

DORIA  
TILLIER

NICOLAS  
BEDOS

„Die schönste Liebesgeschichte des Jahres!“  
VARIETY

# Die Poesie der Liebe

Ein Film von  
NICOLAS BEDOS

DORIA TILLIER, ANTOINE GOMY, CHRISTIANE MILLET,  
PASCAL ARNO, ZABOU BRETTMAN, JULIEN BOISSELIER

DEMNÄCHST IM KINO



**poly**film

# **DIE POESIE DER LIEBE**

**Ein Film von**

Nicolas Bedos

**mit**

Nicolas Bedos,

Doria Tillier, Denis Podalydès

u.a.

**AB 21. DEZEMBER 2018 IM KINO**

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## FILMDATEN

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<b>FILMTITEL</b>	DIE POESIE DER LIEBE
<b>ORIGINALTITEL</b>	Monsieur & Madame Adelman
<b>REGIE</b>	Nicolas Bedos
<b>BUCH</b>	Nicolas Bedos, Doria Tillier
<b>PRODUKTIONS- UND JAHR</b>	Frankreich 2017
<b>LAUFLÄNGE</b>	115 Minuten
<b>GENRE</b>	Liebeskomödie / Drama
<b>SPRACHFASSUNGEN</b>	1. Deutsch, 2. Französisch mit deutschen Untertiteln
<b>BILD- UND TONFORMAT</b>	1:85 Scope, Dolby 5.1
<b>FSK-FREIGABE</b>	tba
<b>KINOSTART ÖSTERREICH</b>	21. Dezember 2018
<b>FILMVERLEIH ÖSTERREICH</b>	Polyfilm
<b>DREHZEITRAUM</b>	2016
<b>DREHORTE</b>	Frankreich
<b>PRODUKTION</b>	Les Films du Kiosque, Frankreich

## BESETZUNG

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<b>VICTOR ADELMAN</b>	Nicolas Bedos
<b>SARAH ADELMAN</b>	Doria Tillier
<b>DER PSYCHOLOGE</b>	Denis Podalydès
<b>DER JOURNALIST</b>	Antoine Gouy
<b>SYLVIE DE RICHEMONT</b>	Christiane Millet
<b>CLAUDE DE RICHEMONT</b>	Pierre Arditi
<b>u.a.</b>	

## STAB

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<b>PRODUKTION</b>	Les Films du Kiosque, France 2 Cinéma, Orange Studio
<b>PRODUZENTEN</b>	François Kraus, Denis Pineau-Valencienne
<b>BUCH &amp; REGIE</b>	Nicolas Bedos in Zusammenarbeit mit Doria Tillier
<b>KAMERA</b>	Nicolas Bolduc
<b>SCHNITT</b>	Anny Danchè, Marie Silvi
<b>TON</b>	Marc-Antoine Beldent, Séverin Favriau, Jean-Paul Hurier
<b>MUSIK</b>	Philippe Kelly, Nicolas Bedos
<b>AUSSTATTUNG</b>	Karen Muller Serreau

## AUSZEICHNUNGEN (Auswahl)

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<b>COLCOA-Festival Los Angeles</b>	Publikumspreis
<b>French Film Festival UK</b>	Official Selection
<b>César Award</b>	Nominierung für Doria Tillier als Beste Hauptdarstellerin
<b>French Film Festival U.S.</b>	Official Selection

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## SYNOPSIS

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Sarah und Victor lernen sich Anfang der Siebzigerjahre in einem Pariser Nachtclub kennen. Für Sarah ist es Liebe auf den ersten Blick, während Victor sich anfangs noch nicht zu entscheiden wagt. Bald trennen sich ihre Wege wieder und es deutet zunächst nichts darauf hin, dass sie am Ende beinahe ein halbes Jahrhundert zusammen durchs Leben gehen werden. Doch Sarahs Charme und Intelligenz kann sich der ambitionierte Victor nicht lange entziehen. Sie heiraten schließlich und gründen eine Familie.

