



PRESS KIT



An adventurous orphan butts heads with his zany foster mom
as he chases his dream of becoming a legendary Scout,
just like his dad was.

Don't ~~POKE~~ a sleeping Badger



SHORT SYNOPSIS

11-year-old Berny dreams of winning the Golden Scout Trophy like his late father. But when his overzealous foster mom turns the local scout troop topsy-turvy, Berny discovers that he needs more than a compass to navigate rivalry, rules—and actual badgers—to become a true Scout hero.



EXTENDED SYNOPSIS

Orphaned Berny (11) moves to his father's hometown, aiming to become a legacy Scout. His foster-mother, Gerdy, a former Scout and social activist, forbids it. Berny joins the Badgers, a troop led by Gunnar, and learns about the Golden Scout Trophy Competition. Discovering his father's name among past winners, Berny is determined to win.

Gerdy rejoins the Scouts as Gunnar's co-leader, intent on making the Badgers a "safe space where everyone is a winner." She cancels the competition, but Gunnar negotiates for one last contest. Berny, a novice, pretends to be an experienced Scout, using his father's old uniform to cheat through trials, causing rivalries. Gerdy's progressive views clash with Gunnar's traditional approach, leading to a power struggle for control of the Scout house.

To save the Badgers, Berny confronts challenges, confesses his lies, and sacrifices the trophy for integrity. Gunnar offers Berny a loving home.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The Badgers is a mischievous, heartwarming, witty adventure inspired by my childhood experience in small-town Norway. It is a crazy cinematic experience featuring exciting *Goonies*-like locations, zany escapades, and witty social satire rooted in quirky, small-town characters who dislike anyone rocking the boat. *The Badgers* speaks to a child's need for a role model, and asks, what is the price to pursue your dreams, and what good are they if they only serve self-gratification?

We journey with a young orphan named Berny as he discovers identity and belonging while stubborn adults clash for control around him.

Anchored in good values and substance, I wish to inspire families to discover physical adventure in their own backyards, neighborhoods, and nearby woods.

The Badgers is my love letter to growing up in a small village, and a message to the children of today. After I had kids of my own, I started yearning for the movies that had shaped me as a child, ones with a more dangerous and untamed film language. This awakened a desire to bring that cinematic experience to today's children, while also commenting on our contemporary culture.

The Badgers is a cinematic experience that features exciting locations, humor and witty social criticism rooted in quirky, small-town characters who dislike anyone rocking the boat. Using a playful tone, it takes us on a child's journey to discover identity and belonging, where tradition and progressiveness wrestle in the background.

ABOUT PAUL MAGNUS LUNDØ

Inspired by his childhood Scouting days, *The Badgers* will be Paul's third feature film. His previous film, the medieval thriller, *The Veil of Twilight* (2014), featured Kim Bodnia, Ewen Brenner, and Jørgen Langhelle. In addition to developing screenplays for several production houses, Paul honed his visual skills as a scenographer and props master on numerous high production-value projects, including Erik Sjordberg's *Pyromanen*, the Captain Sabertooth franchise, and NRK's *Christmas in Svingen Village*. Paul's feature debut was *Mengaloth* (2005), a fantasy movie he filmed on a shoestring budget while studying at NISS Film & TV Academy.





PRODUCER'S STATEMENT

The Badgers is a cinematic experience for the entire family, a feel-good film about childhood adventure, discovering identity, and learning integrity. It inspires us to explore and seek adventure; to stand tall for what we believe and respect others.

It's also a mischievous, almost politically incorrect movie, and that's what's so refreshing. Family films often tend to be conservative and safe, but *Badgers* takes high artistic risk and is quite original. As a creative-producer, I am thrilled to bring *Badgers* to the screen with writer/director, Paul Lundø; he loves to create quirky characters and dares to prick the audience's nerve with witty, playful satire.

The market lacks such original, live-action children and family fare. Our objective is to realize a highly entertaining film that will resonate with both children and parents, from which we will launch *The Badgers* franchise.

With market expert, Will & Agency, we analyzed and tested materials on our key target audience, kids 6-10 yrs. & parents 30-45 yrs., plus a cross-over group of tweens. The youngest loved the Badger's exciting adventure, the older kids enjoyed the character arcs and relations, the tweens and parents were enthused by the positive themes and witty social satire, while everyone adored the colorful characters and original story.

