

Selected cast credits

Otto Takkunen
Matti Takkunen
Ilkka Takkunen
Eero Takkunen
Jouko Takkunen
Ensio Suutari
Pirjo Suutari
Muukkonen
Leena
Aulis
Timo
Tuulikki Suutari
Nurse Miettinen
Sirkka Takkunen
Headmaster

PETER FRANZÉN
NIKO SAARELA
LAURI NURKSE
JASPER PÄÄKKÖNEN
VESA-MATTI LOIRI
RISTO TUORILA
ELSA SAISIO
HANNU-PEKKA BJÖRKMAN
JANNA HERTTUAINEN
EERO MILONOFF
ARTTU KAPULAINEN
EEVA LITMANEN
TIINA PIRHONEN
OUTI MÄENPÄÄ
OIVA LOHTANDER

Selected technical credits

Director
Producer
Screenwriter
Original story
Cinematographer
Original music
Sound designer
Production designer
Costume designer
Editor

ALEKSI MÄKELÄ
MARKUS SELIN
PEKKA LEHTOSAARI
ANSSI MIETTINEN and
PEKKA LEHTOSAARI
PINI HELLSTEDT F.S.C
TUOMAS KANTELINEN
JYRKI RAHKONEN
RISTO KÄRHÜLA
MINNA KIVIRANTA
KIMMO TAAVILA

Executive producer
Production manager
Make up artist
Location manager

JUKKA HELLE
SIRKKA RAUTIAINEN
MARI VAALASRANTA
KIMI SEPPÄNEN

Publicist
Graphic designer

RAMPE TOIVONEN
JUSSI MAULA



– Sometimes following the rules is not an option

bad boys

– A True Story

The Takkunen brothers are every mother's dream: they don't drink, smoke or curse – yet they have committed over a hundred robberies.



Synopsis

For their entire lives, Otto, Matti, Ilkka and Eero Takkunen have been under the thumb of their tyrannical father who suffers from paranoid schizophrenia. Drawing inspiration from the Holy Bible the despotic father raises his children under unrelenting cruelty.

The boys are used to getting more empathy from the animals on their farm than from the rest of society. Their home has no electricity and they survive on charity, but they never resort to violence.

When their father is put away into a mental institution, the boys make ends meet by robbing slot machines. They get by, but hunger for more, and soon start robbing unmanned gas stations.

Their greatest desire – to be like everyone else – is finally within their reach, but there are many obstacles on the road to acceptance.

Bad Boys – A True Story, directed by Aleksi Mäkelä and produced by Markus Selin is been the biggest Finnish box office hit ever. More than eleven percent of the entire population of Finland has seen it.

ACTOR Vesa-Matti Loiri

Vesa-Matti Loiri, 58, gives a brilliant performance as the Bad Boys father, from complete unequivocal evil he manages to reveal glimpses of humanity.

“Getting such a fine part is rare and the highlight of anyone’s career; the best work that one could be doing at this stage of one’s life.

“It is every actors dream to play someone evil, it’s much more interesting then playing someone good”.

Loiri reckons he’s been involved in 60–70 films over a period of five decades.

The highest recognition in the film industry was paid to Loiri in 1998, when he received one of the concrete Jussi statues (Finnish Film Award), awarded to selected actors for their life long work.

ACTOR Peter Franzén

Peter Franzén, 31, one of the most experienced and critically acclaimed actors of the younger generation. As proof of his acting ability, Franzén has been a Jussi nominee

four times in a space of four years and has won once (**Summer by the River** 1998).

Franzén thanks the director Aleksi Mäkelä, who according to him, was the collective force.

“Aleksi fed us with thoughts, observed and used us like he was meant to”.

“As far as I know you can see this in the end result, which is more lively then originally intended”.

ACTOR Niko Saarela

Acting has run in Niko Saarela’s, 30, family on his mother’s side for generations and his father is also an actor.

Perhaps this is why he had to apply to The Theatre Academy of Finland five times.

In the years in between kept busy, even went to chef school:

“I would have been an awful chef. I’m definitely a better actor”.

ACTOR Lauri Nurkse

Lauri Nurkse, 24, is the least known to the public of all the main characters in Bad Boys, even though

he played a major part in Simo Halisen’s awarded film **Cyclomania** (2001).

Since he was a boy, Nurkse goes everywhere with his camcorder and got into the industry through advertising films and music videos.

In 1999 he was accepted into The University of Art and Design in Helsinki, for the director degree program.

ACTOR Jasper Pääkkönen

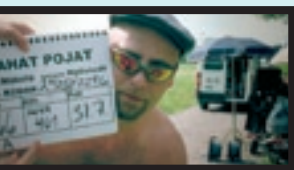
Casting Jasper Pääkkönen, 22, as the youngest brother Eero, was not an easy decision for the director, since the soap **Secret Lives** cannot really be seen as a ticket for a serious part in a film.

Still Pääkkönen was excellent as a high school student who falls in love and he made a clean break from the stigma of soap stardom.

With Pääkkönen, as with so many others, acting runs in the family. His father and his uncle are both well known actors.

“When I was younger I played kids parts at the National and City theatres and did quite a lot of voices for Disney films”.





DIRECTOR Aleksis Mäkelä

Bad Boys – A True Story is Aleksis Mäkelä's, fifth feature. His previous work includes **The Romanov Stones** (1993), **Sunset Riders** (1994), **The Tough Ones** (1999) and **The South** (2000).

At the age of 25 **Sunset Riders** gained him a Finnish Film Award for best direction.

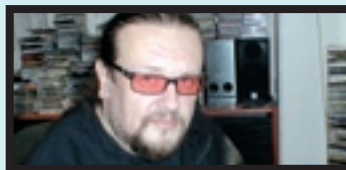
Now the 33 year old director says that after making **Bad Boys**, he's too old to do more films about young males.

"**Bad Boys** is full of speed and energy, in that respect I've returned to the beginning".

The actors started a regular fitness and gym program in the autumn of 2001, in line with the plot.

Still Mäkelä rates the physical preparation as secondary.

"It was the only way to get the guys to spend time together for eight months before the shooting of the film began. They had to really know each other, as in the film they are seen together nearly the entire time".



PRODUCER Markus Selin

Markus Selin, 43, confidently produces films, which receive a large audience in Finland.

Television viewers have already four times voted films produced by Selin as their annual favorite: **The Goldrush** (1997), **The Tough Ones** (1999), **The Restless** (2000) and **Me and Morrison** (2001).

Without a doubt **Bad Boys** will join the lineup, because since 1989 no other Finnish movie has achieved anything close to **Bad Boys**, which gathered 600,000 cinema viewers in the first four months. That is eleven percent of the Finnish population.

Without hesitation Selin lists the key ingredients needed to make a successful film and which guarantee **Bad Boys** success in the cinemas:

"It is entertaining, gives food for thought and contains the element of hope. It's a must, you just have to see it".

Selin would never produce something where the characters are dull and the end depressing.

"A story can be realistic, tough to watch, exaggerated, but the end must at least hint at hope".



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BAD BOYS – A True Story

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A film by Aleksi Mäkelä

bad boys

- A True Story

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