



UN FILM DE
PROPRE
JOAN MARSHAL



PRESS KIT

"NO ONE CAN TEACH US TO BE HUMAN.

IT BEGINS WHEN WE REALIZE WE ARE HUMAN BEYOND COLOR, RELIGION, AND ETHNICITY."



2025



MILESTONES ON THE PATH OF JOAN MARSHAL



LOGLINE

"Have you ever answered the wrong call—only to change a life?"

When a middle-aged sanitation worker picks up a ringing helpline phone, she becomes an unexpected lifeline to a young woman in despair, revealing the quiet power of empathy from society's most overlooked."





SYNOPSIS

In a suicide prevention helpline office, Mary, a 45-year-old African sanitation worker, finds herself in an unexpected situation that challenges her perception of courage and the power of her voice. One fine spring evening, she begins her cleaning shift under the dismissive watch of John, the office manager. Despite John's condescension and attempts to silence her presence, Mary hums to herself, finding solace in her own quiet resilience.

When the helpline phone rings unexpectedly during her shift, Mary hesitates to answer, knowing it isn't her responsibility. But when the call persists, she gathers the courage to pick it up. On the other end is Martha, a distressed young woman overwhelmed by isolation, discrimination, and an unwanted pregnancy. Through her tears, Martha pours out her anguish, questioning her worth and the harsh realities of being a Black woman and a sanitation worker in a foreign land.

Though unsure at first, Mary listens and slowly becomes a source of solace and strength for Martha. She gently challenges Martha's despair and offers her a renewed sense of hope, urging her to fight against a world that seeks to diminish her. The conversation culminates in Mary encouraging Martha to seek justice and stand tall, not only for herself but for others who share her struggles.

As the call ends abruptly, Mary is left emotionally shaken, yet her resolve strengthens. Unbeknownst to her, John, who has overheard the conversation, stands moved and speechless. Mary, with tears in her eyes but dignity intact, leaves the office with a parting remark: "Sorry, we can never be you. But we don't have to be. Being us is more than enough."

The office, now spotless, serves as a metaphor for the clarity and strength Mary leaves behind, a testament to the quiet power of ordinary voices in extraordinary moments.

DIRECTED BY JOAN MARSHAL

Filmmaker & Social Storyteller

Joan Marshal is a filmmaker committed to using cinema as a powerful tool for social awareness and humanism. With a deep passion for storytelling, Joan creates films that explore ideological oppression, war, and the resilience of the human spirit.

His work includes 'Face Under the Face', a silent film depicting a day in the life of a refugee in Paris, and 'SAY NO!', a short film advocating for peace and rejecting war, told through the perspective of a child navigating a world marked by conflict.

For Joan Marshal, cinema is more than just an art form—it is a medium to speak to the human about the human, to be human.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I believe cinema is the most powerful medium of communication. Through this medium, I strive to educate and inspire audiences with social themes that have the potential to transform lives. This project is my latest effort to amplify the unheard voices of the working class—voices that are often silenced, hidden, and ignored.

With this film, I aim to confront the indifference that surrounds these silent cries, urging viewers to acknowledge and empathize with the struggles of those who are unseen yet indispensable to society. I believe in the process of change, and I am committed to creating socially conscious films that educate and inspire until this transformation becomes a reality.

This is more than a film for me—it's a call to action, a reflection of the values I hold close, and a reminder that change begins with awareness.



DIRECTOR & CINEMATOGRAPHER JOAN MARSHAL

Recent works





Theme of the film

HUMANISM

the dignity and quiet strength of the overlooked.



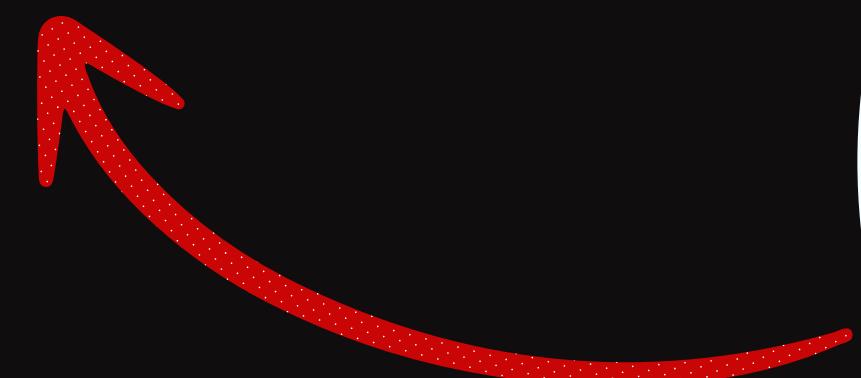
TO THOSE WHO DARE TO REMAIN HUMAN
IN A DEHUMANIZED WORLD.

