



WAVING

BIOHAVEN PRESENT A TANKTOP FILMS AND GROUCHY DOG FILMS CO-PRODUCTION RALPH INESON KRISSE BOHN EMILY AMOH SOPHIE BOULD IN A FILM BY ROLFIN NYHUS AND STEVEN BRUMWELL "WAVING" DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ANDREW ALDERSLADE
CASTING DIRECTOR CAMERON CULVER COSTUMES BY SANYA TORKMORAD-JOZAVI EDITORS WILLIAM HONEYBALL AND ROLFIN NYHUS PRODUCTION DESIGN ADRIANA FARIA EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CATHERINE BENFIELD RUSSEL LAZEGA ETHAN S. SMITH
PRODUCED BY ROLFIN NYHUS STEVEN BRUMWELL CO-PRODUCERS JESSICA BIRCH ANDREW ALDERSLADE LINE PRODUCER TIM WILLRICH CONSULTING PRODUCER SIONA DAVIES ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS LIA DONAHUE DEBORAH PRICE



NUMORBERDESIGN.COM



'Best Short Film'

In consideration for the 2024 BAFTA Awards.



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35 INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVALS

20 AWARD WINS & 35 AWARD NOMINATIONS



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CONTACT DETAILS


UK & EUROPE (OCD)


OCD & Mental Health Contact


Catherine Benfield
(Exec Producer)

catherine@tamingolivia.com

www.tamingolivia.com

 /tamingoliviaMH

 /taming_olivia_ocrd

 /TamingOlivia

USA & INTERNATIONAL (OCD)


OCD & Mental Health Contact

Ethan S. Smith
(Exec Producer)

ethocrd@gmail.com

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www.wavingfilm.com

 /WavingFilm

 /wavingfilm

UK & INTERNATIONAL (FILM)


Film Reviews / Interviews Contact

Rolfin: + 44 (0) 7763 694 957
Steve: +44 (0) 7415 066831

waving@tanktopfilms.com

www.tanktopfilms.com


 /tanktopfilms

 /tanktop_films

 /Tanktopfilms



WAVING

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FILM INFORMATION

Title	WAVING
Duration	18 minutes
Director/Co-writer	Rolfin Nyhus
Writer/Collaborating Director	Steven Brumwell
Production Companies	TankTop Films & Grouchy Dog Films
Country	United Kingdom
Completion Date	July 2022
Language	English
Subtitles (optional)	English (hardcoded) Italian (hardcoded) Spanish (hardcoded)
Picture / Aspect Ratio	Colour / 2.35:1
Shooting Format	Digital
Exhibition Format	Digital
Sound	Stereo & Surround 5.1


A TankTop Films and
Grouchy Dog Films Co-Production



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TAG LINE

An unflinchingly honest portrayal
of the misunderstood condition that
is Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.




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SYNOPSIS

His worst fears seemingly realised; a distraught father takes one last walk through his ruined world.

For most people, being at the centre of their own world and having a loving family is a joyous thing they revel in. For Charlie it is a literal nightmare.

Waving explores the anguish of a father in self-imposed exile to shield his family from his obsessive-compulsive disorder and the emotionally destructive thoughts he cannot escape.

WRITER'S STATEMENT

Let's talk about what OCD is not. It is not a cute collection of quirks that everyone has some element of. It is not Monica from friends quipping about wanting a smaller vacuum cleaner. It is not wanting everything to be nice and ordered in a vague visual desire for symmetry. It is not Jack Nicholson in As Good As It Gets!


Waving focuses on the incredible toil OCD has on mental health. When every thought is a battlefield of dire warnings and every object radiates anxiety into the very centre of your being.

Obsessions that bad things will happen, particularly to one's family, unless illogical compulsions are carried out is a crippling condition. Underneath these physical compulsions (i.e. repetitive cleaning, turning light switches on and off and every other trope you have heard of in connection with OCD) is a torment of uncontrollable anxiety about the welfare of those dearest to you.

The condition clouds every aspect of your perception to the point where you no longer know what is real.



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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

This extreme story has abstract truths about taking mental health seriously and above all else not isolating oneself and not pretending it is possible to handle these or similar issues on one's own.

