

# Dirty Laundry, Wonder and Zola Budd

By Daniel Dercksen

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A chopped-off finger that is found in a client's suit's jacket in a laundromat unleashes a laugh riot in the local film *Vuil Wasgoed*, a mother must make tough choices if she ever wants to see her son again in *Kidnap*, a young Tunisian woman has to fight for her rights and her dignity in *Beauty And The Dogs*, a young boy with facial differences and all around him are transformed by the things that count most in *Wonder*, Dan Gordon's striking documentary *The Fall* depicts the lives of world-renowned athletes Zola Budd and Mary Decker, and Barbie and her sisters visit Ken at his summer internship where he works at a coral reef researching dolphins in *Barbie: Dolphin Magic*.

#### **Vuil Wasgoed**

Screenwriters Bennie Fourie and Bouwer Bosch are passionate about comedy and are convinced the film will be a fresh addition to the Afrikaans comedy genre. The film is written by Fourie, the writer of the short film as well as the creator and co-writer of the kykNET comedy-series *Hotel*. Fourie is responsible for many quips in the film and came up with the Afrikaans version of the tagline in a Wimpy one day: 'Dankie dat jy hier was'.

Morné du Toit tackles his third film as director of *Vuil Wasgoed*. Previous successes include *Hoofmeisie*, as well as *Nul is nie niks nie*. The film is screened in Afrikaans with English subtitles.

#### **Kidnap**

An innocent day in the park turns tragic when Karla (Halle Berry) frantically looks and sees two strangers shoving her sixyear-old son Frankie (Sage Correa) into the back of a car and speed off. No licence plate and no cellphone to call the police, Karla must pursue her son on her own. In what becomes a high-speed chase and a fuel gauge creeping dangerously close to empty, Karla must make tough choices if she ever wants to see her son again. Directed by Luis Prieto, the screenplay was written by Knate Gwaltney, best known for his work on the Jackass films and TV show.

# **Beauty And The Dogs**

During a student party, a young Tunisian woman, Mariam, meets the mysterious Youssef and leaves with him. A long night will begin, during which she'll have to fight for her rights and her dignity. But how can Justice be made when it lies on the side of the tormentors?

Director and screenwriter Kaouther Ben Hania was born in Sidi Bouzid, Tunisia. Following film studies at the Ecole des Arts et du Cinéma in Tunis, she studied scriptwriting at La Fémis in Paris.

## Wonder

Based on the New York Times bestseller, *Wonder* tells the inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman. Born with facial differences that, up until now, have prevented him from going to a mainstream school, Auggie becomes the most unlikely of heroes when he enters the local fifth grade.

Golden Globe nominee Jacob Tremblay (*Room*) tackles the one-of-a-kind role of Auggie alongside Julia Roberts and Owen Wilson. The film is directed by Stephen Chbosky (*The Perks of Being a Wallflower*), who, along with Steven Conrad and Jack Thorne adapted R.J. Palacio's bestseller.

### The Fall

Dan Gordon's striking documentary depicts the lives of world-renowned athletes Zola Budd and Mary Decker. With exclusive signed access to Budd and Decker, as well as a wide cast of people who have never revealed their story before, this multi-layered epic narrative interweaves unique testimonial interview with the rich significant archive, anchoring each point of the journey in its social and political context.

### **Barbie: Dolphin Magic**

Barbie: Dolphin Magic is the 36th movie in the Barbie film series. Barbie and her sisters visit Ken at his summer internship where he works at a coral reef researching dolphins in this fun, underwater adventure. While diving and exploring, the sisters discover rare, rainbow-coloured dolphins, which only visit once a year.

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#### ABOUT DANIEL DERCKSEN

Daniel Dercksen has been a contributor for Lifestyle since 2012. As the driving force behind the successful independent training initiative The Writing Studio and a published film and theatre journalist of 40 years, teaching workshops in creative writing, playwriting and screenwriting throughout South Africa and internationally the past 22 years. Visit www.writingstudio.co.za

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