



BLOODY BOYS

a film by Shaker K. Tahrer



"I start with reality, with what is going on around me. But then I change it and look at it from a distance. It's when characters and events balance between realism and the abstract that it gets really interesting."

- Shaker K. Tahrer (from ETC Göteborg #36 2010)



SYNOPSIS

In the contemporary drama *Bloody Boys* we follow three families through three parallel stories.

Birgitta decides to end her apartment lease to move in with yet another man, leaving her son, Simon, without a place to stay. Simon's dad, Tomas, seems like the only one to turn to, but he has long since given up on the world and now finds his sole company with the dead.

Lina asks for a divorce, which prompts Gunnar to start writing a book on the cruel ways of love and marriage. Their newly graduated adoptive son, Björn, is forced out into the world and into an apartment of his own, where he ponders identity and being, thoughts that lead him into unknown and unexpected territory.

Ida and Kristoffer share a tragical heritage which they are struggling to break free from. Kristoffer does his best to ease his mother through her fits of rage, while longing for a less complicated life with his friends and his girlfriend. Ida tries all kinds of remedies for her affliction, but to no avail, and eventually the source of the problem is traced back up the bloodline...

Bloody Boys accounts for the workings of downward spirals, whose patterns drag individuals as well as their families into them. The film depicts the human aspects of a number of brutal proceedings, where life itself may be the price of freedom.







THE DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I got the idea for *Bloody Boys* ten years ago. I was haunted by a series of images, situations and characters. Reality was my inspiration; my starting point was events in the lives of friends, acquaintances and strangers.

The images and characters developed during the years. Some characters fused into one, other ones rerouted or disappeared. The final result began to take form when I gained some distance and was able to look at the characters from the outside, as leading parts in a film.

The main characters of *Bloody Boys* are stuck; they find themselves going around in circles. In order to break these patterns desperate and drastic actions are committed, sometimes by the individual's close ones rather than by himself. Life itself is at stake.

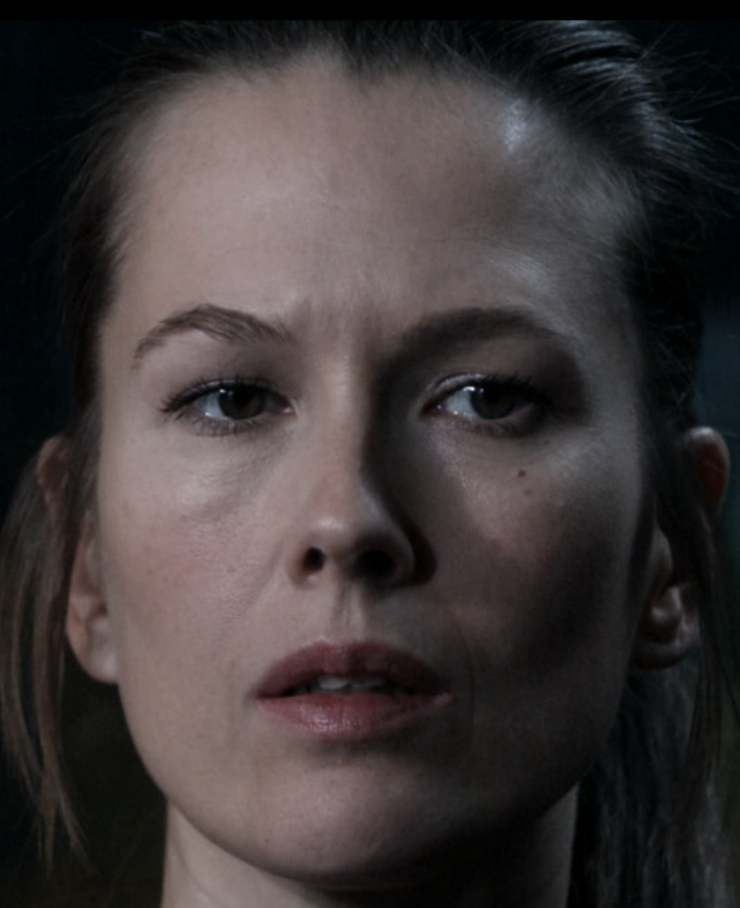
My aim has been to expose the audience to the humanity of the brutal and radical proceedings, and I hope that they will carry something from the film with them and that some of the scenes in this way will live on.



Shaker K. Tahrer is the writer, director and producer of the short films *My Father Doesn't Cry* and *Soccer Player at Midnight*. Tahrer studied film directing at the Film Academy in Göteborg and screenwriting at Film i Väst in Trollhättan.

Soccer Player at Midnight competed in a number of international festivals and has been broadcast on SVT (Swedish television) on several occasions.

Bloody Boys is Shaker K. Tahrer's first full length feature.



ELIN KLINGA

"Ida is a basically ordinary woman whose possibilities are hampered by her traumatic background. Her inability to deal with her past also seals the fate of her son. It falls on him to carry the blame for his family's incapability to break its destructive pattern. In other words it's a traditional Greek drama!"

