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International
Film Festival
OFFICIAL SELECTION 2013

A FILM BY BRUCE LABRUCE

GERONTOPHILIA

Gerontophilia: (jə-răn-tō-fil-ē-ə) noun -
the love or sexual preference for the elderly.

Pier-Gabriel Lajoie
Walter Borden
Katie Boland
Marie-Hélène Thibault

FILMOPTION INTERNATIONAL presents
a 1976 PRODUCTIONS / NEW REAL FILMS production



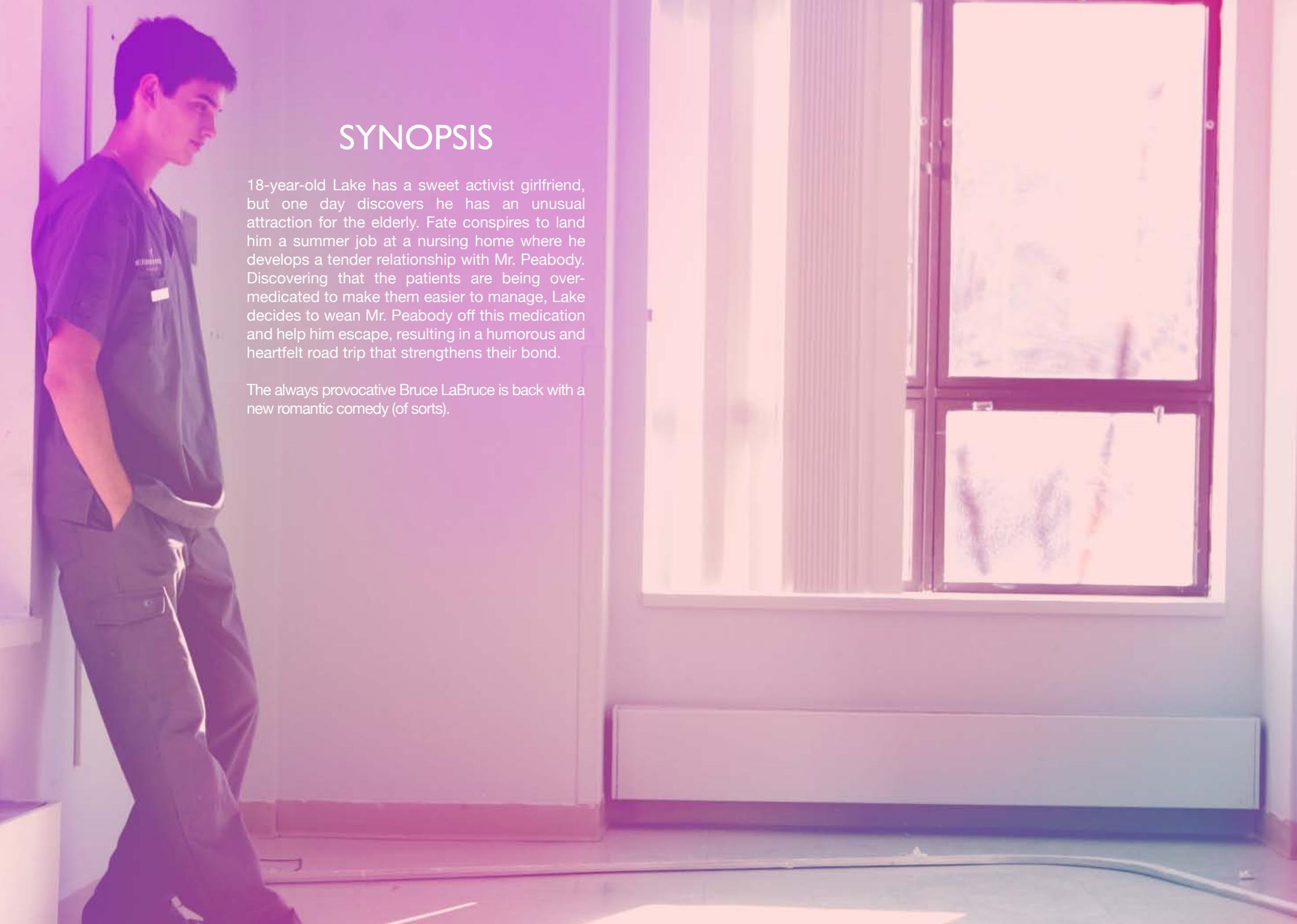
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82 minutes / Color / 2.35 / HD / 2013

A young man with dark hair, wearing a dark green hospital scrub top and pants, stands in profile in a hallway. He is looking out a large window with a dark frame. The hallway has light-colored walls and a light-colored floor. The scene is lit with a soft, warm light, possibly from the window. The overall mood is contemplative and quiet.

