

a film by Wong Kar Wai

MY BLUEBERRY NIGHTS

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FESTIVAL DE CANNES
OFFICIAL SELECTION COMPETITION
OPENING FILM

Block 2 Pictures/ Jet Tone Films/ StudioCanal present

**Norah Jones, Jude Law, David Strathairn
Rachel Weisz and Natalie Portman**

a film by Wong Kar Wai

MY BLUEBERRY NIGHTS

Hong Kong, China - 2007 - 111 minutes

OFFICIAL SCREENING
MAY 16th at 7:15 pm
Auditorium Lumière

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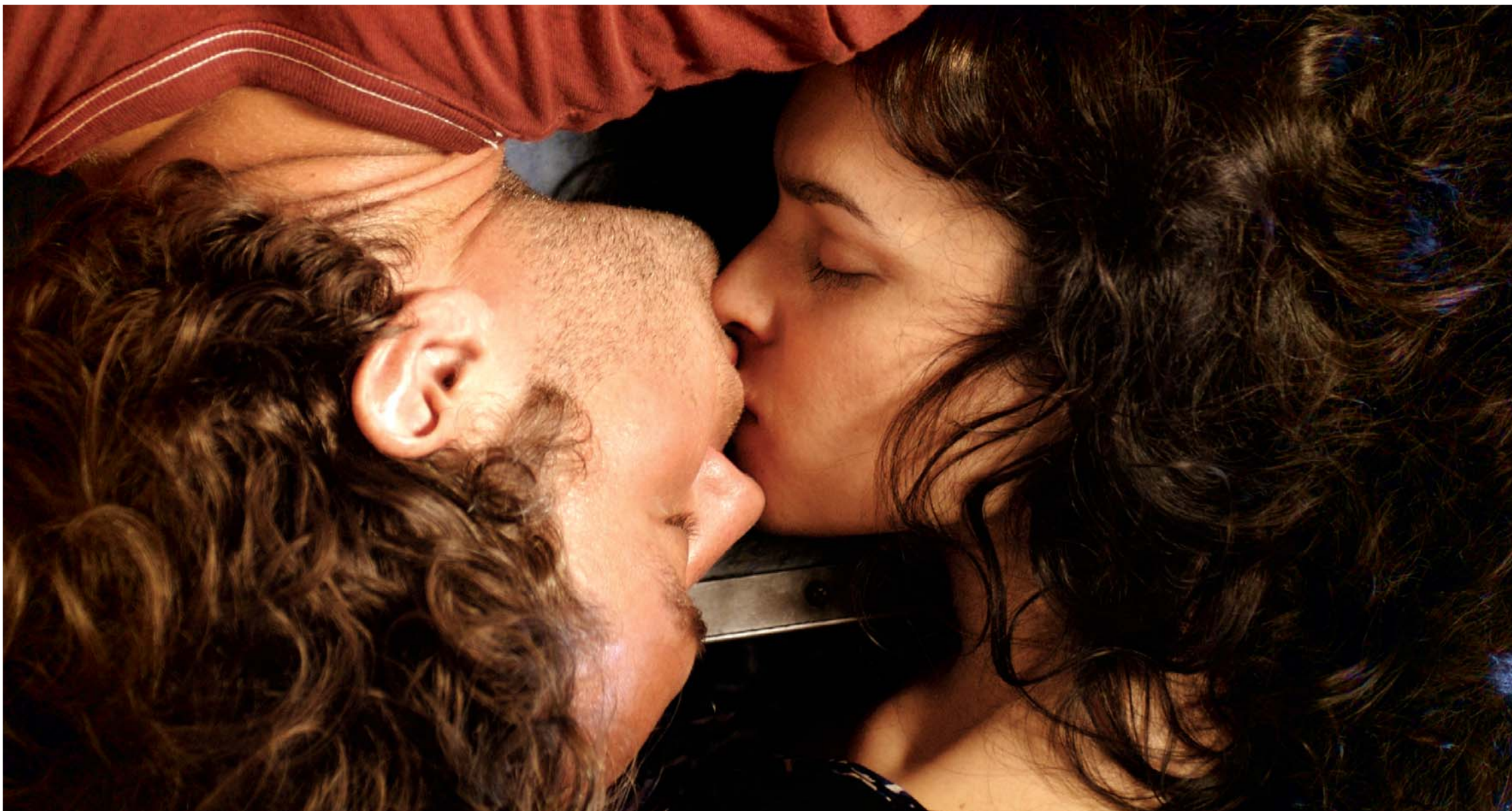
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SYNOPSIS



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In Wong Kar Wai's debut English language feature, the internationally acclaimed director takes his audience on a dramatic journey across the distance between heartbreak and a new beginning.

