

ROUGH NIGHT (2017)

- Released by June 16th, 2017
- 1 hour 41 minutes
- \$20,000,000 (estimated) budget
- Lucia Aniello directed
- Paulilu Productions, Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE)
- R for crude sexual content, language throughout, drug use and brief bloody images

QUICK THOUGHTS:

- Demetri Panos
- Phil Svitek
- Marisa Serafini

DEVELOPMENT

- On June 22, 2015, it was announced that Sony Pictures had won the bidding war for the female-driven comedy script *Move That Body*, written by Lucia Aniello and Paul W. Downs
- Aniello also directed and Downs co-starred
- Both also produced the film through their production banner, Paulilu, along with Matt Tolmach and Dave Becky
- The script was among the 2015 Black List of unproduced scripts
- REPORTED THAT: Fox, Universal, Paramount and MRC were all in on an auction
- “Lucia just knows how to get into her characters. This is a movie about five people who are so completely different, but they all feel authentic and real,” Matthew Tolmach said. “It seems insane that we’re having this conversation, but it’s fantastic [for us], too. Women should be directing all the time, so if this movie shows that and inspires people then great — it should.”

WRITING (Lucia Aniello, Paul W. Downs)

- The director, co-writer, and a producer of the film, Lucia Aniello, says she was reflecting on how the formative friendships of her life had changed over time, and that inspired the film. “It’s based on so many relationships that I have had, the feelings that I have with certain people from my past,” she explains. “It’s about figuring out how your past fits into your present and your future.”
- Lucia Aniello and Paul Downs have been paired as a comedy team for more than a decade, first meeting in an improv comedy class, then spending more time together. “We started dating, and we were thinking of ideas because we were together all the time,” Aniello recalls. “We started making videos on the side, putting them online – and nobody saw them but each one got slightly — barely — better. We really enjoyed the process of making them – we started to understand how to produce our own stuff, how to cut our videos, and we really became experienced in the process from every stage. We still didn’t know where it was going, but it was a satisfying process to make things together. Now, we’re still writing and producing together, and figuring out the best way to do that.”
- “What’s nice is we wrote it before we sent it to studios. I was just talking about the word “raunchy” before, because actually “raunchy” I think usually means, like, blue humor, like scatological or whatever, which isn’t really in this movie. People are saying the word “raunchy,” but it’s just women acting the way that my friends actually act. Sometimes they swear, sometimes they smoke pot, sometimes they have wine. Is that *raunchy*? I don’t think that’s raunchy. The only thing that was definitely a conversation was the amount of blood, which is more about darkness than it is about raunchiness.” -Lucia

STORY/TOPICS

- Comparisons to other movies
- The group
- The comedy
- Trailer vs movie (lots not in trailer)
- Plot twists

- Sad astronaut
- Love relationships
- Theme/message

CAST:

- Demi Moore: How amazing is she? She is amazoir, as Pippa would say. We sent her the script, and she read it and was so down and came and was open. You know that opening joke where she says, "Let me put something on," and she puts on her sunglasses? That was her joke! She came up with that and pitched it. and we were like, "Absolutely." It's so good. She was really kind and sweet and so funny and just *down*. That threesome scene, to shoot it was a little bit complicated. But I also didn't want it to *feel* complicated. I wanted it to feel simple and flowy, like, "Oh, these people do this all the time." Ty [Burrell] and Demi had a little bit of choreography to learn [for where they should go], and they were both on the same page, they were totally zoned in. It was one of the most fun things I've ever shot. -Lucia
- Colton Hayen (Stripper): We have a friend, Echo Kellum, who is on *Arrow* with Colton. Because we love Echo, we watch his show, and so we knew of Colton from that show, and we were just like, "What about Colton for that part?" He is so funny in this movie. He absolutely slays. We didn't even have to read him because we just knew he was perfect for it. We just offered it to him, and he was like, "What, me?" and we were like, "Yeah, you!" He's a dream and a half. He is the sweetest, best boy. So is Ryan Cooper, who plays the dead guy. He's also the sweetest. Everybody's a ray of damn sunshine on this fucking movie. I can't wait to work with all of them again! -Lucia

