



Cirrus Communications and CrazyFilms  
present

# C.R.A.Z.Y.

A film by  
**JEAN-MARC VALLÉE**

Canada / 2005 / 125' / color / 35mm

**INTERNATIONAL SALES  
FILMS DISTRIBUTION**

20 rue Saint-Augustin, 75002 Paris, France  
Tel: +33 1 53 10 33 96 / Fax: +33 1 53 10 33 98  
info@filmsdistribution.com / www.filmsdistribution.com

**PRESS**

**Viviana ANDRIANI**

32 rue Godot de Mauroy, 75009 Paris  
Tel/Fax : (33) 1 42 66 36 35  
In Venice: +39 348 331 6681  
viviana.andriani@wanadoo.fr

Download Photos: [www.filmsdistribution.com/crazy](http://www.filmsdistribution.com/crazy)

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## THE STORY

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December 25, 1960: Zachary Beaulieu comes into the world, fourth in a family of five boys. An ordinary suburban family with a loving mother and a dad who's a bit gruff, but proud of his sons. The beginning of a beautiful childhood, where Christmases and birthdays follow one after the other to the ubiquitous solo of the elder Beaulieu singing Aznavour's *Emmène-moi au bout de la terre*, washing the car in the fresh air and trips to the snack-bar for Zac, his father's favourite. But not for long, alas!

That's the lead-in to C.R.A.Z.Y., the story of a special little boy who grows into young manhood and ends up even denying his inner self to attract his father's attention.

A portrait of a family that depicts the often extraordinary lives of ordinary people in search of happiness.

From 1960 to 1980, surrounded by his brothers, Pink Floyd and the Rolling Stones, between motorbike escapades to impress the girls, cigarettes smoked in secret, minor and not-so-minor disagreements and, particularly, a father that he searches desperately to find, Zac relates his story. Through music and rebellion, and also with humour, down to a mystical voyage to Jerusalem—"to the ends of the earth" as his father was always singing—where perhaps in such a far-away place he finally succeeds in finding him...

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## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Regardless of the movie, my approach to filmmaking is always the same: to tell a story with the sincere wish to give the best show possible.

The idea of "show" is very important to me. As a viewer, I like to be drawn in, have my expectations turn out to be wrong, be caught up in suspense; I like it when the rhythm is broken, regained, heightened; I like to be surprised, touched, moved, stirred up; to discover new worlds, dream, laugh and cry at the same time; and—at the very end—I like to go out of the theatre with the satisfying feeling of wanting to live, take a bite out of life, take action because I've regained, through a movie, that little spark of clarity that lets me see life the way it should always look to me: beautiful.

The films that give me that feeling of intense happiness are pretty rare, but there are always a few, each year, that also remind me that that's the kind of movie I'd like to make, that I have to make, even if only once in my humble career. I'd like to think that C.R.A.Z.Y. is that movie, or one of them.

I wrote it with that in mind, primarily out of selfishness. Starting from a real life experience that touched me deeply, I dreamed up this story that I wanted to be crazy, magical and beautiful. To make myself happy. To let me go beyond myself, to work at filmmaking with a capital "F."

## JEAN-MARC VALLEE / The Director

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Born in Montreal, he studies cinema at the Ahuntsic College and the University of Montreal. In 1992, his first short film, "Stereotypes", receives numerous prizes at several film festivals. His next short films, "Magic Flowers (1995) and "Magic Words" (1998), also receive many prestigious prizes and awards. In 1995, Jean-Marc Vallée directs his first feature film, "Liste noire", which becomes the highest-grossing film in Quebec that year, and is nominated for 9 Genie Awards. Following this success, he moves to Hollywood, where he directs an episode of the TV series "Strangers" and a theatrical feature film "Los Locos" (1998), a western starring Cuba Gooding Jr. In 1998, he also directs two episodes of the TV series "The Secret Adventures of Jules Verne". Thereafter, Jean Marc Vallée becomes one of the most successful directors of commercials in Quebec. In 2005, "C.R.A.Z.Y." has become a box-office sensation, grossing almost \$5 millions in Quebec alone. The film has also received an unanimous praise from critics and has been selected at numerous film festivals (including Toronto).

