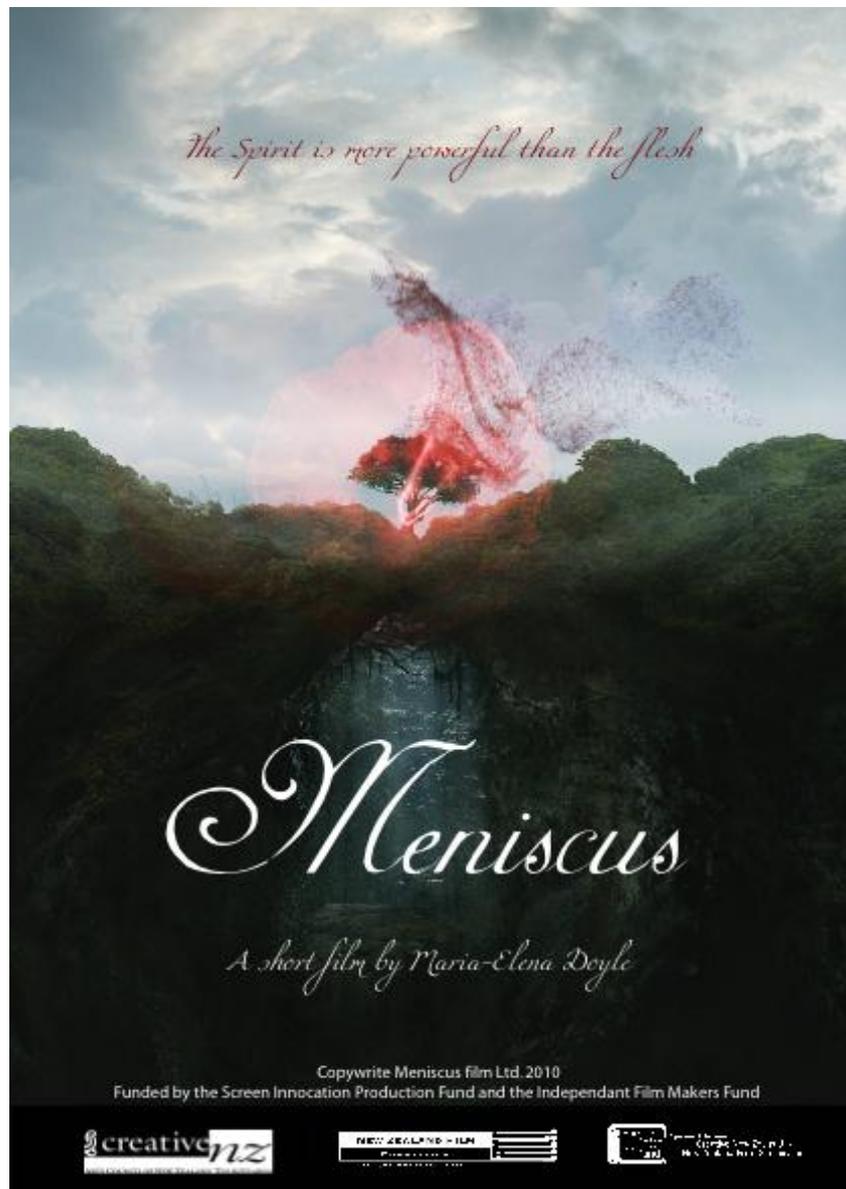


In Competition - Annecy International Animation Festival 2011, France

Nominated best Experimental Short Film,
Female Eye Film Festival
Toronto 2011



PRESS KIT

The Spirit is more powerful than the flesh.

A short film by Maria-Elena Doyle

INTERNATIONAL SALES

NZ FILM Lisa Chatfield
PO Box 11 546, Wellington, New Zealand
Tel +64 382 7686 Fax +64 384 9719
lisa@nzfilm.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND FILM

PRODUCTION NOTES

DIRECTOR	Maria-Elena Doyle
PRODUCER	Maria-Elena Doyle
PRODUCTION COMPANY	Meniscus Film Ltd
COMPLETION DATE	2010
SHOOTING FORMAT	Red Camera
SCREENING FORMAT	Digibeta
DURATION	8mins 27 secs

INTERNATIONAL SALES

NZFILM
Lisa Chatfield
lisa@nzfilm.co.nz
tel. +644 382 7686
mob. +6421 526 452

ONE LINER

Meniscus will take you on a journey into human nature where we learn what some would say our souls already know. The spirit is more powerful than the flesh.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Meniscus will take you on a journey into human nature where we learn what some would say our souls already know. The spirit is more powerful than the flesh.

Meniscus will envelope you in intoxicating and evocative images of human being's physical and spiritual cycle of birth, death and life.

Taking inspiration from Hone Tuwhare's "No Ordinary Sun" Maria-Elena draws from an enchanting pallet of dancers and New Zealand's expansive coast line to expose our connection to nature, the cycle of life and our struggle to exist in harmony with the Earth.

LONG SYNOPSIS

Meniscus is the evolution of consciousness. Naked bodies move enmasse, no longer individuals, but one body of flesh, pulsating to the rhythm of life. Together the naked bodies have a vulnerability that is powerful. The delicate beauty of this vulnerability is a visual metaphor for our relationship to each other and all things in the universe.