SCARLETT JOHANSSON (Jess)

- On December 15, 2015, [Scarlett Johansson](#) joined the film to play the lead role
- "When I read this script, it was so streamlined and really a perfect read, and that's a rare thing. That and it was really, really funny, and I just knew I had to meet these crazy people,"
- Scarlett Johansson was born in New York City. Her mother, [Melanie Sloan](#), is from a Jewish family from the Bronx, and her father, [Karsten Johansson](#), is a Danish-born architect, from Copenhagen. She has a sister, [Vanessa Johansson](#), who is also an actress, a brother, Adrian, a twin brother, [Hunter Johansson](#), born three minutes after her, and a paternal half-brother, Christian. Her grandfather was writer [Ejner Johansson](#)
- Johansson began acting during childhood, after her mother started taking her to auditions. She made her professional acting debut at the age of eight in the off-Broadway production of "Sophistry" with Ethan Hawke, at New York's Playwrights Horizons. She would audition for commercials but took rejection so hard her mother began limiting her to film tryouts. She made her film debut at the age of nine, as John Ritter's character's daughter in the fantasy comedy [North](#) (1994). Following minor roles in [Just Cause](#) (1995), as the daughter of Sean Connery and Kate Capshaw's character, and [If Lucy Fell](#) (1996), she played the role of Amanda in [Manny & Lo](#) (1996). Her performance in *Manny & Lo* garnered a nomination for the Independent Spirit Award for Best Lead Female, and positive reviews, one noting, "[the film] grows on you, largely because of the charm of ... Scarlett Johansson", while San Francisco Chronicle critic Mick LaSalle commented on her "peaceful aura", and wrote, "If she can get through puberty with that aura undisturbed, she could become an important actress."
- After appearing in minor roles in [Fall](#) (1997) and [Home Alone 3](#) (1997), Johansson garnered widely spread attention for her performance in [The Horse Whisperer](#) (1998), directed by Robert Redford, where she played Grace MacLean, a teenager traumatized by a riding accident. She received a nomination for the Chicago Film Critics Association Award for Most Promising Actress for the film. In 1999, she appeared in [My Brother the Pig](#) (1999) and in the music video for Mandy Moore's single, "Candy". Although the film was not a box office success, she received praise for her breakout role in [Ghost World](#) (2001), credited with "sensitivity and talent [that] belie her age". She was also featured in the Coen Brothers' dark drama [The Man Who Wasn't There](#) (2001), opposite Billy Bob Thornton and Frances McDormand. She appeared in the horror comedy [Eight Legged Freaks](#) (2002) with [David Arquette](#) and [Kari Wuhrer](#)

