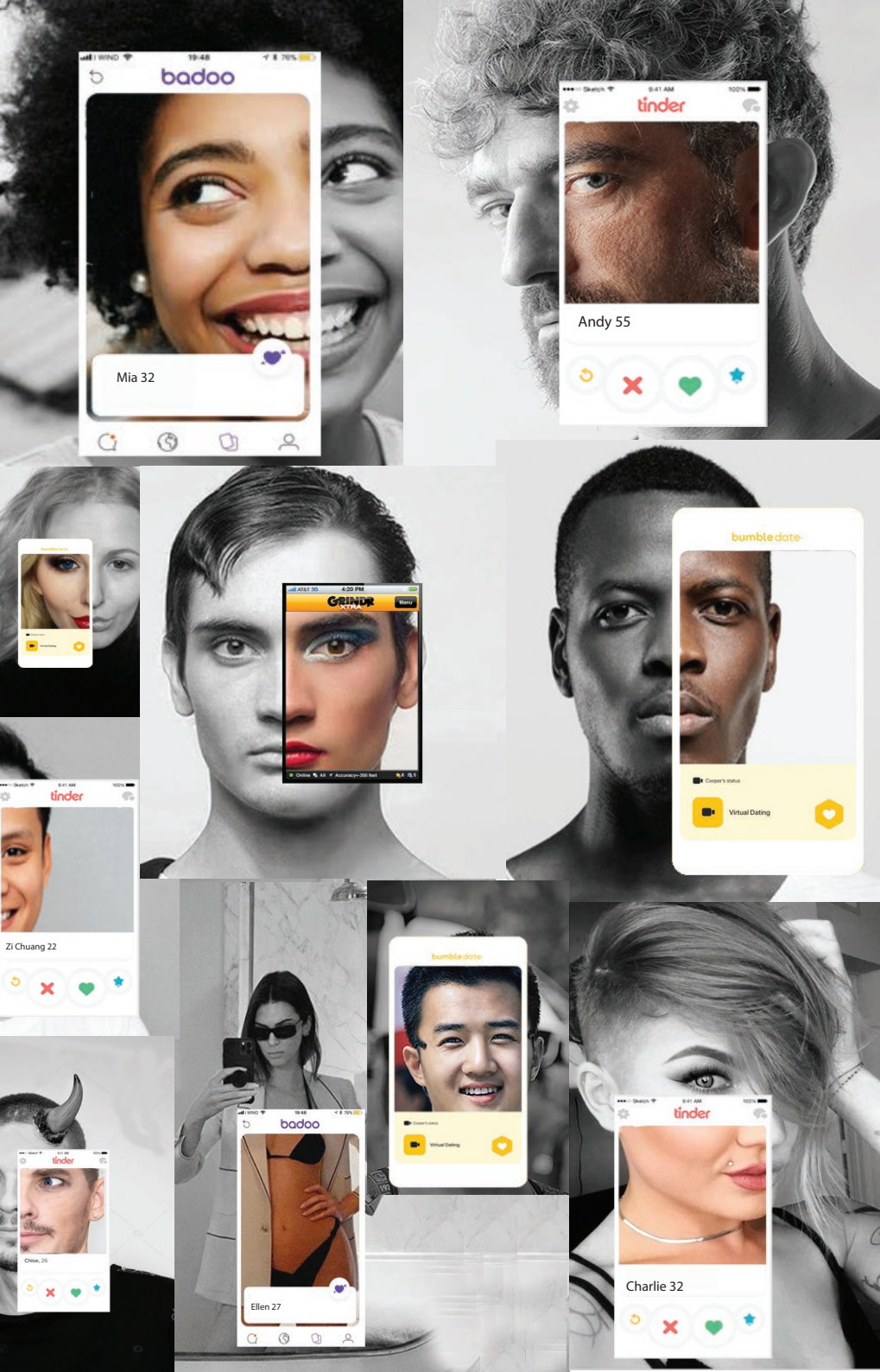




singlehood

We all need to find our single self

TV SERIES

Concept: Flaminia Graziadei

Direction: Flaminia Graziadei

Screenwriting: Laura Jane Swain

Producer: Giulia Salvadori



The Plot

Singlehood revolves around a group of millennials, each trying to connect to who they truly are as they navigate friendships, life purposes and the intricacies of sex to the backdrop of in inner city London's fast moving, technically evolving urban culture. From cruel pranks to social cohesion, from the dark net to unexpected life changing encounters- these friends begin to realise that no matter what your age, upbringing, race, culture or sexual leaning, you learn more about yourself through rejection, humiliation and failure than you do when you get something right. As they encounter revenge, prejudice and lawsuits, they each lose themselves in their own drama to ultimately discover who they truly are but will they take hold of the reigns of their own destiny or will fear prevail?



