



Claude Lelouch presents

# AMONG ADULTS

(ENTRE ADULTES)

A FILM BY  
STÉPHANE BRIZÉ

Six women and six men...



Twelve adults who love, lie, manipulate, cheat, trust and break up. So goes life...

## director's note



### What was your point of departure in making this film ?

A little before the shooting of my previous film, "Not Here To Be Loved", the idea of using actors starting out in the world of cinema was suggested to me. The rules of the game were simple. We would use two video cameras, a microphone and spend four days on the shoot. I set about writing a screenplay in which I imposed certain constraints upon myself. Firstly, the film would be directed quickly with a modest budget that was given to me, and secondly that each actor would have nearly the same amount of time on screen. The final result was a film written in 10 days, shot in four days and edited in four days.

### What is your vision of couples ?

My characters resemble us. They do the best they can in their lives. It is important to be humble. A love relationship, in my eyes, requires daily reflection. You may have difficulties in expressing feelings, you might wake up one morning and find you don't love the person beside you, or you may be suffering with someone, but are unable to leave them, you might constantly reproduce the same pattern and unconsciously impose a break-up, or perhaps you may not be in love with the person with whom you are living, or love one person while longing for another. All these scenarios are possible with just a little dash of cowardice to deal with our conscience. This is what I'm transcribing. Sometimes it's difficult, sometimes it's cruel, but sometimes it's funny.

### Can you say something about the narrative structure of the film ?

The structure of the film is directly inspired by "La Ronde", the play by Schnitzler and directed by Max Ophuls. I only retained the structure of the story, but not the fundamental storyline, even though I deal with couples in relationship. To be honest, the structure was the result of the filming constraints which took place in just four days, and my wish to offer my actors more screen presence. The scenes of couples followed by scenes with the same characters in the two successive sequences came from that idea. The constraint defined the structure. And oddly enough, I never felt so free.

### As we watch the film, we have the sense that the actors are improvising their text.

Yet everything was written beforehand. However, I generally give the actors their text very late... an hour before the shoot and asked them to get a feel for the structure of the film and not the words. That way nobody shows up on the set with preconceived ideas. The goal is to simply listen to each other and be surprised. With my camera, what interests me, is to capture life... silence... hesitation... a miraculous moment, while all the time being perfectly aware of my starting point, where I am going and where I've been.

Stéphane Brizé



## cast

In order of appearance

Edith MÈRIEAU  
 Vincent DUBOIS  
 Jeanne FERRON  
 Philippe FAUCONNIER  
 Céline GORGET  
 Vincent ROCHER  
 France DUCATEAU  
 Cyril COUTON  
 Charlotte SMITHER  
 Karim HAMMICHE  
 Véronique DOSSETTO  
 Dominique COQUELIN



## crew

Director and screenplay  
 Dir. of photography  
 Sound

Music

Editing  
 Producer  
 Associated producer  
 Production company

Stéphane BRIZÉ  
 Hervé PORTANGUEN  
 Emmanuelle VILLARD  
 Hervé GUYADER  
 Emmanuel CROSET  
 Frédéric FORTUNY  
 Fabrice DUMONT  
 Alban TEURLAI  
 Claude LELOUCH  
 Simon LELOUCH  
 LES FILMS 13

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