# Little Angel



# Not every childhood is sweetness and light

# **Press Kit**

#### **INTERNATIONAL SALES**

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NEW ZEALAND FILM

### **Production Notes**

Director/Writer Suzi Jowsey Featherstone

Producer Annelise Yarrell

Production Company State House Productions

Title Little Angel
Duration 13 min 46 sec

Shooting Format 35mm

Screening Format 35mm, Dolby Digital

Ratio 1:85:1 Date of Completion 2010

International sales Juliette Veber

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# Tag Line

Not every childhood is sweetness and light

## **Short Synopsis**

As the youngest in the family and the only male, Dylan has drawn the short straw. He suffers in silence and does what he is told. Set on a beautiful summer's day at the beach, a dark reality unfolds as Dylan finally decides to take charge of his life, once and for all.

## **Festivals**

2010 63<sup>rd</sup> Locarno International Film Festival, Switzerland 2010 Montreal World Film Festival, Canada 2010 44<sup>th</sup> Internationale Hofer Filmtage, Germany 2010 16<sup>th</sup> Athens International Film Festival, Greece 2010 Taipei Golden Horse, Taiwan 2010 Internationale Hofer Filmtage, Germany 2011 Magma Film Festival, New Zealand 2011 Seoul International Youth Film Festival, Korea 2011 Rhode Island Film Festival, USA

#### **Directors Notes**

Little Angel is a film that looks deeply into the darkness of a family that for all intensive purposes should be all sweetness and light.

The idea for Little Angel has come from years of observing and reading between the lines of the ideal of growing up in New Zealand. What I have noticed is that people with 'disabilities' are not necessarily those whom are bound by a wheelchair, but more likely to be found in what is deemed as "normal to privileged" middle class New Zealand.

I believe that there is much media stereotyping of child violence and family abuse aimed at a lower socio economic group, therefore this story, in part, seeks to undo that myth. I guess I am interested in the ideas of emotional darkness especially when it is coupled with light and beauty. And having been born in a country of such celebrated beauty and purity, I found myself drawn to exploring such concepts in Little Angel.

It's a simple tale that is intended to visually seduce an audience, only to have this impression slowly unravel through themes of darkness and cruelty. It is a reminder that duel realities exist, not all that glitters is gold, and that anyone is capable of anything if pushed. The ending is satisfying on some levels and disturbing on others and as such, the intention is to have it resonate in a powerful way.

# **Directors Biography**

Returning to New Zealand five years ago, Suzi has been working as a freelance producer/director/writer and has completed two documentaries for TVNZ. One on the New Zealand / New York based artist Max Gimblett "All Mind No Mind" focusing on Max's painting process and historic relevance as a NZ artist living in New York. The 2nd on Frances Wilson, an opera accompanist of The Opera Studio and hotelier for Mollies, an internationally recognised boutique hotel in Auckland, NZ; "That Certain Sound" delves into Frances' obsession with the particular resonance of BelCanto opera. In 2008 Suzi also wrote and directed fourteen 8-10 min documentary segments for Attitude, TVOne, a major New Zealand television network. She is presently at internationally renowned production company The Sweet Shop as a creative/writer, working with their local and international directors. Prior to this Suzi was living in the United Kingdom for eleven years working as a freelance art director in advertising working on international brands Pantene, Dove and Hugo. She also worked as a part time AP for SProduction, Istanbul, (TV commercial production company) and Access Hollywood (NBC), Entertainment Tonight (Paramount Universal) covering news and entertainment stories from UK and Europe for the international market.

# **Producers Biography**

Annelise began her involvement in film and television at Pacific Renaissance Pictures Ltd on Xena and Hercules. On completion, Annelise has spent the last 10 years freelancing on multitudinal films, commercials, music video's, brand campaigns, and short films.

Most notably, Annelise's 1<sup>st</sup> short film "Eating Sausage" was a highly successful short on the international film festival circuit, featuring in London, Pusan, Clairemont Ferrand, Jove and Brisbane to name a few. For a 35mm film with a budget of under NZD \$20k that's not bad.

Annelise is an emerging producer who enjoys being involved in the creative process as much as the managerial. From story development to casting and art direction, Annelise believes that a good producer is a creative one as much as an astute one.