### FILMOGRAPHY

**C.R.A.Z.Y.** / 2005 / 35mm / 109 min

**Les Mots Magiques** / 1998 / 35mm / 21 min.

\*Best short film at Aspen Shortfest, 1999

\*Jutra award, 1999

\*Official Selection Sundance Film Festival, 1999

\*Grand Prix du Festival International du court métrage de Clermont Ferrand, 1998

**Los Locos** / 1997 / 35mm / 99 min. with Mario Van Peebles

**Liste Noire( Black List)** / 1995 / 35mm / 87 min., with Michel Côté, Geneviève Brouillette

\*9 nominations Prix Génie 1995

**Les Fleurs Magiques** / 1995 / 35mm / 21 min.

\* Téléfilm Canada Award at Festival International du court métrage de Montréal,

\*Génie Award, best canadian short film, 1995

**Stéréotypes** / 1992 / 16mm / 20 min.

\* Claude-Jutra-OFQJ at Rendez-Vous du Cinéma Québécois, 1993

\* Audience Award at Festival International du court métrage de Montréal

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## MICHEL CÔTÉ / Gervais Beaulieu

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Michel Côté, a graduate of the National Theatre School, played on Québec's most prestigious stages (Théâtre du Nouveau Monde, Nouvelle Compagnie Théâtrale, Théâtre de Quat'Sous, Compagnie Jean-Duceppe,...). On television, he has played in various soap operas and television plays. He was also one of the celebrities of *Bye, Bye along* which garnered him a Prix Gémeaux. He played the popular Jean-Lou in *La Petite Vie* and received a Gémeaux. Québec audience also followed him in the television series *Omertà I, II et III*, for which he received the Gémeaux award in 1999 and the MetroStar in 2000. In the movies, he has played in several films including *Les Plouffe*, by Gilles Carle, *Au clair de la lune* and *Le vent du Wyoming*, by André Forcier, *Erreur sur la personne* by Gilles Noël and *Liste noire* by Jean-Marc Vallée. He won the Gémeaux award for best actor for the role of Bert in *T'es belle Jeanne* by Robert Ménard. In 2000, he won a nomination in the Best Actor category in the Jutra awards for his role in *La vie après l'amour* by Gabriel Pelletier. One of his great hits remains *Cruising Bar* for which he co-wrote the screenplay with director Robert Ménard and in which he plays the four leading roles. In 2004, he played in *Sur le seuil*, and we also saw him in the leading role in the movie *Le dernier Tunnel* by Érik Canuel.

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## MARC-ANDRÉ GRONDIN / Zachary Beaulieu

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Marc-André Grondin made his debut in the art world at the age of three by happy coincidence. Since his very early childhood, the young actor has portrayed characters in both film and television. Despite his young age, he has carried several significant roles in television productions including *Un signe de feu* (1989-1991). In 1991, he played in Jacques Leduc's television movie, *L'enfant sur le lac*. After that, we saw him on the big screen in *La fenêtre* by Monique Champagne and in 1992 in Suzy Cohen's Franco-Québec co-production, *De l'autre côté du coeur*. Then, during over 5 years, he played one of the main roles in the television drama *Sous un ciel variable*. He made his return to the big screen in 1993 in Marquise Lepage's film *La fête des rois*. After deciding to take the time to complete his high school studies, Marc-André played in the popular series *Watatatow* in a role that enjoyed great popularity among television viewers. 11 years after filming the short film *Les fleurs magiques*, Marc-André met again the director Jean-Marc Vallée for the feature length project C.R.A.Z.Y.

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## DANIELLE PROUX / Laurianne Beaulieu

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Danielle Proux began her acting career in 1976. She made her first appearance on television in 1985 in the TV series *L'agent fait le bonheur*. After that, she played in several successful TV series in Québec and won different awards. In 1989, she started her movie career playing in *Portion d'éternité* (for which she won an acting award at the 1989 edition of the FFM), *Amoureux Fou* (Genie award 1991, best supporting actor), *L'enfant d'eau*, *Le jardin d'Anna*, *Le Sexe des étoiles* and *La femme du boulanger*.

