

# **SYNOPSIS**

JOAN, a seventy-something queer man with a penchant for lipstick and everything operatic, is being forced to leave the home he's lived in half his lifetime: deemed a danger unto himself, and indeed his neighbours, since he nodded off whilst smoking an illegal substance and almost burnt the block down, he is to be re-housed somewhere he can receive the kind-of round-theclock attention he obviously needs...

Joan thereupon enters a residential care home, in London but in a world of its own, where his housemates include sex-mad septuagenarian Eileen, pious and acrimonious Harold, and enigmatic and deluded Jim. Joan lands like a colourful, explosive cocktail into this staid setting and within minutes has upset most of his fellow residents as well as Rachida, the jobsworth Anglo-Asian manager who suggests that Joan (or John as she would prefer to call him) tones the 'act' down. But for Joan, his appearance, and indeed his entire way of being, isn't an act: it's simply who he is and he refuses to compromise that. No stranger to conflict, Joan dons his battle dress with relish, attempting to forge an alliance against the establishment with Craig, the young, gay but disappointingly conventional care assistant.

And then, in this most unlikely of settings, at this most unlikely time of life, Joan is offered love and acceptance from another gentlemen resident. But will Joan be able to accept it? Will Joan be able to accept himself? And will he and the other residents be able to accept the most shocking proposal of all? Cue wedding bells...

## MARKET POTENTIAL



2008

Weekend 2011



Mountain 2005

A Single Man 2009



Alright 2010

Marigold Hotel 2011

While there is no attempt to forecast a comparative financial performance for our film, there is, in the above projects, a clearly proven commercial track record for films such as The Grey Liberation Front. Even a smaller title such as Weekend has punched above its budget weight and this too on box office revenues. The DVD sales for Weekend are only just beginning and Best Exotic has not yet been released on DVD. This last title has been included because it has hugely outperformed expectations without the "received wisdom" attraction of a young sexy cast.

It is also of note that these are merely six out of hundreds of titles of similarly themed films and between them they have received dozens of nominations and awards including Oscars and Baftas. There is therefore an appetite for such poignant, wellmade films and The Grey Liberation Front belongs in their number.

## CASTING

We already have three exciting roles confirmed for Richard Wilson (Jim), Nina Wadia (Rachida) and Chris New (Craig).

Richard Wilson is a much-loved national treasure. His body of work, far too vast to encapsulate, has included innumerable performances in TV, Film and Theatre. In his diverse and wide-ranging career he has covered indie cult (How To Get Ahead In Advertising) and worked with David Lean on the epic A Passage To India. He created the irascible Victor Meldrew (One Foot In The Grave). He has brought Shakespeare and Merlin to life and has worked to equal acclaim in the UK and Hollywood. He is a BAFTA winner and continues to fill his work with energy and passion.

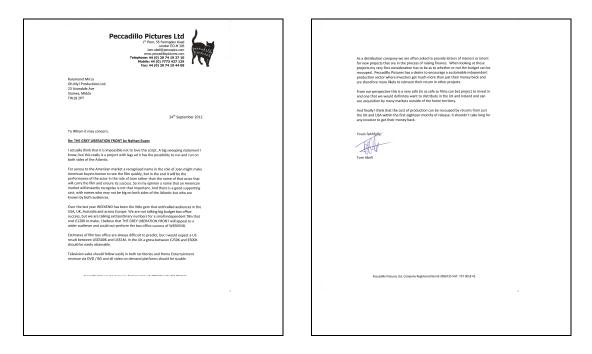
Nina Wadia, award winning actress, nominated for both her comedy as well as her gripping dramatic performances is currently starring in the UK's most widely watched night time drama, *Eastenders*. She first garnered acclaim for the breakout BBC hit show Goodness Gracious Me, as well as the sitcoms Perfect World, Chambers and All About Me. Nina has also appeared in numerous other TV shows including Dr Who, Skins, Waking The Dead, New Tricks and The Vicar Of Dibley. Her varied film © The Grey Liberation Front Ltd 2012

career has seen her working with Michael Winterbottom and Tim Robbins (*Code 46*) as well as starring in the Bollywood hit *Namaste London*. Nina has also just completed the upcoming comedy feature film *Keith Lemon: The Movie* (released later this year).

