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# Production Notes

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Writer:	Chris Graham
Director	Chris Graham
Producer	Karl Zohrab
Co producer	Michael Duignan

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<b>Black and White</b>	<b>35mm</b>	<b>15mins</b>	<b>1.1:85</b>	<b>Dolby Digital</b>
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**“ Bus Stop” is the common fantasy of public transport riders.**

It’s about how we all seem to think about change.

It’s about what our thought process is at the end of the day.

It’s about what we imagine it is for the other passengers.

It’s a broad palette of characters travelling home on a rainy winter evening.

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## Sales Agent

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New Zealand Film Commission.

PO Box 11 – 546 : Wellington : New Zealand.

Telephone : 64-4-382-7680 : Fax 64 – 4 –384 – 9719.

Marketing@nzfilm.co.nz

www.nzfilm.co.nz

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## Production Company

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Sinemah Urbano Films Ltd

www.busstop.co.nz

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## Directors Statement

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My initial interest in ‘Bus Stop’ was to make a film that explored the idea of what strangers around us are thinking. The more I spoke of this, the more I found everyone

had experienced the personal curiosity of the thoughts of people around us, especially on public transport. I originally had the idea riding the New York subway while I was living there, by moving home to New Zealand again, I realised the concept translates not only a range of vehicles, but that it is universal and translates to any society. Its about how the public around us, and who we speculate we might be. I was also drawn to the idea of it primary being a silent film, with visuals speaking of memories, and the role of sound being quite abstract. Also, it was appropriate situation to examine a wide range of characters. A range in age, race and how their thoughts reflect what is important to them, at that stage in their lives. The other commentary I was interested in making was that we never get a chance to see within the driver's head. This is a statement on how most people assume that since his occupation is apparent, there can't be much more to him. His actions state the opposite. 'Bus Stop' is really about people in society, anywhere, and the game we play, in wondering who the strangers that sit next to us are.

**Chris Graham**  
**Director**

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## **Chris Graham - Writer / Director**

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Born in Wellington, New Zealand in 1971. Spent my childhood with 3 year intervals overseas while my father was a New Zealand diplomat. Ottawa, Bangkok, Geneva. Fell in love with the movies. Spent my high school years at Onslow College, Wellington, where I studied theater, photography and video. At 17, I applied to NYU film school and School of Visual Arts NYC, with a 10 min video 'Change of Days', about a 8 yr old boys introduction to the concept of death and dying. Deciding to go to SVA instead, I studied film directing for 4 years making various short student films. I was offered a position at the Actors Studio as a directing observer. In my final year, my thesis film 'Life Before Me' won 'Best Film', Directing and Sound at the Student 'Dusty' awards. I worked in various positions in freelance crew work for the next 4 years, while directing and editing occasional music videos, gradually building a showreel. I tried Los Angeles for a year in '98, and left empty guarentees to move home to New Zealand after 9 years in America. I began work as staff director at 2Dfilms in Wellington, making Commercials, Music Videos and Corporate Videos. I received funding to make 'BusStop' from Creative New Zealand, completing it in July of 2000, it is now on a life of it's own. I am currently writing 2 feature screenplays.

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## **Credits**

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## Cast

Richard Goldsbrough

Fran Kelly

Peter Dennett

Tim Wang

Larry Rew

Teena Monk

Julia Wang

Nick Spellacy

## Crew

<b>Editor</b>	Owen Ferrier- kerr
<b>Composer</b>	Iain Gordon
<b>Cinematographer</b>	Adam Clark
<b>Production Designer</b>	Ned Walker
<b>Art Director</b>	Alice Cuttance
<b>Music consultant</b>	Jonathan Crayford
<b>Original music</b>	Ebb The Nomad Te Kupu

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## Directors Filmography

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### **“Bus Stop”**

Written and directed by Chris Graham

## Super 16mm/15min/Drama/Creative New Zealand

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### **'Life before me'**

Written, Directed and Co produced by Chris Graham  
(Wilson looks back at his life after falling off a building in New York)

**1993/16mm/34mins/Drama/School of Visual Arts**

**Best Film-** Student Jury, Tel Aviv Student Film Festival, Israel 1994

**Best director, Best Film, Best Sound – Dusty Student Awards – SVA 1993**

**IFFM:** International Feature film Market – ANY Sept 1993

**Bravo Cable Student Winner** – Scouted from IFFM to Air - USA National Cable

**New Zealand Film Festival** – August – 1993

**Westport Film Festival** – Connecticut, USA – July 1993

**Knitting Factory Film Festival** – Tribeca NYC April 1995

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### **'Living to Dream'**

Written, Directed and Produced by Chris Graham  
(Steve Lose Clarity on reality while dreaming through life)

**1991/16mm/10mins/Comedy/School of Visual Arts**

Sydney Childrens Film Festival – August 1991

Wellington Fringe Festival – May 1991

Night Shift TV Series – Boston TV KBRW – Aired Nov 1991

First Look TV Series – New York TV WNYC – Aired Dec 1991

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## **Producer - Karl Zohrab**

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Born and Raised in Wellington, New Zealand, Karl is the 26 year old producer of 'Bus Stop'. Other project Karl is working on include the upcoming short film ' A New Way Home', funded by the Screen Innovation Production Fund. When not producing short films, Karl produces commercials and corporate videos through his production company Eleven Films, and Also takes time to work in production on larger-scale films ( ie Lord of the Rings), documentaries, and various New Zealand Television Dramas.