- In 2003, she was nominated for two Golden Globe Awards, one for drama ([Girl with a Pearl Earring](#) (2003)) and one for comedy ([Lost in Translation](#) (2003)), her breakout role, starring opposite [Bill Murray](#), and receiving rave reviews and a Best Actress Award at the Venice Film Festival. Her film roles include the critically acclaimed Weitz brothers' film [In Good Company](#) (2004), as well as starring opposite [John Travolta](#) in [A Love Song for Bobby Long](#) (2004), which garnered her a third Golden Globe Award nomination
- She dropped out of [Mission: Impossible III](#) (2006) due to scheduling conflicts. Her next film role was in [The Island](#) (2005) alongside [Ewan McGregor](#) which earned weak reviews from U.S. critics. After this, she appeared in [Woody Allen's Match Point](#) (2005) and was nominated again for a Golden Globe Award. In May 2008, she released her album "Anywhere I Lay My Head", a collection of Tom Waits covers featuring one original song. Also that year, she starred in Frank Miller's [The Spirit](#) (2008), the Woody Allen film [Vicky Cristina Barcelona](#) (2008), and played Mary Boleyn opposite Natalie Portman in [The Other Boleyn Girl](#) (2008)
- Since then, she has appeared as part of an ensemble cast in the romantic comedy [He's Just Not That Into You](#) (2009), the action superhero film [Iron Man 2](#) (2010), the comedy-drama [We Bought a Zoo](#) (2011) and started as the original scream queen, [Janet Leigh](#), in [Hitchcock](#) (2012). She then played her character, Black Widow, in the blockbuster action films [The Avengers](#) (2012), [Captain America: The Winter Soldier](#) (2014), [Avengers: Age of Ultron](#) (2015), [Captain America: Civil War](#) (2016), and [Avengers: Infinity War](#) (2018), and also headlined the science-fiction thriller [Lucy](#) (2014), a box office success. With more than a decade of work already under her belt, Scarlett has proven to be one of Hollywood's most talented young actresses
- Her 2017 roles are the sci-fi action thriller [Ghost in the Shell](#) (2017) and the dark comedy [Rough Night](#) (2017)
- Scarlett and Canadian actor [Ryan Reynolds](#) were engaged in May 2008 and married in September of that year. In 2010, the couple announced their separation, and subsequently divorced a year later. In 2013, she became engaged to French journalist Romain Dauriac, the couple married a year later. In January 2017, the couple announced their separation, and subsequently divorced in March of that year. They have a daughter, Rose Dorothy Dauriac (born 2014)
- Known for:
 - Often plays characters who look and act older than their age
 - Full lips and green eyes
 - Seductive husky voice

JILLIAN BELL (Alice)

- Jillian Bell was raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. She began studying improv at the age of eight. She graduated from Bishop Gorman High School in 2002, and then moved to Los Angeles, where she became a member of the Groundlings. She auditioned for Saturday Night Live, and though she did not join the cast, she became a writer for the show in 2009 for the 35th season. The same year Bell appeared in an episode of Curb Your Enthusiasm as an assistant who wears revealing clothing at work
- Known for 22 Jump Street, Fist Fight, Night Before, Goosebumps

ZOE KRAVITZ (Blair)

- On April 28, 2016, [Zoë Kravitz](#) was cast in the film
- Zoe Isabella Kravitz, the daughter of singer/actor [Lenny Kravitz](#) and actress [Lisa Bonet](#), was born on December 1, 1988 in Los Angeles, California. She is of half African-American (from her father's mother and her mother's father) and half Ashkenazi Jewish (from her father's father and her mother's mother) descent. Zoe's love and interest in acting developed from classes she began taking while in school. Wasting little time, Zoe started working on two films during her senior year in high school; [No Reservations](#) (2007), directed by [Scott Hicks](#), where she worked alongside [Catherine Zeta-Jones](#) and [Aaron Eckhart](#), and [The Brave One](#) (2007), directed by [Neil Jordan](#), starring [Jodie Foster](#) and [Terrence Howard](#)

- In 2008, Zoe completed work on Assassination of a High School President (2008), alongside Bruce Willis. She worked with Susan Sarandon and Pierce Brosnan on The Greatest (2009), which debuted at Sundance. Zoe has just wrapped on the latest Joel Schumacher film, Twelve (2010), co-starring Kiefer Sutherland, 50 Cent, Chace Crawford and Emma Roberts, which will be released in 2010. She recently wrapped shooting in New York on her first lead roles in the films, Beware the Gonzo (2010), opposite Amy Sedaris, Campbell Scott and Ezra Miller, and Yelling to the Sky (2011), the story of "Sweetness O'Hara", who has a sometimes-absent father and a present but mentally unstable mother
- Outside of her film endeavors, Kravitz has kept busy with various projects. She served as lead singer and co-writer with her band, "Elevator Fight". Kravitz is also the new face of Vera Wang's "Princess" perfume. The campaign launches in November 2009. Zoe starred in 2008 in Jay Z music video for his single, "I Know", off his "American Gangster" album. She was also featured with Jessica Alba, Ryan Phillippe, Tyrese Gibson, George Lopez, John Leguizamo and several other celebrities in Will.i.am's "We Are the Ones" video during Barack Obama campaign
- Known for Mad Max Fury Road, Divergent, X-Men First Class,

