

A dense grid of small film stills from the movie 'A Short Film About Falling'. The stills are arranged in a grid pattern, showing various scenes and characters from the film. The colors are muted and naturalistic, typical of the film's aesthetic.

A SHORT FILM ABOUT FALLING

FORTY THREE THOUSAND FEET

PRESS KIT

FORTY THREE THOUSAND FEET

LOGLINE

When statistician John Wilkins is sucked out of a plane at 43000 feet, he calculates that he has exactly 3 minutes and 48 seconds before he hits the ground.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

On his way to a statistics conference, John Wilkins is the victim of a freak accident, sucked out of the plane when an emergency door fails mid-flight. Realising he has several minutes before he hits the ground, he reflects on his past, formulates a plan for hitting the ground, and rehearses what he will say to the media on the off-chance that he survives.

DIRECTOR Campbell Hooper

PRODUCER Heather Lee

PRODUCER Amber Easby

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS Rob Sarkies & Vicky Pope

WRITER Matthew Harris

PRODUCTION COMPANY Special Problems

COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION New Zealand

DATE OF COMPLETION 2011

SHOOTING FORMAT Red Cam

SCREENING FORMAT HD Cam

RATIO HD 2.40 Letterbox

DURATION 08:57mins

GENRE Drame

HD CAM / DOLBY DIGITAL / COLOUR / 08.57MINS / HD 2.40 LETTERBOX

INTERNATIONAL SALES

Lisa Chatfield – New Zealand Film Commission

PO Box 11 546 – Wellington - New Zealand

Tel + 64 4 382 7680 – Fax +64 4 384 9719

lisa@nzfilm.co.nz

LONG SYNOPSIS

Statistician John Wilkins is en route to a conference when disaster strikes on his flight: an emergency door malfunctions and he's sucked from the plane. Falling from the sky, John quickly calculates that he has around four minutes before he hits the ground. He realizes that if by some stroke of luck he does survive, the media will be there and they'll want him to say something profound, like how his life changed in the blink of an eye, or how his existence took on new meaning.

He imagines possible survival tactics - like falling through the branches of a tree, steering himself toward a dumpster, or landing in a way that breaks every bone in his body except his skull. John also anticipates what he will say to the media if he survives: he's not going to give the old clichés that life has suddenly taken on new meaning and he's going to spend more time with his kids. All he can say is that his understanding of time has changed: he now believes that there's no such thing as the future or the present: all we have is the past.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Time, memory and other quasi pretentious musings on the mysteries of existence. This is, of course, probably the last thing you would think about in any logical way as you're plummeting 43,000 feet toward your death. But this is, ridiculously, the exact premise of this film. John Wilkins, our anally retentive protagonist, philosophises as we see him falling toward us from the sky. His mathematical like perception of the world is a type of salve or anti bacterial cream to the obvious but painful truth: John, you're about to die. As this kind of false perception could only happen completely inside ones own head, I wanted the film to form a stream of John's own internalized images, sounds and thoughts. All to his own flat, measured monologue, we see John's mind displaying quotations from books, mathematical graphs, hand written equations, and a child like picture book. The films stylistic references are as diverse as John's own memories, a sort of 1970's (the conservative, naive 1970's, not the free love key party kind of 1970's) thrown into the contemporary world. In the end we leave it open - does John survive the impact of the fall or does he die? That would, most probably, come down to a matter of perception.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

As a director, Campbell Hooper has developed a notable body of work, where his multi-disciplinary approach has seen him utilize elements from film, video, illustration, animation, sound design, painting and photography in a wide range of international music videos and television commercials.

Campbell formed creative studio Special Problems with fellow director, Joel Kefali in 2007, and has since collaborated with artists such as Flying Lotus and The Naked and Famous and, amongst others, directed commercials for Hewlett Packard featuring Alicia Keys.

43,000 Feet is Campbell's first short film. He is currently developing two feature-length scripts - a live-action drama with Matt Harris, writer of *43,000 Feet*, and an animated musical-adventure with Special Problems collaborator Joel Kefali.

www.specialproblems.com

PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHIES

Heather Lee

Heather produces film, television and digital media. She is the Managing Partner and Head of Production at Zoomslide. She has a love of live action and animation.

Amber Easby

Amber produces for Special Problems, overseeing everything from live action shoots to the extensive animation and post-production work that comes out of the studio. She is currently in the early development stages of Campbell's feature-length projects.

CREDITS

CAST

JOHN WILKINS Dylan Pharazyn

PRODUCTION

DIRECTOR Campbell Hooper

PRODUCER Heather Lee

Amber Easby

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS Rob Sarkies

Vicky Pope

CREATIVE CONSULTANT Joel Kefali

DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT Brendan Davies-Patrick

PRODUCTION MANAGERS Kirsty Cooper

Martin Hale

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS Shanelle Simpson

Gilly Luxton

DOP Andrew Stroud

FOCUS PULLER Julia Green

CLAPPER LOADER Kim Thomas

STEADICAM OPERATOR Alex McDonald

GAFFER Spencer Locke-Bonney

GRIP Casey Nearing

GRIP ASSIST Piet Strulik

ART DIRECTOR Alistair Kay

ART ASSIST Pete Shaw

Lane Worrall

Ralph Matthews

STILLS PHOTOGRAPHER Evie MacKay

HAIR & MAKEUP Stefan Knight

Ana Ah Khuoi

WARDROBE Karen Inderbitzen-Waller

POST PRODUCTION

SPECIAL EFFECTS	Gunner Ashford John Towe Marino Ashford
VOICEOVER	Peter J. Brant
DIALOGUE EDITOR	Julian Currin
SOUND FACILITY HUMAN PRODUCER SOUND DESIGNERS	Human Bryan Senti Cam Ballantyne Make Jurasits
SOUNDS MIX FACILITY SOUND MIX	Franklin Rd Shane Taipari
VOICEOVER RECORD	Daniel Nathan
FLAME ARTIST	Jon Baxter
ONLINE FACILITY ONLINE FACILITY PRODUCER	Digipost Roger Grant for Digipost
COLOURIST	Dave Gibson
RE-RECORDING MIXER	Bruce Langley Bruno Barrett-Garnier
FILMOUT SERVICES	Weta Digital Ltd

MUSIC

Colleen – The Heart Harmonicon
Written by Cécile Schott (SACEM)
Used courtesy of the Leaf Label
By arrangement with Woodwork Music

Fennesz - Happy Audio
Written by Christian Fennesz
Published by Touch Music [MCPS]
www.fennesz.com

Panda Bear - Track 3
Written by Noah Lennox
(Rough Trade / Gaga Music)
Performed by Panda Bear

Licensed courtesy of Paw Tracks
Taken from the album "Young Prayer" (2004)

Crystal Stilts – The Sinking
Written by Brad Hargett and JB Townsend
Published by Feathery Tongue/Laddered Lights
(ASCAP)