Rowe Road Productions

Presents

A MATTER OF TASTE

Press Contact: Jessica Edwards
Jessica@FilmFirstco.com
917-620-8529

Running Time 68 mins
Screening Format Digital
Dates of Production 2001-2010
Official Website www.amatteroftastethefilm.com
A Matter of Taste takes an intimate look inside the world of an immensely talented and driven young chef, Paul Liebrandt. At 24, he was awarded three stars by the New York Times for unforgettable and hyper modern dishes such as "eel, violets and chocolate," "espuma of calf brains and foie gras," and "beer and truffle soup."

Critic William Grimes likened Paul to "a pianist who seems to have found a couple of dozen extra keys." Conversely, Gourmet critic Jonathan Gold called Paul's food "the result of a failed science experiment." He soon became a chef critics loved or loved to hate.

The film follows Paul over a decade and reveals his creative process in the kitchen, as well as the extreme hard work, long hours, and dedication it takes to be a culinary artist and have success in the cutthroat world of haute cuisine in New York City. Exploring the complicated relationships between food critics, chefs and restaurant owners, the film delves into the life of an uncompromising, thought provoking, young chef ahead of his time.
The first time I tasted Paul’s cuisine it forced me to really think about what I was eating. I was compelled to take a moment to process his flavor combinations and texture choices - not to mention the architecture and artistry in each dish.

I did not want to make a cooking show but through Paul’s story I wanted the public to understand the amount of hard work and inventiveness that goes into cooking at the highest level possible. I wanted to show the trials and tribulations of a young man very much ahead of his time in New York City and his drive and determination to be recognized as one of the best chefs today.

I shot Paul over a decade through his highs and lows. Kitchens are difficult places to shoot and Paul was always under a lot of pressure to perform - we were constantly being told where NOT to be… Ultimately, I think we managed to capture an uncompromising artist whose journey will never end.
Rowe Road Productions
Presents

A Matter of Taste

Executive Produced by
Benjamin Breen

Produced by
Sally Rowe, Alan Oxman, and Rachel Mills

Directed by
Sally Rowe

Edited and Co-Produced by
Amy Foote

Featuring
Paul Liebrandt
Paul Liebrandt is the Executive Chef and Owner of Corton, his restaurant in Manhattan’s Tribeca neighborhood. His modern French menu melds the tradition of classical cuisine with a contemporary, personal approach to ingredients and technique. Corton celebrated its one-year anniversary in October 2009. In this inaugural year, the restaurant has been honored with two Michelin stars, three stars by The New York Times and named one of Esquire’s Best New Restaurants of 2009.

Paul has cooked in some the world’s most esteemed restaurants. He began his career in England, working under Marco Pierre White at his Michelin three-star restaurant and Raymond Blanc at Le Manor Aux Quat’ Saisons in Oxford.

Next, Paul traveled to Paris, where he worked for Pierre Gagnaire at his eponymous three-star restaurant. He then came to New York in 1999, where he worked with David Bouley, which soon earned four stars from the The New York Times.

In 2000, Paul was hired as executive chef of Atlas. In November of that year, at the age of 24, he became the youngest chef ever awarded three stars from The New York Times: critic William Grimes praised the young chef’s “daring, distinctive style,” likening him to “a pianist who seems to have found a couple of dozen extra keys.”

After leaving Atlas, Paul cooked for numerous high profile clients including Lord Rothschild and HRH Prince Andrew. And in 2005 he opened Gilt in the Villard House in New York City.

In 2002, Esquire named Paul as the Best and Brightest of the next generation in food and restaurants. He was named one of Gotham Magazine’s Top 100 Bachelors of 2009 and has also been profiled in Vogue, Men’s Health, W Magazine and the UK Sunday Telegraph.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Restaurant Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Awards</th>
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<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>L’Escargot</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
<td>Commis Chef</td>
<td>One Star Michelin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Marco Pierre White</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
<td>Commis Chef</td>
<td>Three Star Michelin</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Le Manor Aux Quat Saisons</td>
<td>Oxford, UK</td>
<td>Chef de Partie</td>
<td>Three Star Michelin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Pierre Gagnaire</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
<td>Chef de Partie</td>
<td>Three Star Michelin</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Bouley Bakery</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>Sous Chef</td>
<td>Four Star NY Times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Atlas</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>Executive Chef</td>
<td>Three Star NY Times</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Papillon</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>Director of Restaurant</td>
<td>Two Star NY Times</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>The Veda Group</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>Consultant &amp; Development</td>
<td>on a new restaurant project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Gilt</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>Executive Chef</td>
<td>Two Star NY Times</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Corton</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>Executive Chef - Owner</td>
<td>Two Star Michelin</td>
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</tbody>
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FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHIES

SALLY ROWE – DIRECTOR/PRODUCER
New Zealand born Sally Rowe began working in film in 1992 as an apprentice editor, assistant and editor in Thailand, Los Angeles and New York, respectively. In 2001, she returned to set as a script supervisor on numerous independent features, commercials and the entire run of Comedy Central’s Emmy nominated “CHAPPELLE’S SHOW.” A MATTER OF TASTE marks her directorial debut.

