



presents

EAST END KIDS

A Film by Carole Laganière
Produced by Nathalie Barton



Carole Laganière films the hopes, the fears and the dreams of kids living in the deprived Montreal neighbourhood where she grew up.

PRESS KIT

East End Kids

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Canada, 2004, Digital video, Color, 52'

Written and Directed by	Carole Laganière
Photography	Philippe Lavalette
Sound Recording	Marie-France Delagrave
Editing	France Pilon
Sound Editing	Alain Blais
	Martin Messier
Music	Bertrand Chénier
Produced by	Nathalie Barton

Produced by
InformAction

With the participation of

Canadian Television Fund
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and with the collaboration of
Télé-Québec
and
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Long summary

East End Kids sets out to meet children in Hochelaga-Maisonneuve, the neighbourhood in Montreal, Canada where the filmmaker grew up and whose name conjures up images of poverty and social problems. The film gives voice to children growing up there – children who, people say, have few chances of escaping their condition, yet who have hopes and fears and desires like everyone else on the road to adulthood.

We get to know their neighbourhood, the world around them, and the issues that concern them: their families – whatever the structure; their hangouts; love and friendship; poverty, violence, and what they see of drug use and prostitution; and school life.

By filming the children in their own environment, wherever they are and wherever they want to go, in conversation more than in interview, the film gains insight into the characters' daily lives: at home, at school, in the back alleys, at the park, out bicycling...

Going beyond fear, sorrow and resignation, the film shines with the radiance of these children and speaks of the strength and beauty of their lives and aspirations, opening up a space where hope can triumph.

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Carole Laganière **Short Bio-filmography**

Carole Laganière was born in Montreal. In 1987, she graduated in Film Direction from the INSAS, Belgium. In 1989, she made her first short, *Jour de Congé*, who won a number of prizes in Europe. On her return to Québec, she directed *Aline*, which received the Best Feature Film prize at the 1992 Festival de Namur. Happy forays into the genre of documentary-fiction (*Histoires de Musées*, 1996-97, *Des Mots Voyageurs*, 1999), led the filmmaker to choose, with *The Fiancée of Life* (2001) and *The Moon and the Violin* (2003), to focus on reality. The latter both won the Gold Award for Best Canadian Documentary at Hot Docs (Toronto) respectively in 2002 and 2003. She directed in 2004 a documentary about children in East Montreal, *East End Kids* presented in more than a dozen international festivals (Finalist for Best Documentary at the Jutra and the Géméaux Awards 2005). She recently finished a new documentary, *City Park, A Little Music for the Soul*.