

A woman with short blonde hair, wearing a long, textured brown coat and carrying a woven basket, is walking away from the camera on a dirt path. The path runs alongside a canal with a concrete wall and a metal railing. In the background, there are white houses with black window frames and a thatched-roof building. The scene is set in a rural or suburban area with trees and bushes. The lighting is soft, suggesting late afternoon or early morning.

Alma

press kit



genre: drama

duration: 15:03

shooting format: digital

aspect ratio: 2.20

country: united kingdom

language: english

audio format: stereo

Logline

Elderly woman, Alma, navigates her love life following the death of her wife.

Synopsis

Alma lives alone in her quaint cottage. We follow her as she navigates everyday life in her old age. Lonely, she takes pleasure in visiting a local farm shop most days. When she starts to unexpectedly develop feelings for the shopkeeper Joan, Alma is confronted with mixed feelings about moving on from her late wife; contemplating going against a promise she made to herself to live out the rest of her years alone.





Gilda Waugh as Alma

Gilda is a seasoned London-based actor whose career began in the mid-1970s after an early start as a professional dancer. She used to work in both screen and commercial dance, bringing elegance and energy to every role. Born in Central London, Gilda is deeply connected to the city's cultural roots and also used to work as a guide at the Charles Dickens Museum. With a lifelong love of romances, she was thrilled to bring her experience and passion to the screen once again.

A close-up portrait of Louise Thomas, an older woman with long, wavy white hair and bangs. She is looking slightly to the left of the camera with a gentle expression. She is wearing a dark blue top and a light-colored apron with a colorful beaded necklace. The background is a blurred kitchen or workshop with wooden shelves holding various jars and containers.

Louise Thomas as Joan

Louise is a mature British actor with a wealth of life experience that brings depth and authenticity to her performances. A mother of four and grandmother of eight, she spent many years working as a software engineering manager before returning to her creative roots. Now, alongside her acting career, she channels her artistry into beautiful patchwork and quilting. Louise is drawn to roles that reflect real, lived lives, and was delighted to bring her sensitivity and strength to a production rich in character and history.



Bethan Waller as Sarah

Bethan is an English actress based between London and Bath with a passion for bold, emotionally resonant storytelling. She began acting at the age of 10 and trained at the Bristol Acting Academy. Bethan made her lead debut in the feature film *The Last Rite*, and continues to build a body of work that showcases her intensity, versatility, and quiet strength; qualities she brought wholeheartedly to her recent work in *Alma*. Bethan won Best Actress at the Bristol Independent Film Festival in 2024, and New Renaissance Film Festival's Emerging Talent festival for the role of 'Pat' in the movie *Caretaker*.



Crew



Lea Neumayer
Director

“This project marked my first time stepping into the role of director on a film of this scale, and I couldn’t have wished for a more dedicated and talented team to bring it to life. From the moment we started developing the story, I resonated with *Alma* on a deep, personal level. I’m incredibly proud of what we have created together and can’t wait to share this unique love story with audiences on the big screen.”



Isabel Harrison
Producer

“This was my biggest project I have been the producer on and it was definitely a challenge; from finding a cottage that could hold over 15 people to closing a shop down for filming, my communication and group management skills have certainly been strengthened. *Alma* is such a special film with the most talented group working behind it - we have definitely brought you a story you can just fall in love with! My next step will be taking our film to film festivals around the UK to show everyone how hard we have worked and a film that deserves to be celebrated.”



Emma Heal
Writer

“As the writer of *Alma*, it was an incredible privilege to craft this story, knowing I had the support of such a talented and passionate crew to bring it to life with care and creativity. Collaborating with every department on set was a truly inspiring experience, and I’m deeply grateful for the dedication each person brought to the project. I hope *Alma* resonates with audiences and serves as a reminder that it’s never too late to begin a new chapter in your life.”