After a rough break-up, Elizabeth (played by songstress Norah Jones in her screen debut) sets out on a journey across America, leaving behind a life of memories, a dream and a soulful new friend — a café owner (Jude Law) — all while in search of something to mend her broken heart. Waitressing her way through the country, Elizabeth befriends others whose yearnings are greater than hers, including a troubled cop (David Strathairn) and his estranged wife (Rachel Weisz) and a down-on-her luck gambler (Natalie Portman) with a score to settle.

Through these individuals, Elizabeth witnesses the true depths of loneliness and emptiness, and begins to understand that her own journey is part of a greater exploration within herself.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



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Sometimes the tangible distance between two persons can be quite small but the emotional one can be miles. MY BLUEBERRY NIGHTS is a look at those distances, from various angles. I wanted to explore these expanses, both figuratively and literally, and the lengths it takes to overcome them.

NORAH JONES
DAY 1: NEW YORK



NORAH JONES ELIZABETH

Norah Jones, the talented singer, songwriter and pianist, who has won over the world with her signature style, made her debut album *COME AWAY WITH ME* on Blue Note Records in 2003, selling 20 million copies worldwide and garnering eight Grammy Awards, including album of the year, best new artist, best female pop vocal performance, and record of the year for the bluesy single, "Don't Know Why."

Her second album, *FEELS LIKE HOME*, released in 2004, topped sales charts and was nominated for 4 Grammys.

In 2005 she shared a Grammy with the late Ray Charles for the duet "Here We Go Again." In 2006, she released an album as part of her band The Little Willies. Her third album *NOT TOO LATE* was released in January, 2007 by Blue Note to critical acclaim and worldwide success, topping the charts on five continents. *MY BLUEBERRY NIGHTS* marks her film debut.



JUDE LAW
DAY 300: NEW YORK

JUDE LAW

JEREMY

Jude Law is one of the most sought-after talents in the acting world. Jude worked with the National Youth Music Theatre, and has appeared in several productions on the West End and at the National Theatre. He has also been very active on British TV and film. For his work in WILDE, playing opposite Stephen Fry and Vanessa Redgrave, he won several awards, including the London Film Critics Circle Award and the Evening Standard Award.

His American film debut was in the futuristic GATTACA opposite Uma Thurman and Ethan Hawke. Other films include Sam Mendes' ROAD TO PERDITION, starring alongside Tom Hanks and Paul Newman, David Cronenberg's EXISTENZ, which also featured Jennifer Jason Leigh and Willem Dafoe, Clint Eastwood's MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL, in which he shared the screen with Kevin Spacey and John Cusack, and Jean-Jacques Annaud's World War II epic ENEMY AT THE GATES.

Law received Oscar and Golden Globe nominations for Best Actor for his work in COLD MOUNTAIN. Law was also nominated for both Academy and Golden Globe Awards in 2000 for his performance as "Dickie Greenleaf" in THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY. He received the BAFTA award that year for the role.

His recent film credits include ALL THE KING'S MEN, opposite Sean Penn and Kate Winslet, THE HOLIDAY opposite Cameron Diaz and Kate Winslet, BREAKING AND ENTERING for director Anthony Minghella, opposite Juliette Binoche and Robin Wright Penn. He recently completed shooting the remake of SLEUTH with Michael Caine.

DAVID STRATHAIRN

**DAY 57: MEMPHIS
1,120 MILES SINCE
NEW YORK**



DAVID STRATHAIRN

ARNIE

David Strathairn has been active on the American screen since 1979, when he appeared in RETURN OF THE SECAUCUS SEVEN, the first of seven collaborations with filmmaker John Sayles, among them, MATEWAN, PASSION FISH, and EIGHT MEN OUT. In addition to his work in "independent films" he has worked with several of the top American film directors, including Mike Nichols (SILKWOOD), Steven Gyllenhaal (LOSING ISAIAH), Sydney Pollack (THE FIRM), Curtis Hanson (THE RIVER WILD), Taylor Hackford (DOLORES CLAIBORNE), Penny Marshall (A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN), Tim Robbins (BOB ROBERTS), and Philip Kaufman (TWISTED), and has appeared with some of the greatest actors of our time: Meryl Streep, Kathy Bates, Sigourney Weaver, Debra Winger, Danny Glover, Tom Hanks, Jessica Lange, Christopher Walken, Chris Cooper, Frank Langella, and Al Pacino. For his performance as Edward R. Murrow in George Clooney's film GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK David was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Actor.



