



MEAT

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

2026

logline:

"A piece of meat... with teeth"

synopsis (short)

You know the story - it's as old as time: drunk, alone, out late and hungry as hell. She should know better, shouldn't she?

When a man's predatory advances are met not with fear but with an unnerving, analytical calm, a tense power struggle unfolds in a mysterious hall of silent men. As the night deepens, it becomes terrifyingly clear that the true monster is not who it seems.

A cautionary tale of justice served cold.



synopsis (long)

MEAT begins with a scenario every woman recognises: walking home alone at night, vulnerable and aware of every shadow. But when our protagonist apparently stumbles into what appears to be a men's support group, the familiar narrative takes an unexpected turn.

She finds herself in a strange, stark hall, surrounded by silent, withdrawn men who seem to carry a collective weight of dread. As she begins to recount her encounter, the atmosphere electrifies, shifting from nervous tension to volatile agitation. It becomes clear this is not a random support group, but a stage for a ritual that has played out before. Her story is not a confession; it is a catalyst.

Drawing on the claustrophobic intensity of psychological horror, MEAT weaponizes genre expectations to explore the nature of power, consequence, and righteous fury. The film forces the audience to question who is the victim, who is the predator, and what terrifying power is unleashed when a woman decides she is finished being prey.

creative vision:

MEAT represents a bold collaboration between established voices in feminist horror and emerging cinematic talent. Born from Abi's work for the 'Terrifying Women' theatre collective, the film explores themes of female empowerment and predatory behaviour through the sophisticated lens of psychological horror.

Director Jacob, making his transition from commercial to narrative film making, was immediately drawn to the material's subversive potential and this is how MEAT was born...

Writer's Statement

(Abi Zakarian)

"The idea for MEAT came from a place of fury. It was a weeknight in Leicester Square, and a man's casual, entitled comments and actions towards me sparked a weary anger. It was just another one of those everyday acts of misogyny that women are expected to just absorb and ignore. That night, I went home and wrote MEAT. Although I didn't write what had happened, but what I wish had happened. I wrote about a woman not absorbing the aggression, but instead reflecting it back.

MEAT began life as a monologue for the Terrifying Women theatre company; a raw outpouring of my frustrations and anger. But the story always felt intensely cinematic. It is about the power of the gaze, the weight of silence, the geography of spaces. Translating it to film was an opportunity to force the audience into that space; to make them feel the claustrophobia of being constantly judged, and the exhilarating liberation of reclaiming that power. This story is for every woman who has had to calculate her way home. It is a cautionary tale, but not for her. Not this time."

MEAT

Director's Statement (Jacob Hopewell)

"MEAT began with a question that has haunted me as a filmmaker: what does the male gaze feel like when it is turned back on itself? I was not interested in creating another story of a woman in peril. I wanted to explore the anatomy of that peril, the quiet calculations and the simmering rage that so often lie beneath the surface of a female experience.

*My vision was to use the visual language of the masters of psychological unease and weaponize it. The claustrophobic intensity of Polanski's *Repulsion*, the visceral revenge of Meadows' *Dead Man's Shoes*, the hypnotic sensory manipulation of Noé's *Climax*, and the gaze of Glazer's *Under the Skin* all served as touchstones. We synthesised these influences to create a visual approach that shifts from intimate realism to heightened cinematic artifice, serving the narrative's exploration of power and perception.*

This film is a conversation. It is a challenge to the genre I love and a reflection on the world we live in. It is, I hope, a cinematic experience that is as intellectually unsettling as it is viscerally terrifying."

technical specifications:

Runtime: 15 minutes

Format: Digital, Colour

Aspect Ratio: 4:3

Audio: Stereo

Language: English

Subtitles: English, French, German (others available on request)

Genre: Psychological Horror, Thriller

Rating: [TBC]

**Writer: Abi Zakarian**

Abi Zakarian is an acclaimed British-Armenian playwright celebrated for her compelling and socially relevant works. She has written for the National Theatre, Soho Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe and many other UK theatres. Her play *Fabric* won a Scotsman Fringe First Award, and she received the Vault Festival People's Choice Award for *I Have A Mouth And I Will Scream*. Additionally, her play *Mountain Warfare* was a finalist in the 2021/22 Women's Prize for Playwriting.

Abi is a co-founder of the horror theatre company *Terrifying Women* which is dedicated to bringing more women-led horror to the stage. Abi's dedication to storytelling is evident in her diverse body of work, which continues to engage and inspire audiences across the UK.