ILANA GLAZER (Frankie)

- Ilana Glazer was born on April 12, 1987 in Long Island, New York, USA as Ilana Rose Glazer. She is an actress and writer, known for Broad City (2014), Rough Night (2017) and The Night Before (2015). She has been married to David Rooklin since February 26, 2017

KATE MCKINNON (Kiwi / Pippa)

- Kate McKinnon was born on January 6, 1984 in Sea Cliff, New York, USA as Kathryn McKinnon Berthold. She is an actress, known for Saturday Night Live (1975), Ghostbusters (2016) and Finding Dory (2016)

PETER W. DOWNS (Peter)

- Paul W. Downs is an actor and producer, known for Rough Night (2017), Broad City (2014) and Time Traveling Bong (2016)
- In some ways, it feels like we're always working, because whenever we're together and we see something funny happen, we'll write it down or email it to ourselves or we'll talk about it. But because we love what we do and we are together all the time, even sometimes when we are working it, doesn't feel like work because we just truly, genuinely love doing it. It's about balance. I love him and I love being together and I love working together, so I just am really, really lucky.
-Lucia

RYAN COOPER (Dead Stripper)

- "You know, I only read up to where I was. I read up to like page 30 or 40, and I was laughing out loud and totally lost it. Also, Broad City is such a great show, so I knew I could trust Lucia to make a wonderful, funny movie. They're all so talented I thought, "Sure, I'll play a dead guy. Why not?" The way they brought my character to life, so to speak, and made him part of the ensemble, is really cool. It was really, really fun."
- "I learned so much from each of them. I really did. You're right in saying it's diverse. Kate has such silliness and humor. Scarlett has such professionalism, and such a body of work. And she's kind and gentle. Jillian is so sensitive and kind and approachable. Same with Ilana and Zoë. They just know who they are."
- "I do die at some point, and the ongoing journey of my body is where a lot of the humor comes from. The interaction between the girls, and being open to them when they're interacting with me is hilarious. I think people are going to find it really fun."
- "I feel like this year I've realized that I collaborate better with the feminine approach to work—which is more collaborative, and less "I tell you what to do, and you follow suit"—which may be the more historical masculine approach to working. Yeah, 100%! I love that. On Rough Night, Kate McKinnon who is a frickin' superstar and the most talented human being, was asking

me for my advice on accents. [The writers] Paul W. Downs and Lucia were asking me about extra lines or Australian colloquialisms, so there was no ego at all on set. It's just beautiful. I love that. It just means everyone feels comfortable to be themselves, and to bring their best work to the table.

SYMBOLISM/TRIVIA/EASTER EGGS

- On Sad Astronaut: [Peter's] really good in it, right? [Sad astronaut] is better than anything you could ever make up. A lot of people were like, "Is that real?" and we were like, "Oh, baby, it's real." [After filming,] we actually had Bo Burnham [add] that line, "You know, the news story?" because people were like "it seemed made up" and we're like, "No, it is real as hell."
- Sharon Maguire's *Bridget Jones's Diary* (2001) was the last R-rated studio comedy to be directed by a woman until Nancy Meyers stumbled into an R-rating in 2009, because she dared to show Meryl Streep smoke a joint onscreen in *It's Complicated*. Otherwise, the hard-R comedy has been a total no-woman's land.
- Kiwi makes a remark about cooking the dead "stripper", saying it was done in Australia. In fact, this is correct: Marcus Volke, a chef, murdered his transgender girlfriend in a Brisbane apartment in 2014. In an ill thought out plan to conceal her body, he tried to boil her dismembered remains in cooking pots. Volke committed suicide before he was brought to trial

DIRECTING (Lucia Aniello)

