



SIONES WEDDING



PRESS KIT

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SIONE'S WEDDING

ONE-LINE SYNOPSIS



A feel-good comedy about four 30-something guys who must each find a girlfriend before their best friend's wedding – or be left out in the cold.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

Sione is getting married. But there's a problem, well actually, there are four problems - Sione's brother Michael and his three best mates Albert, Stanley and Sefa; the ladies' man, the good boy, the weird one and the party boy. They're 30-something, but they still act as if they're 16. They get drunk, they chase the wrong women and they have a remarkable record of causing chaos at every wedding they attend. But when Sione bans the boys from *his* wedding, they know something has to change. The boys have one last chance; find girlfriends to take to the wedding or be left out in the cold. Their lives are about to get turned upside down. How hard can it be finding a girl in the world's biggest Polynesian city when you're young, gifted and brown?

LONG SYNOPSIS

SIONE'S WEDDING is a comedy about four best friends, Michael, Albert, Stanley and Sefa; the ladies' man, the good boy, the party guy and the weird one – the Boys. They're first generation Samoan New Zealanders living out their lives in the suburban sleep-outs, basketball courts, high rise office buildings and hip hop clubs of Auckland, the biggest Polynesian city in the world.



In the early 90s they were the Duckrockers break-dancing crew. Now it's 2005 and the Boys are in their thirties. But some things never change. They're still the Duckrockers. They still act like they're 16. They get drunk, they chase the wrong women and they have a remarkable record of misbehaving and causing chaos at every event they attend.

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But now Michael's younger brother, Sione, is getting married, and everything is about to change. Sione is their boy, the kid they used to look after, who grew up while they were still partying. And to ensure his big day isn't spoiled by his friends and their idiot antics, Sione has issued an ultimatum: the guys all have to bring girls to his wedding. And not just any dates - real girlfriends, someone they've made a commitment to. They have one month. So just *how hard* can it be to find a girlfriend before your best boy's wedding?

Michael doesn't think it will be a problem. He's a good looking cycle courier with a girl in every suburb and dozens more on speed dial. His speciality is rich, white and strictly no-strings. But is he able to to have a relationship that lasts longer than an afternoon?

Albert is the quiet one. His mother can't understand why such a good boy hasn't found the right girl. And if he stopped longing for unobtainable women, Albert might discover that the perfect girl is just an office partition away. Unless his true love is the Polynesian Princess his mother has imported from the islands for him.

Stanley is a dreamer. A hopeless romantic – in a weird way. As 'Tyreeq' he's a legend on the phone chat lines, but the girls he scores aren't so dreamy when he meets them in the real world. There's one girl Stanley knows will be different, his honey-voiced fantasy 'Latifah'...

Sefa is the guy everyone wants to party with. He may be wild, but Sefa always goes home to his girlfriend Leilani. Eventually. Sefa truly loves Leilani, it's just that partying with the Boys comes first. Sefa thinks he has it made. He actually *has* a girlfriend, and she's going to be a bridesmaid. Leilani is obliged to be Sefa's date for the wedding – isn't she?

SIONE'S WEDDING is an urban romantic comedy that brings the humour, life and colour of Polynesian culture to the big screen.



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THE WORLD OF SIONE'S WEDDING



SIONE'S WEDDING is set in Auckland, New Zealand - the city with the world's biggest Polynesian population (bigger than Los Angeles or Honolulu) and Pacific humour is at the heart of the movie.

"SIONE'S WEDDING is a contemporary, urban story set in the Polynesian world," says the film's writer James Griffin (Head of Development for South Pacific Pictures. James' credits include *Outrageous Fortune*, *Mercy Peak*, *Serial Killers*). "It's a story that every culture can relate to because it's a kind of romantic comedy for guys. It's about universal themes of love and respect and friendship, but what makes it really interesting is that it's told from a young Polynesian perspective."

"I love that we're making a film about people I know and things I know and understand," adds Oscar Kightley, who co-wrote SIONE'S WEDDING with Griffin and who plays the character of Albert. "We're making a New Zealand movie that is true and funny and I think that the Pacific Island community is going to love it – and so is everyone else."

Director Chris Graham and cinematographer Aaron Morton worked together to create a visual look that would bring the boys' inner-city neighbourhood to life. "We wanted to create a visual portrait of Auckland as an incredibly varied city; metropolitan, multicultural and international, which it is," says Graham. "the film is about creating a window into the Samoan culture within Auckland city, which population wise, is the Polynesian capital." he says.

"We always knew the movie was going to be set in Grey Lynn," says Kightley. The inner city suburb, home to both Kightley and Griffin, is an area where many Pacific Islanders settled in the wave of migration that supplied New Zealand with cheap labour for its post WWII manufacturing boom. When the economy slowed in the 1960s, Pacific Islanders working in factories were the first to lose their jobs,

The Boys on the World of the Movie

OSCAR:

"I think New Zealanders will go and see *Sione's Wedding* and think 'wow, I've seen those boys.' Overseas I want immigrant communities to see it and realise that New Zealand has different cultures that are all Kiwi but have different flavours. I'd love to hear what Jamaicans in London think of it and what Puerto Ricans in Brooklyn think of it 'cause when I see a film from those communities I see heaps of crossovers. And I want Kiwis to see it and realise that there are so many Kiwi faces and Kiwi stories."

