

Betty

BANNERBOOK

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SUMMARY

TITLE: BETTY BANGKOK

RT: 90 MIN

LANGUAGES: ENGLISH & THAI

LOCATION: BANGKOK **PERIOD:** 1987

GENRE: DRAMA **STATUS:** FINANCING

BUDGET: 4,8M SEK

WEBSITE: WWW.BETTYBANGKOK.COM

WRITER/DIRECTOR: LOVISA INSERRA

PRODUCERS: EMMA K DIXGÅRD & HANS LÖNNERHEDEN

SWEDISH PRODUCTION COMPANY: RED SISTER/MOVIOLA

LOCAL THAI PRODUCTION COMPANY: LIVING FILMS

NGO PARTNER: SAVE THE CHILDREN

LOGLINE: BANGKOK 1987. A 10 year old orphan escapes from the mafia and finds temporary protection with JIM SLICK, a Vietnam Veteran running a bar in the red light district. The mismatched duo form an unlikely friendship, but it can't last - because she's not looking for a friend - she's looking for a home.



SYNOPSIS

BETTY, a 10-year-old street kid orphaned by the Khmer Rouge, is brought to Bangkok to sell flowers to the tourists who are slowly transforming the area. The year is 1987 and Bangkok is a place where you can still find areas crowded by adventurers, hiding from conventions, conformity and whatever else they left behind. Out of all the bars in Bangkok, she walks in to The Shangri-La owned by **JIM SLICK**, a Vietnam War veteran who likes kids only marginally better than the silver spooned travellers disrupting the status quo of this last clandestine outpost. But Betty is no ordinary kid. She is marked by war and fighting for a place to belong, a feeling Slick knows only too well.



THE CHARACTERS



Jim Slick



Betty



Dia



Karem



Okie Bill



Mamasan



Atid



Dolly Day

THE LOCATIONS



BANGKOK STYLE 1987



INSPIRATION



or Léon 4)



Paper Moon



Beast of a Southern Wild



Oliver Twist



True Grit



Children Underground



Pixote



Mouchette



Killer of Sheep

THE SISTER DUO

The sister duo made their first feature film **BUSTER** in 2008. Since then they've been making music videos, a 30 minute thriller for Swedish TV called **THE CONSERVATORY**, and a 10 minute conceptual piece called **WELCOME TO CALIGOLA**. The past two years they have been developing and writing a 10 episode TV-series about cyber crime with support from the Swedish Film Institute that **ZENTROPA** is producing. **BETTY BANGKOK** is their next feature.

EMMA K DIXGÅRD | Producer

RED SISTER AB

www.redsister.se

Red Sister AB is owned and operated by Producer Emma K. Dixgård. This year Emma is opening up **FISHER KING SWEDEN** - a Finnish production company now establishing an office in Sweden. Emma is a lawyer specialized in media law and a former music supervisor who used to head a talent agency, who now focuses on producing and developing stories and making them come to life. She has a Master of Law from University of Stockholm, a Master in Audiovisual Management from Magica (MEDIA Program) in Rome, a year of human rights law and international law at Aristoteles University in Thessaloniki. She was selected amongst 11 others for a mentor/network program hosted by the regional fund, FRSM, called "The Producer as a Leader" 2013-14. EAVE graduate 2014.

LOVISA INSERRA | Director

GOVERNESS FILMS, INC.

www.governessfilms.com

Lovisa Inserra started her career as an assistant to directors and producers in New York and LA 1999. Lovisa moved to Bangkok to research **BETTY BANGKOK** and lived above the bar where the story is set. In 2001 she founded **GOVERNESS FILMS**, an international community of independent female film artists. www.governessfilms.com Aside from writing, directing and editing she is engaged in issue based film projects like working with Stanford University on their online course "Democratic Development". She also started a hashtag system for local journalists www.hashtagreporter.com and does interviews for a Privacy as Innovation network privacyasinnovation.wordpress.com and in 2013 she helped produce a photo exhibition in Yangon that Aung San Suu Kyi opened about the ethnic minorities there. She also does graphics: www.bunkerland.com

Hans Lönnnerheden has produced over 30 films and is the Production Executive for the Completion bond company European Film Bonds (EFB) since 2009. Hans has known producer Emma K Dixgård since she was a child actress in a film called "Istanbul - Keep Your Eyes Open" that he lineproduced in 1988.

