



NOISE CONTROL



written and directed by Phill Simmonds

PRESS KIT

The true story of a rooster who pays the price for keeping his neighbours awake

I N T E R N A T I O N A L S A L E S

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NEW ZEALAND FILM

PRODUCTION NOTES

Director	Phill Simmonds
Producers	Huia Lambie
Production Company	Simmonds Brothers Animation Ltd
Executive Producer	Matthew Horrocks
	Reservoir Films
Country of Production	New Zealand
Date of completion	2008
Genre	Animated Comedy
Sales	Juliette Veber
	NZ Film
	juliette@nzfilm.co.nz

35mm Dolby Digital Colour 11mins 1:1.85

ONELINER

A rooster pays the price for keeping his neighbours awake at night.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Having befriended the local children, a rooster pays the price for keeping the neighbours awake at night. This tragic-comedy, told through animation and live action, is based on a true story. The event became national and international news.

LONG SYNOPSIS

When a local pre-school's pet rooster was shot by the local government animal control officer, Mr Wolf, it became international news. Responding to neighbours complaints about the rooster crowing all through the night Mr Wolf shot the rooster but "unfortunately didn't kill it". It was discovered by traumatised children and later died. In this documation, everyone involved has something to say including the mayor, neighbours, the pre-school teacher, the local reporter, Mr Wolf and Joe Rooster himself.

FESTIVALS/AWARDS

2008 New Zealand International Film Festivals, New Zealand
2008 25th Chicago International Children's Film Festival, USA
2008 Show Me Shorts, New Zealand
2008 *2008 Best Film*- Show Me Shorts, New Zealand
2009 Magma Short Film Festival, New Zealand
2009 Melbourne International Animation Film Festival, Australia

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

What motivates me is the idea that nothing is too ordinary or mundane. It's right under our very noses, in our own back yards, where this amazing stuff is happening. Also, I think that the more personal you get, the more universal. It's that same idea of big and small. If you want to create something that the world will understand make it about something really close to you. Like the next door neighbour, for example.

The key thing is that we don't use actors. I like the idea of not forcing comedy. It's there already. People are funniest when they're not trying to be funny. We let people tell their stories in their own way. This, of course, tells so much about them! Documation is what we call it. Animating the extraordinary stories of ordinary people.

Noise Control is also, of course, about how we treat people in our community who are different to us. It's comedy... it's about a whole lot of things. And it's also, obviously, about animal rights.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

PHILL SIMMONDS has lived in the Kapiti Coast, New Zealand since he was a teenager and it was there that he established his own graphic design business.

In the mid 90's Phill and his brother Jeff Simmonds collaborated on simple web animation projects, which progressed to short hand drawn animated films. Their first short film, *Pearl, Florrie and the Bull*, was about elderly twins from Paekakariki who were attacked by a bull. The charming little film screened to wide acclaim at the 2004 New Zealand Film Festival. This was followed by *The Paselode Story* (the short but brilliant history of the former Wellington rock band "Paselode") and *Rasta Rangī* a series of one minute animated shorts for Maori Television, New Zealand.

Their most recent documation film project *A Very Nice Honeymoon* premiered at the 2006 NZ Film Festival. It told the story of the brothers' great grandparents dramatic survival after a shipwreck in 1893 and merged 2D and 3D animation techniques.

In 2007, Phill branched out on his own with the establishment of the animation company: Simmonds Brothers Animation Ltd. This is the company's first documation project. He currently has a feature in development as well as a number of television and commercial animation projects.

PRODUCTION COMPANIES – SIMMONDS BROTHERS ANIMATION STUDIO 40 FILMS

SIMMONDS BROTHERS ANIMATION LIMITED was established in 2007 by Phill Simmonds. It has followed on from the successful collaboration with his brother Jeff who now is branching out into drama.

One thing that is important to this company is telling real kiwi stories - the amazing tales of ordinary people.

Phill and Jeff Simmonds developed their own, unique brand of animation, and invented the word 'documation' to describe it, which, in a nutshell, means they record unscripted audio and marry it to animated cartoon characters.

As well as short films (funded by The New Zealand Film Commission), the company undertakes commercial animation work and animation programmes for television. In 2006, the Simmonds Brothers won the SPADA New Filmmaker of the Year award. The company is currently developing its first feature.

STUDIO 40 FILMS LIMITED was established by Huia Lambie in 2007 to produce films of universal themes. *Noise Control* is a natural fit with its universal appeal of the extra ordinary.

The establishment of Studio 40 Films was inspired by Alanis Obomsawin, of Canada, a speaker at an indigenous women's film seminar in Auckland, New Zealand in 2000.

Noise Control and a one hour television documentary for Maori Television, New Zealand, are the first two productions from this company. Phill and Huia currently have a feature film in development. The company is also developing a number of other short film projects.

PRODUCERS BIOGRAPHY

HUIA LAMBIE is of **Ngati Mutunga** descent. Huia was inspired to enter into film production after hearing the inspirational talk by Alanis Obomsawin a speaker at an indigenous women's film seminar in Auckland, New Zealand in 2000. Up to that point she had been a funding executive for Maori television programming and the national arts agencies of New Zealand.

In 2005, Huia began her production work in film assisting producer Ainsley Gardiner of Whenua Films on *Tama Tu*; dir: Taika Waititi. With the support of the AIO Foundation (established by Cliff Curtis) and Whenua Films, Huia was a participant at the 20th Sundance Institute Independent Producers Conference (2005)

As well as producing *Noise Control* Huia has recently produced a one hour documentary for Maori Television. Other films she has worked as production manager, trainee producer and production assistant are: *Hawaikii*; dir: Mike Jonathan; *Shadow Over the Sun*, dir: Rachel Douglas; feature: *Racing Daylight*, dir: Nicole Quinn (USA)

APPEARANCES

GURUNATHAN KRISNASAMY

JOE SIMMONDS voice of Rooster

PETTINA MEADS

DON WOLF

GILLIAN & ELLA ROBERTS

IRIDE McCLOY

JOE REID

CREW

Writer/Director	PHILL SIMMONDS
Producer	HUIA LAMBIE
Executive Producer	MATTHEW HORROCKS, RESERVOIR FILMS
2D Animation	PHILL SIMMONDS
	GINA KIEL
Character Design/Storyboards	GINA KIEL
Compositing	JONNY HARCOURT
	JOE SIMMONDS
	GRAEME MOFFATT
Camera Operators	JEFF SIMMONDS
	MIKE LOWE
Animal Supplier	HERO ANIMALS
Animal Trainers	CAROLINE GIRDLSTONE
	JAMES DELANEY
Original Music	ELAN MILLS
Musicians	THE VOLUNTEERS
Music Arrangement	NIC MCGOWAN
	ELAN MILLS
Music Recording/Mix	NIC MCGOWAN, ISLAND BAY STUDIOS
Sound Designer	STEPHEN GALLAGHER
Post Production Facility	PARK ROAD POST PRODUCTIONS
Facilities Co-ordinator	PETI NOHOTIMA
Head of Sound	JOHN NEILL
DI Client Manager	JON NEWELL
Sound Editor/Dolby Digital Mix	JOHN BOSWELL
Online DI Editor	SHANON MORATTI
Colourist	DAVE HOLLINGSWORTH
Film Out	WETA DIGITAL LIMITED
