



A short film by Charlotte Verminck

PATHLESS

the road to more

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LOGLINE

After being stranded in a desert, a woman tries to figure out where to go while she continuously receives visions of her liberated, flourishing self.

SYNOPSIS

A poetic translation of the universal feeling at one's unknown next step in life. It connects to the overwhelming periods of doubtful thoughts yet resilient ambition one may encounter. A visual and aural combination of fear yet fearlessness. Though the soliloquy echoes one's inner difficulty, the road of life gives aspiration for more, and that road is pathless.



ABOUT THE FILM

The seed of the film was planted right after Charlotte Verminck graduated college. She used the “desert” metaphor in a poem to express her present feelings. Soon she found out how the message of the literary piece could touch and reach people of any age experiencing an equal state of mind.

Having just graduated, the amount of money in Charlotte’s pockets wasn’t huge. So, she contacted a friend from college, to star in the film, who was immediately down to help on the project and who added her sisters to the team. The film production quickly became a family endeavor; Charlotte’s mom helped her precise the clothing, her grandmother became the script supervisor, and her dad grew into the crew and props driver. In addition, Charlotte got in touch with American composer, Adele Etheridge Woodson, at Film Festival Ghent who also developed a great interest when Charlotte pitched her the film’s idea.

Due to the script being so experimental, Charlotte in all respects wanted the film to have the same unique DNA applying unexpected transitions; using various camera gear; adding an original versatile score; and letting the same person play both the protagonist and antagonist. This experimental way of storytelling linked her passion for poetry and film. The seed sprouted into a flower.

The message in the protagonist’s soliloquy wants to make the viewer aware that the breaks in life aren’t bad things. These moments enter your existence to teach you something. It makes time to analyze where you wish to head next in this world. It’s a blessing to be **“*pathless*”** because it indicates you can go wherever you want to move planting seeds where YOU genuinely desire. In short, this is a love letter to life.

ABOUT THE FILM

Genre

Experimental, drama

Language

English

Running time

4:31 minutes

Shot

October 2021

Shooting Location

Cadzand Beach, The Netherlands



ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Charlotte Verminck is a filmmaker born and raised in Belgium. Ever since she was a little girl, she holds a camera in her hand and carries an intense excitement for visual and written storytelling. Her Shih Tzu dog, whom she considers her muse, got the starring role in the first few video trailers she has ever shot and edited.

Charlotte owns a Bachelor's degree in International Communication and Media. While she completed her studies, Charlotte worked as a video artist for Belgian musician and artist Ozark Henry. She discovered her deep passion for film during her stay in Los Angeles interning at Little Minx, a production company located in Hollywood.

After she graduated, Charlotte immediately started to deepen herself in the world of cinema making her debut with "*Pathless*" taking on the role of writer, director, cinematographer, producer, and editor. She completed this short film without studying at a film school but learned from a cinematography course, online masterclasses, and studying her heroes. She believes that anyone can do anything if one just follows their curiosity while continuing the act of never giving up.





CAST



Bénie Boda is a young Congolese musical polyglot and freelance model raised in Belgium. One of her main goals is to find a way to strengthen intercultural relations and communication between the African continent and the rest of the world. That is why she decided to obtain her Bachelor's degree in International Communication and Media at Thomas More University of Applied Sciences and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in International Relations and Diplomacy at the University of Antwerp.

Bénie grew up in a musical family and attended music school where she learned to play the clarinet and joined the local orchestra with her older sisters. Her excitement to learn new things sparked the motivation to teach herself how to play the guitar and piano through Youtube videos. This has allowed her to sing and create harmonious melodies with her sisters.

Her passion for modeling and fashion only complements her creative mind even more. Although she has always had a strong interest in modeling, it is only two years ago she has actively invested herself in the field when one of her sisters decided to specialize in photography. This has been the debut of her journey as a freelance model. Since then, she has featured in photoshoot projects and has recently starred in the short movie "*Pathless*" which opened the door to explore the world of acting.