Gemeinsam durchleben sie Jahrzehnte voller Leidenschaft, Geheimnisse, Nähe und Distanz. Victor steigt schnell zum gefeierten Schriftsteller auf, während Sarah in seinem Schatten ein scheinbar unspektakuläres Leben führt. Victors Erfolg verdankt die Familie ein sorgenfreies Leben und gesellschaftliche Anerkennung. Doch nach und nach stellt sich heraus, wer tatsächlich hinter dem raketenhaften Aufstieg des Schriftstellers Adelman stand.

Der Film erzählt die Geschichte der einen großen Liebe, einer Liebe wie eine Urgewalt im Lauf der Zeit.



## PRESSESTIMMEN ZU „DIE POESIE DER LIEBE“

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*„Die schönste Liebesgeschichte des Jahres!“ – **Variety***

*„Doria Tillier ist eine Sensation!“ – **Le Figaro***

*„Ein berührender Film.“ – **Femme Actuelle***

*„Ein Meisterwerk über die Ehe zwischen Romantik, Humor und Drama.“ – **Closer***

*„Grandiose Romantik für die Leinwand!“ – **The Hollywood Reporter***

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## NICOLAS BEDOS – BUCH, REGIE, HAUPTDARSTELLER

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Nicolas Bedos

Nicolas Bedos wurde 1980 in Neuilly-sur-Seine, Frankreich geboren. Neben kleineren Auftritten im französischen Fernsehen verfasste Bedos anfangs auch Kolumnen u.a. für die ELLE und die MARIANNE. Größere Aufmerksamkeit erlangte er in Frankreich als Theaterregisseur. Für seine Leistung wurde er bereits zweimal für den renommierten Molières-Award nominiert. Er schrieb bereits einige Drehbücher für Fernseh- und Kinofilme. Zudem ist er ein erfolgreicher Romanautor. Sein letztes Werk „La Tête Ailleurs“ verkaufte sich in Frankreich über 120.000 mal.

Mit seinem Regiedebüt DIE POESIE DER LIEBE stellt er sich nun auch dem deutschen Publikum vor.

### FILMOGRAPHIE

#### **Buch & Regie**

Die Poesie der Liebe (*Monsieur & Madame Adelman, auch Hauptdarsteller, 2017*)

#### **Buch (Auswahl)**

Final Flourish (*Fernsehfilm, 2011*)

The Players (*2012*)

Love is in the Air (*auch Hauptdarsteller, 2014*)

Hopefully (*2015*)

## **DORIA TILLIER – BUCH, HAUPTDARSTELLERIN**

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Doria Tillier

Doria Tillier wurde 1986 in Paris geboren. Nach einem Studium der Angewandten Wissenschaften besuchte sie von 2008 bis 2010 die Schauspielschule von H el ene Zidi. In dieser Zeit drehte sie bereits einige Werbefilme und erhielt Nebenrollen in gr o eren Produktionen. Ab 2010 hatte sie immer wieder Auftritte in bekannten franz osischen Fernsehformaten. In *DIE POESIE DER LIEBE*  ubernahm sie ihre erste Hauptrolle und schrieb das Drehbuch zusammen mit Bedos. F ur die Rolle der Sarah wurde sie 2018 f ur den C esar-Award nominiert.

### **FILMOGRAPHIE (Auswahl)**

*Die Poesie der Liebe (Monsieur & Madame Adelman, weibliche Hauptrolle und Drehbuch, 2017)*

### **AUSZEICHNUNGEN**

2018 C esar-Award, Nominierung Beste Hauptdarstellerin

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## INTERVIEW MIT NICOLAS BEDOS

