CONDITION

A FILM BY ANDREI SEVERNY

TWO WOMEN ESCAPING A CATASTROPHE LOOK
FOR SALVATION IN NATURE AND SOUND

CONTRIBUTIONS

ANDREI SEVERNY
Director, Writer, Cinematographer, Editor
Producer, Editor
Sound Constructions
Assistant Director
Associate Producer
Associate Producer
2nd Assistant Director
Re-Recording Mixer
Hospital Scene Set Design

AMIR NADERI
RICHARD GARET
CHRIS FEDERICO
DAR MESH
IRENE DEL CAMPO
ZACK KIMMEL
ELI COHN
DOUG FITCH

CAST

JESSICA KAYE
ANTONELLA LENTINI
STEVE MOSHIER

CONSULTANTS

DORINNE S. DAVIS M.A., CCC-S, FAAA, RCTC, BARA
ABOU FARMA-FARMAIAN
ORYL GENDER
DR. YUVAL NERIA
RICHARD COLBOURNE
ZACHARY MODEL
LESLEY FLANIGAN
SAM NEAVE

SPECIAL THANKS

EDWARD R. TUFTE
COOK WHITTEN JR.
JOHN ENGLAND
MAYOR AND THE PEOPLE OF
WINTER HARBOR, MAINE
STEVE AND KELLEY BOYD
TANYA HUANG
MAHMOUD HAMADANI
JULIETA TALAVERA
JANICE PEDLEY

AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS DURING TFF:
JESSICA KAYE (ACTRESS) SUN NOV 27 - TUE NOV 29
ANDREI SEVERNY (WRITER/DIRECTOR) FRI NOV 25 - SAT DEC 3

CONTACT: andrei@severny.com
USA +1 646 233 1140   UK +44 20 8123 7120
WWW.SEVERNY.COM
Two women escaping a catastrophe look for salvation in nature and sound.

Escaping a catastrophe, researcher and sound therapist Mary Taggert and her patient Alaska become stranded in the mysterious landscape of the Northern shoreline. Enigmatic Alaska runs away from her doctor, forcing both to look for salvation in nature and sound.

I have been consulting with Mr. Severny to ensure the degree of accuracy of what he presents as to the body's response to sound.

For over twenty years I have been studying the connection between the voice, the ear, and the brain. Each cell in our body is a resonating entity emitting its own sound frequency. These sounds are not "heard" per se by the ear, but are recognized by the quantum movement of our molecules and atoms in the brain. My work is on the cutting edge of how sound can make a major change on how well we maintain our learning, development and overall wellness.

Another meaning of condition, one prominent in the Russian language, is a certain emotional state, non-verbal and transcendent, relating to a nonphysical realm. A good part of the film explores this realm, a space in which, absent of words and dialogue, this more spiritual meaning emerges. Here, narrative is secondary to feeling and atmosphere, expressed in a way possible only in cinema.

I hope the film will evoke multiple interpretations. Perhaps it will encourage one to pause, listen and observe with greater discernment and intensity – to consider how much we have yet to know about the universe and ourselves.

Andrei Severny

The psychological impact of catastrophic events, which are intentionally left undefined, form an important theme of the film. Anywhere in today's world we are subject to stresses caused by man-made disasters such as 9/11, the Madrid train bombing, the Moscow bombings and the Sarin gas attack in Tokyo, none of which belonged to any particular war. This environment creates a certain condition in all of us. In this sense, we are all prone to some form of post-traumatic stress disorder.

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A voice, a few notes, or waves rolling on the shoreline can trigger profound emotions. For many years scientists have been trying to understand the power of sound, which to this day remains a mystery. A handful of researchers today use sound waves to address various illnesses. These practices, however, have not yet been embraced by mainstream medicine. I hope Condition will broaden the dialogue on this subject.

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AMIR NADERI  producer, editor
started his international career in Iran in the 1970s with award-winning films such as *Waiting* and *Requiem*. In the 80s he helped focus international attention on Iranian cinema with acclaimed works such as *The Runner* and *Water, Wind, Dust.* Based in New York City since the late ’80s, Naderi has since made his NY Trilogy: *Manhattan by Numbers* (1993), *A, B, C... Manhattan* (1997), and *Marathon* (2002). His U.S. films have premiered at the Film Society of Lincoln Center, MoMA’s New Films New Director’s series, the Venice, Cannes, Sundance and Tribeca Film Festivals. His Sound Barrier (2005), won the Roberto Rossellini Critics Prize at the Rome Film Festival. His last feature films Vegas: Based on a True Story (2008) and Cut (2011) were in competition at the Venice Film Festival.