MAKE UP / HAIR / STILL PHOTOGRAPHY



Syntyche Boda is a Congolese multi-disciplinary artist raised in Belgium who combines music, singing, photography, and interior design. Syntyche is a self-taught photographer and discovered her passion for photography when she received a Sony camera for her eighteenth birthday. Since then, she has continued to take pictures and self-educating herself. She takes both digital and analog pictures. In March 2019, she held her first photo exhibition in collaboration with Radar Mechelen for their project: Sunderland. She also performed for the first time for the project Work in Progress.

Syntyche comes from a creative family and has been involved in music and singing from an early age. Syntyche started music school at the age of 12. She followed piano, solfège, and later trumpet. Her goal is to bring visual and hearing to a higher level and make people believe in the impossible. Currently, she is working on her project "In my mother's garden" which will be a very personal work combining photography, music, and poetry inspired by nature. Syntyche obtained her Bachelor's degree in interior design at the Thomas More University in Mechelen. Today, she offers interior styling and puts her focus on sustainable design by using natural materials and by recycling.

Christelle Boda was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo and raised in Belgium. She has a Bachelor's degree in Office Management. Besides her interest in International Business, she also has a creative mind. She grew up in a creative family where there was always someone singing, dancing, painting, or making music. During her childhood, she attended a music school where she learned solfège. Later on, she learned to play the piano, guitar, and flute.

In her free time, she likes to play and write music, sing, work on DIY projects and explore the world of photography. She also likes to be involved in different creative projects where she can be in charge of everything business and administration-related. Working on creative projects is also a way for her to share with the world a part of her Congolese culture.



CLOTHING / ART DEPARTMENT



Inge Vrielynck graduated as a visual artist at Atheneum Bruges. The study included architecture, sculpting, painting, drawing, and the art of fashion. Although she decided to work alongside her husband in accounting for the next 20 years, her passion for creating stayed very vividly alive. Now she's a relaxation therapist with a devotion to help and support people on their life path. This life purpose inspires her daughter Charlotte Verminck on a daily basis and makes their interests connect to work on projects together.

Rita Hutsebaut graduated in Women's Aesthetics and has practiced the profession as a hairstyling teacher for 38 years before retiring. During her career, she developed a huge passion for the combination of a unique, artistic hairstyle and avant-garde clothing. The activity allowed her to travel to Chicago to join a Pivot Point training learning more about this creative matter and sharing her art with other international artists. Her immense fascination for creativity has always impressed her granddaughter Charlotte Verminck which makes them collaborate since Charlotte has been very little.

