
DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

NORTHBOUND

A FILM BY WILLIAM SCOULAR

I made this film because I didn't know how else to say goodbye to my father.

It's inspired by the last year of his life, a year I still carry with me. The final months we had together taught me more about living than all the years that came before. NORTHBOUND is my attempt to pass that on.

Growing up with my father was an adventure I wouldn't trade for anything. He was funny, charming, and absolutely incorrigible, a man who lived entirely on his own terms and paid the price for it. Watching him face his "final curtain," scrambling to make amends with the time he had left, raised a question I still can't shake. How do we live well, and honestly, all the way to the finish line?

NORTHBOUND is the film I made trying to work that out.

On the surface, it's a road movie. Underneath, it's a very late coming-of-age story. Arthur, played by the incomparable Bruce Dern, is a man-child who's spent a lifetime acting as though the rules don't apply to him. Until, that is, mortality arrives at the door, and the question he's been running from his whole life is waiting for him at the end of the road.

And so the road less travelled, the one Arthur chose his whole life, becomes a requiem. It's the comedy of a man who lived too loud to listen, and the tragedy of finding the right words too late. Comedy and tragedy, holding hands. That's where truth lives.

William Scoular

WRITER & DIRECTOR

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