- Aniello directed the pilot and multiple episodes of the Comedy Central series *Broad City*, in which Downs plays the role of Trey, and they are co-exec producers on the show
- Sony is already in business with the duo, as they are working on a spinoff franchise of *21 Jump Street*
- *Rough Night* is the first big-studio R-rated comedy about women to be directed by a woman in nearly 20 years, meaning that *Rough Night* has a completely unique perspective. "I think it's obvious that there's been a dearth of stories told from the perspective of women, especially in the comedy world," says Aniello. "Nothing against the R-rated comedies directed by men – but it does feel like the authenticity of a woman's point of view can only make the female characters feel that much more authentic."
- "It makes me feel like I have to make sure that this movie is really good so I don't mess it up for the next woman to come along," Aniello said at the New York premiere. "We were pleasantly surprised that there were a lot of people who wanted [the film], and when it came down to it, we wanted to go with the studio that was going to actually make the movie. Sony's first offer was so aggressive we knew that they meant business."

PRODUCTION/CINEMATOGRAPHY (Sean Porter)

- Principal photography began in August 2016 in Saddle Rock, New York
- On September 26, 2016, filming was taking place in Mount Vernon, New York
- Filming took place in Long Beach, California, in October 2016, while the pier restaurants and bars of Hermosa Beach, California, were used as stand-ins for Miami nightlife
- For the look of *Rough Night*, the filmmakers sought a visual aesthetic that not only complimented the actors, but was also stylized and edgy. "We wanted to find a younger Director of Photography doing exciting work," says Downs. "Sean Porter shot *Green Room* and *20th Century Women*. He has a unique and distinct look, and he made a lot of sense both logistically and style-wise. We didn't want the film to look bright, glossy, gauzy, and commercial; Sean gave it an edgy, fresh, funny and unique look, a little more stylized and with a little bit more grit to it."
- In keeping with the edgy tone of the film, production designer Bob Shaw had to balance the vibrant pastel colors of Miami with the dark humor of the film. "When I met with Paul and Lucia, I brought some images of Ocean Drive in Miami," says Shaw. "You couldn't help but notice that half the buildings were lit with pink neon, and the other half, are lit with blue or aqua neon, and this is the general tone of Miami, that was inescapable. So, we knew that this was going to be a very important part of the palette."

- Costume designer Leah Katznelson created distinctive looks reflective of the character’s personalities and evolution beyond college. “The script was refreshing, funny and offered an exciting opportunity to create very distinct characters between the women,” says Katznelson. She started by brainstorming about who these women were in college, and how those people had transformed themselves into adults.
 - For Jess, Katznelson created a practical and functional minimalist wardrobe. “It was important that Jess looked like a candidate, someone who would be a politician but who is also young and approachable – more of a grassroots organizer,” says Katznelson. “Jess has taste; she doesn’t spend a lot of time paying attention to high fashion but is always put-together. So, her look was very clean, and consistently so, throughout the film.”
 - “Alice is the polar opposite from Jess,” says Katznelson. “She has planned this weekend. She is very excited about it. She has planned every outfit to a T, what she’s going to wear by the pool, what she’s going to wear to dinner, what she’s going to wear to the club. So there are a lot more color, life, and patterns to her story.”
 - Pippa’s style reflects her esoteric personality. “We played into the idea of her being a bohemian personality,” says Katznelson. “She is well-traveled but is not necessarily grounded in reality. She flies by the seat of her pants and beats to her own drum. So, we wanted that to be translated through her jewelry choices.”
 - Blair’s look represents affluence and status. “The key to Blair was keeping her completely monochromatic for every outfit,” says Katznelson. “When we first see her, she’s all in cream. She’s a very classic, refined New York woman. All of her tastes are very specific, elegant, and timeless. She is the woman that wears four-inch heels walking down the street in New York City – everything is very expensive and looks that way.”
 - The Occupy Wall Street movement inspired Frankie’s style. “Ilana Glazer got inspired a lot by looking at Occupy Wall Street photographs and studying the milieu of the contemporary activist,” says Katznelson. “It’s a combination of music festival meets Greenpeace meets Woodstock. It’s a mishmash of militant inspired clothing for her, à la vintage Levi’s.”
- Aniello says that Katznelson’s contributions helped shape who the characters are – and it is from those characters that all of the comedy springs. “Leah is so gifted and special,” says Aniello. “She understands exactly who these characters are. If you get a snapshot of each person’s wardrobe, even without faces, you would know who’s who. She nailed it immediately.”