IAHETO:

"There are certain things that make people, and what defines them as characters in real life. I know I'm an Islander, but hip hop is in my blood and my hip hop roots are very important to me along with being a Pacific Islander and a New Zealander. I'm telling all my mates to go see the film because this story's about them. We're telling their stories."

DAVE:

"The fact that the boys are Pacific Islanders doesn't make it any less of a New Zealand story. It's just told from a different point of view of living in this country, one that accepts that diversity. Because I love New Zealand and I love being an Islander."

ROBBIE:

My upbringing was a little bit different than the other boys. I grew up in Wellington (Go the Hurricanes!). But I know lots of Aucklanders who grew up in Grey Lynn and Ponsonby. We've all had our sleep-outs. I know one guy, he had a sleep-out and he spent \$20,000 on doing it up. \$20,000 to renovate his sleep-out, and his parents lived in front. How's that, man! That's very Grey Lynn."

OSCAR

"James and I always knew it was going to be set in Grey Lynn, in inner city Auckland. It's where James lives with his family so he knows the area, and I've lived here for the last 10 years."



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bringing economic hardship to their communities.

"I live in Grey Lynn and it felt like a movie about my neighbourhood," says cinematographer Morton. "It was something we talked about in terms of the neighbourhood being another character. It's where these guys grew up and it informs who they are."

Further hardship for New Zealand's Pacific Island community came with the tightening of immigration laws and the infamous 'dawn raids' where police carried out surprise searches of the homes of Pacific Island families, looking for so-called 'overstayers'. The divisive campaign encouraged racist attitudes among Palagi (white) New Zealanders.

Fast forward to 2005 and a new era for Samoan New Zealanders. Albert, Michael, Sefa and Stanley are part of a generation whose lives combine traditional attitudes with the influences of life in a cosmopolitan environment.

These days the majority of Samoans living in New Zealand were born here and most live in Auckland. Like the boys in SIONE'S WEDDING, many Polynesian youth still live with their families but stay in sleep-outs (converted garages or annexes to the family home); they attend church but they also wile away their nights on the dance floors of hip hop clubs. They are a generation whose music, storytelling, dance, sporting prowess, fashion and attitude are fast becoming a major influence on our society, from the hit animated TV series *bro'Town* to Scribe's top-selling hip hop albums.

It's never been so hip to be brown.



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KEY CAST BACKGROUND

❖ **The Naked Samoans**

The Naked Samoans are a comedy theatre troupe featuring New Zealand-raised Pacific Islanders who combine brilliant physical humour with razor-sharp Polynesian satire. They relate their personal experiences of being "different" - a minority culture, growing up brown and misunderstood in Auckland - the largest Polynesian city in the world.

Oscar Kightley, Dave Fane, Shimpal Lelisi, and Mario Gaoa are the original Naked Samoans and fellow SIONE'S WEDDING cast members Robbie Magasiva and Iaheto Ah Hi joined the group shortly after its inception.

The Naked Samoan's unique brand of humour celebrates, and satirises their Pacific Island heritage.

The group's shows include:

- *Naked Samoans Talk About Their Knives* (part of the 1998 International Laugh Festival);
- *Naked Samoans Go To Hollywood* (part of the 1999 International Laugh Festival);
- *Naked Samoans: Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go* (as part of the 2000 International Laugh Festival);
- *Naked Samoans: The Trilogy* (which played in New Zealand in Auckland, Wellington, and Hamilton and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2002)

❖ **bro'Town**

bro'Town is New Zealand's first primetime animated television series and has become a bona fide cult hit in New Zealand.

The show is written by, and stars, members of the Naked Samoans, including Oscar Kightley, David Fane, Shimpal Lelisi and Mario Gaoa.

The show has been dubbed the '*Simpsons of the South Pacific*' and in 2005 won the awards for Best Comedy and for Best Script at the New Zealand Screen Awards as well as Best Comedy at the Qantas Television Awards.



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CAST INTERVIEWS

❖ OSCAR KIGHTLEY | Albert



“Like all the boys, Albert is lacking when it comes to being an individual and that’s simply because each of them is a very well rounded cog of an extraordinary machine called the Duckrockers.”

Asked about the character he plays in SIONE’S WEDDING, actor and co-writer Oscar Kightley begins with a description of the unit made up by the four main characters; the boys. A tight-knit group of friends who ‘always had more fun playing outside than doing their homework,’ Kightley explains that the boys’ different characteristics balance each other out, but their closeness also means they live their lives as a group, rather than becoming well rounded individuals.