Director Moviola Film & Television AB 1991- present
Member Swedish Film Academy
European Film Academy
Prod Executive European Film Bonds A/S 2009 -
Prod Executive Film Finances Scandinavia, 1998-2009
Head of Prod Nice Drama 2013-2014
Senior Adv Eyeworks Sweden 2011 -2013
Head of Prod Sonet 1989 - 91
Head of Prod Nordisk Tonefilm 1979 - 81
Freelance 1982-89

moviolafilm&tv

Awards Won Swedish Guldbagge award **ONDSKAN** a.k.a **EVIL** Best Film
Nom. Swedish Guldbagge award **MANNEN PÅ BALKONGEN** Best Film
Nom. Academy Award "Oscar" **EVIL** Best foreign film
Won London International FF **TRAIN TO HEAVEN** Best Film

Recent titles (select): Head of Prod **THICKER THAN WATER**, 10x1h TV-series, Head of Prod **THE HUNDRED YEAR OLD MAN...** Feature film, Producer **MARIA WERN**, 2x90m, TV-films, Producer **ESKIL OCH TRINIDAD**, feature film, Co-Producer **LABRADOR**, feature film, Producer **FÖR KÄRLEKEN** (a.k.a. **DEAR ALICE**) feature film, Co-producer **FRI OS FRA DET ONDE**, feature film, Executive Producer **FRÄMMANDE FÅGEL**, 4x43min TV-series, Producer **TUSENBRÖDER - ÅTERKOMSTEN** feature film, **KILL YOUR DARLINGS**, feature film, Producer **STRANDVASKAREN**, "DROWNING GHOST", feature film, Executive Producer **LILLA JÖNSSONLIGAN PÅ KOLLO**, feature film, Producer **ONDSKAN "EVIL"** feature film,

Full credits: <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0530505/>

Early on in the development of **BETTY BANGKOK** we talked about the responsibility of doing fiction. Films that deal with humanitarian issues provide an opportunity to raise awareness and funding to help the people you are portraying. **SAVE THE CHILDREN** is the world's leading independent organisation for children. With **BETTY BANGKOK** we will create a portrait of a child left to fend for herself. Together with **SAVE THE CHILDREN** we want to lead the viewers who are moved by the subject to information about how they can help children in similar situations. **SAVE THE CHILDREN** will also use the topics in the film as a starting point for open debate about children's rights. We will make an advocacy piece for them in conjunction with our production, that they can use as an additional outreach tool.



Experts within their organisation will also provide help during production to ensure that the children in the film have a great experience and that the money they make is put towards their future education and well being.



Living Films read **BETTY BANGKOK** at an early stage of development and understood the story right from the start. We are very pleased to work with them as our local production partner. There is no company we feel more certain will ensure that we can work in a respectful and efficient way in Thailand, a culture that is very accessible but still quite far from ours.

Living Films is one of the top film production companies based in Thailand.

They have experience in almost every genre of filmmaking. In their first fifteen years, they have shot more than twenty feature films and TV series. Meanwhile, their television commercial arm has been expanding every year. They now represent a dozen senior European commercial directors in Thailand. They are also passionate about documentary films.

While building their reputation as an honest, family style production house, they have gained huge experience in the nuts and bolts of filmmaking in Thailand and South East Asia. Living Films brings enthusiasm and experience to the table.

Living films has done big studio films like **THE HANGOVER II** and **BANGKOK DANGEROUS** but also tons of smaller indie projects. In short they know how to maximize a budget and work to raise the production value on a smaller budget film like **BETTY BANGKOK**.



We have a letter of intent from **THE CHIMNEY GROUP** to collaborate with us during the post production phase of **BETTY BANGKOK** adding part of their services as an investment to the project.

CHIMNEY is Sweden's leading post production facility and they specialise in a new and unique approach that covers each step of the creation process, from conception all the way through development, production and world-class post-production.

Chimney has well-established relationships with regional and national funds throughout Europe. Thanks to their knowledge and experience within film financing they are able to support filmmakers all over the world. They've even published a book about European film funds. Every year Chimney is involved in several co-productions ranging from international feature films to local drama productions.