Jack Hebditch
Director of Photography

“It’s been a pleasure to take on the role again this year as DP, developing as a cinematographer. The jump from my previous film *Autumn of Life* to *Alma* has been immense, but an experience I’m truly grateful for. Representing another elderly story through the queer lens has allowed me to approach this narrative with a different mindset; I believe it’s vital to push for more representation of LGBTQ+ themes and storylines and to have the opportunity to do so from the perspective of elderly lesbians is what inspires me to keep filming. Sculpting the visuals of this film has been a great honour and I hope that anyone who sees *Alma* can feel the passion and attention that has been poured into this film.”



Joe Batting
Gaffer

“I’m so proud of what myself and the team has accomplished with *Alma*. I came into the project as the gaffer, working alongside our brilliant DoP Jack Hebditch. I knew the lighting was going to be so important in creating the bright, sunny atmosphere of the shop and the warm but suffocating interior of the house. I’ve learnt so much these past few months in my research, practice and the real deal on set. Above all, I’ve really enjoyed working on *Alma* with this amazing crew to get our film over the finish line.”



PRIYA
Production Designer

“Taking on the role of production designer for *Alma* has been an exciting and rewarding step in my growth as a designer. It has allowed me to take the skills I’ve honed and apply them to a more expansive vision; one where every set piece, prop, and space tells a part of the story. For *Alma*, this has meant designing environments that feel rich with memory and history, like the eclectic village farm shop or the cozy, rustic cottage. But above all, the pleasure has been in working with such a dedicated team of creatives who care so much about this film and its characters’ journeys.”



Alex Carvalho
Sound Recordist

“*Alma* was an incredible opportunity to refine my skills as a Sound Recordist and Foley Artist. The collaboration with an amazing crew allowed me to experiment with new techniques and tackle unique challenges. I was able to enhance scenes through creative sound design, from capturing dialogue to crafting custom foley effects. The experience deepened my understanding of sound’s power in storytelling. I’m grateful for the chance to grow and contribute to this project alongside such talented individuals.”



Zoë Norgate
Editor

“I feel incredibly fortunate to have worked as Editor and Colourist on this project, especially in helping to craft a heartwarming and uplifting story that shines a light on a highly underrepresented topic within the broader LGBTQIA+ community. *Alma* has been both a refreshing personal and creative journey, and I’m truly proud to have been part of such a talented and passionate team. Contributing to a narrative that fosters visibility, empathy, and understanding for voices too often left unheard has been a deeply rewarding experience; one I hope resonates with audiences and makes a meaningful impact on screen.”



Corey White
Post-Sound Designer

“*Alma* was an incredibly fun, but also challenging (in a good way), film to work on, as my previous sound design projects have all fallen within the Horror or Thriller genre, where everything I design is done to create an unsettling atmosphere. *Alma* has challenged me to use my skills to evoke senses of hope and joy in the viewer, whilst also building a connection to the internal conflict of our character, all of which I have never had to do through sound design before. I hope that with my sound design and our DOP’s visuals blended together, *Alma* will make you cry, smile and feel the sense of hope that the film has been made to create.”

Additional Crew

1st Assistant Director: Lottie Carey

1st Assistant Camera: Tess Ekelund

2nd Assistant Camera: Amelie Slater

Key Grip: Joe Walters

Best Boy: Jack Beguin

Boom Operator: Marlowe Shale

VFX: Pedro Pinto

BTS Photography: Edward Samuels

Runners: Scarlett Howes & Maria Kostrzewa

Composer: Phoebe Hutchason

Stills & BTS

To view our film's downloadable stills and BTS, visit our website:

www.almashortfilm.co.uk

Posters & Artwork

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Trailer



Festival Strategy

Alma stands as part of the small but powerful group of positive lesbian film representation, something we believe deserves far greater visibility. What makes Alma even more unique is that she is an elderly lesbian character, a perspective that is rarely explored on screen. We aim to connect with audiences who see themselves in her story, as well as those who simply appreciate heartfelt, authentic LGBTQ+ dramas.

We have poured our hearts into bringing Alma to life and so in order to share this story with as many people as possible, we'll be submitting to a variety of film festivals in hopes that both our message and our work will be recognised and can be celebrated.



Contact

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Crowdfunder: www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/almashortfilm

Instagram: www.instagram.com/almashort.film

TikTok: www.tiktok.com/@almashort.film

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@TheAlmaShortFilm