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## CIRRUS COMMUNICATION INC. / The Production Company

Since its beginning in 1996, Cirrus Communications serves local, national and international television networks and distributors, both private and public, through the production of documentary and non-fiction series (*Des bêtes et des hommes*, *Hoaxes*), drama and comedies series (*The Tumultuous Adventures of Jack Carter*, *P.I.*, *Taboo*, *La Vie la vie*, *2 Brothers*), youth programs (*Generation W*, *Lapoisie & Jobard*) and feature films (*Triple Crossed*, *Suburban Bliss*, *Pig's Law*).

Cirrus' profile continued to rise during the past 2004-2005 season when seven of its TV series premiered last Fall.

Cirrus also launched its first bigger budget feature, C.R.A.Z.Y., signalling the company's strong commitment to film production. Currently in wide release all over Quebec, C.R.A.Z.Y. placed 12th on the US-Canada box office chart during its opening week-end, scoring Quebec's strongest per screen average B.O. amongst films in release.

Next for Cirrus is Season 2 of *Naked Josh* on Showcase, the entire series' foreign bow in Australia, Spain, etc., another season of *Have You Read...?* on Télé-Québec, *Men Closing In* On 40 season 2 on TVA this September, and the English version of mini-series *War Of The Sexes* on CBC. Set for production are new seasons of *Our Summers* and *Naked Josh* as well as 13 installments of new non-fiction series *Nikan*. The feature films *Modern Love* and *Significant Others* are also scheduled for production in the upcoming months.

### **PIERRE EVEN / Feature Film Unit Manager**

Pierre Even joined the Cirrus team in May 2002 to develop the feature film unit. He was previously Director of the Feature Film Unit of Telefilm Canada's Québec office, where he worked for the past four years, investing in such films as Mæilstrom, *La Moitié gauche* du frigo, *Les Boys 2* and *3*, *La Femme qui boit* and *Le Collectionneur*.

From 1996 to 1998, he was General Manager, Television and Film for Les Distributions Rozon Inc. From 1990 to 1996, Pierre Even was Vice-President of Legal and Business Affairs with Malofilm Distribution Inc., and Vice-President and Secretary of Malofilm Production Inc.

Pierre Even has been a member of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television since 1995 as well as a member of Les Rendez-vous du Cinéma Québécois' board of directors.

### **JACQUES BLAIN / President and Executive Producer**

President and founder of Cirrus Communications in 1996, Jacques Blain has been active in the film and television industry for the past 25 years.

### **RICHARD SPEER / Executive Producer**

Richard Speer, partner of Cirrus with Jacques Blain, André Béraud and Josée Vallée, is a major asset in developing the international market. In 1999, he became a partner in the commercial production company Jet Films. Today he is president and general director of Cirrus Communications Inc.

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## CAST

GERVAIS BEAULIEU  
ZACHARY 15/21 years old  
LAURIANNE BEAULIEU  
ZACHARY 6/8 years old  
RAYMOND 22/28 years old  
CHRISTIAN 24/30 years old  
ANTOINE 21/27 years old  
YVAN 15/16 years old

Michel CÔTÉ  
Marc-André GRONDIN  
Danielle PROULX  
Émile VALLÉE  
Pierre-Luc BRILLANT  
Maxime TREMBLAY  
Alex GRAVEL  
Felix Antoine DESPATIE

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## CREDITS

Director  
Screenplay  
Director of Photography  
Casting  
Editing  
Sound  
Costume design  
Visual design  
Special effects direction  
Makeup  
Hair styling

Jean-Marc VALLÉE  
Jean-Marc VALLÉE, in collaboration with François BOULAY  
Pierre MIGNOT  
Daniel POISSON  
Paul JUTRAS  
Martin PINSONNEAULT, Yvon BENOÎT  
Ginette MAGNY  
Patrice BRICAULT-VERMETTE  
Marc CÔTÉ  
Micheline TRÉPANIÉ  
Réjean GODERRE

Producer  
Co-producer  
Executive producers  
Associate producer  
Produced by

Pierre EVEN  
Jean-Marc VALLÉE  
Jacques BLAIN, Richard SPEER  
Nicole HILARÉGUY  
Cirrus Communications and CrazyFilms

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