RACHEL WEISZ

**DAY 58: MEMPHIS
1,120 MILES SINCE
NEW YORK**

RACHEL WEISZ SUE LYNNE

Rachel Weisz received an Academy Award for her performance in *THE CONSTANT GARDENER* directed by Fernando Meirelles (*CITY OF GOD*) and based on the best-selling John le Carré novel. She also won the Screen Actors Guild award as well as the Golden Globe.

Weisz's upcoming projects include David Dobkin's comedy *FRED CLAUS* starring opposite Vince Vaughn and Paul Giamatti, Adam Brooks *DEFINITELY MAYBE* opposite Ryan Reynolds, and Rian Johnson's international con man adventure *THE BROTHERS BLOOM*.

Past film credits include Darren Aronofsky's *THE FOUNTAIN* opposite Hugh Jackman, Francis Lawrence's hit thriller *CONSTANTINE*, Gary Fleder's *RUNAWAY JURY*, James Foley's *CONFIDENCE* and Chris and Paul Weitz's *ABOUT A BOY*. She is known to audiences worldwide for her lead role opposite Brendan Fraser in Stephen Sommers' blockbuster movies *THE MUMMY* and *THE MUMMY RETURNS*. She also starred in Jean-Jacques Annaud's *ENEMY AT THE GATES*, Michael Winterbottom's *I WANT YOU*, David Leland's *THE LAND GIRLS*, Beeban Kidron's *SWEPT FROM THE SEA*, Bernardo Bertolucci's *STEALING BEAUTY*, and Neil LaBute's *THE SHAPE OF THINGS* on screen and stage (the film marked her first venture into producing). On stage she also starred in Noel Coward's *DESIGN FOR LIVING* and *SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER*. Weisz began her career at Cambridge University where she formed the Talking Tongues Theatre Group, which performed numerous experimental pieces and won the prestigious Guardian Award at the Edinburgh Festival.

NATALIE PORTMAN

DAY 251: NEVADA
5,607 MILES SINCE
NEW YORK



NATALIE PORTMAN LESLIE

Since her debut at 11 years old in Luc Besson's THE PROFESSIONAL, Natalie Portman has appeared in the films BEAUTIFUL GIRLS, EVERYONE SAYS I LOVE YOU, MARS ATTACKS!, ANYWHERE BUT HERE, WHERE THE HEART IS, and the stage production of THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK.

While completing her psychology degree at Harvard, Portman starred in the STAR WARS prequels, COLD MOUNTAIN, the Public Theater's Central Park production of THE SEAGULL opposite Meryl Streep and Philip Seymour Hoffman, GARDEN STATE, and CLOSER for which she was nominated for an Oscar and won a Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actress.

Portman most recently starred in V FOR VENDETTA. This year, she appears in Milos Forman's GOYA'S GHOSTS, as Anne Boleyn in THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL, and opposite Dustin Hoffman in the children's fantasy MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM.



CHAN MARSHALL

DAY 185: NEW YORK

CHAN MARSHALL

KATYA

Chan Marshall is a Georgia-born songwriter famed (as Cat Power) for her minimalist style, sparse guitar and piano playing, and soulful, cathartic vocals. Spin Magazine has called Cat Power "the archetypal rock heroine" in naming her album "The Greatest" one of the best of 2006. She makes her film debut in MY BLUEBERRY NIGHTS.



WONG KAR WAI

WONG KAR WAI

DIRECTOR - PRODUCER - WRITER

Wong Kar Wai was born in Shanghai and moved to Hong Kong with his parents when he was five.

He joined the film industry as a scriptwriter and became a film director in 1989. He soon established himself as an extraordinary talent.

His first film, *AS TEARS GO BY* was screened as part of the 'Critics' Week' at the 1989 Cannes International Film Festival. His second film, *DAYS OF BEING WILD* was set in a vividly imagined 1960s. This film featured several of Hong Kong's popular young stars of the time and won five Hong Kong Film Awards, including Best Film and Best Director.

Director Wong spent the next two years working on *ASHES OF TIME*, which was shot in remote regions of China. In this film, Wong went against all the standards of the genre to successfully make a period martial arts drama. The film was premiered at the 1994 Venice Film Festival. During a break in the post-production of *ASHES OF TIME*, Wong made *CHUNGKING EXPRESS*, which later became a cult hit in many countries. It was also Wong's first film to have world-wide distribution. After that, he created *FALLEN ANGELS*, which continued some of the themes he started in *CHUNGKING EXPRESS*.

His next film, *HAPPY TOGETHER* was premiered at Cannes in 1997 and won him the festival's Best Director Award. In 2000, *IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE* premiered in competition at Cannes where it was awarded numerous accolades, including the Best Actor prize for Tony Leung Chiu-wai. Four years later, he returned to Cannes again with *2046* which continued to follow the life of *IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE* lead character Chow Mo-wen played by Leung.

