

# Changing of the Guard

PRESSKIT



*Roger has been a security guard for 29 years  
... and never been robbed.  
Today is his last day...*

I N T E R N A T I O N A L   S A L E S

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**N E W   Z E A L A N D   F I L M**

## Essential Information

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Writer/Director	Joseph Robert Lee
Producer	Kristian Eek
Production Company	B On Guard Productions Ltd.
Technical Information	Super 35 / 1:2.35
Running Time	15 minutes including titles
Country of Production	New Zealand
Date of completion	March 2005
Genre	Drama
Sales	Juliette Veber, New Zealand Film Commission Email: juliette@nzfilm.co.nz Tel: +64 4 382 7686

## Short Synopsis

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*Roger is 69 years old.  
He has been a security guard for 29 years  
... and never been robbed.  
Today is his last day...*

## Long Synopsis

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Roger is 69 years old. He has been a security guard for 29 years and never been robbed. Being a widower, Roger lives and breathes for his job, but he is being forced to retire. Ironically, his last day is on Christmas Eve. Will Roger survive the day with his pride intact and will he keep his unbroken record?

The film is set all in one day, from preparing for the days work in the morning to doing pick-ups throughout the day with his young partner, Tana. On their way back from the long haul to rural Whangarei the van breaks down and they are left stranded on a petrol station in the middle of nowhere. It doesn't take long before some dodgy characters arrive.

## Festival Screenings

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2006 Show Me Shorts Film Festival, New Zealand

## Director's Notes

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"Changing of the Guards" is a film that is classic in its construction and contemporary in his characterization. It is a pleasure for me to write a film about a 69 year old man and to see that story come to life. At every stage of development, both pre and post production, I felt like the story began to form into something unique and very special. The themes of "pride of man" versus the "place of heart" are very important to me and to find a character to express these themes and interweave them into a story that is captivating for an audience is a delight. Roger and Tana, two Eversafe officers on Christmas Eve are such an unlikely couple. But this "unlikeliest" is something about the film I hope will capture both the hearts and minds of everyone who watches the film. In the same way that it doesn't profit a man if he gains the whole world but loses his soul, Roger is left with the question, "how does it profit a man if he keeps his pride intact, but loses his heart." I hope you will ask the same question at the end of the film.



## Director's Bio: Joseph Robert Lee

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Joseph is 24 years old. He has a bachelor degree in film directing from the School of Performing and Screen Arts at UNITEC in Auckland, New Zealand.

This is Joseph's second professional short film. His first was "Blood and Bone" which was made in 2004 with a grant from The Screen Innovation Production Fund in New Zealand. Another short film, the self-funded "Dawn Generation", won the Kodak Young Cinematographer of the Year Award in 2002 (New Zealand).

Joey can't stop writing and has at any time a million short film scripts going. One day, he'll make them all into features... Joseph currently works as a directing tutor at an Auckland polytech.

Short films by Joseph Lee:

- 2005 – "Changing of the Guards" – Super 35

- 2004 – “The Boxer” – video
- 2004 – “Blood and Bone” – Super 16
- 2003 – “Instinct” – video
- 2001 – “Dawn Generation” – 16mm

## **Producer: Kristian Eek**

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Kristian is 26 years old. He has a bachelor degree in film production from the School of Performing and Screen Arts at UNITEC in Auckland, New Zealand.

As well as producing short films, Kristian has worked on feature films like “The Last Samurai” and “River Queen” in various production roles.

His goal is to produce a feature film by the time he is thirty. He is currently developing a feature film script with a talented young writer.



## **Key Cast, Crew, Location, Production notes**

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“Changing of the Guards” was funded through the New Zealand Film Commission’s short film scheme. Each year 3 “pods” are nominated to choose and executive produce 3 short films each. Joseph and Kristian were chosen based on their previous short film “Blood and Bone”.

The film was shot mostly in a rural location 35 minutes outside of Auckland – New Zealand’s largest city. The petrol station scenes were shot over three nights at a working petrol station. The locals let us use the next door elementary school as a base and the local fire brigade turned up for free to help us with wetdowns. If only every location was that friendly!

