

## CAST & PERFORMANCE

This is always the most important part. Always.

We don't have much of a story to tell. We don't have a complex narrative. What we do have is a charming, simple story that will be told through our cast. They are the heart and the soul of the film. Cast the right people, and the hardest part of our job is done.

Emma Roberts is great. She is young and cool and interesting and talented. She's not a super-obvious easy choice, which makes it even better. She's a perfect fit for the brand and I'm sure she'll give us an amazing performance. So, the bar is set pretty high for the rest of our cast.

It's an international film, so we need to make sure that we have good levels of diversity and representation.

But what we really need is character. We need actors who can hold our attention, who can tell our story in a way that makes us want to hear it. Actors who have personalities that can fill a room on their own. Interesting faces with their own stories behind them. Physically confident performers who can take direction and understand the process. People who have funny bones. They need to be relatable. They need to look and feel like us. We want people who can be tired and broken and vulnerable, who can make us feel their pain.

We aren't looking for caricatures. We don't want the humour to come from the way they look. It needs to be kinder than that, coming from the way they perform and how they make us feel.

Casting will be a thorough and careful process. It's not something we'll know from just one session. I'll want to work with them a lot, rehearsing and improvising and discovering how we can get the very best from their performance. We have to get this right, and it will be time and energy well spent.

