



Presents  
a ONEZERO FILMS production

# SPARROWS DANCE

A film by Noah Buschel

Select theatrical release starting August 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
Available on VOD, iTunes, and other on demand platforms July 23, 2013.

Run Time: 81 Minutes

Rating: Not Rated

Distributor: Tribeca Film  
375 Greenwich Street  
New York, NY 10011

**TRIBECA FILM:**  
Brandon Rohwer  
212-941-2038

[brohwer@tribecafilm.com](mailto:brohwer@tribecafilm.com)

**ID PR:**

Ashley Lerche  
212-774-6150

[Alerche@id-pr.com](mailto:Alerche@id-pr.com)



## **SYNOPSIS**

When stage fright gets the best of her, a former actress (Marin Ireland, "Homeland") stops leaving her apartment, crippled by fear of the outside world. Living off delivery food and residuals from her acting career, she spends her days watching bad TV and spying on the city from her window. But when her toilet overflows and a kind, compassionate plumber (Paul Sparks, "Boardwalk Empire") shows up, she reluctantly allows him into her refuge. A tender, comical love story, grounded by exceptional performances by Ireland and Sparks.

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

I've always loved movies where the suspense hinged on whether the lead character could become vulnerable. *Sparrows Dance* was my attempt at just stripping down story and plot as much as possible and having the whole movie be about, simply, can the lead character let down her guard? Or will she stay isolated? I wanted to try to do a movie about that in the most minimal, simple way possible.

– Noah Buschel

## ABOUT THE CAST

### PAUL SPARKS

Paul Sparks, long regarded as a true gem of the American theater, stars in HBO's award-winning series, "Boardwalk Empire". Produced by Martin Scorsese, the show explores the criminal undercurrent in Atlantic City during Prohibition. Sparks plays "Mickey Doyle" a thug and bootlegger and has won two SAG Awards in the Ensemble category. Shooting for the show's fourth season recently started.

Sparks recently completed production on *Parkland*, written and directed by Peter Landesman. The Tom Hanks-produced film recounts the chaotic events that occurred at Dallas' Parkland Hospital on the day JFK was assassinated. Sparks plays Dallas news reporter, Harry McCormick, who encounters Abraham Zapruder (Paul Giamatti) and leads him to the FBI and the processing of the famed footage. Sparks also completed work on Clark Gregg's dark comedy, *Trust Me*, about a washed up child star-turned-agent (Gregg) hoping to resuscitate his career thanks to a young prodigy. Sparks plays the prodigy's father. This spring, Sparks appeared in *Mud*, Jeff Nichols' follow-up to *Take Shelter*. Sparks played Carver, a bounty hunter in pursuit of Mud, portrayed by Matthew McConnaughy.

Sparks was born in Oklahoma and studied chemical engineering at Oklahoma State University until transferring to New York University, where he graduated with a BFA in acting, and a minor in philosophy.

David Rooney/The NY Times writes, "Since he first gained attention on the New York stage ten years ago,..Paul Sparks has played manic addicts, antisocial misfits, bitter philanderers and other casualties of mismanaged existence" Sparks distinguished work on stage has earned him five Drama Desk Awards nominations, most recently for his performance opposite Kate Walsh in Stephen Belber's *Dusk Rings A Bell*, directed by Sam Gold. His first came in 2000 for the play *Coyote on a Fence* and his frequent collaborations with playwrights Adam Rapp and Craig Wright have resulted in three others.

He first worked with Rapp in 2004 originating the role of Baylis in the London production of *Blackbird*, a role he repeated in New York, earning him a second Drama Desk nomination. (Sparks appeared in the film version of *Blackbird* as well.)

In the same year Sparks' performance in the off-Broadway production of Rapp's *Finer Noble Gases* was called "mesmerizing" by the New York Times. He performed the play at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, where he won The Stage Award for Acting Excellence. Sparks' appearance in Craig Wright's *Orange Flower Water* earned him a third Drama Desk nomination in 2005. He again collaborated with Adam Rapp in the 2007 production of *Essential Self-Defense* resulting in his fourth Drama Desk nomination.

His other stage credits include *American Sligo*, *Pumpgirl* and Craig Wright's *Lady*. Sparks also appeared on Broadway opposite Mary Louise Parker in *Hedda Gabler*.

Sparks' TV credits include a recurring role on *Underemployed*, produced by Craig Wright, the HBO miniseries "Mildred Pierce", all three NY Law & Orders, "Brotherhood" and "Trinity." He will appear on "Person of Interest" later in the season.

Sparks lives in New York with actress Annie Parisse and son Emmett.

## **MARIN IRELAND**

Marin Ireland's critically acclaimed off-Broadway stage career began with *Nocturne* and *Far Away* at the New York Theatre Workshop, and continued with productions including *Sabina* at Primary Stages, *The Triple Happiness* at Second Stage Theatre, *The Harlequin Studies* at Signature Theatre Company, *In The Wake* and *Ruby Sunrise* at the Public Theater, *Blasted* at Soho Rep, *A Lie Of The Mind* at New Group, *Three Sisters* at Classic Stage, and *Cyclone* at Studio Dante, for which she won a 2006 OBIE Award for Performance.