The lead actor, Chic Littlewood, is one of New Zealand’s most beloved children’s television hosts. He had his peek during the seventies and early eighties with his shows Chicaboom and ChicChat and often shared the screen

with Willie McNab – a cheeky young puppet. Many of the older crew were ecstatic by the thought of working with their childhood idol.

### **Production Company: B On Guard Productions Ltd.**

B On Guards Productions Ltd. was set up specifically for the production of this film and is owned by the director and producer of the film. The company received funding from the New Zealand Film Commission to make the film. The film was executive produced by Little Jab Pictures (Karl Zohrab and Angela Littlejohn) acting on behalf of the New Zealand Film Commission.



## **KEY CREW**

Written and Directed by	JOSEPH ROBERT LEE
Produced by	KRISTIAN EEK
Executive Producers	ANGELA LITTLEJOHN KARL ZOHRAB
Production Designer	BEN BARRETT
Sound Designer	AMY BARBER
Director of Photography	RICHARD HARLING
Music Composer	ALISTAIR LAWS

## **CAST**

Roger	CHIC LITTLEWOOD
Tana	MARK RUKA
Zane	PHIL BROWN
Randell	JOHN KATIPA
Gordon	RAYMOND TRICKITT
Petrol Station Attendant	PATRICK WILSON
Susie	JACQUELINE NAIRN
Guard #1	JACK SCANLAN
Guard #2	ROBSON TAVITA
Guard #3	GREGOR MCLENNAN
Guard #4	SEAN ROIALL
Holden Heavy #1	VINCENT SHIELDS
Holden Heavy #2	GERALD URQUHART
Holden Heavy #3	TAINUI TUKIWAHO

## **CREW**

Production Manager	ANNA STUART
Production Co-ordinator	CHRIS PAYNE
Runner	ANDREW HEDLEY
Runner/Unit	ANDREAS HEINEMANN
Runner/PA	DEBORAH JOHNSON
1st Assistant Director	SEAMUS COONEY
2nd Assistant Director	DAVID GUNSON
Continuity	MICHELLE HORSNELL
Director of Photography	RICHARD HARLING
Focus Puller/Steadicam Operator	ALEX MCDONALD
Clapper/Loaders	JOHN RENATA GARTH MERRYLEES
Video Split	MONIQUE KELLY
Lighting Equipment	FAT LIGHTING LIMITED
Gaffer	GILLY LAWRENCE
Lighting Assistant	JAMES BEATTIE
Lighting Assistant	SAM JELLIE
Key Grip	DENNIS CULLEN
Additional Grip	MICHAEL CONEY
Make Up & Hair	REBECCA STRINGER
Costume Designer/Standby	PETRA VERWEIJ
Standby Wardrobe	ANGELA HUANG
Production Designer/Art Director	BEN BARRETT
Standby props	JAMES SOLOMON
Art Department Assistant	BRYONY MATTHEW

Assistant Art Director	ANNA NICOLSON
Sound Gear & Facilities	DICK READE AUDIO
Sound Designer	AMY BARBER
Sound Recorder	SANDY WAKEFIELD
Boom Swinger	BRIAR SHEARING
Editor	JULIE ALP
Composer	ALISTAIR LAWS
Location Coordinator	JACOB MCINTYRE
Picture Vehicle	CAMERA CARS
Tracking Vehicle Wranglers	MIKE TRIPP MARK RYAN
Vehicle Wrangler	PAUL TOWERS
Animals	PIRONGIA CLYDESDALES
Animal Wranglers	NICK VAN DER SANDE JILL VAN DER SANDE
Traffic Control	ACTION TRAFFIC
STORYBOARDS	RYOSUKE FUNAKOSHIYA
Catering	CONCIERGE/KAYE REGISTER
Insurance	MAHONY TRENDALL & JACK
Communication	TELECOM NEW ZEALAND
Stock Supplier	FUJI NEW ZEALAND LTD.
Laboratory	FILM LAB LTD.
Camera Equipment	PANAVISION AUCKLAND
Post Production Facility	IMAGES POST LTD.