Charlie's compulsions arise from the well of his subconscious which is why a strong surrealist element, without tipping into the absurd, runs through our film. It is principally a mood piece, pulling on references and motifs from visual art and using an almost Lynchian soundscape to compliment the carefully considered images.

This surrealist-leaning aesthetic coupled with a social-realist vein aims to project Charlie's emotional and psychological state onto the very everyday surroundings which torment him.

Unlike physical impairments, psychological and emotional wounds are not easily perceived. They require other, more complex signs and signifiers to be adequately communicated. In other words; a means of signalling.

Hence the title of our film: Waving, not drowning. A fitting metaphor for being attentive to the welfare of our loved ones' inner lives and compassionately enquiring if underneath their behaviour lies a covert cry for help.

CREATIVE LEADS BIOGRAPHIES



ROLFIN NYHUS

DIRECTOR / CO-WRITER / PRODUCER / EDITOR

Rolfin developed his interest in filmmaking while reading English Literature, producing work for other directors in his spare time. Spurred on by his love of European cinema - particularly the work of Bergman, Haneke, Herzog and Mike Leigh - he abandoned further academic study at King's

College to establish TankTop Films as a vehicle for his own projects. He is a native Londoner with English, Irish and Scandinavian roots. Waving is his 4th narrative film, which after a successful festival run has been accepted for consideration by BAFTA in the 'Best Short Film' category for 2024.

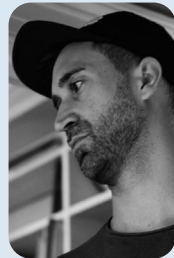


STEVEN BRUMWELL

WRITER / COLLABORATING DIRECTOR / PRODUCER

Steven has been fascinated by the silver screen since being left awestruck by the magnificence of Indiana Jones' heroism at the ABC in Birmingham, 1981. A bit of a polymath, he has launched numerous enterprises but always returned to the written word. Influenced by Wilder,

Lynch, Kurosawa and Lynne Ramsey, he strives to portray broad emotions in interesting ways. His work is continually drawn to the deep well of mental wellbeing by his battles with OCD since early childhood, Waving is his first project to be filmed.



ANDREW ALDERSLADE

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Andy has photographed documentaries for BBC1 and Sky, independent features and larger international productions. This has included working with a

variety of talent including the late veteran director Philip Saville and stars Priyanka Chopra, Eric Clapton, Lilly James, Rosie Huntington-Whiteley and Ruth Negga.



ADRIANA FARIA

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Adriana has been working in the film industry since 2000, leading the Art Dept for several projects for feature and short films, advertising campaigns,

music videos, fashion films and TV shows of global renown like Masterchef, First Dates, working for channels like Fox, MTV, Boomerang among others. Graduated in Architecture, previously working in fine arts but with a passion for films, has come to production design through an unorthodox route, as many designers have. She loves multidisciplinary projects and the challenge of bringing material alive in character-driven films and uses the psychology of space, shape, colour.



CAMERON CULVER

CASTING DIRECTOR

Cameron studied Drama at the University of Sussex before learning his trade at some of London's leading talent agencies. The demands of his freelance work

lead to the creation of his own company in 2019. He comes from a long line of actors and is passionate about discovering and promoting new talent.

EXECUTIVE LEADS BIOGRAPHIES



CATHERINE BENFIELD - EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Catherine Benfield is an internationally recognised OCD and mental health advocate. She is founder of TamingOlivia.com, a space where people with OCD can focus on recovery through kindness, self-compassion and creativity. She has been invited to speak at major events worldwide and authored articles ranging from respected professional medical journals to widely read op-ed pieces for: BBC News, Virgin Radio, Women's Health Magazine amongst others and was runner up for the NHS Who Cares Wins Mental Health Hero Award. Catherine has had OCD since childhood but didn't receive a diagnosis until 32 and now relentlessly fights to stop that happening to others.



