron Dorph stars as an identity-seeking schoolboy who becomes involved with his school teacher; and Ellen Roving Knudsen plays a 7-year-old daughter who suddenly finds herself abducted by her mother. The common thread between them is that they are each betting the most vulnerable thing we have between each other – trust.



# ABOUT THE PRODUCER

Jonas Frederiksen graduated from the National Film School of Denmark in 1999 – the producer line. Frederiksen was associated with Zentropa Film from 1999 to 2005 as a line producer, associate producer, and producer on productions by Dariusz Steiness, Niels Arden, Lars Von Trier, Susanne Bier og Simon Staho. Jonas Frederiksen has over the years produced many feature films. These include Simon Staho's three feature films 'Bang Bang Orangutang' (2005), 'Love is in the air' (2011) and 'The Miracle' (2014) as well as Charlotte Sieling's 'The Man' (2017). He has also produced Christina Rosendahl's two films 'The Idealist' (2015) and 'The Good Traitor' (2020). The former was among others nominated for two Robert statuettes.





Clips:

<https://vimeo.com/709033976>

<https://vimeo.com/709024875>

<https://vimeo.com/709022472>