



# *Beyond Clueless*

'Vibrant, funny and subversive... Interpretative analysis at its most engaging and evocative'  
**DAZED AND CONFUSED**

'Beyond Clueless deconstructs cliques, party scenes, and devirginations, while also serving  
as an irresistible guide to the best (and worst-best) teen movies ever'  
**NEW YORK MAGAZINE**

'The ultimate movie about teen movies'  
**i-D**

*On tour from January 13<sup>th</sup> · In UK cinemas January 23<sup>rd</sup>*

Written, directed and edited by Charlie Lyne.

89 minutes

Rated 15 for strong sex, bloody violence,  
strong language and drug use.

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## SYNOPSIS

Narrated by cult teen star Fairuza Balk, *Beyond Clueless* is a dizzying journey into the mind, body and soul of the teen movie, as seen through the eyes of over 200 modern coming-of-age classics.

Part adolescent fever dream, part roving visual essay, the film puts Hollywood's high school under the microscope, on a quest to lay bare the genre's beating heart. Is *The Craft* the ultimate teenage survival guide? Can *Idle Hands* shine a light on the horrors of pubescence? And what's really going on beneath the skin of *EuroTrip*?

All will be revealed as *Beyond Clueless* leads viewers through Hollywood's treacherous teen years and out the other side.

## OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

SXSW Film Festival, Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival, CPH:DOX, Sheffield Doc/Fest, Rio Film Festival, Neuchâtel International Fantastic Film Festival, Docville, Hawaii Film Festival, Atlantic Film Festival, Bergen Film Festival, FesTEEN Madrid, Jerusalem Film Festival, Kerry Film Festival, Dallas VideoFest, Inverness Film Festival, Tempo Documentary Festival, Ilkley Film Festival, Discovery Dundee, Rooftop Melbourne, Latitude Festival, SF IndieFest, Cork Film Festival.



## MAKING THE FILM

*Beyond Clueless* was fully funded by more than 500 Kickstarter backers in January 2013, setting in motion a yearlong production process based entirely out of director Charlie Lyne's bedroom. Some 300 teen movies (on nearly a dozen formats) were closely examined, more than 200 of which made it into the final film.

'The idea was to construct the film entirely out of other films, using no original footage whatsoever,' says director Charlie Lyne, 'so we were presented with the challenge of building an original story with only a few basic elements: film clips; the voice of our incredible narrator Fairuza Balk; and our original music'. Pop duo Summer Camp worked tirelessly to produce the film's score, which would serve as both a classic pop soundtrack and an instrumental bedrock for the film's most ambitious sequences. 'Each bit of music had to serve a very specific emotional arc,' according to Summer Camp's Jeremy Warmesley, 'but beyond that, we had the freedom to take it in any direction we wanted'.

Slowly, *Beyond Clueless* began to take shape, as the filmmakers refined their vision of the movie's structure and style. 'We did away with all the talking head interviews and anecdotal stories,' says producer Anthony Ing, 'so that all that remained was our universe: the world of the Hollywood teen movie'.

Acclaimed illustrator Hattie Stewart came on board at the beginning of 2014 to provide the film's title design, drawing inspiration from teen movie title sequences and her own teenage sketchbook to create a visual aesthetic all the film's own. In total, *Beyond Clueless* was the work of eight individuals — a tight-knit clique of self-professed teen movie obsessives.





## LAUNCHING THE FILM

*Beyond Clueless* premiered at SXSW in March 2014, as part of the festival's Visions strand. With zero marketing spend, the film was singled out by publications including New York Magazine, The Guardian, Screen International, Sight & Sound and Indiewire. After a series of sold-out screenings, the film was picked up for distribution in multiple territories.

*Beyond Clueless* has gone on to screen at more than twenty international film festivals, including three of the world's leading documentary festivals: HotDocs, Sheffield Doc/Fest and CPH:DOX. At HotDocs, the film placed second in the Filmmaker-To-Filmmaker rankings, voted for by participating documentary filmmakers, while at the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Dallas VideoFest, the film won the Metta Media Award for achievement in documentary filmmaking.

Summer Camp have performed their critically acclaimed score live during special screenings of the film staged at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre, London's BFI Southbank and beyond. Dazed and Confused called their performance 'the cherry on top of this vibrant, funny and subversive analysis', while Sight & Sound wrote that 'Summer Camp's moody and evocative score elevates the film from intriguing thesis to arthouse mood piece, their twanging guitars and humming synths all the more hypnotic and enveloping at full volume'.

Along the way, the filmmakers hosted themed frat parties everywhere from Sheffield to Cannes to Toronto, complete with kegs, beer pong and Summer Camp performing a sparkling set of acoustic covers from classic teen movie soundtracks.



80% Fresh — *Rotten Tomatoes*



## UK RELEASE

*Beyond Clueless* will be released in select cinemas across the UK and Ireland on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015. 'We've been telling people about the movie for nearly two years now, updating them through Kickstarter and Twitter as we navigated the increasingly scary worlds of development, editing and distribution,' says director Charlie Lyne. 'It's going to be amazing and slightly terrifying to actually show them *Beyond Clueless* after all this time.'

In the run-up to the release, Lyne will be previewing the film in ten cities from Brighton to Aberdeen. Each preview will feature a Q&A with the director and other guests, as well as after parties and special events in selected cinemas.

From Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, the film will play at the ICA, Glasgow Film Theatre and other cinemas around the country. On Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January, Summer Camp will perform their score to the film at an exclusive live-scored screening at The Dancehouse in Manchester. Throughout the week, cinemas including the Chapter Arts Centre in Cardiff, the QUAD in Derby and the Rio in Dalton will host their own special events around the film, featuring double bills with classic teen movies, themed parties and live music.

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January, the film will expand to sixteen screens across the UK for one night only, as part of Picturehouse Cinemas' Discover Tuesdays strand.

The film's home entertainment release will be announced shortly.





## THE BEYOND CLUELESS TEAM

Charlie Lyne (writer/director/editor/producer) is a columnist for The Guardian and the founder of cult movie blog Ultra Culture. *Beyond Clueless* is his first feature.

Fairuza Balk (narrator) is the star of more than 40 films, including a number of stone-cold teen classics like *The Craft* and *Almost Famous*.

Summer Camp is a pop duo made up of Elizabeth Sankey and Jeremy Warmesley (composers). They have released two critically acclaimed albums since forming in 2009.

Anthony Ing (producer) writes and records electronic music under the name Hometape. His latest release is The Redtube Album, a concept album built entirely from adult video clips.

Billy Boyd Cape (producer) directs music videos for the likes of Mr. Hudson and Jakwob, and in 2012 was featured in the main competition of the BFI Future Film Festival.

Catherine Bray (co-producer) is an award-winning writer and broadcaster. She is currently Editorial Director for Film4 and a regular guest presenter on BBC One's Film 2014.

Hattie Stewart (title designer) is a self-proclaimed 'professional doodler', staff illustrator for Rookie Magazine and one of the fashion world's most in-demand illustrators.

**Please contact [charlie@beyondclueless.co.uk](mailto:charlie@beyondclueless.co.uk) with any enquiries.**