ETHAN S. SMITH - EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Ethan S. Smith currently lives in the Los Angeles and Atlanta areas working as a writer/ director/ producer and OCD advocate and consultant. Prior, Ethan worked as a professional actor appearing in shows like CSI: Miami, Dexter, The Sopranos and films Big Trouble, All About The Benjamins, HBO's Recount, I Love You, Man, and Dark House, to name a few. Ethan was born with OCD and struggled the majority of his life until receiving life-changing treatment in 2010. Ethan was the keynote speaker at the 2014 Annual International OCD Foundation Conference in Los Angeles. He served as an IOCDF National Spokesperson from 2015–2017, as the IOCDF National Ambassador from 2018–2020, and currently serves as an IOCDF National Advocate. He's devoted his life to reducing stigma around OCD and mental health, to education, and to supporting the OCD community.




RUSSELL LAZEGA - EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Russel Lazega is a lawyer living in North Miami Beach, Florida. He has sidelined as a columnist for the Aventura News, moonlighted as an 80's "thinning hair" band musician and has written several widely distributed books. His most recent family memoir, *Managing Bubbie*, has won over 20 awards and was also released as a celebrity-ensemble audiobook (starring Linda Lavin, Gavin McLeod, Lainie Kazan, René Taylor, Judy Tenuta and more). The story is currently in development to become a feature film, which he is executive producing.



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TAMING OLIVIA 

BIOHAVEN



Biohaven is a commercial-stage biopharmaceutical company with a portfolio of innovative, best-in-class therapies to improve the lives of patients with debilitating neurological and neuropsychiatric diseases, including rare disorders. We are led by Dr. Vlad Coric, who was an OCD researcher and OCD treating physician at Yale University before joining the pharma industry and ultimately the CEO of Biohaven.

We are also a passionate group of dedicated individuals who come to work each day with a commitment to making a difference in the lives of patients. OCD research is one of our deepest passions. We are honored and committed to supporting the OCD community by being the first pharmaceutical company in almost 30 years to investigate a new potential treatment for OCD.

THE PRODUCERS WISH TO THANK



DEBORAH PRICE

Deborah Price lives in the United States in Connecticut where Biohaven is based. Deborah has been with Biohaven since the company started and has worn many different hats as the company has grown. Her favorite role has been working on recruitment for the OCD clinical study program. Through her recruitment work, Deborah has had the privilege of forging relationships with advocates, influencers and patient groups within the OCD community who inspire her daily to work hard to further the science of OCD research. Prior to working at Biohaven, Deborah worked in academic research that focused primarily on neurobehavioral research. Deborah has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Trinity College, a Master of Arts in Teaching from Sacred Heart University, and a Master of Library Science degree from Southern Connecticut State University.



LIA DONAHUE

Lia Donahue, of the Biohaven OCD Research Team, is based in Connecticut, USA. Lia has worked in psychiatric research for over 20 years and is passionate about moving the OCD field forward; by increasing awareness and enhancing treatment options. She is extremely excited to partner with the advocacy groups and individuals who have been making significant progress to improve OCD education and who are dedicated to obtaining accurate diagnoses and earlier initiation of treatment. She is grateful to be a part of helping to broadly communicate what OCD is and the appropriate therapies, with the goal of de-stigmatizing the illness and empowering all with OCD.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



RALPH INESON - 'Charlie'

Ralph Ineson was born on December 15, 1969 in Leeds, West Yorkshire. He is known for *The Witch* (Robert Eggers, 2015), *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs* (Coen Brothers, 2018), *The Green Knight* (James Lowry, 2021) and *The Tragedy Of Macbeth* (Coen brothers, 2021).



KRISSI BOHN - 'Sarah'

Krissi trained at Manchester Metropolitan School of Theatre and played Jenna Kamara in the hugely popular *Coronation Street* between 2012 and 2014. Other screen credits include *Compulsion* (C5); *Vera* (ITV); *Floodlights* (BBC); *Innocent* (ITV); *Counterpart* (Starz); *Years & Years* (BBC); *The A Word* (BBC); *Law & Order* (ITV); *Anne* (ITV); *Moving On* (BBC)



EMILY AMOH - 'Sophie'

Born in September 2008 and from Dartford, Kent. *Waving* is Emily's debut film performance. Emily is passionate about dance (as well as acting) and has won numerous competitions. She is currently signed to Rebel Nineteen and has appeared in various commercials including a BBC Ident and has modelled for the likes of Clarks, M&S and New Look.



