

53 - Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin
Competition

DELORES



Presskit

NEW ZEALAND FILM
COMMISSION
TE TUMU WHAKAATA TAONGA

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Production Notes

Writer/director Adam Stevens
Producer Mark Foster
Production Company: Robber's Dog Films

Colour 14 minutes 35mm 1:1.85 Dolby Digital

Log Line

With every fishing trip there has to be a catch...

Director's Notes

Synopsis

There is a saying amongst fishermen, 'What happens at sea, stays at sea.' We now know why there are some puzzles of the deep best left unsolved.

DELORES recounts an unexpected discovery on board a New Zealand fishing trawler on a routine run in the southern oceans. A hardy crew of seamen come face to face with a mystery of the deep that will leave its mark on their lives forever.

This was a fantastic challenge as both a writer and director.

The script/documentary format demanded a massive variety of characters and locations both at sea and on the land. This put huge pressure on the production in every department. As I wrote the piece to be a real account of a fictitious event through the eyes of the crew and their immediate family members. Therefore, it was very important to cast a believable group of actors and non-actors, in particular the fishermen, who needed to be physically believable.

I used the script as a general base for performance and then embellished each character with a fuller account of what actually happened at sea. From here we were able to adlib the interview sequences. There is also a large flashback component to the film, which I married into the documentary feel. I want the audience to feel as if these moments are simply recorded events.

Shooting all of the on-board sequences first worked in our favour as I was able to let the scenes develop naturally and really build the actors sense of back story prior to the shooting of the interview scenes.

Director's Notes cont...

To shoot the on-board drama sequences the Cinematographer Stephen Latty devised a very efficient bungy rig to emulate the rocking motion of the boat at sea. This increased the freedom of the camera and enhanced the story and the nautical feel of the piece.

The most difficult shooting experience was shooting the boat to boat footage of the trawler actually trawling and landing a catch. We had limited resources and a very small window to shoot these shots. We only achieved these shots thanks to a fantastic fishing crew who allowed us to position their trawler and then hold it there until the ocean swell eased a little, giving us the opportunity to shoot. We could then climb aboard and film the net coming up and dropping their catch - a rare sight for a non-fisherman. In my mind these shots act as the 'reality' glue that cement the film together.

Director's biography

Adam Stevens directs TVC's for Silverscreen Productions out of their Auckland office. DELORES is Adam's second short film. His first BEAUTIFUL was released in 2001, and has since screened at prestigious A List festivals such as New York, Montreal and Sundance.

Adam is a performance director and has been involved predominantly in directing comedy work for the last year.

Adam's editing background began in Sydney after finishing a degree in Russian at Otago University. Whilst studying film as part of his BA he shot several experimental films that attached his future to the film industry.

Adam directed and cut documentaries and industrials in Jakarta Indonesia before getting into directing ads. Upon returning to New Zealand Adam has focused on projects that are drama-based.

Credits

Cast

Nigel Larkin	Jeremy Randerson
Jackie Larkin	Vivian Stanley
Jen Larkin	Kelly Dennett
Gary Noonan	Ross Buckingham
Joan Noonan	Patrice Jessup
Master Noonan	Sean Jessup
Murray "Muzz" Dugmore	Steve "Devo" Tate
Alan Stephens	Tim Gordon
Randel "Fishbin" Gallop	David Mackie
Mermaid	Cherie James
Dog	Skipper
Policeman 1	Jim Anderson
Policeman 2	Henry Davis
Wharfie	Dennis Stevens
Barman	Pete Mason
Woman	Jilly Blackman
Tattooist	Steve Ma Ching
Man getting Tattoo	Bugs
Woman	Sandy Gildea

Credits

Crew

Production Manager	Nicky Simes
Continuity	Kathleen Thomas
P.A./Runner	Conrad Blight
Runner	Paul Carle
1 st AD	Paul Grinder
2 nd AD	Jo Warren
2 nd Unit DOP	Robert Marsh
Focus Puller	Bryony Mathew
Clapper Loader	Vanessa Wood
Split Operator	James Brown
Stills Photographer	Andrew Harvey
Sound Recordist	Al Seconi
Boom Op	Shaun Logan
Sound Assist	Greg Junovich
Gaffer	Tony Blackwood
Best Boy	Ruru Ready
Gene Op	Dave Sargeson
Grip	Terry Joosten
Rigger	Scott Anderson
Props Buyer	Henry Davis
Stand By Props	Rod Hagg
Art Assist	James Anderson

Credits

Crew continued

Art Assist	Anna Hanson
Mermaid Tail Created By	Tracey Collins
Wardrobe	Annie Mahon
Wardrobe Assist	Tanya TBA
Make Up	Peter Sweeny
SPFX Make Up	Mark Brown
	Peter Sweeny
Safety Officer	Nic Fryer
Catering	Bonifant & Saxby
Location Scouts	J.P Winger Donna Hanson Adam Stevens