



THE WAGON

a short film by Gayle Knutson

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TUNDRA
FILMS®

LOGLINE

Two vagabond women confronting life's harsh realities discover that their challenging lifestyle on a rundown riverboat is about to be further tested.

SYNOPSIS

Hard-edged Aunt Frances, and Claire, her niece with Down syndrome, are two vagabond women confronting life's harsh realities. While Claire pursues her seemingly simple dreams, Frances discovers that their challenging lifestyle on a rundown riverboat is about to be further tested. Features **Jamie Brewer** (AMERICAN HORROR STORY), **Bruce Bohne** (FARGO) and **Jen Blagen** (DRAGONFLY).

DIRECTOR'S BIO



Gayle Knutson is best known for her indie short film, **GRANDFATHER'S BIRTHDAY**, based on one of Ann Landers' most-requested reruns in her internationally syndicated column. **GRANDFATHER'S BIRTHDAY** stars veteran actor Robert Prosky and screened in over 60 film festivals, winning 23 awards worldwide including a Midwest Emmy in Entertainment.

Gayle also produced two successful documentary shorts...

IF THERE WERE NO LUTHERANS...WOULD THERE STILL BE GREEN JELL-O? is a humorous, crowd-pleasing short doc that was selected for inclusion in the permanent film collection at the (USA) Library of Congress.

PRISONER 32,232 recounts the story of a Norwegian resistance member imprisoned in Buchenwald concentration camp during World War II. This award-winning short documentary is included in the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's film collection in Washington, D.C.

THE WAGON is Gayle's latest live action short film about two vagabond women confronting life's harsh realities.

In her "other" life, Gayle is an EMT and volunteers on her local rescue squad. She has also played a key role in national disaster relief volunteering for the American Red Cross at Hurricane Katrina/Rita, Hurricane Ike, Hurricane Sandy and the Fargo, ND Flood.

Gayle lives in the woods of Minnesota and says "Uff-Da" and "Yah, sure, ya'betcha" on a regular basis.

CAST



JAMIE BREWER – as Claire

Jamie Brewer made her acting debut in the FX pilot episode of *AMERICAN HORROR STORY* in the role of Adelaide, a role which she played for the show's entire first season. She also appeared in the final season of *SOUTHLAND*. Jamie returned to *AMERICAN HORROR STORY* in season 3, and had additional roles in seasons 4 and 7.

In 2018, Jamie starred as Amy in the play, *AMY AND THE ORPHANS*, becoming the 1st person with Down syndrome to star in an off-Broadway show. She was honoured with a Theater World Award and a Drama Desk Award for her performance. Jamie is the ambassador for "Changing The Face of Beauty," an organization committed to equal representation of people with disabilities in advertising and media. She is the first person with Down syndrome to walk New York's Fashion Week show. Jamie continues to be a committed actor as well as an advocate and role model for people with disabilities.



JEN BLAGEN – as Aunt Frances

Jen Blagen has been performing for more than 40 years. Her film credits include *DRAGONFLY*, *STAY THEN GO*, *LITTLE WORDS*, *OLDER THAN AMERICA* and *I AM NOT A SERIAL KILLER*. Jen has also performed on stage at Minnesota's nationally renowned Guthrie Theater, at The Jungle Theater and Theater Latte Da. When not acting, Jen is teaching as part of the Bachelor of Arts Theatre program at the University of Minnesota.



BRUCE BOHNE – as Charlie

Bruce Bohne is a Minnesota-based actor who has appeared in more than 40 films and television programs. He played Officer Lou in the Oscar-winning film, FARGO. Bruce is also a regular on Twin Cities stages, including more than 30 productions at the nationally renowned Guthrie Theater. Bruce lives in Minneapolis, MN with his cat, Big.



DORA DOLPHIN – as Jessica

Dora Dolphin was recently cast as the co-lead in a Disney Channel pilot called THE A-GIRL, a comedy about a teenage girl on the autism spectrum.



ISADORA SWANN – as Amanda

Isadora Swann is a veteran of the stage with casted roles in multiple productions at The Children’s Theater Company and the nationally renowned Guthrie Theater, both in Minnesota. At the Guthrie she was one of two actors to alternate playing the lead role of Scout in TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD. Her feature length film credits include LOVE ALWAYS SANTA for MarVista Entertainment, and PUPS ALONE: A CHRISTMAS PERIL for Boundless Pictures.



BLAKE MILLER – as Pip

Blake Miller was cast in ABC’s docudrama, IN AN INSTANT: HANGING IN THE BALANCE.

CREW

Produced & Directed by

GAYLE KNUTSON

Written by

WENONAH WILMS

Director of Photography

GREG STIEVER

Production Designer

ALISSA JEAN CECILIA GOLD

Editor

LINDY PIEPER WILSON

Music Composers

TOM HAMBLETON

PAUL HARTWIG

TECH SPECS

Short Drama

Total Running Time - 11:24

Completion date - January 10, 2019

Color

Aspect Ratio 1:85 USA 2K Flat: 1998 x 1080

Sound - Stereo Surround

Shooting Format - HDV

Exhibition Format - DCP, BLU-RAY, DVD, .MOV (Quicktime)