ABOUT PRODUCER DAVID L. LEADER

David Leader, owner and CEO of 73 Eyes Film Production, is passionate about working with vibrant talent, bringing highly marketable stories to life, and producing films that entertain and challenge their audiences.

With nearly 30 years experience in film and television, Leader has worked across five continents, he has collaborated with 17 nationalities and consulted on nearly 100 projects. His producing credits include the Netflix/NRK hit-comedy series, *Norsemen* (Viafilm), *Home for Christmas* (Netflix / Oslo Co.), and the Dutch/Norwegian movie, *Quality Time* (Pupkin Film / Leader Films). *The Badgers* franchise is the first of several high-quality projects on 73 Eyes' slate.



MAIN CHARACTERS (CAST)



BERNT (11)

(Nils Elias Lea Olsen, *The Burning Sea*)

Bernt refuses to take “no” for an answer. An orphan since age five, he has learned to break rules and bend truths to get his way. He is however a charming and resourceful boy, with a vivid imagination and good heart; he just needs a decent role model to help him navigate. Bernt’s quest to become a legacy Scout is driven by a longing for his father. But if Bernt is to fill his papa’s uniform, he must learn that there are no shortcuts for building character, nor substitutes for honesty and integrity.



GERDY (40)

(Caroline Johansen, *Nissene i bingen, Side om side*)

Bernt's new foster mother, Gertrude, or "Gerdy", is a hyper-activist. She has just returned from Berkeley, California, and is dead set on changing her sleepy hometown. As an ex-Girl Scout, she decides that the local Scouts are a good place to start. She means well, but she is a bitter, single-minded bulldozer. She sees the current troop leader, Gunnar, and his orthodox ways, as the plug that keeps her from draining the past's "dirty bathwater". Gerdy feels overlooked and believes that she deserves better, but now she is back to take the throne.



GUNNAR GRAVLEMYR (45)

(Øystein Martinsen, *Norsemen*, *State of Happiness*, *The Tunnel*)

Gunnar is the Badger's eccentric troop leader, a man-boy with an oversized heart. He is nostalgic, and conservative and quotes from the 1952 Scout handbook. Gunnar strives to instill integrity in his Scouts and give them a solid foundation. He is, however, not the skilled outdoorsman that he pretends to be. He is married but without children because he doubts his ability to be a father; his father was a poor role model. Hence the Scouts became Gunnar's home and family.



LARS (13)
(Kristoffer Lycke Abrahamsen)

Lars is a “five-star” Scout and Gunnar’s Assistant Troop Leader. According to Lars, he is the only competent Scout among the Badgers. He strives for perfection, does everything by the book, and deeply resents cheaters and slackers. Lars is concerned that he might lose his position and is highly suspicious of Bernt’s debatable achievements.



JAMILA (13)
(Justine Osafo)

Jamila, the only girl in the troop, is a straightforward, no-nonsense, and (un- officially) the most skillful Badger Scout. Behind her love for life and the great outdoors lingers a past very different from that of her Berrefjord friends. Kidnapped from her

boarding school in Nigeria, Jamila survived by disguising herself as a boy, but was forced to become a child soldier before escaping to Norway.



WILLAS (70)

(Kristoffer Joner, *MI: Fallout*, *The Revenant*)

A rugged old sailor who hates the sea as much as himself. He wanted to become a cowboy, but never got off the boat. Now he's old, his horse is a pick-up, and he has an estranged relationship with his son, Gunnar. His tattered heart is full of wisdom, but until Bernt arrives in town, he has no one with whom to share it, until Bernt arrives in town.



CREDITS

THE BADGERS

Original title: Grevlingene

Director/Screenplay: Paul Magnus Lundø

Main cast: Nils Elias Lea Olsen, Caroline Johansen, Øystein Martinsen, Kristoffer Joner, Kristoffer Lycke Abrahamsen, Isak O'Brien, Justine Osafo, Jakob Mydland, Nina Ellen Ødegård, Henrik Rafaelsen

Main crew

DOP: Bo Randulff F.N.F. L.A.C.

Editor: Svein Olav Sandem

Score: Marius Christiansen

Production Designer: Jarle Furuborg

VFX Designer: David Skauen

Production

Executive producer: David L. Leader

Production co: 73 Eyes Film Production

Supervising producer: Anders Tangen

Line-producer: Trond G. Lockertsen

Post-Production Producer: Espen Skjetne

Tec/Specs

Running time: 104 min

Language: Norwegian

Format: 4K UHD, aspect ratio 1:2:39

Production year: 2025 Norway





CONTACTS

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