Take a look at some of the work they did on Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy



THE CAST

JIM SLICK | Clark Johnson

Clark Johnson is an actor/director behind projects like **THE WIRE**, **THE SENTINEL**, **BOYCOTT** & **S.W.A.T.** Apart from his role in season five of **THE WIRE** he recently played opposite John Goodman in Amazon's **ALPHA HOUSE**. Lovisa Inserra was his assistant for 7 years and wrote the part of **JIM SLICK** for him.

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0424800>

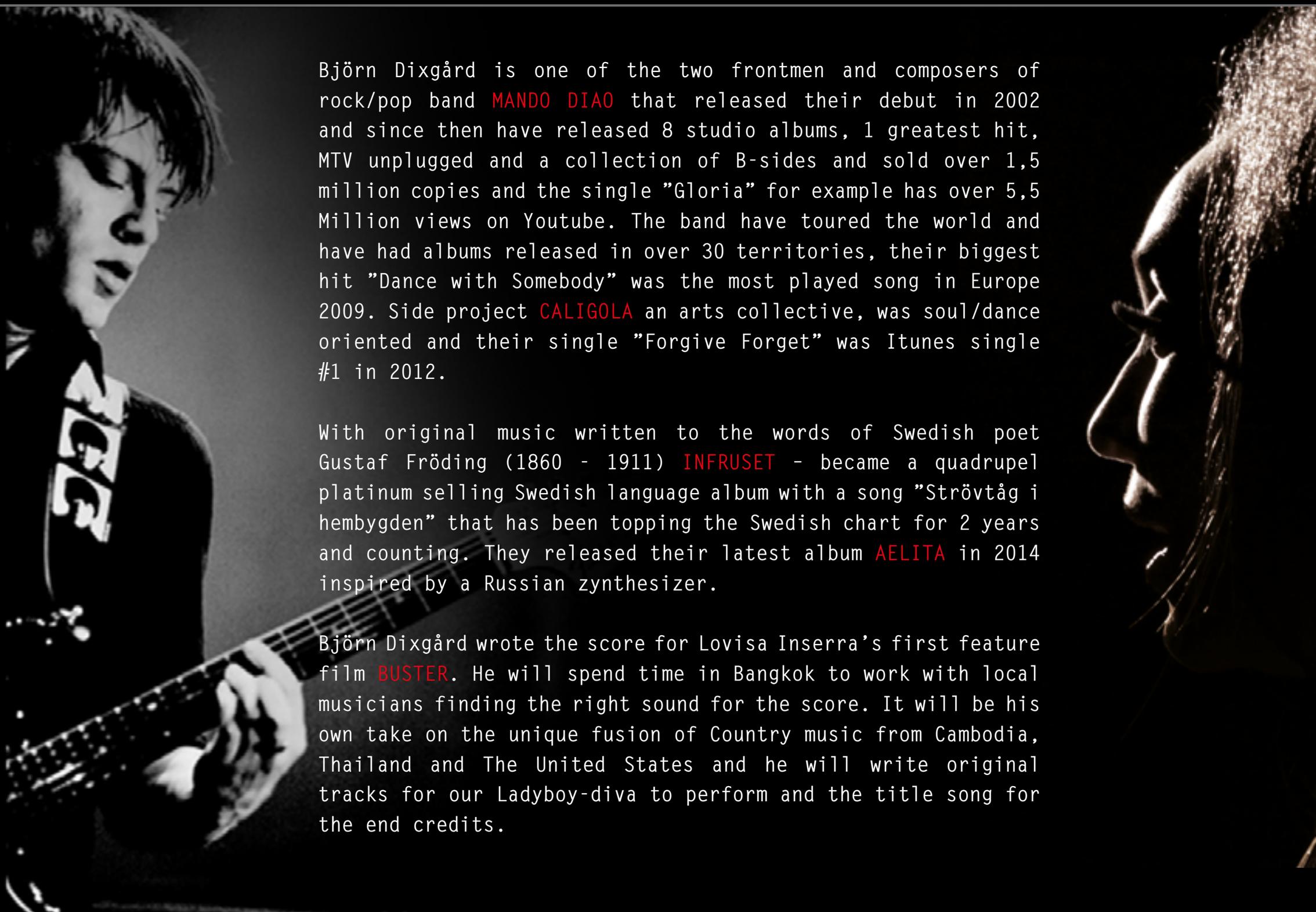


DOLLY DAY | Channarong Khammuk

CHANNARONG KHAMMUK, is a performer at **DJ STATION** on Silom 2 in Bangkok. She will play **DOLLY DAY**, the ladyboy diva in **BETTY BANGKOK**. Dolly Day performs twice in the film and **BJÖRN K. DIXGÅRD** will write the songs. Emma & Lovisa did a music video with her for **CALIGOLA** that you can see here:

