

**RUN**

A film by Scott Graham



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Certificate: tbc / Running time: 77 minutes

**LOGLINE**

An after-dark joyride drives a small town fish worker to risk everything.

**SHORT SYNOPSIS**

Steeped in the mythos of Bruce Springsteen songs about growing up and growing old in the same small town, writer-director Scott Graham’s third feature follows former boy racer Finnie (Mark Stanley), who’s failure to leave the small Scottish fishing port he calls home is brought into sharp relief when his teenage son starts to follow in his footsteps.

**SYNOPSIS**

The daily grind of working in a fish factory has got at 30-something Finnie (Mark Stanley). Feeling the years of pressure providing for his family, he finds life’s easier in the small fishing port in Aberdeenshire he calls home when he’s emotionally unavailable. Taking on too much responsibility too young, he longs to be that arrogant, carefree teenager again, who spent his nights racing cars through the town’s neon soaked streets. His daily disappointment is manageable, but when his own car racing teenage son Kid (Anders Hayward) gets his girlfriend Kelly (Marli Siu) pregnant, Finnie gains an inescapable reminder of where he thinks his own life went wrong. Unable to articulate his depression to his wife Katie (Amy Manson), he borrows Kid’s car for an after-dark joyride. It might lead to a new understanding of himself — or might just cost him everything.

Steeped in the mythos of Bruce Springsteen songs about growing up in small towns, racing cars and falling into the trap of repeating your parents’ mistakes, Scott Graham’s third feature is a stripped-down character study about father-son dynamics and how teenage dreams are hard to leave behind when you missed your chance to hit the road and run.

**DIRECTORS STATEMENT**

Ten years ago, while I was back home researching a film I wanted to make about boy racers, I heard about a Fraserburgh fishwife who left her husband for listening to too much Bruce Springsteen. I thought it was funny and romantic that a fisherman from the North East would so identify with Springsteen’s music, yet sad that he’d driven his wife away because he could not say to her what he’d found expressed in Springsteen’s lyric’s about life and love in small towns.

Fraserburgh is a town where young men and women come of age racing cars. They race because it provides them with the illusion of freedom. But they fall in love behind the wheel, meaning many of them never leave. This is what happened to our protagonist Finnie and his wife Katie. After 17 years of gutting fish and with a son following in his footsteps Finnie can no longer ignore the fact he’s going nowhere. While the tension provoked by his son’s coming of age rises in Finnie, Katie tries to keep their relationship together. She knows what Finnie has yet to learn about the value of love.

*Run*isthe last of three films about a conflict between a parent and child and the place they call home. Unlike *Shell* and *Iona*my new film is about the hope that can be found in the ties that bind you to your family and your community. With this film I have tried to re-imagine Springsteen's songs about families who can't communicate and history repeating itself as something ultimately uplifting. I wanted to show that these themes, expressed so well in American music, literature and film, are as much a part of life in the North East of Scotland as they are the American Mid-west and because some of the men and women who married as teenagers are still together. *Run* is a film that celebrates falling in love in your teens, even if it means you never leave your hometown.

**Scott Graham**

**CAST**

**MARK STANLEY - FINNIE**

Mark Stanley graduated from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 2010 and broke through with the recurring role of Grenn in the first four seasons of HBO’s global hit *Game of Thrones* (2011-2019). Early film appearances included Mike Leigh’s *Mr Turner* (2014), the BAFTA-nominated war drama *Kajaki* (2014) and *Star* *Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens* (2015). He also played the male lead opposite Ruth Wilson in Clio Barnard’s acclaimed drama *Dark River* (2017). Since then, he’s starred opposite Alicia Vikander in *Euphoria* (2017), and appeared in Steven Spielberg’s *Ready Player One* (2018). In 2019 he takes the lead in Julian Jarrold’s *Sulphur & White*.

On television Mark played Bill Sykes in the BBC drama *Dickensian* (2015-2016). He also starred in Kay Mellor’s *Love, Lies and Records* (2017), opposite Ashley Jensen; Jimmy McGovern’s *Broken* (2017) , opposite Sean Bean, and in the Park Chan-wook-directed adaptation of John Le Carré’s *Little Drummer Girl* (2018). Notable theatre roles have included Richard Wilson’s 2015 production of ‘Blasted’ at the Sheffield Crucible and Josie Rourke’s 2013 staging of ‘Coriolanus’ at the Donmar Warehouse.

**AMY MANSON - KATIE**

Having trained at the Central School of Speech and Drama, Scottish actress Amy Manson’s numerous screen credits include roles in Doctor Who spin-off *Torchwood* (2006-2011), a recurring part in the BBC’s supernatural comedy/drama *Being Human* (2008-2013) and the roles of Medea in the BBC fantasy series *Atlantis* and Queen Merida in the ABC-produced fairytale series *Once Upon a Time* (2011-2018). On the big screen she’s appeared opposite Karen Gillan in *Not Another Happy Ending* and Kevin Guthrie and Sheila Hancock in *Edie* (2017). In 2017 she also appeared in Danny Boyle’s *T2: Trainspotting* and in 2019 was seen in the 1990s-set Scottish rave movie *Beats*, from director Brian Welsh and executive producer Steven Soderbergh.