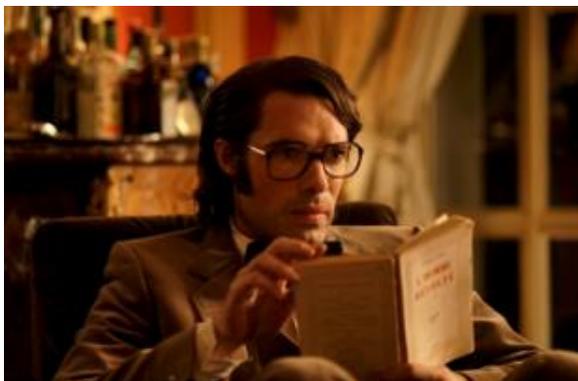
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### **Why did you embark on this film?**

I've dreamed of directing films since the age of 13. I came at it in a roundabout way – theater, television, writing screenplays, a few cinema roles – but I don't regret that, because it gave me plenty of time to find out exactly what kind of film I wanted to make. Then there was Doria Tillier. She gave me the courage to stick at it. We have the same cinematographic references. So we fashioned the film and the roles we'd always dreamed of.

### **Where did the idea for “Mr & Mrs Adelman” come from?**

It all started with some improvisations that Doria and I have been messing around with for years, just for fun, to exorcise our anxieties about the future, family, getting old, infidelity, and so on. We ended up inventing a whole gallery of fairly monstrous characters: The husband afflicted with Alzheimer, whose wife is manipulating him in revenge for past betrayals, or the couple who get rid of one of their children to reinvigorate their sex life. All perfectly well-balanced folk! Our improvises would sometimes last for hours. We would bring forth these sort of avatars to spare us from an argument, a ruined evening, or a disastrous weekend. For Doria, whose shyness sometimes even prevents her speaking, the transformation was quite spectacular. By slipping into the role of a libidinous old woman, a skank from Nice, or a North African girl from the projects, everything in her changed: Her face, her voice. Our rantings allowed us to tackle serious topics through the prism of humor. One evening, Doria told me she'd written down some of our improvisations, and that she thought it could serve as the basis for writing a film. We started from there, but very soon we moved away from that. We tried to put together a sort of sociological study of the couple, by noting some constants among our friends and parents. As is often the case, the film draws a line between personal concerns, our own fantasies, and some more universal considerations. Strangely, although the film stretches over 45 years, the structure emerged quite naturally very early on.



### **You decided to make Victor Adelman a writer.**

#### **Why was that?**

The main subject is not so much the writer but his wife. We drew inspiration for the character of Sarah from several “women in the shadows”, those who operate in the background and often maintain a very ambivalent relationship with their partner's notoriety. I was thinking of the women in the lives of Paul Morand, Saint-Exupéry, Céline, Picasso, and I grew up worshipping Simone de Beauvoir. On another level, we wanted to work with a very

creative couple: Sarah and Victor act out their own story; fictionalize what they live through, and live out their novels.

### **Why did you choose the medium of cinema, and not a novel or the stage to tell your story?**

The first text I ever wrote was a screenplay. I was 13. It was full of clichés and rotten dialog. Around the age of 20, I nearly directed my first film, adapted from one of my short stories. After months of preparation, the lead actress dropped out and it all fell apart. I took it very badly. After another aborted project, I turned to the stage. That was where I found my voice. The success of one of my plays put me in the limelight, and somewhat by accident, I found myself appearing on TV. This sudden fame allowed me to reconsider some film projects. So in short, I'm an old young director! And then there's my relationship with Doria and her desire to make movies. We both have a weakness for epic films, with rich narrative frameworks, so we naturally gravitated towards that genre.

**It was the first time you've written with a partner – what was it like?**

Doria made me want to surprise and amaze her. The ideas flowed from there. We came up with most of the narrative structure together. She sat at the computer while I improvised out loud. Since I had enormous trust in her instinct, sometimes she just had to frown, or not laugh, and I would ditch a scene or rework a piece of dialog. The truth is, we disagree on just about everything except our creative work! What's more, I noticed that we were particularly inspired by each other's character, Doria having a very clear idea of how Victor should develop, and me having a strong take on Sarah. Our distance vis-à-vis the other was a rich source for the script, and during the shoot. I was obsessed by Sarah, to the point where Doria often had to remind me not to neglect Victor. She encouraged me to explore, through Victor, some darker feelings – jealousy, bitterness, perversity – that I had a lot of fun acting out. I think the film owes a lot to her, notably in terms of the balance in the relationships. Writing together was swift and joyful. That said, I needed solitude to rewrite the dialog. For that, I need to be alone.