<https://vimeo.com/38728558>





Björn Dixgård is one of the two frontmen and composers of rock/pop band **MANDO DIAO** that released their debut in 2002 and since then have released 8 studio albums, 1 greatest hit, MTV unplugged and a collection of B-sides and sold over 1,5 million copies and the single "Gloria" for example has over 5,5 Million views on Youtube. The band have toured the world and have had albums released in over 30 territories, their biggest hit "Dance with Somebody" was the most played song in Europe 2009. Side project **CALIGOLA** an arts collective, was soul/dance oriented and their single "Forgive Forget" was iTunes single #1 in 2012.

With original music written to the words of Swedish poet Gustaf Fröding (1860 - 1911) **INFRUSET** - became a quadruple platinum selling Swedish language album with a song "Strövtåg i hembygden" that has been topping the Swedish chart for 2 years and counting. They released their latest album **AELITA** in 2014 inspired by a Russian synthesizer.

Björn Dixgård wrote the score for Lovisa Inserra's first feature film **BUSTER**. He will spend time in Bangkok to work with local musicians finding the right sound for the score. It will be his own take on the unique fusion of Country music from Cambodia, Thailand and The United States and he will write original tracks for our Ladyboy-diva to perform and the title song for the end credits.

Linda Källérus is an up and coming cinematographer with over a decade's worth of experience from working with some of the industries greats. She has worked alongside DP's such as Tim Orr (David Gordon Green's DP), Paul Cameron (ASC - [Man on Fire](#), [Collateral](#)), Terry Stacey (ASC - [American Splendor](#)), Sean Bobbit (BSC - [Hunger](#), [Shame](#)), Benoit Delhomme ([The Talented Mr. Ripley](#)), Tom Richmond ([Palindromes](#), [House of 1000 Corpses](#)), Lisa Rinzler ([Trees Lounge](#), [Pollock](#)) and Nancy Schreiber (ASC - [Book of Shadows](#)).

Her debut feature was the gritty, super 8mm film [BUSTER](#), directed by Lovisa Inserra. The director/cinematographer team has since collaborated on numerous music videos and film projects, including the 30-minute thriller film [THE CONSERVATORY](#), one of six short film projects to be awarded funds from the Swedish Film Institute and the Swedish national broadcaster SVT in 2011. Most recently they completed a film called, [WELCOME TO CALIGOLA](#), an Eyes-Wide-Shut-like introduction to the chart-topping band [CALIGOLA](#). Linda is a part of the New York based film collective [Governess Films](#).

Linda also shoots stills for films. Some of her work can be seen on: www.lindaingeborg.com





APPS & OUTREACH

The iPad/iPhone application we are planning for **BETTY BANGKOK** is a hub for the project as a whole. It will be a platform to build, as well as communicate, with our audience and depending on distributors wishes could be a way to generate revenue. From buying tickets to eventually buying and downloading the film or soundtrack the application will also include clips from real life stories that inspired the film.

FOR A MOCK UP GO TO:

www.redsister.se/ipad



THE STREET KIDS

In our research we filmed some Cambodian street kids in the redlight district in Bangkok.

WATCH CLIP HERE:

<https://vimeo.com/38277398>

Chiang Mai is cluttered with Burmese street kids. They grow up stateless without access to school or health care.

WATCH CLIP HERE:

<https://vimeo.com/57826953>



THE VETERANS

After the war in Vietnam many American veterans ended up in Bangkok. Disappointed in their homecoming they found a sanctuary where likeminded servicemen retired. We have talked to the veterans about their lives, current wars and the lessons the administration failed to learn. (This clips is quite rough...)

WATCH CLIP HERE:

<https://vimeo.com/42692725>

pw: boonchoo15



WORK SAMPLES

THE CONSERVATORY

A scene from our 30 minute thriller **THE CONSERVATORY** about a woman lured back home after the presumed death of her father.

Directed & Edited by Lovisa Inserra

Produced by Emma K Dixgård

DP Linda Källérus

WATCH CLIP HERE:

<https://vimeo.com/35240344>



CONTACT

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Save the Children