Chris New, nominated as Best Newcomer at the London Film Festival for his role in *Weekend* has also been a West End leading light for roles in Joe Orton's *Prick Up Your Ears*, the much lauded 2009 *Bent*. In 2010 Chris lead Peter Nichols' prestigious company in the New York debut of *Lingua Franca*. His appeal continues to grow with his recent mainstream film *Saving Santa* working alongside Martin Freeman and Tim Curry.



Leading our casting initiative is Gary Davy, outstanding Casting Director who has been at the heart of an impressive range of productions including the edgy and award-winning *Hunger* (Dir Steven McQueen), the Steven Spielberg/Tom Hanks produced epic *Band Of Brothers* and numerous TV series such as *Garrow's Law,* and *Mistresses*.



To Whom it may concern,

#### **Re: THE GREY LIBERATION FRONT by Nathan Evans**

I actually think that it is impossible not to love this script. A big sweeping statement I know, but this really is a project with legs ad it has the possibility to run and run on both sides of the Atlantic.

For access to the American market a recognised name in the role of Joan might make American buyers keener to see the film quickly, but in the end it will be the performance of the actor in the role of Joan rather than the name of that actor that will carry the film and ensure its success. So in my opinion a name that an American market will instantly recognise is not that important. And there is a good supporting cast, with names who may not be big on both sides of the Atlantic but who are known by both audiences.

Over the last year WEEKEND has been the little gem that enthralled audiences in the USA, UK, Australia and across Europe. We are not talking big budget box office success, but we are talking extraordinary numbers for a small independent film that cost £120K to make. I believe that THE GREY LIBERATION FRONT will appeal to a wider audience and could out-perform the box office success of WEEKEND.

Estimates of film box office are always difficult to predict, but I would expect a US result between US\$500K and US\$1M. In the UK a gross between £250K and £500K should be easily attainable.

Television sales should follow easily in both territories and Home Entertainment revenue via DVD / BD and all video on demand platforms should be sizable.

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As a distribution company we are often asked to provide letters of interest or intent for new projects that are in the process of raising finance. When looking at these projects my very first consideration has to be as to whether or not the budget can be recouped. Peccadillo Pictures has a desire to encourage a sustainable independent production sector where investors get much more than just their money back and are therefore more likely to reinvest their return in other projects.

From our perspective this is a very safe (in as safe as films can be) project to invest in and one that we would definitely want to distribute in the UK and Ireland and can see acquisition by many markets outside of the home territory.

And finally I think that the cost of production can be recouped by returns from just the UK and USA within the first eighteen months of release. It shouldn't take long for any investor to get their money back.

Best wishes,

Tom Abell

## NATHAN EVANS - Writer/Director

Nathan is a writer, director, producer, and performer whose work in film, theatre and cabaret has been funded by the Arts Council and toured by the British Council, broadcast on Channel 4 and archived by the BFI. He's been awarded a few statuettes and described as 'pure genius' by Time Out. <u>www.nathanevans.co.uk</u>

## RAIOMOND MIRZA - Producer

Raiomond wears many hats – composer, producer and writer and his list of credits covers film, television, radio, theatre and multimedia works. His critically acclaimed feature film FOUR stars Bafta winner Martin Compston as well as the thriller/drama icons Craig Conway, Sean Pertwee and Kierston Wareing. Currently Four is being distributed by High Fliers in the UK, by AT Entertainment in Japan and the rest of the world sales are being handled by WTF of France. Raiomond's documentary feature film African Raga, the untold story of Indians in Africa has already garnered significant public attention and documentary mavericks Autlook Films have a first look deal. Raiomond is Executive Producer for Chicken the directorial debut of Joe Stephenson, starring Yasmin Paige (Submarine) and Peccadillo Pictures has issued an LOI for the film. Universal Studios have also confirmed participation in Strangeways Here We Come produced by Raiomond and Stephen Lord and directed by Paul Walker. As a composer Raiomond has scored over 30 international projects for films, radio, theatre, and TV including BBC, Channel 4 and ITV. His music is available on ITUNES, AMAZON, SPOTIFY and LAST.FM. His last commercial for Nokia has racked up an immediate fan base on the internet. Please visit www.ohmyproductions.co.uk

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