

MAKING GRACE

A Film by
Catherine Gund

86 Minutes, Color, Video
2004



FIRST RUN FEATURES

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Award Winning video maker Catherine Gund's new documentary, ***Making Grace***, offers a candid look at the daily challenges faced by two lesbian mothers attempting to birth their first child. ***Making Grace*** offers a unique look at the nature of families and how we make them.

Ann Krsul and Leslie Sullivan want to be mothers together. Ann will carry the baby and Leslie will leave her job to stay at home and raise their child. Choosing the route of the anonymous sperm bank, they hope to match Leslie's vital statistics so that Ann can give birth to a baby with the potential to look like them both.

Ann is a worrier, compulsively analyzing and judging their performance at each stage of the process. Leslie is soothing, a quiet counterpoint. Together they ride the menstrual roller coaster, until finally, one year later, Ann is pregnant.

At first both women continue to work. Free time is consumed by pre-birth activity: baby shower registration, Lamaze class and design of the baby announcement. Between events they argue with relatives over how to explain two mommies to their nieces and nephews.

Month eight, Leslie ends her job to prepare for full time mommy-hood. Ann continues to work all hours, holding her now huge tummy as she shuffles from job site to job site, fretting over everything. But Baby Grace is born on time with bright red hair (a trait known to neither family).

Different techniques are used to structure the video and highlight key points. For instance, odd bits of information from donor profiles, recited by actors, make an ironic off-screen presence of the "Anonymous Donor".

Gund follows the Krsul-Sullivan household during Grace's first year. As Ann and Leslie make their way, we are with them, meeting challenges universal to all families and facing those unique to lesbians.

Credits

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| Director/Producer/Camera | Catherine Gund |
| Editors | Aljernon Tunsil/Catherine Gund |
| Production Manager | Angelina Sapienza |
| Composer | Paul Armstrong |
| Studio Interviews Producer | Lucy Winer |
| Sound Stage | All-Mobile Video |
| Camera | Claudia Raschke-Robinson |
| Studio Assistant | Sarah Landau |
| Additional Camera | John Krsul Ann Krsul Leslie Sullivan Aljernon Tunsil Angelina Sapienza |
| Donor Tape Voice-Over | Matt Morrow |
| Musicians | Paul Armstrong, Piano Bob Deboo, Bass (on Jazz) Dave Mason, Drums Matt Parker, Saxophone Tatum Greenblat, Trumpet Victor Sanchez, Bass (on Latin) Gabriel Machado, Percussion David O'Rourke, Guitar Mike Weying, Drums Joe Deninzon, Violin The Dave Watts Motet, on "Hiatus" |
| Music Recorded at | Laughing Buddha Studios |
| Recording Engineer | Michael Berry |
| Post-Production | Aubin Pictures, Inc. |
| Post-Production Producers | Jenny Raskin Jon Nealon |
| Assistant Editor | Angelina Sapienza |
| Sound Mix | Margaret Crimmins Greg Smith Dog Bark Sound |