



A Film by Louise Archambault

# *Familia*



Canada, Running Time: 102 minutes

Distributor Contact: Josh Levin  
Film Movement Series

109 W. 27<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 9B, New York, NY 10001

Tel: 212-941-7744 ext. 213 Fax: 212-941-7812 [josh@filmmovement.com](mailto:josh@filmmovement.com)

## Synopsis

Michele (**Sylvie Moreau**) is a thirty-something aerobics instructor who spends more time at the casino than at the gym. Her life is turned upside down when her boss and fiancé Scott, unwilling to cover her gambling debts any longer, decides to hold back her paychecks. Michele decides to leave Scott and join her sister in California, but she doesn't have one red cent for the trip.

With her 14-year-old daughter, Marguerite (**Mylène St-Sauveur**), Michele turns to her childhood friend, Janine (**Macha Grenon**), who has a teenage daughter of her own, Gabrielle (**Juliette Gosselin**). Janine agrees to take in Michele and Marguerite in her comfortable suburban home, although she is secretly concerned about Marguerite's bad influence on her shy and reserved daughter.

As the two young girls become friends, their mothers rekindle their long lost friendship. But the leafy and reassuring hills of Saint-Hilaire soon become the backdrop for unforeseen drama when mothers and daughters are forced to reassess their values. While the inhibited Gabrielle gains in confidence and starts seeing her seemingly perfect mother in a new light, Michele slowly discovers the true nature of her own daughter and her desire for stability.

Is behaviour innate or learned; and as parents is it ever possible to not repeat our own parents' errors with our children? When online sex, double lives, unexplained pregnancies and lies are thrown into the mix, both families are faced with life-changing choices.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

### CAST

Michèle  
Janine  
Gabrielle  
Marguerite  
Madeleine  
Estelle  
Lucien  
Charles  
Kate  
Olivier  
François  
Francis  
Laurence  
Anthony  
Scott  
Chloé

**Sylvie MOREAU**  
**Macha GRENON**  
**Juliette GOSSELIN**  
**Mylène ST-SAUVEUR**  
**Micheline LANCTÔT**  
**Patricia NOLLIN**  
**Paul SAVOIE**  
**Vincent GRATON**  
**Emily HOLMES**  
**Xavier MORIN-LEFORT**  
**Jacques L'HEUREUX**  
**Normand HELMS**  
**Sonia VIGNEAULT**  
**Alexandre CÔTÉ**  
**Claude DESPINS**  
**Hélène FLORENT**

### CREW

Writer / Director  
Producer

**Louise ARCHAMBAULT**  
**Luc DÉRY**

Associate producer	<b>Kim McCRAW</b>
Cinematography	<b>André TURPIN</b>
Art direction	<b>Pierre ALLARD</b>
Film editing	<b>Sophie LEBLOND</b>
Sound design	<b>Sylvain BELLEMARE</b>
Line producer	<b>Gilles LEGARÉ</b>
Location manager	<b>Marie-Claude BÉLISLE</b>
Casting	<b>Lucie ROBITAILLE</b>
Sound engineer	<b>Pierre BERTRAND</b>
First assistant director	<b>Éric PARENTEAU</b>
Continuity	<b>Johanne BOISVERT</b>
Gaffer	<b>Dave CLARKE</b>
Key grip	<b>Robert AUCLAIR</b>
Set decorator	<b>Nadine PETITCLERC</b>
Props master	<b>André CHARLEBOIS</b>
Unit manager	<b>Jean-François ROESLER</b>
Costume design	<b>Annie DUFORT</b>
Makeup supervisor	<b>Alex LAMBERT</b>
Hair stylist supervisor	<b>Daniel JACOB</b>
Post-production supervisor	<b>Érik DANIEL</b>
<i>Making of</i> director	<b>Stéphane LAFLEUR</b>
Original music	<b>Ramachandra BORCAR</b>

## ABOUT THE CREW

### **Louise ARCHAMBAULT** (Writer / Director)

A graduate of Concordia University, Louise Archambault has worked as an assistant director, still photographer, director and line producer.

She is now focusing on her own film projects. Her short ***Atomic saké*** (1999) won the Jutra prize in 2000 for best Quebec short as well as the award for best film at the Delle Donne International Film Festival in Turin, Italy.

Louise and seven other writers/directors are waiting the financing of a collective project entitled ***Petit guide de survie au 21e siècle***, a **micro\_scope** production in collaboration with the NFB. For now, she is spending the summer on location for Philippe Falardeau's latest feature ***Congorama***, as still photographer.