HOWARD SAMUELS - 'Newsreader'

Howard is a versatile stage, TV and film actor based in London. Known for *The Nativity* and *Just Good Friends* (BBC); *A Tale of Two Cities* (PBS); *Brighton Belles* (LWT) and the award-winning video *New Frontier* (Warner Bros). Film credits include: *Shane in Nail*; *Jack the Ripper* in *Jack and the Cuckoo Clock Heart* (Luc Besson Films) and *Max Headroom* (Jankel and Morton).



SOPHIE BOULD - 'Grace'

Television credits include: *Nolly* (ITV), *Ghosts* (BBC), *Sex Education* (Netflix), *Doctors* (BBC), *Holby City* (BBC), *The Inspector Lynley Mysteries* (BBC). Theatre credits include: *High Society* (UK Tour), *The Go-Between* (West Yorkshire Playhouse/Northampton), *The Critic*, *The Real Inspector Hound* (Chichester Festival Theatre), *Noises Off* (UK Tour), *The Sound of Music* (West End), *Coram Boy* (National Theatre), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Camelot*, *Henry IV* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre).



WAVING

CHARITY FEEDBACK

OCD ORCHARD

'Waving is a captivating, beautifully shot and wonderfully insightful film into the inner mind of someone suffering from obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), a devastating yet widely trivialised and misunderstood mental illness. As an OCD patient myself and as the founder of Orchard OCD, which funds research into OCD, I fully recommend this film for widespread viewing among the general public in order to raise awareness and destigmatise this crippling disorder. One person in 50 suffers from OCD and many end up suicidal, yet help is severely lacking. I believe Waving will make a big difference in addressing this.'

Nick Sireau, PhD

Chair and Co-founder
Orchard - Advancing Global OCD Research
www.orchardocd.org



OCD ACTION

'Waving does an amazing job of showing the dark and isolating places that OCD can take you to - particularly important for raising awareness about the true nature of the condition. And while harrowing, I think it will really resonate with the OCD Community for this reason too.'

Cara Gordon

Communications, PR and Engagement Manager
ocdaction.org.uk



CREDITS & LINKS

A TankTop Films & Grouchy Dog Films Co production

Waving

SLATE 1

Written & Directed by Rolfin Nyhus
Steve Brumwell

SLATE 2

Cast (in order of appearance) Ralph Ineson
Krissi Bohn
Emily Amoh
Howard Samuels
Sophie Bould

SLATE 3

Executive Producers Catherine Benfield
Russel Lazega
Ethan S. Smith

SLATE 4

Producers Rolfin Nyhus
Steve Brumwell
Co-Producer Jessica Birch
Line Producer Tim Willrich
Consulting Producer Siona Davies

SLATE 5

Director of Photography Andrew Alderslade
Casting Director Cameron Culver
1st Assistant Director Mari Stracke
Locations Manager William Preston
Carpenter Steven Nyhus

Production Designer Adriana Faria
Costume Designer Sanya Torkmorad-Jozavi
Hair & Make Up Artist Denise Dakar
Colourist Vincenzo Onorato
Sound Design Timo Saila
Editors Catriona Delbridge
Will Honeyball
Rolfin Nyhus

SLATE 6

CAMERA

1st Assistant Camera Christopher Orr
2nd Assistant Camera Kieran Poynter
Camera Assistant Rebecca Doctor
Steadicam Operator Marc Hill
Camera Trainee Jamie Oliver Lai
Gaffer Simon Battensby
Spark Isidora Manjlovic
Gedeons Muravskis
Aubrey Pascoe
Owen Thomas
Shahidul Khan
Lloyd Rubio
Guy Pearson
Adame Boutrif
Ian Cassidy

CREW

2nd Assistant Director Jacob Dabb
Associate Producer Adam Anson
Associate Producer Olivia Archer-Carr
COVID/First Aid Hannalie Jonas

Production Assistants Phoebe Wilkinson
Fadle Arouna
Matthew Grundy-Haigh
Robert Hitchins
Kain McBarron
Peter Tutton
Magdalena Turnier
Amy Upchruch
Tom Blaway
Niki Bruckner

ART DEPT

Art Director Liza Svirskaya
CAD/Set Designer Noemi Daboczi
CAD/Set Designer Helen Hebert
Set Dresser Grace Antoniou-Phillips
Art Assistant Isabel Lea