THE CAST AND CREW



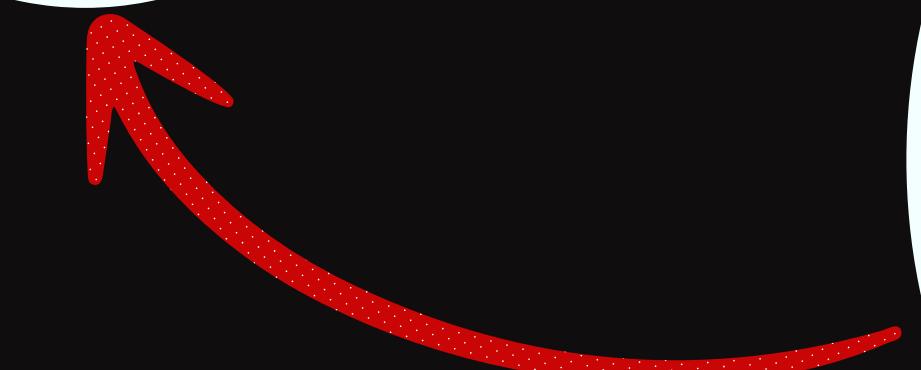
MARGEAUX LAMPLEY

as MARY



GEOFFROY LICKEL

as JEAN MICHEL



VIVIANE BOSSINA

as MARTHE



CREW CREDITS



YAMIN EAINDRAY
1ST AD



ABRAHAM MATHEW
CINEMATOGRAPHER



AUGUSTIN THAI
STEADY CAM.OP



**MAANAS
KADAVATHANIKAL SURESH**
GAFFER



ANTONIO FERNANDO
SOUND MIX



LUUKAS OSARA
1ST AC



CHEVVIYAN ARULMATHI
PRODUCTION MANAGER



PRITHVIRAJ KUNNEL
BEST BOY

CREW CREDITS



DILU SAMUEL
KEY GRIP



SIVANUJAN KETHEESWARAN
GRIP



RITWIK DEEPA
PRODUCTION DESIGN



PREDEESH THANGARAJ
PRODUCTION DESIGN AST



RASITHA WEERAWICKRAMA
BTS



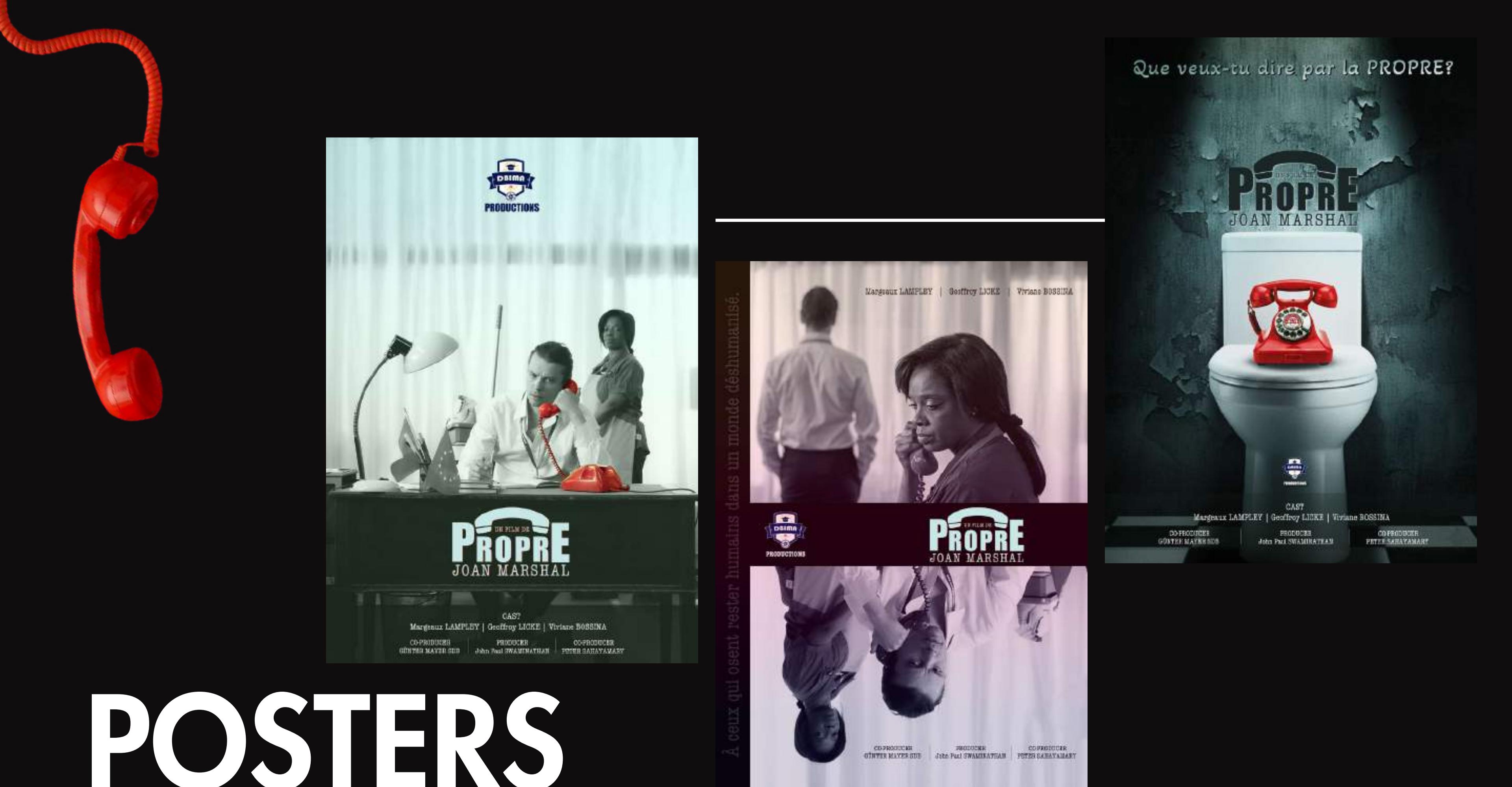
FATHIMATA
VOICE ARTIST



LY ANNE