FILMOGRAPHY
2011 - Cut
2008 - Vegas: Based on a True Story
2005 - Sound Barrier
2002 - Marathon
1997 - A, B, C... Manhattan
1993 - Manhattan By Numbers
1989 - Water, Wind, Dust
1985 - Davandeh (The Runner)
1981 - Jostuje Doe (Search Two)
1980 - Jostuje Yek (Search One)
1979 - Barandeh (The Winner)
1975 - Marsteh (Requiem)
1974 - Entezar (Waiting)
1973 - Suz Dahani (Harmonica)
1973 - Tangisir
1971 - Tangna (Impasse)
1970 - Goodbye Friend

ANDREI SEVERNY  writer, director, cinematographer, editor
was born in 1977 in Moscow, Russia into a family of astronomers. Since 2004 Severny has lived in New York City where he makes films, still photographs and video installations. Maintaining a recognizable visual style, his works explore human perception, psychology, neuroscience and delve into the mysteries of nature. Severny’s short films *Tom on Mars* and *Disparait* screened at festivals in London, New York, Barcelona, Milan, Kolkata, Avignon and others. Since 2007 Andrei has worked in collaboration with Edward Tufte, the world-renowned master of analytical design. Tufte provided mentorship and support for *Condition*. *Condition* is Andrei Severny’s first feature length film.

FILMOGRAPHY
2011 - Condition (70 min)
2005 - Disparait (5 min)
2005 - Tom on Mars (7 min)

ANTONELLA LENTINI  actress
was born and raised in New York City, Manhattan. She is of Italian, Peruvian and Belgian descent. As a child, she performed, produced and directed her own Charlie Chaplin-esque plays for family friends. After high school she attended New York University’s Gallatin school of individualized study. While attending NYU, she developed her own major, *Screenwriting as a Weapon*, and continued to pursue her acting career by working on student films, shorts, independent feature films, Television, and community theater.

JESSICA KAYE actress
was born in Johannesburg, South Africa and raised in the U.S Midwest. She attended Harvard University, earning a BA magna cum laude in Performance Studies, and Columbia University, MFA in Acting and is pursuing MFA in Film Production at USC School of Cinematic Arts. Ms. Kaye played classical roles in theater such as Miss Julie, Portia, Viola, Nina and Ophelia as well as in premieres of contemporary plays such as *The King is Dead* and *Arttuckers*. She has performed off-Broadway and toured productions in Europe and South Korea. Her film and television credits include, *Veronica Decides to Die*, with Sarah Michelle Gellar. She was the lead actress and producer in the short film *Gargoyle* nominated for a 2010 South African Film and Television Award.

RICHARD GARET composer
was born in Montevideo, Uruguay, and has lived and worked in New York City developing experimental sound and visual artworks based on nature’s processes, observation of relationships between nature and people, and various phenomena found and produced in aural and visual time-based media. His artwork has been shown at San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Museum of Contemporary Art of Barcelona, Art Museum of Puerto Rico, EAC – Espacio de Arte Contemporáneo (Contemporary Museum) of Montevideo.

excerpts from the sonic compositions by Richard Garet used in *Condition*:
*Winter* published by Learraum
*Subtracted* published by White_Line Editions
*For Shimpei Takeda from Intrinsic Motion* published by Non Visual Objects

No musical instruments were used in any of the sounds heard in *Condition*.

THE ROPE MOTIF
The character of Alaska is obsessed with making shapes out of rope as a way to deal with her inner trauma. Later in the film Alaska unties the knots as a symbol of her recovery. During the pre-production Andrei Severny met Orly Genger, the artist famous for her incredible giant hand woven sculptures made of rope. Orly shared some of her skills with Antonella Lentini that she used for the role.

ORYL GENGERT  sculptor
was born in New York City in 1979. She received her BA from Brown University in 2001, and attended The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2002. She has since had exhibitions at MASS MoCA, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum and galleries around the world.
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FILMMAKERS

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Set Design (Hospital Scene)

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CAST

Dr. Mary Taggart
Alaska
Fisherman

JESSICA KAYE
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2011 USA 70 min scope NR
THE FILM WAS SHOT ON LOCATION
IN NEW YORK CITY AND ON THE
NORTHERN SHORELINE OF MAINE, USA

WWW.SEVERNY.COM

SYNCHRONICITY
FILMS

ANDREI SEVERNY andre@severny.com
547 W 20TH STREET, NEW YORK NY 10011
USA +1 646 233 1140 UK +44 20 8123 7120