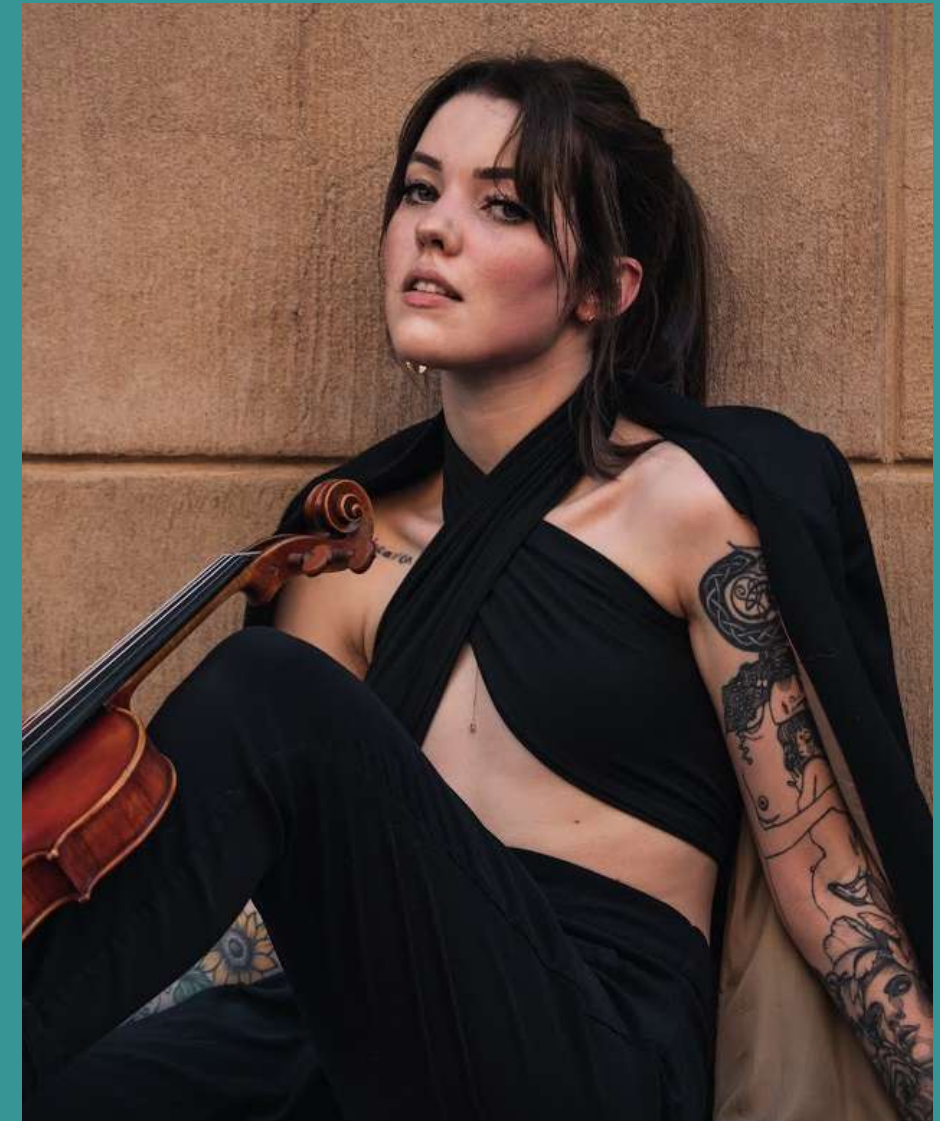


COMPOSER

Adele Etheridge Woodson is a classically trained film and visual media composer. As a film composer, her strengths lie in her versatility and her creativity in fusing music genres.

Adele's array of composition work also includes an art installation for Arizona State University's art museum and scores for varying visual mediums and dancers, but her most impressive feat may be her compositional premieres in Vienna, Austria, New York City, Phoenix, Cleveland, and Nashville.

Her first string quartet, *Humble: Hip Hop Variations on a Theme* by Kendrick Lamar, was premiered by the PHACE Ensemble at Vienna Summer Music Festival. She graduated from the School of Music at Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a certificate in Arts Entrepreneurship. She was also the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate in Creative Work award for the class of 2020.





LINKS

Official trailer "Pathless"

www.vimeo.com/654008063

Official website "Pathless"

www.charlotteverminck.com/pathlesstheshortfilm

Facebook "Pathless"

www.facebook.com/pathlesstheshortfilm

Instagram "Pathless"

www.instagram.com/pathlesstheshortfilm

IMDB "Pathless"

www.imdb.com/title/tt16293954/?ref_=nm_knf_i1



FAQ

How long did it take to make this film?

It took around 4 full months to go from idea to the end of post-production.

What was the biggest obstacle in the making of this film?

Firstly, the entire filmmaking process was very new to everyone in the crew. So, there was a lot of time invested in the act of “figuring out” from every point of view. Secondly, finding a desert-like location in the surroundings of Belgium started as quite a bumpy road. Thirdly, it was very tricky to build a climax in the score while the voice-over still takes on the most important role. But obstacles are here to make your project grow!

What are your goals when you make a film?

My prior goal is to touch the viewer and evoke an emotion paired with transferring the fact there's a bigger purpose in life than just one's daily duties. The human being is here to continue their path of healing, growth, and connection with others. We all experience the same emotions from time to time and we can learn from each other's stories, if we are willing to listen.

What tips would you give to someone making their first short film?

Just do it. Be extremely prepared but also be extremely open to unexpected happenings. Don't dwell on the things that could go wrong. AND believe in yourself and your vision!





CREDITS

Written, Produced, Directed, Cinematography, and Edited by
Charlotte Verminck

Starring
Bénie Boda

Original Soundtrack Composed by
Adele Etheridge Woodson

Hair and Make-Up by
Bénie Boda
Syntyche Boda
Christelle Boda

Costumes by
Inge Vrielynck
Rita Hutsebaut

A short film by Charlotte Verminck

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