



# MANUREWA

**PRESS INFORMATION**



**NZ** International Sales  
FILM NZFILM / Juliette Veber  
+64 4 382 7686  
shorts@nzfilm.co.nz



# PROJECT INFORMATION

**Film Title**  
Manurewa

**Screening Format**  
35mm

**Writer/Director**  
Sam Peacocke

**Screening Ratio**  
1.85:1

**Producer**  
Kristian Eek

**Sound Format**  
Dolby Digital 5.1

**Cinematographer**  
Ginny Loane

**International Sales**  
NZFILM / Juliette Veber  
+64 4 382 7686  
shorts@nzfilm.co.nz

**Editor**  
David Coulson

**Production Company**  
Robber's Dog Films Ltd.

**Duration**  
19 minutes

**Shooting Format**  
35mm

## LOGLINES

- A multi-stranded, narrative impression of a tragic robbery that took place in Manurewa, New Zealand.
- Manurewa' sees the tragic death of a Sikh liquor store owner through the eyes of a multi-cultural community. Such a small action, such large consequences.

## SYNOPSIS

The last light of a cold winter's day sees Isaac, a 17-year old boy, traversing the vacuum of industrial wasteland and empty suburbia.

Meanwhile a young mother worships in the warm sphere of a Sikh Gurdwara; her husband Navraj stuck working at the local liquor store. Two young police officers kill time driving the beat, an ambulance glides into the twilight past a group of young girls who wander in search of alcohol and something to do.

The descent into darkness brings these disparate characters together when Isaac shoots Navraj during a violent hold-up.

Tragically, they are both connected on parallel journeys towards equally dark fates.

# STORY BACKGROUND

“Manurewa” is based on a real murder of a South Auckland liquor store owner in 2008.

Navtej Singh bled to death while the police and ambulance waited outside; hamstrung by bureaucracy. Meanwhile the public walked in and out of the store without helping; some even stealing alcohol.

The film doesn't form its own conclusions, but it leaves a lot of questions to walk away with.

“Manurewa” was self funded by the filmmakers and relied on the generous support of sponsors FUJI FILM New Zealand, Panavision New Zealand and Park Road Post.

The film was shot on 35mm with a skeleton crew, utilizing available light as much as possible. It was shot on location in South Auckland and features mostly non actors. The film was made with the blessing of the Sikh community and the family of the victim.

# THE FILMMAKERS

## Director / Sam Peacocke

Twenty-nine year old Sam Peacocke is one of New Zealand's most promising young directors. His career started in music clips, progressed to TV commercials and is now on the cusp of conquering short films. In a planned progression he has quickly picked up every top award New Zealand has to offer including a “Best Music Video” at the NZ Music Awards, “Best Performance Direction” at the NZ Advertising Awards as well as a host of international accolades such as inclusion into Boards Best New Director and a Silver at the London International Awards.

## Producer / Kristian Eek

Kristian Eek is a freelance producer/production manager. In 2007 he was Line Producer on the feature film “A Song of Good”. The film premiered at the Rotterdam International Film Festival and won Best Film Under \$1 Million at the 2008 Qantas Film & TV Awards. Kristian is currently executive producing a slate of short films for the NZ Film Commission Short Film Fund. He is also developing several feature film projects and recently acquired the rights to the novel “One Night Out Stealing” by Alan Duff (author of ‘Once Were Warriors’).

## Cinematographer / Ginny Loane

Loane is one of Australasia's finest cinematographers. Hailing from a lighting background she has recently shot to notoriety by winning a host of awards including “Best Cinematography in a Short Film” and “Best Digital Cinematography” at the 2008 Qantas Film and TV Awards for the Feature Film “A Song of Good” and the short film “This is Her”. “A Song of Good” premiered at the 2008 Rotterdam International Film Festival and was her second feature. Her short film credits include “Fog”, “This is Her”, “The Graffiti of Mr Tupaia” and “Brave Donkey”.

## Editor / David Coulson

David is one of New Zealand's top feature film editors. His credits include “Whale Rider”, “North Country” and “Vintner's Luck”. He also edited the classic New Zealand short film “Avondale Dogs” and more recently “The Graffiti of Mr Tupaia” (Best Short Film at the Qantas Awards in 2008).

## Supervising Sound Designer / Dave Whitehead

Dave has designed multiple films including “King Kong”, “The Strength of Water”, “Out of the Blue” and “Eagle vs. Shark” and has recently finished “The Lovely Bones” with Peter Jackson and “Avatar” with James Cameron.

# CREW

**Production Company**  
Robber's Dog Films Ltd

**Writer/Director**  
Sam Peacocke

**Producer**  
Kristian Eek

**Co-Producers**  
Conrad Blight  
Mareena Facoory

**Executive Producer**  
Mark Foster

**DOP**  
Ginny Loane

**Art Director**  
Peter Sweeney

**Stylist**  
Cathy Pope

**Casting**  
Fly Casting

**Editor**  
David Coulson

**Composer**  
P Money

**Additional Music**  
Aphex Twin

**Sound Post**  
Justin Doyle  
Morgan Samuel  
Rowan Watson  
Stephanie Ng

# CAST

**Isaac**  
Beulah Koale

**Josef**  
Chanel Savea

**Tuki**  
Michael Koloï

**Epa**  
Niue Nosa

**Navraj**  
Mark Dass

**Gurveer**  
Karpal Singh

**Nimrit**  
Rasika Naidoo

**Mel**  
Melissa Jackson-Ravai

**Selia**  
Sesilia Pusiaki

**Vai**  
Suivai Autagavaia

**Antonia**  
Antonia Stehlin

**Ken**  
Eds Tan

**Michael**  
Bevan Connell

**Clancy**  
Hera Dunleavy

**Mary**  
Kate Ward-Smythe

# FESTIVALS

2010, New Zealand International Film Festival, New Zealand

2010, Melbourne International Film Festival, Australia

2011, *Crystal Bear Award*, 61<sup>st</sup> Berlin International Film Festival – Generation, Germany

2011, Magma Film Festival, New Zealand

2011, Seoul International Youth Film Festival, Korea

# CONTACT

**International Sales**

NZFILM / Juliette Veber  
+64 4 382 7686  
juliette@nzfilm.co.nz

**Producer**

Kristian Eek  
+ 64 274 988 250  
eek@robbersdog.co.nz