SYNOPSIS

18-year-old Lake has a sweet activist girlfriend, but one day discovers he has an unusual attraction for the elderly. Fate conspires to land him a summer job at a nursing home where he develops a tender relationship with Mr. Peabody. Discovering that the patients are being over-medicated to make them easier to manage, Lake decides to wean Mr. Peabody off this medication and help him escape, resulting in a humorous and heartfelt road trip that strengthens their bond.

The always provocative Bruce LaBruce is back with a new romantic comedy (of sorts).

INTERVIEW WITH BRUCE LABRUCE

How did you come to the idea of a romance between a young man and an elderly?

Over the years I've encountered a number of young people with very specific fetishes involving relationships with much older people, and it's always intrigued me. I've been told stories, most often by younger men, of their first sexual experience having been with a man in his sixties or older, and there always seemed to be a pedagogical aspect to the relationship, as well as a deep affection. Sometimes it's a one time thing, but sometimes the fetish seems to persist. I also made a film, *Hustler White*, about male prostitutes and their relationships to their often much older johns. The straight-identified, "gay for pay" hustlers sometimes develop very strong sexual and emotional bonds with their older clients, who give them money or other support in exchange for sex. For *Gerontophilia*, I wanted to create a character with some of these same impulses, but who isn't doing it for the money. In that sense I've configured him as a kind of saint.

Why did you choose to apply the traditional codes of rom-com to this very original subject?

My films, no matter how extreme or pornographic, have always had an intense strain of romanticism running through them. Whether it's the relationship between a hairdresser and a skinhead, or a hustler and a john, the attachments are emotional and romantic, even when there is a very specific and sometimes extreme and taboo fetish involved. So I've always played somewhat ironically with rom-com conventions. With *Gerontophilia* I wanted to engage these conventions even further, and with a more subtle sense of irony. I also always like to work within the conventions of a particular genre (pornography, horror, etc.) and somehow push it to some extreme or unexpected territory.



Does age matter when you are in love?

Significant age gap relationships between consenting adults transgress a very strong cultural taboo, so the people in such relationships must have a powerful and committed attachment to each other if they are willing to put up with all the disapproval and hostility directed toward them. Sometimes it's perhaps a more sexual dynamic at play - that is, a fetish - and sometimes it involves power and money, but I think it usually involves love and emotional attachment as well.

Does this film mark a new departure for you?

Gerontophilia is a departure for me inasmuch as it doesn't have any sexually explicit content. My previous work has generally involved the intersection of art and porn, but with this film I wanted to work in a more mainstream idiom, specifically referencing certain rom-com conventions and seventies independent and art film aesthetics. Some of my favourite films are seventies indie and/or art films that were widely distributed but which had radical or controversial content. *Gerontophilia* has presented me with my first opportunity to work within the framework of the film industry proper - it's my first film funded by mainstream funding agencies, and my first union picture! - and with a somewhat significantly larger budget.

BRUCE LA BRUCE - DIRECTOR

Bruce LaBruce is a Toronto based filmmaker, writer, director, photographer, and artist. He began his career in the mid eighties making a series of short experimental super 8 films and co-editing a punk fanzine called J.D.s, which begat the queercore movement.

He has directed and starred in three feature length movies, NO SKIN OFF MY ASS (1991), SUPER 8 1/2 (1994) and HUSTLER WHITE (1996). He has also written and directed three art/porn features, SKIN FLICK (2000) THE RASPBERRY REICH (2004), and L.A. Zombie (2010), and the independent feature OTTO; OR, UP WITH DEAD PEOPLE (2008). Bruce LaBruce has written a premature memoir entitled *The Reluctant Pornographer*, from Gutter Press. The Plug-In Gallery in Winnipeg, Canada published a book on his work, *Ride Queer Ride*, in 1998. Queer Frame, a division of Atlantide Entertainment, published a book of his image-based work, *Bruce(x)ploitation*, in Italy in 2011.