**How much of the film is autobiographical, either of the two of you, or separately?**

The fact that we based our characters from the outset on our improvisations immediately moves it away from autobiographical fiction. And then, for a whole section of the film, our characters are twice our age. We don't have any children, and I'm not yet an old member of the French Academy who's bitter and impotent. But there are always personal or family memories which feed the narrative. For example, it wasn't hard for me to produce a satire of the so-called "Champagne" socialists. Not to mention whatever one projects in a totally subconscious manner. But the only really major autobiographical element is no doubt Sarah and Victor's tendency to theatricalize their lives. We're both guilty of that neurosis.

**From theatricality, to provocation, or even transgression, is often only a short step, and one that you dare to take. Certain scenes in your film, like those of a father's anger towards his son, or the gigolo which he gives his wife as a birthday gift, might shock some.**

Doria did a lot to temper my natural inclination for provocation. Of all the transgressive ideas and lines that I had, we only retained those which seemed necessary for the narrative. Victor's relationship with his son, which gives rise to several unbearable scenes, illustrates something we had observed in a hyperbolic way: that intellectuals project a great deal on their offspring. Out of sheer narcissism, they hope they have brought another Rimbaud or Rubinstein into the world. Except they put so much pressure on them, they end up producing weedy teenagers. As for the scene with the gigolo, it is typical of Victor and his need to theatricalize his crises. It's his way of saying to his wife: "Look where we're at! See how I'm suffering! Desire me, love me!" And I hope it works as a comedy scene!

**Did you ask yourself how far is too far?**

As long as it makes me laugh or I think it rings true, I try to avoid asking that question. In any case, you can't predict what will or will not shock the audience, not least because there are several audiences. My job is to be sincere and audacious. That's the only rule I impose on myself when I write a book, a play, or an article. One thing is sure, neither Doria nor I had the slightest wish to tip into the blissful idealism of the traditional "romantic comedy". Not that we reject lyricism, tenderness, or melodrama – on the contrary, my film is above all a great love story. But in real life, it is not unusual for an "I love you" to be followed by a snarl.

**The film does not make your character the real hero; was that a deliberate choice?**

The film is a tribute to women, to those in love. I was raised in the company of women, with a mother and three sisters. It was they who taught me the most and understood me best. It's them I

am interested in, and for my first film, it's first and foremost Sarah who I wanted to deal with. It is she who supports Victor from the start of the story till the end. From the day she first meets him, Sarah fantasizes about this guy whom she insists on seeing as she dreamt he would be. Except that the reality is, of course, a lot less flattering. The more Sarah blossoms – physically and mentally – the more Victor loses his footing, not to mention his hair. The feelings they have for each other are continually fluctuating in intensity, crossing over, never in phase. I wanted to deal with this disparity, which goes up and down and pollutes all our relationships. Meanwhile Victor, through lack of self-confidence and for reasons the spectator only discovers right at the end of the film, can't stop himself from testing his wife's feelings for him. That's the nub of the film. Without Victor's excesses and faults, there wouldn't be a film, because it's the story of a fragile man who would have gone nowhere in life without the intelligence and encouragement of his wife.

### **Is it a film about love or about artistic creativity?**

The two are intimately linked. There are films in which characters are subjected to the screenplay. In mine, they write it.

### **Is "Mr & Mrs Adelman" a romantic film?**

What is romantic is how Sarah decided, for almost metaphysical reasons, to tie her fate to that of one man. The film takes great delight in showing the inventiveness they employ to win through even the toughest of trials. They turn their story into an esthetic object. That goes far beyond sentimentality. The film alternates between the rosy and the black from beginning to end.

