

Title: THE MAKING OF PLUS ONE
Client: Mary McGuckian
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DAY 5

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Screen

AT THE CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

McGuckian finds her Plus One

Mary McGuckian has two finished films in the market — *Intervention* and *Inconceivable* — but somehow that's not enough for the prolific UK-born director. This woman is ambitious — or crazy — enough to attempt to shoot her next project here at the festival.

Intervention (a drama set in rehab) and *Inconceivable* (a thriller set in a fertility clinic) share the same cast and crew. And now she's drawing on those people to shoot her mockumentary about the film business, *The Making Of Plus One*, starring Kate Winslet, Cate Blanchett and George Clooney. *The Story Of A Hollywood Nobody*.

The loose storyline follows a pair of producers who are caught up in lies when people think Winslet and Blanchett will star in their next film. They get so desperate they even book lookalikes for a launch party on a yacht.

The film will shoot formally later in the year, but is set during the Cannes film festival so some scenes are being shot this week — including one starring, ahem, *Screen International* as the fest's most important trade publication.

"This film is about the compromise between the commercial and creative, and exploring integrity in independent film-making," McGuckian says.

The cast in Cannes participating in the digital, improvised project includes Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Suzan-Lori Parks as the fictional director alongside McGuckian regulars Michael Eklund, Jennifer Tilly, Donna D'Errico, Geraldine Chaplin and Amanda Plummer. It sounds like a satire of the hype and madness that can sometimes sweep the Croisette. Pembridge and Prospero Pictures are producing the project in



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association with Scion Films and Lightning Entertainment.

In a week when it's hard to walk down the street, shooting a film seems particularly challenging, but McGuckian isn't phased. "All of the planning permission has been organised... but we'll be somewhat inevident. It is a fictional doc being shot in a very documentary style."

The rest will be shot in and around Cannes in July — an easy commute as McGuckian has a house near Nice.

Meanwhile, New Films International is selling *Intervention*; High Point Films and The Film Consultancy Group are selling *Inconceivable*.

Wendy Mitchell