***Familia*** is Louise Archambault's first feature film as director.

### **Filmography :**

- *Familia* (2005)
- *Mensonges* (2002)
- *Y'a pas de crème molle en hiver* (2001)
- *Atomic saké* (1999)
- *Deux grands-mamans* (1997)
- *Là-haut les étoiles* (1993)

### **Luc DÉRY** (Producer)

Formerly of Aska Film and Malofilm Distribution, Luc Déry joined Qu4tre par

Quatre and began producing in 1997. Déry has an extensive experience in film marketing, acquisition, and distribution, buying and selling films from around the world. He became involved in distribution after having obtained a MBA specializing in media administration from York University in Toronto in 1992. At Quatre par Quatre films, Déry produced with Joseph Hillel **La moitié gauche du frigo** from director Philippe Falardeau (winner of the Best Canadian First Feature at the 2000 Toronto International Film Festival, and which screened at the 2001 Rotterdam Film Festival), as well as André Turpin's **Un crabe dans la tête** (winner of 7 Jutra Awards and which screened at the Sundance Film Festival in 2002). He also produced Patrick Demers' award-winning short film **Décharge, Mensonges** (by Louise Archambault) and **snooze** (by Stéphane Lafleur).

In 2002 Déry sets up his own company, **micro\_scope**. There he co-produces Gary Burns' **A Problem with Fear** and **Tiresia**, Bertrand Bonello's third feature, presented in the Cannes Film Festival's official competition in 2002. Déry produces **Familia** by Louise Archambault in 2004 and **Congorama** by Philippe Falardeau in 2005.

#### **Kim McCRAW** (Associate producer)

Producer Kim McCraw started her career in television, working as a production manager and assistant director. In 2001, Kim McCraw started as a line producer at Quatre par Quatre, where she worked on more than 30 commercial and corporate films with producer Joseph Hillel. She also worked as line producer on the documentary **Regular or Super – Views on Mies van der Rohe** who won in 2004 the award for best Canadian film at Festival international du film sur l'art (FIFA). In 2002, she produced with Luc Déry the shorts **Mensonges** from director Louise Archambault and **snooze** by Stéphane Lafleur. In 2004, she joins the **micro\_scope** team as a producer to work on **Familia** by Louise Archambault and **Congorama** by Philippe Falardeau.

## **FESTIVAL AWARDS & HISTORY**

Toronto International Film Festival 2005 - **Won**, Best Canadian First Feature Film

Locarno International Film Festival 2005 - **Nominated**, Golden Leopard

Jutra Awards 2006 - **Nominated**, Jutra *Best Sound (Meilleur Son)*

Genie Awards 2006 - **Won**, Claude Jutra Award

**Nominated**, *Best Achievement in Direction*

**Nominated**, *Best Original Screenplay*

**Nominated**, *Best Motion Picture*

**Nominated**, *Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role*

**Nominated**, *Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role*

**Nominated**, *Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role*

**Nominated**, *Best Achievement in Cinematography*

Official Selection - *Vancouver FF, Locarno International Film Festival 2005, Seattle Int'l FF 2006*

Shown at - *Miami Int'l FF, Windsor FF, Providence French FF, London Canadian FF, Barrie FF, Hong Kong Int'l FF, Vancouver FF, Atlantic FF, Kingston Canadian FF*

## **REVIEWS**

"A dramedy that certainly doesn't lack ambition" – *Variety.com*

"The acting is outstanding" - *The Hollywood Reporter*

"A situation comedy rivaled in its genre only by the best sit-coms on American television... It is vibrant, droll and enthusiastic" - *André Roy FIPRESCI*

## **ABOUT FILM MOVEMENT**

**Film Movement** is an innovative new film distribution company, created as a solution for millions of consumers across the nation whose access to outstanding film is limited by geography, lifestyle or lack of information. Film Movement has members in over 50 states and 1200 cities. Film Movement acquires award winning independent films from the world's top festivals, which they then release each month of the year to members on DVD through a subscription service, and theatrically through The Film Movement Series. Participating filmmakers are able to reach under-served film fans everywhere through Film Movement.

**The Film Movement Series** is a new theatrical film series featuring some of the best in original world cinema. Created by the team that invented the groundbreaking Shooting Gallery Film Series, Film Movement will release 6 of its 12 films per year in leading independent cinemas in major US cities to help outstanding filmmakers find the audience they deserve. All films are available to members exclusively on DVD upon theatrical release so that they may participate regardless of where they live.