Wong also shot a few short films, including a BMW online project, *THE HIRE*, as part of a series commissioned by the car company from directors like Ang Lee, John Woo, and John Frankenheimer. He worked on DJ Shadow's music video *SIX DAYS* and he directed one part of the film *EROS*.

His segment starred Gong Li and Chang Chen. The other two episodes were directed by Michelangelo Antonioni and Steven Soderbergh.

In May, 2006, Wong served as the President of the Jury at the 59th Cannes Film Festival. A month later, he began shooting his first English-language film *MY BLUEBERRY NIGHTS* throughout the United States of America.

FILMOGRAPHY

1988 - *As Tears Go By*
1990 - *Days of Being Wild*
1994 - *Ashes of Time*
- *Chungking Express*
1995 - *Fallen Angels*
1997 - *Happy Together*
2000 - *In the Mood for Love*
2004 - *2046*
- *Eros* (segment "The Hand")
2007 - *To Each His Own Cinema*
(segment "I travelled 9000 km to give it to you").
- *My Blueberry Nights*

CAST

NORAH JONES
JUDE LAW
DAVID STRATHAIRN
RACHEL WEISZ
AND NATALIE PORTMAN

Special Appearance
by Chan Marshall



JACKY PANG YEE WAH
PRODUCER

Jacky Pang Yee Wah began her career in commercials. A founding member of Jet Tone Films, she has worked on Wong Kar Wai's films for many years – including CHUNGKING EXPRESS (associate producer), IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE (co-producer) and EROS (producer). A prolific producer, she has produced several films under the Jet Tone banner, including Jeffrey Lau's A CHINESE ODYSSEY 2002, Joe Ma's SOUND OF COLORS and the upcoming Taiwanese production MIAO MIAO.



WILLIAM CHANG SUK PING
PRODUCTION DESIGNER AND EDITOR

William Chang Suk Ping has been responsible for redefining the aesthetic scope and ambition of Hong Kong cinema in the past 15 years. His work on IN THE MOOD FOR LOVE and 2046 has also won international acclaim. One of the most sought-after production designers in Asia's film and music industries, he has also established himself as a leading film editor beginning with Wong Kar Wai's ASHES OF TIME and all Wong's subsequent films. He has worked with a range of talents from Stanley Kwan to Tsui Hark and is probably best known for his daring and innovative work with Wong Kar Wai.

DARIUS KHONDJI
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Darius Khondji was raised in Paris and studied film at New York University. He began working on FJ Ossang's *LE TRESOR DES ILES CHIENNES*. His work first came to international attention with *DELICATESSEN* (1991), directed by Jean-Pierre Jeunet and Marc Caro, for whom he also shot *THE CITY OF LOST CHILDREN* (1995). He has already worked with some of the most talented filmmakers of our time ranging from David Fincher to Bernardo Bertolucci and Roman Polanski to Michael Haneke.



LAWRENCE BLOCK
WRITER

Lawrence Block is one of the most critically and commercially successful crime writers around. He was born in Buffalo, New York and began his writing career penning short stories for crime magazines and paperback novels. Since his debut in the late 50's, he has created several very different series characters, including his prize creation, tormented alcoholic (and then recovering-alcoholic) private eye Matt Scudder. Three of his novels have been adapted for the screen, including Hal Ashby's last film *EIGHT MILLION WAYS TO DIE* and *BURGLAR*, starring Whoopi Goldberg.

CREW

DIRECTED AND PRODUCED BY WONG KAR WAI
SCREENPLAY BY WONG KAR WAI & LAWRENCE BLOCK
STORY BY WONG KAR WAI
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER CHAN YE CHENG
PRODUCER JACKY PANG YEE WAH
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DARIUS KHONDJI, ASC, AFC
PRODUCTION DESIGN BY WILLIAM CHANG SUK PING
EDITED BY WILLIAM CHANG SUK PING

MUSIC BY RY COODER
COSTUME DESIGN BY WILLIAM CHANG SUK PING / SHARON GLOBERSON
LINE PRODUCERS ALICE CHAN / PAMELA THUR-WEIR
ASSOCIATE LINE PRODUCER STÉPHANE KOOSHMANIAN
DIALOGUE CONSULTANT TELLY WONG
SUPERVISING SOUND DESIGNER CLAUDE LETESSIER
LEGAL CONSULTANT CHRISTIAN VALSAMIDIS / TAYLOR WESSING (PARIS)
FRENCH SUBTITLES PIERRE ARSON / GILLES CIMENT