Post-Covid Britain

We understand that these are unprecedented times and the society is shifting and reshaping from the effects of the coronavirus, hence we will adapt our scripts and storylines to reflect what is happening in the world. The government aim to widely roll out a vaccine by mid-2021, so by the time we go into production we will be depicting the world as it is, post-vaccinated and living with the after-effects of a global pandemic.





TV Series Characters Profile Main Cast

Anglo-Italian, dreamy, naive, a waitress in a café; she's a romantic more suited to the 50s than today's disposable dating culture. God love her, she tries her best, but this often leads her into awkward situations. Her friends try to bring her out of her shell, but she struggles to keep up with them, still believing in "the one". Being the butt of a 'pull a pig' prank, leads to insecurities and self-doubt and ultimately, the feeling that she should she give up on finding her lobster.

Lena 25

Anglo-Italian, Lena's brother. Painter and video artist. A heady cocktail of creativity and spirituality, Andrea enjoys life as a serial dater until he meets Jenny, a fiercely independent web cam worker and is forced to face the uncomfortable reality that he is afraid of the vulnerability that love brings, so pushes women away. Even though he has a strained relationship with Andy, his lothario father, he is more similar than he'd like to admit.

Andrea 30

White, British. Attractive, witty, edgy. Fitness mad Charlie takes her study of alternative nutrition very seriously as her life mission is to help people with severe diseases; a decision she took early in her life, when she lost her mother to Alzheimer's. She's into 'situationships' so as not to be distracted but when she meets Ted, she feels she may be missing out on the intimacy a relationship can bring.

Charlie 23

Ethnically ambiguous. Alluring, visually striking, defensive. A loving single parent to Rupert, her 6 years old son who has an auto-immune disease that requires expensive care. She works as a virtual sex worker, so she has most of the day free to care for him, and the night to make the sort of money that she couldn't make in a low skilled office job! Her work has led her to be very detached from her own sexuality and feelings, but Andrea will eventually manage to break down that barrier.

Jenny 32

White, British, Lena and Andrea's father. Charmingly foppish, a successful artist; he has a solid relationship with Lena but is competitive with Andrea who can't forgive Andy's infidelity to their mother. Trapped in a toxic relationship with Maria, a young, influential model, Andy's beginning to re-evaluate his life choices and work out what is important to him.