# **Cast Biographies**

#### "Dylan"

#### Harry Stanbridge

Harry has been in twelve theatre productions with the National Youth Theatre Company since 2006. At the tender of age of 8 that is quite a cv already! He has done theatrical and hip hop dance training, as well as mastering singing, guitar, keyboard, dancing and numerous sports. Never having acted in a film before, Harry took to it like a born natural, and is a talent to watch out for in the future.

#### "Phaedra"

#### Katherine Kennard

Katherine has been a fixture of the theatre, television and movie industries in NZ for the last 15 years. From productions at the Maidment Theatre, to Xena to a starring role in Street Legal for 4 seasons and numerous international and local films; Katherine brings such strength and conviction to the screen. Add to that alternative skills such as singing, dance music and teaching, Katherine was a strong central point within the cast of "Little Angel".

#### "Jessica"

#### Jessica Thompson

Jessica has been in school productions, print campaigns and television commercials and has been closely looked at by Dreamworks in LA.

Jessica has been in one other short film "The Lethal Innocents" in September o6 and she has just completed a short film for Nom'd (fashion label) for NZ Fashion Week '09

## "Layla" Molly Stanbridge

Molly, like her brother Harry, has been involved with the National Youth Theatre Company since 2007, featuring in 8 of their productions. She has had training in jazz and tap dance as well as theatre. She can master many accents such as Australian, British and British Cockney amongst others! A talented young girl, with a huge amount of potential ahead of her.

## **Credits**

#### Cast

Dylan Harry Stanbridge

Phaedra Katherine Kennard

Jessica Thompson

Lyla Molly Stanbridge

#### Crew

Director/Writer Suzi Jowsey Featherstone

Producer Annelise Yarrell

Executive Producers Mark Foster

Adam Stevens

Kristian Eek

Director of Photography Ginny Loane

Casting Director Suzanne McAleer

Production Designer Chris Elliot

Wardrobe Emma Skudder

Editor Peter Roberts

Composer Sean Donnelly

Production Sound Mike Westgate

1st AD Seumas Cooney

Production Manager Zara Hayden

Key Grip Paul "Pablo" Stevenson

Gaffers Nicholas Riini

James "Splash" Lainchbury

Focus Puller Jonny Yarrell

Continuity Zohra Trinder

Makeup Artist Julie Bresnan

Props Buyer/Stanby Kasia Pol

Stills Photographer Louise Hyatt

Production Assistant Rachel Bristow

Production Runner Alex Uganecz

Clapper Loader Tom Markham-Scott

Camera Trainee Scott Barrow

Best Boy Kerry Peck

Lighting Assistants James Turei

Ewan Hall

Brendon Chan

Grip Assistants Pez Zee

Mickaele Evans

Art Assistants Adam King

**Graham Bibby** 

Boom Op John Gray

Unit Manager Mihi Morehu

Unit Assistant Tem Morehu

Safety Officer Sam Cometti

Chaperones Chris Stanbridge

Stan Stanbridge

Rachel Thompson

Caterer Cameron Travan

Booking Agent Filmcrews

Legal Services Emery Legal

Post Production Coordinator Alison Ingram

Digital Intermediate

Colourist Matthew Wear

Digital Intermediate Editor Meetal Gokul

Sound Re-recording Mixer Tim Chaproniere

## **Suppliers**

Cameras Panavision NZ Ltd

Filmstock Kodak

Lights Redband Films

Lightsauce

Generator Hooked on Power

Grip Equipment Redband Films

Wedg Ltd

Crane NZ Gripping Solutions

Monitors DVANZ

RT's Radio Waves

Safety Equipment Scene Safe

Stunt Equipment 94 Stunts

Unit Equipment Runnit Ltd

Vehicles Henderson Rentals

Insurance Crombie Lockwood

Film Processing Filmlab

Rushes Transfer Oktobor

Offline Editing rpm Pictures

Sound Design Liquid Studios

Post Production Facility Park Road Post Production

Dolby License Dolby International

**Logos** Robbers Dog Films

**NZFC** 

Panavision

Filmlab

**Henderson Rentals** 

Dolby

Park Road Post

Liquid Studios

Kodak

Oktobor

Radio Waves