EDITING/VFX (Craig Alpert)

- Craig known for Pitch Perfect 2, Knocked Up, Pineapple Express, Ride Along
- College scene was shot and added in later:
 - “It was so that when Alice is like a little puppy dog about wanting them to all be together and take photos, you understood where she was coming from, because you saw in the past the way that they were inseparable, which is the way that I definitely was with my college friends. I was like, “These are my best friends forever,” and this was so important to me, but cut to 10 years later, and things aren’t on the same friendship levels. When they have a fight [at the end], it means a whole lot more for the audience. It really changed the DNA of the movie in a way that I’m really proud of” - Lucia

SOUND/MUSIC (Dominic Lewis)

- Dominic Lewis composed the film’s score
- Known as musician for How to Train Your Dragon, Captain America: Winter’s Soldier, Batman V Superman
- Other music featured is performed by Skrillex and Cliff Martinez (who previously collaborated on Spring Breakers), and Outlines

PROMOTION

- *Rough Night* was scheduled to be released on June 23, 2017

- It was then moved up a week to June 16

BOX OFFICE

- Total Lifetime Grosses (As of June 19th): \$8,004,283
- Domestic: \$8,004,283
 - + Foreign: \$4,200,000
 - = Worldwide: \$12,204,283
- Domestic Summary
 - Opening Weekend: \$8,004,283
 - (#7 rank, 3,162 theaters, \$2,531 average)
 - % of Total Gross: 100.0%
- > View All Weekends
 - Widest Release: 3,162 theaters
 - In Release: 6 days / 0.9 weeks
- In North America, the film was released alongside *All Eyez on Me*, *47 Meters Down* and *Cars 3*, and was initially projected to gross \$10–14 million from 3,162 theaters in its opening weekend
- However after making just \$3.4 million on its first day (including \$700,000 from Thursday night previews), weekend projections were readjusted to \$9 million
- It ended up debuting to \$8 million, finishing 7th at the box office
- Released on Father's Day weekend

RECEPTION

- IMDB: 5.5
- Cinemascore: C+
- RT: 49% Tatometer, 42% Audience
- The site's critical consensus reads, "*Rough Night*'s gifted stars are certainly good for some laughs, but their talents aren't properly utilized in a scattered comedy that suffers from too many missed opportunities."

SEQUEL/LEGACY

- How will men feel about this movie?
 - I feel like everybody has those friends, no matter whether you're a guy or a girl, especially those who go back to their hometowns, and maybe some people are still there and some people have moved on. We don't have that exactly, but there are echoes of it in the relationships. Anybody who's had friends in their lives can in some ways relate to it. We're just trying to replicate real-life relationships. -Lucia
- Debate about whether death of sex workers is funny:
 - <https://ww2.kqed.org/pop/2017/06/20/does-rough-nights-box-office-flop-indicate-a-cultural-shift-in-how-we-see-sex-workers/> or
 - <http://www.refinery29.com/2017/06/159602/rough-night-movie-stripper-dead-alive-plot-twist>
- Shift of lesbian characters on screen:
 - http://www.slate.com/blogs/browbeat/2017/06/19/how_rough_night_refreshingly_portrays_queer_people.html
- Latest edition of Twin Films (with Girls Trip):
 - <http://abcnews.go.com/Entertainment/rough-night-girls-trip-hollywoods-latest-twin-films/story?id=48131641>