

# *alone.*

to trust someone is to allow them to be everything they are

by hilbert david and **the morning after girls**  
editing by hilbert | original music by **the morning after girls**

usa, 2014  
not rated  
running time: 14 minutes  
aspect ratio: 1:1.77/flat  
hd video • color and black and white • 5.1 surround

trailer and promotional stills available from:  
[www.hypnagogiafilms.com/alone](http://www.hypnagogiafilms.com/alone)

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## synopsis

the morning after girls survived break-ups, break-downs, departures, arrivals and deportations. When the smoke cleared, they toured North America - playing music to gather people together.

The ensuing miles would be their greatest test. As individuals and as a band, they found themselves on the wrong side of the law, the wrong side of the clock, and the wrong side of the wheel...

## about the directors the morning after girls

There are moments in time that shape us forever. How these moments unfold can sometimes be obscured by the chaos of our being, however when Martin B. Sleeman and Sacha Lucashenko crossed paths in Melbourne in the early 2000's, it was very clear what would result. Bound by a fascination and love for everything that consumes the human existence, they began creating music together that combined each individual's feelings and emotions as one vision.

This vision has now become known as the morning after girls.

Since these early days, Martin and Sacha have been writing songs, making records and playing shows everywhere from Melbourne to Manchester, Tokyo to Texas.

True works of art require the artist to find themselves at their most vulnerable, their pain exposed, isolated and laid bare, guided by a reality that is their own, but also reflected and influenced by the commonality which connects us all.

With that in mind, it's no surprise that Martin and Sacha relocated to New York City in 2008, a city pulsating with light and dark energy.

It's been with great excitement that the band has welcomed Alexander White, EJ Hagen and John Brodeur into the most anticipated time in their journey.

With the assistance of Alan Moulder and Robbie Rowlands, the band completed their second album, *alone*, released through Xemu Records in January 2011.

*alone* received album of the year honors from the San Francisco Chronicle, The Big Takeover, Detroit Metro Times and Popshifter Magazine, to name a few.

the morning after girls were named as one of the top live shows of 2011 by the Minneapolis, St. Louis and Tucson music press.



## about the directors

### Hilbert David



Hilbert David is a New York based writer and filmmaker. He discovered the world by driving away at 17, two weeks after finishing secondary school. In Los Angeles, introductions to people he'd previously read about made a lasting impression. He spent time in Orange County with former Hells Angels, studied mathematics, switched coasts to pursue writing, then returned to LA to direct a series of experimental films.

After a year of travel, Hilbert wittingly moved back to New York for work in television and advertising before returning to film in the late 2000s.

He is the director and editor of the award-winning film *Ikland*, which documents the rediscovery of the lost Ik tribe, who were famously disparaged as the worst people in the world. The film was honored as the Best Documentary of the Boston International Film Festival and has been critically praised by The New York Times, Variety and Indiewire. He has lectured at Harvard University and been a guest on WNYC's Leonard Lopate Show.

Hilbert's projects use odd scenarios and irony to reveal more about ourselves than most of us normally do. Sometimes his stories are real, and sometimes they are surreal. He believes objectivity is a myth and that authenticity is important - and that remembering this keeps us alive. He believes such things as "reality" or "facts" or "truth" are subjective.

## about the production

### the morning after girls

Backstage, LA. First time playing the Echoplex. There are close to 1,000 people in a sold-out audience, on the other side of that curtain. We are sandwiched between a Portuguese new wave band and a nine member Swedish pop ensemble. The stage manager is urging, nagging us to begin, but we stall to make sure the room is as full as possible.

Then the lights go up and we're on. No time to think, yet no chance for the mind to go blank. Please let the equipment work. Please keep the set list from being stolen...



## about the production

### the morning after girls (cont.)

We play 40 minutes in what feels like a blistering heartbeat. Please don't let it end. And then we're off to the next town, in the deafening quiet of the van.

This was our 2011 North American tour, much of which was captured on video. It kicked off in Hoboken with a crew of two Australians, four Americans, and three Belgians. After a near infinite amount of driving, casualties, hangovers, and truck stops, we completed thirty-two shows in two months on the road.