### **Let's talk about your role as an actor. When writing the film, you were on familiar ground. But interpreting a role like that was more challenging for you, especially with the problem of the character ageing, and the inherent risk of caricature.**

If Doria and I had been aware of the difficulties involved in the ageing, we'd never have written this film! It was while we were raising the finances that I started to fret about it. I'd never seen a convincing example of prosthetic ageing in French cinema. We therefore had to experiment with new methods and new prosthetic materials. The involvement of special effects supervisor Guillaume Castagné was decisive. He and his crew were involved from an early stage. Doria and I tested dozens of faces and necks. It was a challenge for all of us. In any case, I wouldn't have filmed a single scene before we'd done some convincing tests. I'll spare you the problems in terms of budget and work schedule this caused. Every day, the transformation of Doria took around seven hours, and around six for me. After which, we'd film for around 12 hours to get the most out of each make-up session. We were getting no sleep. The upside was that the exhaustion and shakiness associated with old age required very little acting effort. The prostheses were heavy, the make-up products irritated, especially the filler for the hands, which took my skin off. On top of that, we were totally infantilized by the dressers, who, to prevent any damage to our painted nails (and teeth), would not even allow us to do simple tasks, like fastening a shirt button or lacing our shoes. We ended up actually taking ourselves for our characters. Moreover, during the whole "old age" part, the crew left us to have lunch alone.

### **How did Doria manage the stress, given that it's her first big-screen role?**

By working her butt off. She signed back up to her former drama school for a few months. In parallel, she worked with a coach. On set, she was concentrating so hard that we hardly spoke beyond the acting instructions. I should confess that I was sometimes quite hard on her. The paradox is that we were often in erotic scenes, but there is nothing less sexy than an obsessive director who's on your case from morning till night. I knew that my exigency was at times hard for her, but I was more worried that one day she might reproach me for not having got the most out of her ability. So the shoot was both fascinating and at the same time quite traumatic. I realized later during the editing that my demands on her had sometimes been unfair. Instead of the 15 takes that I demanded for a given scene, two would have been enough. Or maybe three...

### **Why did you want to also co-write the film's music?**

My producers introduced me to Philippe Kelly, the co-composer, with whom I shut myself away for the whole summer to create, somewhat haphazardly, the soundtrack I'd dreamed of. In my view, if

the opening credits say “a film by”, it might as well really be by me from start to finish. Then if the film is bad, I can’t blame anyone else. As much as I claim full authorship of my plays and books, in cinema, I have participated in projects which in the end have been largely excised of the elements that I felt closest to. Hence my distrust and difficulty in delegating. On that point, I’ve just invested in some editing software.

### **Has “Mr & Mrs Adelman” turned you into a cineaste?**

One does not become a cineaste after directing one film. A cineaste is someone who has their own style, and that style emerges and becomes clear over several films. The question is rather whether I can continue to exercise this profession, and the answer depends on the success or failure of “Mr & Mrs Adelman”. My future depends on that. If my work is well received, then yes, I’ll carry on trying to become a cineaste. And I’ll write books, too, because writing doesn’t cost anyone anything. No one comes and reads over your shoulder. One thing is sure, I have just fulfilled the dream of the film-mad youngster I was aged 15.

## **INTERVIEW MIT DORIA TILLIER**

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### **Where did the idea come from of writing the film as a duo?**

First off, there’s the fact that we have the same tastes. Artistically, we are always in tune, on whether a line is a funny, or the merits of a film poster or a decorative object. And since I’ve known Nicolas, one of our favorite games is improvising. We would create characters, and then invent stories to try and add a splash of color in life. Once, I was a withered old lady whose cynical grandson wanted her to change her will in his favor; another time, he was rather dumb-ass

blogger who was hitting on me online and who was trying to convince me that his seedy site was going to go viral. After a while, without really meaning to, we ended up inventing a range of fairly well-developed sketch characters and some hilarious situations. We both loved the idea of making a film. Although in the end, there’s practically nothing left of our improvisations in the film.

