

# LE GRAND ROLE

A Film by  
**Steve Suissa**

89 Minutes, Color, 2004  
35mm, 1.85, Dolby SRD



## **FIRST RUN FEATURES**

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# LE GRAND ROLE

## Synopsis

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Maurice, Sami, Simon, Elie and Edouard are still unknown actors despite their late thirties. But one day, Grinchenberg, the famous American director, comes to Paris looking for the lead role in his Yiddish adaptation of the Merchant of Venice. Maurice gets the part!

It is the major breakthrough he has been waiting for. He rushes home to proudly announce the big news to his wife Perla. But Perla also has news for him: she is very ill... Unfortunately, the part eventually goes to a famous American star. Maurice doesn't have the heart to tell Perla...

With his friends' help, he will go all the way to make his wife believe that he still has the part, and will end up playing the role of his life to protect her...

## CAST

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Maurice Kurz	Stéphane Freiss
Perla Kurz	Bérénice Bejo
Rudolph Grichenberg	Peter Coyote
Benny Schwarz	François Berleand
Stéphane Freiss	Maurice
Stéphan Guérin-Tillié	Edouard
Rufus	Silbermann
Mickaël Sabah	Ben
Clément Sibony	
Olivier Sitruk	Samy

## CREDITS

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DIRECTOR	Steve Suissa
PRODUCED BY	Les Films de l'Espoir
WRITTEN BY	Daniel Cohen, Daniel Goldenberg, Steve Suissa, Sophie Tepper
SOUND	Sophie Laloy
EDITING	Monica Coleman

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# Le Grand Role

## Director's Statement

LE GRAND ROLE is my second feature film. After "L'Envol," which I co-produced and directed in 1999, I directed two shows for M6 in 2002 and a short film called "Elle Pleure Pas."

"Le Grand Rôle" is adapted from a novel by Daniel Goldenberg that touched me enormously: the characters are sincere, very different from the heroes one is accustomed to seeing on screen, and the intense feeling between Perla and Maurice is evident in their love story. Their love is pure, true, without judgment, love just for love's sake.

When we wrote the adaptation, we wanted the story to remain authentic. The costumes, the sets, the dialogues, everything is believable, anchored in real-life. It is real when there are care-free moments and laughter, but also at other times, harsher times, when unexpected things happen. These characters never complain, they live life to the fullest.

That's why the actors we chose are friends in life and are also waiting, professionally, for their Grand Role.

We prepared this film as one would a play, with rehearsals. Days were spent on the sets, so that all the details would enrich the story.

The first part of the film is fast-paced and rhythmical, the dialogue is comedic. The second part is more subtle, and gazes and silences tell a lot about the meaning of this story.

Steve Suissa

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**Directed by**  
Steve Suissa

**Written by**  
Daniel Cohen  
Daniel Goldenberg (book)  
Steve Suissa  
Sophie Tepper

**Cast**

Bérénice Bejo  
Perla Kurtz

Peter Coyote  
Rudolph Grichenberg

Stéphane Freiss  
Maurice Kurtz

François Berléand  
Benny Schwarz

Lionel Abelanski  
Simon Laufer

Laurent Bateau  
Elie Weill

Mickaël Sabah  
Ben

Olivier Sitruk  
Samy Rebbot

Rufus  
M. Silberman

Stéphan Guérin-Tillié  
Edouard

Valérie Benguigui  
Viviane

Danièle Denie  
Mme Silberman

Smadi Wolfman  
Sarah

Steve Suissa  
Doron

Clément Sibony  
Benoît

Gérard Caillaud  
Le metteur en scène

Alice Carel  
Farida

Laetitia Fourcade  
Aurore

Eric Naggar  
Chef de plateau doublage

Lila Douro  
Yaël

Jacques Zajdermann  
Henri Bronstein

Charlie Dupont  
Chauffeur Grichenberg

Kathy Heid  
Koko

Pierre-Olivier Mornas  
Jérôme Saulnier

Guillaume Noiret  
Premier assistant Saulnier  
Madeleine Goldstein Amie  
grand-mère Simon

Lionel Nataf  
Deuxième assistant Saulnier

Esther Gorintin  
Grand-mère Simon

Adriana Santini  
La grande blonde

Marie-Gaëlle Cals  
Hôtesse d'accueil hotel

Michel Laliberté  
Erwan

Abraham Leber  
Le vieux monsieur scandalize

Clément Harari  
Le vieux sage

Claire Chazal  
La journaliste télé

Bruno Wolkowitch  
Dr. Guez (voice)

Daniel Cohen  
Inspecteur de police

## Crew

	Original Music by David Marouani	Cinematography by Guillaume Schiffman
Film Editing by Monica Coleman	Production Design by Éric Barboza	Costume Design by Aline Dupays
Ariane Chassaigne key hair stylist	Virginie Harmon makeup artist	Production Management Julien Bouley
	Corinne Maillard key makeup artist	
unit production manager Murielle Thierrin	Dominique Henry first assistant director	
Stéphane Talagrand second assistant director		
	Mathieu Cox foley recordist	Franck Duval boom operator
Steven Ghouti adr mixer	Alek Goosse sound mixer	Alek Goosse sound re-recording mixer
Sophie Laloy sound	François Lepeuple foley artist	Olivier Marlangeon assistant foley artist
	Cécile Ranc sound editor	Laurence Couturier script supervisor
	Marine Benveniste assistant editor	
Stephane Cresta key grip	Guillaume Henini assistant camera	Eric Le Roux steadicam operator
Marc Naudin production administrator	Mathias Othnin-Girard electrician	
Natacha Raymond assistant camera	Julien Reignoux costumer	Alice Vivier extras casting