On stage she’s appeared in the National Theatre of Scotland’s 2007 production of Luigi Pirandello’s Six Characters in Search of an Author and the Edinburgh Royal Lyceum Theatre’s 2014 production of Bertold Brecht’s The Caucasian Chalk Circle — winning best female performer for both at the Critics’ Awards for Theatre in Scotland.

**MARLI SIU - KELLY**

One of Screen International’s 2018 stars of tomorrow, Scottish actress Marli Siu was a standout in the zombie-horror musical *Anna and the Apocalypse* (2017) and in 2019 will appear as one of the leads in *Our Ladies*, Michael Caton-Jones’s forthcoming adaptation of Alan Warner’s cult Scottish novel The Sopranos. She was nominated for a BFI Fresh Blood: Best Under 25 award for her role in the short film *Scoring* (2015) and, in 2016, was nominated for the Sunday Times/National Theatre Ian Charleson award for her performance as Hero in Dundee Rep’s production of ‘Much Ado About Nothing’. She also won acclaim on the London stage for her performance in the Orange Tree Theatre’s 2017 revival of George Bernard Shaw’s ‘Misalliance’.

**ANDERS HAYWARD** **- KID**

Born and raised in London, Anders Hawyard’s acting credits include the E4/Hulu-produced comedy series *Gap Year* (2017) and the forthcoming BBC films production *Looted* (2019), in which he stars opposite Thomas Turgoose. He’s also a trained dancer specialising in abstract contemporary dance. He has appeared in the dance-themed short *Sistema* (2015) and worked as a choreographer on the short film *All the World’s a Stage* (2018).

**FILMMAKERS**

**SCOTT GRAHAM - WRITER/DIRECTOR**

Award-winning Scottish filmmaker Scott Graham is one of the rising stars of the British independent filmmaking scene. Largely self-taught, he made his first short film — an early incarnation of Run — in 2006 and, inspired by the landscape he was driving through while making it, wrote and directed the short film version of Shell (2007) that he then spent the next few years developing into his first feature. In the interim, his short film Native Son (2010) — a dark drama starring Sean Harris — was accepted into the Cannes film festival where it was nominated for a Discovery Award. The feature version of Shell (2012) also played multiple festivals, winning three major awards at the Torino International Film Festival in Italy. It was nominated for outstanding debut feature at the BAFTAs and for the BFI London Film Festival's Sutherland award. Star Chloe Pirrie won a BIFA for Most Promising Newcomer. His follow-up film Iona (2015) starred Ruth Negga and was nominated for the Michael Powell Award at the Edinburgh International Film Festival. Run is his third feature.

**MARGARET MATHESON - PRODUCER**

Margaret Matheson produced Shell and Iona , Scott’s first and second features, through bard entertainments, the production company she formed in the 1990s. Previous films include Antonia’s Line (Best Foreign Language Oscar), Eve’s Bayou , Revengers Tragedy , American Cousins , AKA, Skin, Sleep Furiou sly and Lore . She also recently produced Katie Morag , the double BAFTA winning Children’s TV series filmed in the Outer Hebrides.

**CIARA BARRY & ROSIE CRERAR - PRODUCERS**

With the support of a BFI Vision Award, Glasgow based production company barry crerar was set up in 2016 by producing duo Rosie Crerar and Ciara Barry. barry crerar are developing a slate of authored stories that seek to inspire and provoke. Feature drama projects in development include, with BFI & CS, Cuckoo (Paul Wright); with BBC Films, The Flaming Heart (Ruth Paxton) and with iFeatures, Girl (Adura Onashile and Chika Anadu).

In 2018, barry crerar co-produced feature documentary Irene’s Ghost, director Iain Cunningham, producer Rebecca Mark Lawson, funded by BFI, Creative England, Creative Scotland & Wellcome Trust. The film premiered at BFI London Film Festival 2018 and was nominated for the BIFA Discovery Award 2018. Also in post- production is short film Be Still My Beating Heart , written and directed by Ruth Paxton, funded by BBC Films alongside BFI and Creative Scotland through Scottish Film Talent Network. R un is barry crerar’s feature debut.

WRITTEN and DIRECTED by

**Scott Graham**

CAST

**Mark Stanley** as FINNIE

**Amy Manson** as KATIE

**Marli Siu** as KELLY

**Anders Hayward** as KID

PRODUCED by

**Margaret Matheson**

**Ciara Barry**

**Rosie Crerar**

EXECUTIVE PRODUCED by

**Lizzie Francke**

**Rose Garnett**

**Robbi Allen**

**Ross McKenzie**

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

**Simon Tindall**

EDITOR

**David Arthur**

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

**Andy Drummond**

COSTUME DESIGNER

**Rebecca Gore**

MAKE-UP AND HAIR DESIGNER

**Bethany Swan**

SOUND DESIGN by

**Joakin Sundström**

CASTING DIRECTOR

**Carla Strong CSA**