SPECIAL THANKS

Casting Assistant Eleanor Shaw
Life Guards Alan Hemsby
Michael Clement
Bigtooth Studios Ltd
Chloe Bruchez
Perry Juby
Pauline Amoh
Franklin Henson
Fenland Rooster
Hemsby Cafe
Girl In Red
Focus 24 & Solalights
Kevin Jewell
Jame Ince Umbrellas

VFX Agency
Mr Ineson's Agent
Ms Bould's Agent
Emily Amoh's Chaperone
Stunt Co-Ordinator
Catering
Music
Kit Hire
RAF Upwood
Umbrellas

FURTHER INFORMATION FOR MEDIA PROFESSIONALS

Making sure any media that is written about OCD is factually correct and representative of this much misunderstood condition is so important. It can help people recognise the condition in themselves and others. It can speed up the time it takes to get treatment and it can help to save lives. Please help us to make sure we are all doing this, by reading this excellent article about OCD by OCD Action.

An article by OCD Action



Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) is the name given to a condition in which people experience repetitive and upsetting thoughts and/or behaviours. OCD has two main features: obsessions and compulsions.

Obsessions are involuntary thoughts, images or impulses. Common obsessions include, but are not limited to, fears about dirt, germs and contamination; fears of acting out violent or aggressive thoughts or impulses; unreasonable fears of harming others, especially loved ones; abhorrent, blasphemous or sexual thoughts; inordinate concern with order, arrangement or symmetry; inability to discard useless or worn out possessions; and fears that things are not safe, (e.g. household appliances). The main features of obsessions are that they are automatic, frequent, upsetting or distressing, and difficult to control or get rid of.

Just as with obsessions, there are many types of compulsions. It is common for people to carry out a compulsion in order to reduce the anxiety they feel from an obsession.

Common compulsions include observable actions such as excessive washing and cleaning, checking, repeatedly touching, counting, arranging and ordering, hoarding, ritualistic behaviours that lessen the chances of provoking an obsession (e.g. putting all sharp objects out of sight) and acts which reduce obsessional fears (e.g. wearing only certain colours).

Compulsions can also be mental rituals that are not observable. These include repeating words or phrases, counting, or saying a prayer. Again, not all types of compulsion are listed here. The main features of compulsions are they are repetitive and stereotyped actions that the person feels forced to perform.

People can have compulsions without having obsessional thoughts but, very often, these two occur together. Carrying out a compulsion reduces the person's anxiety and makes the urge to perform the compulsion again stronger each time.

Almost everybody experiences the type of thoughts that people with OCD have (e.g. wanting to double-check the front door or the gas). However, most people are able to dismiss these thoughts.

People with OCD cannot ignore unpleasant thoughts and pay undue attention to them. This means that the thoughts become more frequent and distressing and, over time, they can affect all areas of a person's life, often their job and their family and social life. A person with OCD can, however, appear to function perfectly normally despite being greatly distressed. This often makes it possible for people with OCD to hide their OCD (because of this, OCD has often been called the 'secretive disorder').

It's important to remember that severity of OCD differs markedly between people but each person's distress is very real. People with OCD are not 'mad' or dangerous and do not carry out their unpleasant thoughts. Most people with OCD know that their thoughts are excessive or irrational but the anxiety they feel makes the thoughts difficult to ignore.

OCD is much more common than was previously thought. Prevalence estimates suggest that 1-2 per cent of the UK population has OCD. One reason why the prevalence of OCD has been underestimated in the past is that people with OCD are often afraid to seek help. They worry that other people will think they are mad, and often do not know that their disorder is a recognised condition with effective treatments. Young people also suffer from OCD. In fact, many adults with OCD had symptoms in childhood.

The cause of OCD is much debated but it is likely to result from a combination of factors in addition to this the cause for one person may differ from that for another. OCD can run in families and, in some cases, may be associated with an underlying biochemical imbalance in the brain.

Psychological factors such as susceptibility to stress or exposure to an emotionally traumatic experience are also likely to be in evidence. The good news is that, for the majority, OCD can be effectively controlled and treated.

TankTop Films and Grouchy Dog Films



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