Selected filmography:

- *Behind Blue Skies* (Hannes Holm, 2010)
- *The Image Makers* (Ingmar Bergman, 2000)
- *The Glass-blower's Children* (Anders Grönros, 1998)

JACOB NORDENSON

"I have always been interested in depictions of relationships between father and son. A reason for this is of course my own not entirely unproblematic experiences in this area. In my private life I try to live as close to my two sons as I possibly can. I found it provoking and not very easy to appreciate the experiences and emotions which made Tomas leave his son and completely erase him from his life."

Selected filmography:

- *Gynekologen i Askim* (Tova Magnusson-Norling, 2007, Simon

Kaijser da Silva, 2011)

- *Pistvakt* (Stephan Apelgren, 1998/2005)

- *Tic Tac* (Daniel Alfredson, 1997)







A close-up, profile view of MARIKA LAGERCRANTZ's face, looking slightly upwards and to the right. She has short, wavy brown hair and a gentle expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

MARIKA LAGERCRANTZ

"Working with a team of young, gifted people was a real treat. Not only did we make a film but hopefully we also paved the way for new talents who can tell new stories, like this one!"

Selected filmography:

- *Emma Åklagare* (Jon Lindström, 1997)
- *All Things Fair* (Bo Widerberg, 1995)
- *Dreaming of Rita* (Jon Lindström, 1993)

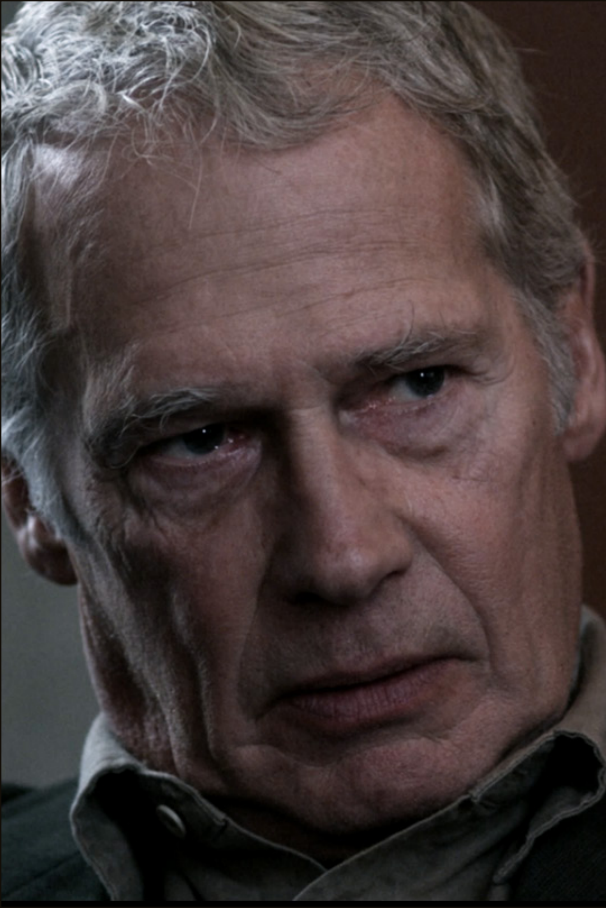
TOM LJUNGMAN

"The production brought together a great variety of people within film, ranging from young debutants to legends, from enthusiastic volunteers to people with long experience, which was a benefit for everyone and not least for the story itself."

Selected filmography:

- *The Half Hidden* (Simon Kaijser da Silva, 2009)
- *Wallander* (Agneta Fagerström-Olsson, 2009)
- *Patrik, Age 1,5* (Ella Lemhagen, 2008)





STIG ENGSTRÖM

"I look back on working on Bloody Boys with joy. Shaker and the rest of the team created an atmosphere in which you felt appreciated and important in a way that is quite unusual due to the stressful nature of most productions today. When filming you were given time to get a feel for the inner life of the character, which can only be reached through concentration and in a creative environment."

Selected filmography:

- *Gynekologen i Askim* (Simon Kaijser da Silva, 2011)
- *Who Pulled the Plug?* (Hans Iveberg, 1981)
- *You're Lying* (Vilgot Sjöman, 1969)

CAST

Elin Klinga	Ida
Marika Lagercrantz	Birgitta
Jacob Nordenson	Tomas
Tom Ljungman	Kristoffer
Stig Engström	Gunnar
Nina Gunke	Lina
Rikard Björk	Simon
Mats Sandahl	Björn
Evert Lindkvist	Lennart
Felicia Löwerdahl	Elin

CREW

Shaker K. Tahrer	Director/Writer
Shaker K. Tahrer	Producer
Niklas Lundin	Producer
Ralph Evers	Cinematographer
Pierre Laurent	Editor
Emil Brandqvist	Composer
Ulla Herdin	Production Designer
Picturewise Post	Grading/VFX
Auditory	Track Laying
Owe Svensson, Studio 24	Mixing
David Wingate	Script Consultant
Leif Eriksson	Creative & Technical Consultant

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Title: Bloody Boys (Original Title: Jävla pojkar)

Run Time: 81 min.

Aspect Ratio: Cinemascope

Camera: Red One

Language: Swedish

Subtitles: English

Audio: 2.0

Year: 2011

CONTACT

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Familjebostäder
i Göteborg

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B E R G S J Ö N S



KULTUR- & MEDIAVERKSTAD

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