

# FORGOTTEN — (Working title) A Feature Documentary

Directed by Kathryn Georghiou | Produced by Charlotte Ginsborg

**They didn't have the addiction. They just lived inside it. Forgotten follows a group of 'affected others' — the partners, children and siblings left behind — as they use applied theatre and storytelling to confront their past, reclaim their identities, and dare to imagine a future that belongs to them.**

<b>~90 mins</b> Duration	<b>£250,000</b> Budget	<b>12 months</b> Filming
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## THE FILM

Forgotten will be shot over twelve months, following a group of affected others through a series of applied theatre workshops led by Dr Cathy Sloan (University of West London). In these sessions — raw, unscripted, sometimes harrowing — participants use poetry, movement, storytelling and role-play to excavate the childhoods and relationships that shaped them.

From these sessions, a play emerges. Written from their own words and experiences, it will be performed in front of a live, invited audience, a climactic act of reclamation. Some participants will step on stage themselves. For those who can't, professional actors will be cast and given the extraordinary opportunity to meet the real person behind every line they speak.

The film weaves together observational documentary, cinematic dramatisation, and poetic visual storytelling. Long shadows in urban landscapes. Brutalist architecture that is simultaneously claustrophobic and beautiful. The stark contrast of darkness and light, because this is a film about both.

## THE VISION

I grew up with an abusive alcoholic father. I know what it is to learn survival as a second language; to become hypervigilant, to distrust your own instincts, to carry a shame that was never yours to carry. The people in this film are not victims. They are survivors who have never been given the language, the space, or the permission to tell their own story.

Forgotten sits at the intersection of documentary and arthouse cinema. Think *Stephen* by Melanie Manchot, which masterfully weaves observational therapy, personal story and fictional narrative, and *Unspoken: A Funeral Through Dance*, which shows how performance can make the invisible visible. This film will be sharp, brutal, striking and deeply, unexpectedly hopeful.

## WHY NOW — THE NEED

602,391 dependent drinkers in England — only 18% receive treatment. Over 1.3 million children are growing up with an alcoholic parent right now.

The UK government spends just £300,000 per year supporting children of alcoholics. There are no specific NHS provisions for their mental health needs.

Adult children of alcoholics are 3–4 times more likely to develop alcoholism themselves, and twice as likely to attempt suicide.

1 in 5 UK adults experienced childhood trauma. 69% of UK adults watched a documentary in the past month. This audience exists, and it is waiting to feel seen.

## THE TEAM

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Kathryn Georghiou — Director. Award-winning filmmaker whose short films have screened internationally and won multiple awards including Best Drama and Best First-Time Filmmaker. Trained at Mountview Academy; MA Creative Writing (Distinction); former Director at London Business School. She brings to this film not only craft and rigour, but the lived experience of an affected other, giving her unparalleled emotional access to the people at its heart.

Charlotte Ginsborg — Producer. Renowned documentary filmmaker with an established track record in feature-length documentary production, bringing deep expertise in long-form observational filmmaking and editorial storytelling.

Dr Cathy Sloan — Applied Theatre Lead. Senior Lecturer at the University of West London, specialist practitioner in applied drama and community theatre. Her workshops are the structural and emotional spine of the film.

## IMPACT BEYOND THE FILM

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Forgotten will be distributed to streaming platforms and offered free of charge to domestic abuse charities, addiction support organisations, mental health services, schools, colleges and workplaces. An accompanying resource pack, co-created with sector experts, will provide workshop guides, support information and signposting for anyone affected by a loved one's addiction. This film will not only tell a story. It will start conversations that change lives.

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