**Director: Jacob Hopewell**

Jacob Hopewell is a distinguished British director renowned for his authentic, performance-driven, and cinematic storytelling. Over his career, he has crafted commercials and music videos for global brands like META, McDonald's, EE, Kenwood and Guinness. His work for Guinness earned him a Fubiz award, reflecting his talent for creating visually striking and emotionally resonant films.

Now, Jacob is stepping into narrative-driven film making, where his passion for telling compelling stories and thought-provoking visuals can fully flourish. With MEAT, he brings his sharp eye for detail and naturalistic style to a bold and socially resonant story, marking an exciting new chapter in his career.

key cast and crew:



Lead Actor: Elle Piper

Elle will next be seen in Ruben Östlund's next feature film *The Entertainment System Is Down* opposite an all star cast including Keanu Reeves and Kirsten Dunst.

She can currently be seen in Lena Dunham's comedy series *Too Much* for Netflix.

"When I first read MEAT, I knew it wasn't the usual story. No begging, no running, no saving. Just quite rage turned action. There's something brutally honest about watching a women flip the script, about letting her be dangerous instead of disposable. I felt my own experiences echo back - the quiet calculations it sometimes takes just to get home, playing her felt good, freeing, even".



Director of Photography: Morgan Sinclair

Morgan is a versatile and highly sought-after Director of Photography with a powerful visual signature that spans narrative, commercial, and music video work. His cinematography has shaped campaigns for luxury brands like Louis Vuitton and Audi.

Morgan's work is characterised by its ability to move seamlessly between polished commercial aesthetics and raw, atmospheric storytelling. His keen understanding of light, shadow, and composition allows him to create worlds that are both visually arresting and emotionally resonant.



Executive Producer: Clare Thomson

Clare is a highly experienced Senior Producer with a distinguished career in high-end commercial and branded content production. Her portfolio features work for some of the world's most iconic brands, including Chivas Regal, National Geographic, ASICS, and Paco Rabanne.

With a keen eye for sophisticated aesthetics and a deep understanding of storytelling, Clare has a proven track record of delivering visually stunning and commercially successful projects. Her experience producing for prestigious cultural institutions like the BFI London Film Festival underscores her ability to navigate both the commercial and artistic worlds, making her an invaluable asset to independent and genre-defying projects.



Movement Director: Mikey Boats

Mikey Boats is a dynamic movement director and choreographer known for his innovative approach to physical storytelling. With a background in dance and performance, Mikey has collaborated with various artists and productions to create compelling movement narratives that enhance the emotional depth and visual impact of performances. His expertise lies in crafting movement that authentically reflects character and story, contributing significantly to the overall aesthetic of a production.



Composer: Rosie Lowe

Rosie Lowe is an English singer and songwriter who rose to prominence through her debut album 'Control'. Whilst developing her fourth album she has produced film scores and compositions for the likes of FKA Twigs and more recently the Jacob Jonas The Company which was featured on Nowness.

Her writing, producing and musical collaborations include an array of brilliant artists from the likes of Little Simz, Kwabs, Dave Okumu, Jordan Rakei and US Rapper Jay Electronica.

Her latest album, *Lover, Other*, released in August 2024, has garnered widespread critical acclaim for its bold production, eclectic styles, and emotional resonance.

Rosie's work continues to receive five-star reviews across major outlets, cementing her reputation as one of the UK's most innovative musical talents.

MEAT

target audiences:

Primary: Horror enthusiasts seeking intelligent, subversive genre content.

Secondary: Festival programmers interested in feminist horror and social commentary.

Tertiary: Independent film audiences appreciating psychological complexity.

Industry: Distributors and sales agents focused on quality genre content with commercial appeal.

unique selling points:

Genre Subversion: Deliberately challenges horror tropes and audience expectations.

Feminist Perspective: Authentic female voice in horror storytelling.

Theatrical Origins: Rich source material from established theatre collective.

Visual Sophistication: Giallo/Modern Art House Horror inspired cinematography and design.

Social Relevance: Timely themes of predatory behaviour and female empowerment.

Festival Ready: Professional production values meeting international standards.

contact information:



For Press / Festival / Distribution / Interviews:

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[To be updated with festival reactions and press coverage]

"XYZ." - [Source TBD]

"XYZ." - [Source TBD]

"XYZ." - [Source TBD]

press quotes + reaction:

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MEAT is currently available for festival screenings in 2026.