### **“Mr & Mrs Adelman” covers 45 years in a couple’s life. You and Nicolas are in your thirties, so writing this meant projecting yourselves a long way into the future.**

That’s true. Fortunately, you don’t have to have experienced things to write about them. There’s also what you observe with others: Our parents, our friends, our reading. And then, I find that projecting into the future helps you to perceive the present. What’s more, Nicolas may only be in his 30s, but he has read, written, and lived a lot. He has a surprisingly mature take on things in life. As for me, I adore inventing old lady characters, which I used to do often during our improvisations. That must have inspired Nicolas to imagine me in my seventies.

### **What autobiographical elements did you put into Victor and Sarah Adelman?**

None of the situations took place as they do in the film. But yes, certain ideas are an extrapolation of situations observed in those around us, or even experienced by us. I’d say the character of Victor shares with Nicolas his passion, his excessiveness, and his humor, which can be suddenly light in a serious, profound situation. During scenes, I often found I could hear Nicolas’s voice in Victor’s lines. But fortunately, Nicolas is less neurotic and a bit more mature. As for my character, the young Sarah on the surface doesn’t seem very sure of herself, whereas in fact, she knows what she wants and what she’s worth. She is clumsy in her interaction with others, but inside, she’s quite balanced, stays focused, and is sure-footed. I’m a bit like that.

**It was quite a big risk for you to play Sarah. Not only have you never taken on a role of that scale, but you jump into the unknown by portraying 45 years of a woman's life, whereas you've barely lived half of that. How did you approach that challenge?**

I realize now that it was a bit risky. But it was precisely the breadth of the role that motivated me to work. I'm quite obsessive and I've got a "good student" side which meant I put in a huge amount of preparation to overcome the stress. For example, before the shoot I went back to my old drama school just to get back into the groove. Behind my fun-loving appearance, I can be very demanding and serious – sometimes too much. During preparation, of course I sometimes panicked at the idea of taking on such a big role, but once on set, it all seemed less scary. Perhaps because I liked my character and I enjoyed interpreting her. The notion of pleasure is quite important for me. The pleasure I derived from being Sarah replaced my fear.



**Did playing Sarah as she aged pose any special problems?**

Strangely, I found it harder playing Sarah when she was young. I loved the older Sarah, with her natural authority and her distance on things. I suppose the more you like a character, the better you play them. And as I said, I love transforming myself. Slipping inside the skin of someone who is not at all like me is easier than just being myself. It was just a question of not forcing the traits. The Sarah at the end of the film is not an old lady. She's a woman of today aged 70, in pretty good shape and well preserved. As soon as I realized that I wouldn't have to act with a stick and use a croaky voice, but simply apply my gestures and my voice more calmly, it all came quite naturally.

**What was Nicolas like on set?**

I was amazed by his professionalism as a director. He never gave up on a good idea, even when it seemed unfeasible. And if it really was unfeasible, then he'd find another good idea. He was very clear on what he wanted, while at the same time accepting other opinions. He always listened to proposals, but didn't allow himself to be influenced and managed to stick to his own judgment, despite the fatigue and the stress. He might have been at the end of his tether, but he kept his head. That's why we all had faith in him: We were aware that we were working with someone passionate who knew where they were headed. The crew were admirable. No one ever complained about the hours, which were sometimes quite tough. It's a film with many sequences, many period sets, all very different. So we had to keep up the pace to respect the schedule. Nicolas succeeded in carrying everyone along on the adventure. What was special for me was being under his orders. When you know someone intimately and you're on an equal footing with them, it's hard to accept that at certain moments, you must consider them as your "superior". This sometimes jarred with my sensitivities. But that little ego problem disappeared during my scenes with him, because as an actor, Nicolas is very generous with his partner and totally uninhibited. That relaxed attitude helped me a lot.