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FESTIVALS

2010 Interfilm International Short Film Festival, Berlin
2011 Cinequest International Film Festival, San Jose, California, USA
2011 Female Eye International Film Festival, Toronto, Canada
2011 CFC Worldwide Shorts, Toronto , Canada
2011 Annecy International Animation Festival, France
2011 Galway International Film Festival, Ireland
2011 New Zealand International Film Festival, NZ
2011 Expresion En Corto, Mexico
2011 Odense Film Festival, Denmark
2011 Vladivostok Film Festival, Russia
2011 Saint Tropez Film Festival, France
2011 Stockholm Film Festival, Sweden

ABOUT THE STORY...

Human Nature and our connection with nature are reoccurring themes in my work. I love the poetry of Maori poet, Hone Tu Whare. His personification of nature resonates with me as an artist and film-maker. Meniscus is a continuation of themes begun in my first film Rain. Rain was inspired by Hones poem Rain. Meniscus is my response to the Hones poem No Ordinary Sun. No Ordinary Sun is an activist poem written by Hone in the 70's when the French were carrying out Nuclear tests in the Pacific.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Maria-Elena is currently living and working in New Zealand as a freelance director/designer/digital animator.

Of Spanish-Irish descent, Maria-Elena Doyle graduated with a degree in visual communication from the National College of Art and Design Dublin, Ireland.

In her seven years working as a motion graphics artist for Irish television Maria-Elena collaborated with various artists and musicians.

Defining works in this period include the 2001 video projections for Dance Theatre Ireland's show 'EVIDENCE'. She followed this up in 2002 designing, shooting and animating the visuals for Theatre of Joys Musical 'The Blood and Fire Show' as part of the Dublin Fringe Festival.

In November 2006, Maria-Elena was inspired to make her first short film, RAIN after reading celebrated Maori poet Hone Tuwhare's poem of the same name. RAIN is a mix of live action, compositing and 3d animation which draws upon New Zealand's landscape and indigenous culture,

In 2007 Rain received the Atlantis award for best foreign animation at the Moondance International Film Festival.. Other festival appearances in 2007 include the Byron Bay Film Festival - Australia, the Newportbeach International Film Festival - California, the

International Exhibition of Video and Moving Image on Synesthesia and Visual Music in Granada, Spain and the New Zealand International Film Festival. . Rain was also nominated for an award at the Zebra poetry film festival in Berlin 2008 and was selected as the best of the Zebra poetry film festival in the Interfilm international Short film festival Berlin 2008.

While in New Zealand Maria-Elena has also continued her work for theatre working with Passenger films creating the visuals for the actor and writer Michael Galvins' play Station to Station (2009).

Meniscus is Maria-Elena latest work funded by the independent film-makers and screen Innovation production funds. Meniscus has screened at the Interfilm international film festival Berlin 2010 the Cinequest International film festival, San Jose, 2011, the Byron Bay International film festival 2011 and has been nominated for best experimental short film at the Female Eye International film festival Toronto 2011.

In 2011 Maria-Elena, was granted the Premier shorts film fund and will be making her third short film "Inorganic" .

Maria-Elena is also currently collaborating with sound designer and composer, Warwick Blair on an innovative art installation for projection onto multiple surfaces in a gallery exhibit 2012, entitled "Love".

Meniscus Film Ltd



CREDITS

Directed and Produced by Maria-Elena Doyle

Inspired by the poem "No Ordinary Sun" by Hone Tuwhare

Choreographer	Charles Koroneho
Director of Photography	Marc Mateo
Music	Russel Walder
Sound Design	Kahra Scott-James

Compositing	Maria-Elena Doyle
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Dancers

Georgie Goater
Naressa Gamble
Sarah Gavina Campus
Mike Holland
Rosey Feltman
Richard Conygham
Jack Gray
Felix Schafer
Alexa Wilson
Liana Yew
Megan Smith
Anna MacRae
Miriam Moon
Nancy Wijon

Production Manager	Gary Stalker
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1 st Assistant Director	Gary Stalker
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Camera Assists	Johnny Yarrel
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Grips	Harry Harrison Tim Watson
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Gaffer	Thorin Thobiasson
Gaffer Assist	Ben Corlett Damien Borucki Brendon Chan Dave Weir

Art Department	Scott Mc Dowall
Makeup	Hayley Marlow Glenys Johns
Make up Assist	Magdalene O'Connor Samuel Shelton
Data wrangler/DIT	Craig Parkes
Onset Visual Effects Supervisor	Gary Leano
Unit	Kiri Schumacher
Offline Editors	Craig Jacks Lisa Greenfield Gary Leano
3D Animation	Scott Carey Cameron Smith Arien Hielkema
2D animation	Paul Jones
Roto and Keying	Nicky Farnsworthy Valerie Tai Sarah Jane Lloyd Alana Smith Tracey Powell Kathy Kennedy Mk Magallanes
Matte Painter	John Walters
Production Mentor	Maile Daugherty
DI Colorist	Toybox Andrew Brown



Independent Film-makers fund

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elenadoyle@gmail.com