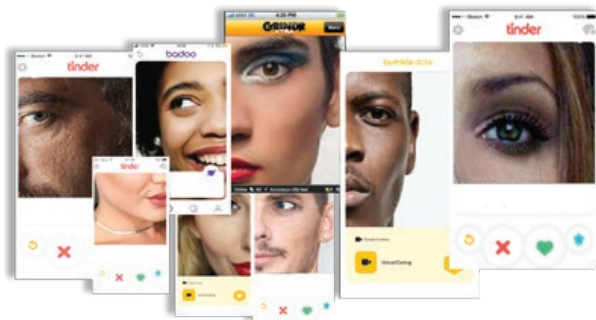
Andy 55

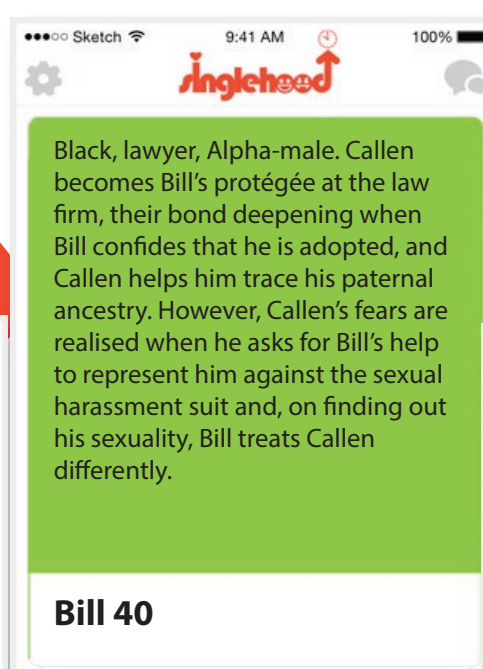
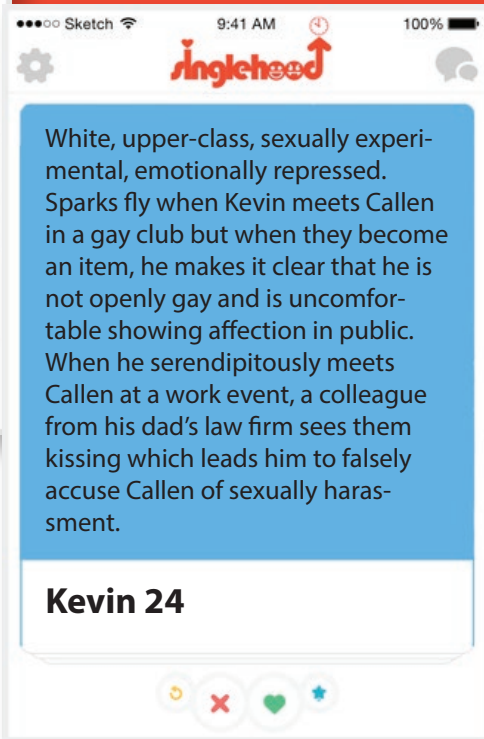
Black, geek-chic, IT technician. Clever, kind and eternally appreciated by his friends for resolving their tech problems, Ollie's darker side is revealed when he bumps into an old school bully and turns to the dark web to plot revenge on Fred for pigging Lena. He really likes Mia but is haunted by an old work fling that went horribly wrong. When Mia pulls away, Ollie re-evaluates his casual behaviour when it comes to sex and dating and realises, she could be the right person to finally have a proper relationship with. Unfortunately, it may be too late.

Ollie 27

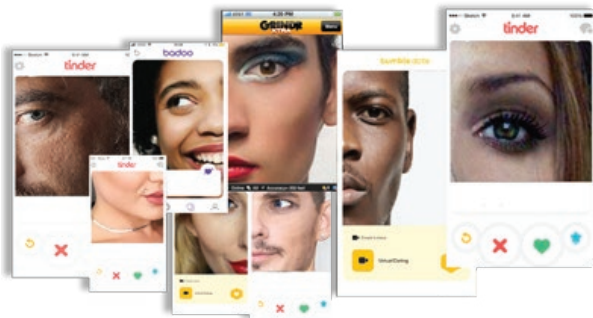
Israeli, gay, junior litigator; sarcastic to the point of being blunt. What he lacks in dress sense, he makes up for with his strong sense of justice and an inclination to protect his friends. He goes out dating on Grindr, but gets frustrated because he's looking for love, not just sex. Ignoring the red flags, he finally lets himself fall for Kevin but gets badly hurt when Kevin sues him for sexual harassment, and he's forced to 'come out' to his law firm as well as to his strict, Jewish family.

Callen 27





TV Series Secondary Characters





Arena setting

The physical spaces within the storylines are represented by the life of our protagonists: their homes, where they work and socialise. There is also another important arena, a virtual one: on-line chat forums, social media and dating apps like Tinder where people can hide, cheat, even invent an alternative identity, but also where it's possible to find real love. The elements linking the physical to the virtual world are the keyboard and the screens of the smartphone, pc, smart tv – where in this digital age most interactions take place.

Structure

Singlehood has the typical TV series structure, given by horizontal narrative lines that develop throughout the whole series and a vertical one that is self-contained and developed fully in each episode. The anthology plot will focus on the themes of the series (dating, online intercourse, fear of dating, inadequacy and many more). The continuing stories of our protagonists are characterised by narrative arcs that will transform them and their lives.