In the past several years, Bruce LaBruce has written and directed three theatrical productions: *Cheap Blacky* (2007), *The Bad Breast; or, The Strange Case of Theda Lange* (2009) and *Macho Family Romance* (2009).

Bruce LaBruce was a contributing editor and frequent writer and photographer for *Index* magazine, and he has also been a regular contributor to *Eye* and *Exclaim* magazines, *Dutch*, *Vice*, *The National Post*, *Nerve.com* and *Black Book*. As a fashion photographer he has contributed stories to such magazines as *Dazed and Confused*, *Bon*, *Tank*, *Têtu*, *Fake*, *Attitude*, *Blend*, *Tokion*, *Purple Fashion*, and *The National Post*.

Bruce LaBruce had his first solo show of photographs presented by the Alleged Gallery in New York in December 1999. He has had subsequent solo exhibits of his photographs in Vancouver, Milano, Toronto, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Porto, Barcelona and New York. LaBruce's latest exhibit of all-new photographs, entitled "Obscenity", premiered in Madrid at La Fresh Gallery on Feb 17th, 2012.

In 2010 LaBruce directed two episodes of the ARTE documentary series *Into the Night with...*, one featuring Harmony Korine and Gaspar Noé, the other featuring Béatrice Dalle and Virginie Despentes. He also directed his first opera, an adaptation of Arnold Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*, in Berlin in 2011.

SELECTIVE FILMOGRAPHY

FEATURES

2013	Gerontophilia
2010	L.A. Zombie
2008	Otto; or, Up with Dead People
2004	The Raspberry Reich
1998	Skin Flick
1996	Hustler White
1994	Super 8 1/2
1991	No Skin Off My Ass

SHORTS

2010	Weekend In Alphaville
2009	The Bad Breast; or, The Strange Case of Theda Lange
2008	Give Piece of Ass a Chance
1988	I Know What It's Like to be Dead
1988	Slam!
1987	Boy/Girl
1987	Bruce and Pepper Wayne Gacy's Home Movies



1976 Productions Feature Credits

2013 Gerontophilia
2011 Un Nuage dans un verre d'eau
2008 Story of Jen

New Real Films Feature Credits

2013 Gerontophilia
2012 The Resurrection of Tony Gitone
2011 I'm Yours
2010 Trigger
2009 Leslie, My Name is Evil
2009 Hungry Hills
2008 Toronto Stories
2008 Otto; Or Up With Dead People
2007 All Hat
2006 Monkey Warfare
2004 Cake
2004 Suger
2001 The Perfect Son

FILMOPTION INTERNATIONAL presents
A 1976 PRODUCTIONS
NEW REAL FILMS production
A BRUCE LaBRUCE film

GERONTOPHILIA

Starring

PIER-GABRIEL LAJOIE Lake
WALTER BORDEN Mr. Peabody
KATIE BOLAND Désirée
MARIE-HÉLÈNE THIBAUT Marie

Casting

GUILLAUME LAMBERT, PAUL WEBER,
JOHN BUCHAN and JASON KNIGHT

Art director

OLIVIER LABERGE

Costumes

MARILYNE GARCEAU

Sound

TOD VAN DYK

Sound designer

BRUNO PUCELLA

Sound mixer

ISABELLE LUSSIER

Composer

RAMACHANDRA BORCAR

Editor

GLENN BERMAN

Director of photography

NICOLAS CANNICIONI

Screenplay by

BRUCE LaBRUCE and DANIEL ALLEN COX

Produced by

NICOLAS COMEAU

LEONARD FARLINGER, JENNIFER JONAS

Directed by

BRUCE LABRUCE



PRODUCTION

1976 PRODUCTIONS

Nicolas Comeau, Producer
nc@1976.tv

NEW REAL FILMS

Leonard Farlinger & Jennifer Jonas, Producers
leonardfarlinger@newrealfilms.com, jenniferjonas@newrealfilms.com

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