**Let's return to the script. What did you find most interesting in the writing process?**

Imagining the effects time can have on a couple, and how one's ideals change over time; money, success or failure. What was also quite fun was imagining how to make each situation into something extraordinary, such as when they meet the parents, the infidelities, the children, money, separation, reconciliation. These things are common to many couples, but we tried to imagine them in a more fictionalized way.

**Certain sequences, like the one in which Victor expresses his exasperation about his son, or when he puts a gigolo in Sarah's bed, are anything but politically correct. Is that just pure provocation? Weren't you afraid of the reactions you might have from more virtuous types?**

I'd agree that the film is not consensual, but it is soft compared to some of the ideas we had but left on the roadside to stay in the realm of realism. As for the sequences you mention, they might seem controversial because you don't always see such things in movies, but that exists in real life. I think they're authentic in terms of what they say about a couple going off the rails. What disturbs me is gratuitous posturing. But apart from that, not much shocks me, so I'm maybe not best placed to say if it's politically correct or not.

**The screenplay gives Sarah the central role as a woman, because she is the one driving the couple. Did you see it as a concealed declaration of love?**

It's a declaration of love in general. Whether I received it as a personal declaration, I'm not yet sure. We'll see in 20 years' time.

**Where did your desire to write first come from?**

I've always loved words and stories. At one time, I used to write lots of poems about my friends, and about predicaments, because short formats suited me well. But writing a film was a different matter. Without Nicolas, I would no doubt never have had the courage nor the skill. He has much more experience, capacity for work, and talent than me when it comes to writing. Why do I like writing? No doubt because with the spoken word, one is hurried by an interlocutor, a framework. With writing, you're free, and so you express yourself more freely.

**Why then did you happen to choose cinema?**

First off, because I don't think I have the qualities of a novelist. And also because I'm an actress. I want to act. Also because cinema, more than other forms of expression, involves a variety of activities, and I love having a go at lots of things. I like making things, I like the "artisanal" side of



filmmaking. When I used to do the weather, I liked taking charge of the whole thing: I would write, I would present, and I would direct. The day I needed a 3D model for a sketch in which I parodied the science show "C'est pas Sorcier", I was delighted to spend the day on all fours with a load of cardboard, glue and paint to make it myself. In this case, Nicolas and I had the idea for "Mr & Mrs Adelman", and we saw it through. We both like doing things from A to Z. If I was a musician, I would also have helped him write the music.

**Did you play a part in directing?**

No. He was clearly the director. But I loved it when he asked my opinion. When we were writing, we thought a lot about the camera positions and the rhythm. We both give great importance to the image, including the more geeky aspects of that. We spent a whole summer watching films focusing on the image to find our director of photography, trying to understand the impact of a particular set or color of clothing, or of particular lighting on the mood of a scene. I found that aspect of directing a film fascinating. For me, it was a fantastic observation internship.

**What did you ultimately want to convey through this film?**

At first glance, it's a love story that shows how people can love for a long time, despite all the traumas, wounds, and even periods falling out of love. But on another level, I think we wanted to make a film about fantasy and reality. There's also that notion of "living for one's biography". It sometimes happens that we do or say things because we want to be remembered as someone who did this or said that. In this case, Sarah and Victor are writers, and one might wonder if their life doesn't act as the draft for a novel. In my view, "Mr & Mrs Adelman" is a film about "stories" in the wider sense.

**How do you feel now this adventure is over?**

Very happy. I expected to be exhausted, because the shoot was very tiring, especially when Sarah was older. It took seven hours to do my make-up. Some mornings, I had to arrive at three in the morning to shoot at 10am, and then we finished late. I was sometimes on the job for 19 hours at a stretch. Yet it was intoxicating. I didn't think I'd be so passionate about this job. So my fatigue evaporated very quickly, and now I'm looking forward to doing it all over again.



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