Episode Breakdowns:

Ep. 1: Pulled Pork

When Lena is a victim of a 'pull a pig' prank from Fred, a guy she thought she was dating, her best friends Charlie, Ollie and Callen and her brother, Andrea rally around her to make her feel better and make a list of the ten dating rules that they all try and live by. Lena reflects on these rules and whether she applied them in her relationship with Fred. Ollie has a problem with the rule: 'don't shit where you eat' as he has a major crush on Mia, a work colleague and Andrea doesn't believe in rules... until he has the date from hell.

Ep. 2: A-Musing

When Andrea interviews webcam workers for an art project on 'Eroticism in the Digital Age', he becomes infatuated with Jenny, a feminist of our times, and the world becomes his canvas on which to draw his new muse.

Ep. 3: Sweet Psycho

After Ted saves Charlie from a disastrous date, she finds herself deliberately having bad dates just so he can intervene! When Ted demands a proper date, she decides he's too much of a distraction from her studies and reluctantly ends it.

Ep. 4: Acid Reflux

Andy has a fleeting bromance with an enigmatic stranger at a festival, only to find out that he was a famous rock star who died of an overdose after they parted. A sensitive creature, Andy morosely dwells on their serendipitous meeting until Maria, the rock star's international supermodel girlfriend, muscles her way into his life and he can't get rid of her.

Ep. 5: Maid/Cook/Whore

When Jenny refuses to go on a date with Andrea, he turns up at her house and meets Rupert, her wheelchair bound son with motor neuron disease. Annoyed at the intrusion, she explains how expensive his care is and tells Andrea she won't stop working as a cam-girl, so he must think seriously about whether he can date a sex worker.

Ep. 6: A Bad Day to be Single

When Fred comes into the café that Lena works, she hides in the kitchen and finds out she is a natural chef. Out running, Charlie twists her ankle and the only person who answers her call for help is Ted- he is so lovely to her, she finds it almost unbearable. Andrea decides he does want to date Jenny but is overwhelmed trying to plan an amazing first date as he used to just having hook ups. Callen is made to defend a homophobic client. Ollie is jealous of Mia flirting with another guy at work and then experiences racism in his local shop. This leads to a heated discussion about what is more prevalent today, racism or homophobia?



Ep. 7: Raw Nerve

Andy takes no joy from the success of his art exhibition until he decides to donate the proceeds of a painting of Maria to a drug rehabilitation charity in aid of the rock star. The group meet Kevin, Callen's new boyfriend and aren't quite sure what to make of him. After bumping into an old bully, Ollie reveals his darker side when he recalls how he got his revenge. Seeing Lena still struggling with her self-confidence, Ollie goes on to the dark web for inspiration on how to get revenge on Fred.

Ep. 8: Trigger

When the venue falls through for a disco for children with learning and physical disabilities that Charlie volunteers for, Andy pulls a few strings and they end up having the event at the London Aquarium. Watching all the kids having an amazing time, he becomes touched with the knowledge that he helped give them this memory and he starts re-evaluating his life choices. Andrea feels uncomfortable telling a friend what Jenny does for a living and he cancels his date with her.

Ep. 9: Questionable Conduct

Kevin asks Callen for more sexual spontaneity, so when Callen bumps into him at a work event he corners him in the toilet for a salacious kiss but when one of Kevin's colleagues interrupt them, Kevin feigns being harassed by Callen. A few days later Callen receives a warranty notice from a firm that represent his boyfriend's company about sexual misconduct at work. Meanwhile, Ollie posts a revenge site about Fred pigging Lena and it goes viral. Fred gets in contact with Lena to beg her to take the page down and, oh yeah, apologise!

Ep. 10: Pros & Cons

In the final episode, we close the characters storylines for this series and allude to potential avenues for series 2.

Andrea bumps into Jenny and the chemistry is so potent it feels like magic, but he still can't bring himself to date a sex worker. Lena starts dating a guy from the internet and plucks up the courage to send him racy pictures of herself. Charlie misses a work deadline after her first proper date with Ted and so cuts all ties with him to focus on her studies. Callen comes out to his strict, religious parents and feels a weight from his shoulders lift that he didn't realise he was carrying. Ollie makes a bold romantic move towards Mia only to find out that she is dating another guy from work. Andy packs up his things and tries to bring some meaning in his life by volunteering in an African orphanage.