The music from our second album, *alone*, is featured throughout the film, which we hope is a candid glimpse of our experience in the states. Featuring a mix of professional and improvised footage, this is, in essence, an up close and personal view of what drives our music and sustains us. It must be seen!

You see, we're the sort of band that spills a Bloody Mary on a Las Vegas roulette wheel during the middle of a spin. We have the kind of lead singer who body slams our bassist on concrete in

Cleveland. We have another lead singer who thinks nothing of crossing a busy Portland street on a dare, blinded by the traffic cone he was wearing over his eyes like a witch's hat. We're the sort of band you find rolling cots through a Tucson hotel hallway at 3am, and still able to leave by 11 (the poor tourists who shared our hotel that night - they just wanted to see the place of Dillinger's stand off!)

And it always leads back to the rumbling of that van where, with body aching and beleaguered by last night's headache, the mind can only dwell on one thing: making the next night's gig.

Enjoy.



## directors' comments

### Hilbert David



Sacha Lucashenko and I had collaborated successfully on the soundtrack to my previous film *Ikland* so, when he approached me with the idea of making a short documentary about his band, I naturally agreed.

The methodology was the same for both projects: I was given a quantity of film and still photos, without a script, and challenged to make a movie of it.

# directors' comments

## Hilbert David (cont.)



Images of the tour were captured by the band themselves, which informed the direction of the narrative. Photographers strive to capture their most valuable and consequential perceptions, and the results are a door to their states of mind. When the subject is themselves, it also reveals theme. My challenge was to recognize, then join this point of view, to effect an authentic medium for the experience. I wanted people

to be able to step inside the film, into the passenger seats, and really share the tour.

Narration was recorded afterwards, in streams of consciousness, by Sacha, Martin B. Sleeman, and Alexander White. My approach to these recordings was the same: to transpose their reality and experience of the tour - rendered as a jumbled thought, memory...or dream.

## credits

### the morning after girls

sacha lucashenko  
martin b. sleeman  
alexander white  
e.j. hagen  
john brodeur



**produced by** david hilbert  
**directed by** hilbert david  
the morning after girls  
**edited by** hilbert  
**narrated by** martin b. sleeman  
sacha lucashenko  
alexander white

original video footage courtesy of the morning after girls

'corruption' video clip courtesy of dickies  
'the general public' video clip courtesy of dana (distortion) yavin  
'the general public' video clip courtesy of the morning after girls

still photography courtesy of boris gasin  
still photography courtesy of bek andersen

additional drumming by anthony johnson  
special appearance by y

### north america



- mercury lounge - new york, ny
- maxwell's - hoboken, nj
- johnny brenda's - philadelphia, pa
- dc9 - washington, dc
- metro gallery - baltimore, md
- slim's downtown - raleigh, nc
- strange matter - richmond, va
- local 506 - chapel hill, nc
- tin roof - charleston, sc
- the basement - atlanta, ga
- fitzgerald's - houston, tx
- double wide - dallas, tx
- club de ville - austin, tx
- solar culture - tucson, az



### north america (cont.)

- soda bar - san diego, ca
- origami records - los angeles, ca
- taix - los angeles, ca
- echoplex - los angeles, ca
- cafe du nord - san francisco, ca
- vortex lounge - san francisco, ca
- bar deluxe - salt lake city, ut
- hi dive - denver, co
- the riot room - kansas city, mo
- off broadway - st. louis, mo
- club giribaldi's - milwaukee, wi
- the crooked pint - minneapolis, mn
- double door - chicago, il
- ntc - cleveland, oh
- small's bar - detroit, mi
- webster hall studio - new york, ny
- maxwell's - hoboken, nj
- perfect prescription - brooklyn, ny

"a new silence"  
"still falling"  
"alone"  
"who is they"  
"corruption"  
"the general public"  
"introduction"  
"anger management"

written by the morning after girls  
performed by the morning after girls  
spirit music, apra

### songs available on xemu records

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