ALAN OXMAN – PRODUCER
Alan Oxman has most recently served as post-production supervisor on INSIDE JOB (Oscar Winner, Best Documentary 2011) and producer on HOT COFFEE (Sundance 2011, Official Competition). He began his career as an editor and his credits include WELCOME TO THE DOLLHOUSE (Grand Jury Prize, Sundance Film Festival), HAPPINESS (International Critic's Award, Cannes Film Festival) and STORYTELLING (Cannes Film Festival). He also co-edited UNZIPPED (Audience Award, Sundance Film Festival) which won the A.C.E. Award for Best Documentary Editing. Alan won two Emmy Awards for Outstanding Documentary Editing on the PBS series "CITY LIFE." He co-produced the documentary films CHILDREN UNDERGROUND (Oscar Nomination 2002 & Special Jury Prize, Sundance Film Festival) and CONTROL ROOM (Grand Jury Prize, Full Frame Film Festival). NO END IN SIGHT, on which Alan was a consulting editor, won the Special Jury prize at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and was nominated for an Academy Award in 2008.

RACHEL MILLS – PRODUCER
Rachel Mills is the Director of The Edit Center in New York City where she selects independent narrative and documentary features for the center’s intensive editing lab. Filmmakers’ projects are worked on by professional editors and students pursuing a career in editing. She has overseen many award winning films through the work-shopping process including: HOT COFFEE (Sundance 2011, Official Competition), WINTER’S BONE (Oscar Nominee, Best Picture 2011), GARBAGE DREAMS (Oscar short list, Best Documentary 2010), STRANGE POWERS (SXSW 2010) and FROZEN RIVER (Grand Jury Prize, Sundance 2008), to name a few.

AMY FOOTE – EDITOR/CO-PRODUCER
Amy Foote is a freelance editor based in New York City. Her editing credits include the Emmy-nominated documentary film FINISHING HEAVEN, which aired on HBO; THE LEAST OF THESE: Family Detention In America (SXSW 2009, distributed by Indie Pix and Snag Films); and FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE Winner of The Audience Award at SXSW, Sarasota, Nashville, Port Townsend; nominated for Best Musical Documentary by IDA; and airing on PBS’s Independent Lens in 2011. She also received a Creative Director credit on this film. Amy was the Associate Editor and Co-Producer on FLYING: Confessions of A Free Woman, a six hour documentary series directed by Jennifer Fox, that aired on the Sundance Channel, BBC, and Arte.
FULL CREDITS

With Much Appreciation to
Paul Liebrandt

Music By
John M. Davis

Associate Producer
Ian Gelfand

Featuring

Grant Achatz
Heston Blumenthal
Daniel Boulud
Thomas Keller
Paul Liebrandt
Eric Ripert
Amy Scherber
Rachel Bauers
Fredrik Berselius
Johnny Black
Victor Boyd
Frank Bruni
Joseph Cannavo
Richard Ellis
John Gaul
Monah and Alan Gettner
Stephanie Goto
William Grimes
Elizabeth Harcourt
Angela Hernandez
Julio Hernandez
Scott Kasen
Anita Kothari
Rob Lawson

Susan Lee
Arnie Marcella
Michelle Micale
Jason Mudrick
Mazen Mustafa
Louis Nauler
Drew Nieporent
Olivia Noren
Jason O'Brien
Arleene Oconitrillo
Richard Oppenheimer
Devon Pipars
Christopher Plantin
Gabe Quiros
Fabian Rivera
Sophia Sabazo
Pat Scire
Martin Shapiro
Aldo Sohm
Evan Sung
Robert Truitt
Ari Weiswasser
Russ Woodall
Camera
Ronan Killeen
Liz Tracy
Michiel Pilgram
Lara Zizic
Jeff Woods
Eric O’Connor
Ramusius Burgess
Sally Rowe
Bob Aumer
Chris Reynolds

Opening Music
Sara Sant’Ambrogio from Dreaming
Sebastian Records

Sound Recordists
Ian Gelfand
Kwabe Griffin
Rob Corso
Sally Rowe
Jared Livingston
Matt Israel
Giles Khan

Photography
Evan Sung
Timothy Luke
Asbel Reyes
Jesse Lyda

Assistant Editors
Alison Anastasio
Danielle Chu
Sam Eliad
Amy Kessler
Sheila Shirazi

Re-recording Mixer
John M. Davis

DI Online Colorist
Stewart Griffin

DI Online Editor
Owen Rucker

Post Production Services
Final Frame

Graphics
Jamie Boud

Legal Services
Sandra Forman

Additional Footage By
Jake Leonti
Rob Aaron  
Jack Aim  
Danielle Chu  
Teresa Cicala  
Lucille Cooper  
Marianna De Nadal  
Sam Eliad  
Sassie Freedberg  
Caryn Gardenhire  
Chip Grabow  
Peter Higgins  
Aaron McIntosh  
Meg McLagan  
Sean Murray  
Betsy Rate  
Ryan Taylor  
Michael Trumpf  
Isaac Urwin  
Rogier van Beeck Calkoen  
Hilary Walker  
Jeanie Wooten

Special Thanks
Penelope Falk  
Shannon Bolin Kaye  
Drew Nieporent  
Liz Tracy  
Michiel Pilgram

Thanks to
Ajay Balakrishnan  
Chad Beck  
Andrew Blackwell  
Corton kitchen and wait staff  
Will Cox  
Sarah Devorkin  
Lena Eberhart  
Ana Egge  
Kerthy Fix  
Anita Gabrosek  
Gilt Kitchen and wait staff  
Todd Holmes  
Ben Laffin  
Andrew Langsford  
Tamzin Langsford  
Cindy Lee  
Charlie Marquardt  
Dan O'Brien  
Bessie Oster  
Papillon Kitchen and wait staff  
Ghislain Pascal  
Geoff Richman  
Andrew Rossi  
Caitlin Tartaro  
Caroline Tran  
David Turner  
The Edit Center  
The Estate of Bob Carlos Clarke  
Isaac Urwin  
Stephanie Wang-Breal  
Eugene Yi  
Lara Zizic