MUA (MAKEOVER ARTIST)



BENEDICT RAJAKUMAR
EDITOR



POSTERS

KEY FACTS

Production company

DBIMA, PARIS

Production location

DBIMA STUDIO, PARIS

Genre, subcategories

Emotional Drama

Running time

13 minutes

Audio format

Digital Sound 5.1

Setting

Real Time - Help Line Office

Shooting format

6k, high resolution

Aspect ratio

2:35.1

Exhibition format

4k digital

Languages

FRENCH

Subtitles

English

Production year

2025

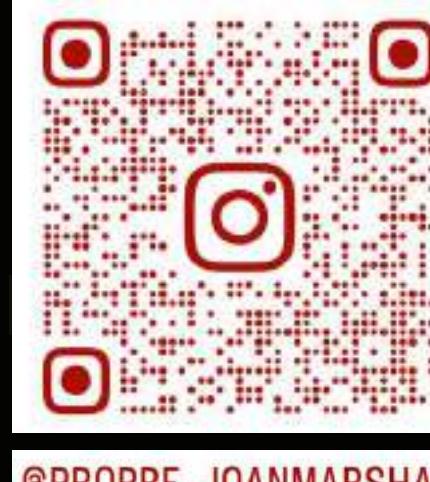


DBIMA



2025

Thank you
**GET IN
TOUCH**



Email

p.joan@dbi-ecademy.fr

Social media

[@propre_joanmarshal](https://www.instagram.com/propre_joanmarshal)

Phone

[+33 744 833 584](tel:+33744833584)