Director statement

Flaminia Graziadei

Director/Creator

Developing this series has been so far a truly eye opening experience for me. From a pure entertainment project, Singlehood the Series has now gained also a social and educational aspect that makes me even more interested in directing it. My aim is to talk about the world of the youngsters as well as the more mature ones, going deeper into the controversial dynamics that characterise them, blending it with the lightness of the characters and the wittiness of the dialogues.

I also find particularly intriguing that, no matter what their age or their sexual inclination might be, our protagonists have to face very similar challenges dictated by the dynamics that characterise online dating, in a kind of transversal setting.

With the aim of reaching a broad audience, we are tackling a great variety of issues and I hope that this series will contribute to create a better dialogue and understanding between parents and sons, as well as between straight and LGBT individuals.

Visually it is going to portray the typical melting pot of London, full of colours, different ethnicities and cultures, with its fast and dynamic pace.

The locations are minimal and trendy. The photography is sharp and stylised, the camera movements will alternate slow tracks, to highlight dramatic and intimate moments, to the use of steady cam and jibs to deliver the fast and metropolitan pace of the city. It's an interesting challenge that I will approach with the aim of delivering a totally fresh and authentic product.

Flaminia Graziadei Bio

Multi award winning Director, Producer, Choreographer, trained in Italy and the UK. Her career developed between Cinema and Theatre over the past 30 years in the UK, Italy and Spain. In 2000 she started to work in Cinema on several mainstream productions, as 1st AD and Line Producer at first and then as a Director. Since moving back to London in 2012, she created her production company LonRom Film Production Ltd. directing and producing various shorts, one feature film, music videos, web series, a TV pilot for the Indian television and commercials. Her work has won 22 awards and several nominations, including BAFTA qualifying, over the past 8 years at Film Festivals worldwide. In 2015 Flaminia has been the Director/Producer and content creator for an Italian start up Web TV Channel, broadening her knowledge of projects for the web. Currently she is also pre-production with two feature films, Luton to Leicester and A year in London.



TV Series



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The Producer Giulia Salvadori

A member of the UK Production Guild, Giulia has worked across films, TV Series, Tv programs, documentaries and advertising.

Most recently she worked as line producer for the Sky TV series "Devils",

A Sky Italy/Sky Vision co-production shot in London and Rome,

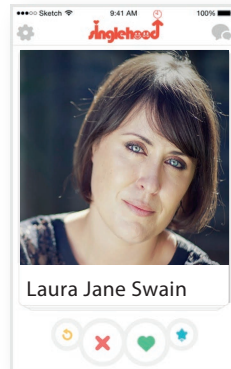
the Moviestar TV series "Los Espabilados"

produced by Dynamo Audiovisuales (Narcos, Triple Frontier),

the Hong Kong movie "To the Fore" by Dante Lam, shot in Milan,

the action film "One-Nenokkadine" by Sukkumar Bandreddi, shot in London and Belfast,

and "The Trip to Italy", directed by Michael Winterbottom for the BBC.



Writer Laura Jane Swain

Actress, writer and director, Laura Jane Swain has worked in the TV, theatre and film industry in various guises for over 24 years.

With a BA (HONS) in Media Production and Performance at Salford University under her belt she was then privately mentored by the phenomenally talented British screenwriter, Paula Milne for several months and subsequently graduated with an Advanced Screenwriting Diploma from Central Film School where she was awarded the accolade of Screenwriter of the Year.

Most notable of her writing work thus far is a one act play that she wrote and directed, Half Sister, which played at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, a commission by Unilever to write and direct an in-house advert to launch a new deodorant and Voodoo Moustache, directed by Louis Paxton, a surreal black comedy that tore up the festival circuit garnering several nominations and winning Best Comedy at the Portobello Film Festival and Best Short at Stockport Independent Film Fest.

Most recently, Crazy Bitch Blues, a short tongue-in-cheek neo noir directed by Flaminia Graziadei, was a finalist at That Film Festival 2020 and won Platinum Award at the European Screen Awards.