In 2009 she debuted on Broadway to rave reviews with *reasons to be pretty*, which earned her a Drama League nomination, a Tony nomination for Best Performance by a Featured Actress In A Play, and a Theatre World Award for Outstanding Broadway Debut Performance. She also appeared on Broadway in *After Miss Julie* and *The Big Knife*, opposite Bobby Cannavale.

Ireland stars in the upcoming *Untitled Tony Goldwyn Pilot* for weTV. She has appeared in diverse TV shows including "The Killing", "Good Wife", "The Following", and the "Law & Order" trifecta, and had recurring roles in "Mildred Pierce", "A Gifted Man", "Boss" and "Homeland". Her films include *I Am Legend*, *The Understudy*, *Brief Interviews with Hideous Men*, *The Loss of a Teardrop Diamond*, *28 Hotel Rooms*, *Glass Chin* and *Hope Springs*.

## **ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS**

### **NOAH BUSCHEL – WRITER/DIRECTOR**

Noah Buschel is currently in post-production on *Glass Chin* starring Corey Stoll, Billy Crudup, Kelly Lynch, Marin Ireland, and Yul Vazquez. He is also gearing up for production on *MU*, based on Maura O'Halloran's "Pure Heart, Enlightened Mind: The Life and Letters of an Irish Zen Saint," with Jena Malone attached.

His other films include *The Missing Person*, which starred Oscar-nominee Michael Shannon and premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Distributed by Strand Releasing, the film was named in over seven Best Film Lists of 2009 and Buschel was nominated for a Gotham Award for Breakthrough Director.

Noah previously wrote and directed *Neal Cassady*, starring Tate Donovan and Oscar-nominee Amy Ryan, which was released by IFC Films; and *Bringing Rain*, starring Adrian Grenier and Paz de la Huerta, which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival.

Buschel was born in Philadelphia in 1978, and grew up in New York City's Greenwich Village. He spent some time as a contributing editor for *Tricycle Magazine* and still writes for *Hammer to Nail*. He was ordained a Zen priest in 2002 by Sensei Pat Enkyo O'Hara.

### **LOUISE RUNGE & SAMANTHA HOUSMAN – PRODUCERS**

Louise Runge and Samantha Housman co-founded ONEZERO Films in 2008.

ONEZERO Films is an independent production company, specializing in feature film production, post production management, and delivery.

They are currently in post-production on Noah Buschel's *Glass Chin*, starring Corey Stoll, Marin Ireland, Kelly Lynch and Billy Crudup.

They were producing partners with Lynette Howell on Matt Ross' *28 Hotel Rooms*, starring Chris Messina and Marin Ireland, which premiered at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival, and was released theatrically by Oscilloscope Laborites in the fall of 2012. The charming modern romance *The Four-Faced Liar*, directed by Jacob Chase, was produced by Housman and executive produced by Runge. It premiered at the 2010 Slamdance Film Festival and won HBO's Audience award at Outfest. The film was released by Wolfe Video and can be seen on MTV Networks.

Prior to founding ONEZERO, Runge was the post production manager at Yari Film Group where she implemented all aspects of domestic and international delivery; Housman was a freelance AD gaining invaluable onset experience.

ONEZERO'S recent post production credits include *The Place Beyond the Pines*, *You Are Here*, and *Chernobyl Diaries*.

### **MICHAELA CONLIN – EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

Michaela Conlin has quickly established herself as one of Hollywood's most sought-after and vibrant young talents and has been nominated for an Asian Excellence Award in the Supporting Television Actress category for her role as Angela Montenegro on FOX's long running hit television series "Bones."

Conlin's film credits include *The Lincoln Lawyer*, alongside Matthew McConaughey, Marisa Tomei and William H. Macy; a cameo in the film *Enchanted*, with Amy Adams; as well as the Sundance Film Festival favorite *Love the Hard Way*, opposite Academy Award winner Adrien Brody. She also played confidante to Robin Tunney in *Open Window*, which won Best Picture at the Reel Women International Film Festival.

Conlin has also had an extensive television career, including series regular roles on the ABC dramas "MDs," "The D.A." and BRAVO's "The It Factor."

She graduated from New York University's acclaimed Tisch School of the Arts, where she earned her B.F.A. in theater. While there, Conlin worked with the Atlantic Theater Company, Playwrights Horizons and The Public Theater, among others. She is also a graduate of the Experimental Theatre Wing's International Training Program in Amsterdam.

Originally from Allentown, Pennsylvania, Conlin grew up doing theater, performing in her first play at age six. She currently lives in Los Angeles.

**CREDITS**

ONEZERO FILMS Presents

SPARROWS DANCE

Written and Directed by NOAH BUSCHEL

Produced by SAMANTHA HOUSMAN and LOUISE RUNGE

Executive Producer MICHAELA CONLIN

Starring

PAUL SPARKS

MARIN IRELAND

Costume Designer JAMIE BRESNAN

Art Director TODD DAVIS

Production Designer MEGAN COTTS

Edited by BRETT JUTKIEWICZ

Director of Photography RYAN SAMUL