

For Immediate release: 9 January 2013

NOVEMBER FILMS present

THE PUNK SYNDROME

Directed by Jukka Kärkkäinen & J-P Passi

OFFICIAL SELECTION VISIONS DU REEL FILM FESTIVAL 2012 – WINNER, MOST INNOVATIVE FEATURE FILM

OFFICIAL SELECTION HOT DOCS FILM FESTIVAL 2012

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Cert 15 / R/T 85 mins

Released in UK cinemas from 1 February 2013

UK Live Tour Dates: 3 – 10 February 2013

<http://www.novemberfilms.co.uk/press.html>

"Underscored by their joyfully raw garage sound, peppered heavily with exuberant swearing, crying, fighting and laughing. (Pertti Kurikka's Name Day) are misfits to the core. Funny, wild and infectious—totally punk rock."

Gisèle Gord, Hot Docs

THE PUNK SYNDROME is a music documentary like no other, film makers Jukka Kärkkäinen and J-P Passi tell the story of *Pertti Kurikka's Name Day*, four very lovable punk musicians with learning difficulties as they fight, fall in love, and become national heroes.

Like any emerging band, *Pertti Kurikka's Name Day's* members (*Pertti Kurikka* (guitar), *Kari Aalto* (singer), *Sami Helle* (bass), and *Toni Väilitalo* are fuelled by an inflammatory mix of ego, desire, and creativity. Directors Jukka Kärkkäinen and J-P Passi followed the band through their ups and downs on their first ever international tour and recording session, painting a frank, edgy and funny portrait of the individual band members.

Refusing to shy away from the realities and frustrations of their daily lives, which include living in a group home or at home with parents, **THE PUNK**

SYNDROME simultaneously acknowledges the humour and pathos of being part of a punk rock outfit, whilst also living with Autism and Downs Syndrome

The band rage against the way they are treated by society, belting out their emotions, desires and frustrations through heartfelt lyrics, which also reflect a wicked sense of humour. A trip to the pedicurist will never be the same after hearing *Pertti Kurikka's Name Day's* song.

Jukka Kärkkäinen and J-P Passi's film can be compared with classic rockumentaries like DIG!, METALLICA: SOME KIND OF MONSTER and ANVIL: THE STORY OF ANVILL, with scenes of internal bickering and conflict during rehearsals and life on tour able to describe any band's rocky road to stardom.

The joy of punk music is a liberating experience. Like HEAVY LOAD and MISSION TO LARS, THE PUNK SYNDROME shows how music, and in particular punk rock, has the ability to transcend disability as an outlet for individual expression as well as connecting with an audience.

PUNK SYNDROME confronts attitudes towards mental disability, and embraces the true spirit of punk embodied by the four members of *Pertti Kurikka's Name Day*.

Pertti Kurikka's Name Day has built up a huge and affectionate fan base in their native Finland. Celebrating the UK release of THE PUNK SYNDROME, the band are touring the UK for the first time, playing a series of gigs across the country throughout February, in conjunction with special Q&A screenings with the band.

THE PUNK SYNDROME Film Calendar:

1st – 7th Feb	ICA film release, Q&A with band opening night.
2nd Feb	Ritzy, Brixton Q&A with band.
3rd Feb	Brighton, Komedia Q&A with band.
4th Feb	Liverpool, FACT Q&A with the band.
6th Feb	Edinburgh, Cameo and Glasgow, GFT Q&A with the band.
8th Feb	Hackney Picturehouse, Q&A with the band
9th Feb	Leeds, Hype Park Picturehouse Q&A with the band
10th Feb	Glasgow, GFT
28th Feb	Nottingham, Broadway

Pertti Kurikka's Name Day UK tour dates:

3rd Feb	Brighton, Green Door Store
7th Feb	Glasgow, O2 Academy
9th Feb	Leeds, Brudnell
10th Feb	Dalston, London, Shackwell Arms

THE PUNK SYNDROME is released in cinemas from 1ST February. A deluxe edition DVD box set will be available for pre-order online, released 11th March.

Directors Jukka Kärkkäinen & J-P Passi and members of Pertti Kurikka's Name Day are available for press interviews

For further details on the film's release, UK tour, materials and all interview requests please contact Margaret_ T: 020 7923 2861 sarah@margaretlondon.com / john@margaretlondon.com