

**the
girl
next
door**

**production
notes**

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The Girl Next Door: Synopsis

The Girl Next Door is an intimate and humanizing look into the rise to fame of adult film superstar Stacy Valentine. The wheels were set in motion when Stacy's then-husband, to satisfy his own sexual fantasy, urged his Oklahoma housewife, Stacy Baker, to submit her photograph to Gallery Magazine's amateur pictorial competition, voyeuristically named, "The Girl Next Door." Easily winning this contest, Stacy was soon gracing the cover of Hustler magazine and accepting offers to perform in X-rated films. Within months, Stacy Baker had the money and confidence she needed to escape her abusive marriage and head for Hollywood. In mid-February 1995, she arrived in Los Angeles as Stacy Valentine.

Since then, Stacy has appeared in more than 50 adult films, and was recognized as "Best American Starlet" at last year's Hot D'Or Awards ceremony at the Cannes Film Festival. VCA, a powerhouse adult film studio, immediately signed Stacy to an exclusive deal. The prestigious title of "contract girl," not unlike the Hollywood studio system and the contracts they had with their actresses, is given to no more than five women out of hundreds of actresses.

Acclaimed PBS filmmaker Christine Fugate's interest in exploring pornography through the eyes of a woman led her to the newly named Stacy Valentine. Over time, the two developed a trusting bond; and it was this trust which resulted in extensive behind-the-scenes footage revealing the complexity of Stacy's business and personal life. Live internet sex-shows, faked orgasms, and DP's ("double penetrations") prove to be all in a day's work for Stacy. Yet *The Girl Next Door* reveals the contradictions between her personal life and her work. In her quest for beauty she rarely eats; she has had her breasts augmented, her thighs and flanks liposuctioned, and her lips injected with her own fat taken from her hips.

Going home to Tulsa, she cries with her mother, whose nonjudgmental attitude toward her daughter's work is based on unconditional love, and to some extent, incomplete knowledge - she doesn't watch Stacy's films. And unconditional love is what Stacy needs from her boyfriend, Julian. Also an actor in the adult film business, Julian loves Stacy very much. However, he cannot quite accept that the woman he loves is Stacy Valentine, the well-known porn star.

The Girl Next Door is the conflicting story between Stacy Baker and the world of pornography, and Stacy Valentine and her desire for true love. Stacy allows us to experience the exotic world of pornography through the eyes of a former housewife from Oklahoma.

The Girl Next Door: Production Team

Stacy Valentine (Featured Subject)

After leaving her home in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Stacy Valentine came to Los Angeles to take the adult movie industry by storm. After acting in several films, Stacy had her choice of movie contracts offered by Metro, VCA and Vivid. She accepted a five picture deal with Metro and then signed a contract with VCA Pictures. Since then Valentine has graced the box covers of more than 40 videos, and has appeared in over 65 adult features including *Cafe Flesh 2*, *Red Vibe Diaries*, *White Angel*, *Eternal Lust 1 & 2*, *Beauty Captured*, *My Horny Valentine*, *L.A. Fashion Girls*, *Diva #3*, *New Wave Hookers #5*, *Femme Covert*, *Undercover Desires*, *Forever Night*, *Sex Commandos* and *DMJ 6*.

Valentine has graced the pages of hundreds of magazines such as *Cheri*, *Club*, *Club Confidential*, *Hot Video*, *High Society*, *Hustler*, *Oui*, *Rage* and *Spice*; and has received awards from various organizations such as 1998 F.O.X.E. Fan Favorite, 1998 Hot D'Or Best American New Starlet, 1999 XRCO Performer of the Year, 1999 FOXE Fan Favorite, and 1999 Best Actress at Barcelona International.

Christine Fugate (Director/Producer)

Christine Fugate began producing and directing documentaries while studying for her Masters in Asian Film and Theater. Her first documentary, *Fighting For Our Lives*, explored the efforts of Korean women to survive in the International Marketplace of Waikiki, Hawaii. In 1991, Fugate formed Café Sisters Productions with Eren McGinnis. Fugate directed their first PBS project, *The Southern Sex*, a playful examination of the myth of the Southern Belle. *The Southern Sex* won the Director's Choice at the Atlanta Film Festival, the Special Judges Award at the New York Expo, a Bronze Apple at the Educational Media Festival, a Cindy Award, and it screened at the New York Museum of Modern Art. Fugate's second directorial effort, *Mother Love*, was broadcast on PBS stations on Mother's Day and won a Chris award at the Columbus Film Festival. In 1998, Café Sisters produced *Tobacco Blues*, an ITVS co-production, that was broadcast on the 1998 POV series. *Tobacco Blues* also screened at the 1998 Hot Springs Documentary Festival and on board Air Force One for President Clinton and his aides.

Prior to her documentary work, Fugate worked for director Barbet Schroeder on the Columbia feature, *Single White Female*. Fugate has a B.A. from Newcomb College and a M.A. from the Center for Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Hawaii. She is fluent in Thai and Italian.

The Girl Next Door: Production Team

Adam Berns (Producer)

Adam Berns has worked extensively in all aspects of the entertainment industry. He has produced independent feature films, live-action interactive games, a television pilot for Warner Bros., and currently has a television pilot at Regency Television as well as several studio features in development. He also serves as Sr. VP for business development at Hiwire, an internet radio venture. Berns has both a law degree and an MBA from UCLA, and he graduated with distinction from Stanford University. He previously worked as corporate and entertainment attorney at Latham & Watkins.

Eren McGinnis (Producer)

Eren McGinnis has been successful in securing funds for documentary programs from granting institutions, public television and fellowship awards. McGinnis received her Bachelors of Arts from San Diego State in Cultural and Feminist Anthropology and a Certificate in Film and Video Theory and Production at the University College Dublin in Ireland. She was a founding member of Women in Film in Ireland, as well as a founding member of Cafe Sisters Productions, which began in 1999 when McGinnis and Christine Fugate met in a cafe.

Kate Amend (Editor)

Kate Amend has over ten years of experience editing both narrative and documentary programming. Her film *The Long Way Home* won an Academy Award in 1998 for Best Documentary Feature. Her previous works include such award-winning programs as HBO's *Asylum*, *America Undercover*, *Skinheads USA* and the HBO/Columbia First Look Series for movies, *Wolf* and *Age Of Innocence*. In addition to editing, Amend is an adjunct Professor at the University of Southern California School of Cinema and Television where she teaches editing.

Michele Wernick (Music Supervisor)

Michele Wernick has been working in the music industry for over eight years. After working at Virgin Records, she moved to Capitol Records and coordinated video production for their artists. Several years ago, she started her own independent music supervision company, Fermata Music. She has supervised the music for the Café Sisters Productions' POV documentary *Tobacco Blues*, MGM's *Dirty Work*, starring Norm McDonald, and Walt Disney's *Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo*. She recently completed the independent film *Urbania*, which competed at the Sundance Film Festival 2000.