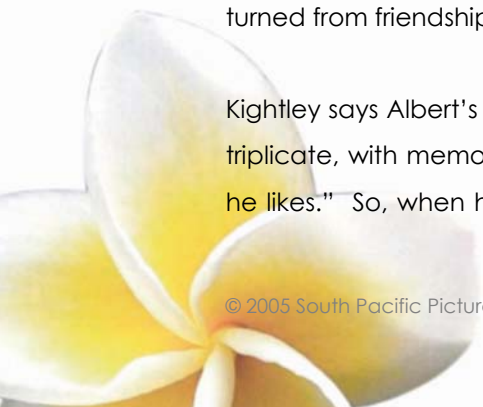
“They’re all studs through Michael, they’re all happily settled through Sefa, they’ve all got good jobs like Albert and they all get to be carefree and broke through Stan – even though they always have to pay for Stan’s lunch.”

Albert is the sensible one of the four, the good boy with the good job. “Albert fulfils that function for the boys; they don’t have to go and get good jobs because Albert’s got one, where he has to wear a tie to work.” He does the right thing, takes his job seriously respects his mum (who looks after him), and is the most inexperienced of the four when it comes to alcohol and women.

Albert also tries to keep the boys out of trouble (with limited success) and it’s Albert who figures out a way that the boys could end their unbroken streak of ruining weddings; by finding girlfriends. “They’ve suddenly realised that their actions affect other people, and that’s always where you have to grow up. When your actions become destructive.”

Bringing girls to the wedding may be Albert’s idea, but that doesn’t mean it will be easy finding a girlfriend himself, despite the best efforts of Duckrockers’ Casanova Michael, and the fact that his perfect match is literally right under his nose in the shape of co-worker Tania. “Albert and Tania are those workmates who just clicked really well,” says Kightley. “For Tania the feelings invariably turned from friendship to beyond friendship, while Albert’s sort of oblivious.”

Kightley says Albert’s naïveté is such that he needs most things in life explained. “Stated in full, in triplicate, with memos. He needs everything stated including which girl likes him, and which girl he likes.” So, when his ever-hopeful mother imports the gorgeous Princess from the Islands as a



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match for her son, Albert loses sight of reality in a daze of glamour. The triangle between Tania, Albert and Princess provides some of the movie's funniest moments. "It's all in his head, completely in his head," explains Kightley. "Princess does nothing to really lead him on when you think about it. He puts one and one together and gets a hundred. He really does dig Tania, he just needs someone to tell him that the emotion he's feeling is love."

Kightley says he and co-writer James Griffin had no idea who would be cast as Albert when they created the character. "If I knew I would be playing him I would've made Albert much cooler," Kightley notes. "I would have definitely given him better clothes." An experienced stage actor and television presenter, SIONE'S WEDDING was Kightley's first foray into screen acting. He says the experience as "scary" and "terrifying" but "mad, wicked fun", describing it one of those situations where "you just have to jump off the cliff and believe in it."

From the first day of shooting, Kightley was impressed by the creative collaboration on set. "On day one we shot the golf cart scene [where the boys beg the Minister to give them a second chance]. I had no idea how it was going to be played, but on that morning cinematographer Aaron Morton had an idea that the boys could be running to keep up with the cart. So we just went with it and it worked. And that was day one."

He's excited about the finished film. "I love that it's about things I know and understand, and people I know. I want New Zealanders to go see it and think 'wow, I know those boys.' And overseas I want audiences to see it and realise that New Zealand has different cultures that are Kiwi but have different flavours. I'd love to hear what Jamaicans in London think of it and what Puerto Ricans in Brooklyn think of it. It's a true story about real people – and it's also very funny. I think the Island community's really going to love it, and so will everyone else."



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❖ ROBBIE MAGASIVA | Michael



Actor Robbie Magasiva plays Michael, the Casanova cycle courier who prides himself on being irresistible to women. He's about fun, looking good and living day-to-day.

Magasiva describes Michael an out-and-out womaniser who is "Bad, but not really bad, just bad enough to attract women. Michael's genuine; he's using what he's got. He likes women and he likes himself. He's one of those bad guys who girls like. I love playing characters like that."

Like the rest of the Duckrockers, Michael lives out other elements of himself through the other three boys. "Part of Michael wishes he was like Sefa and Leilani, to have a girlfriend to come home to. Part of Michael wishes he was like Albert, the intelligent one. Part of Michael wishes he was like Stan, this dreamer with his wicked imagination."

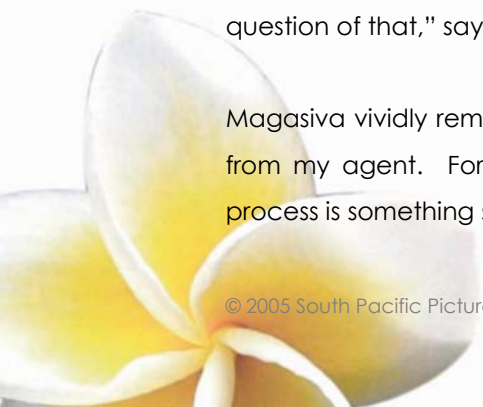
"Michael's always been the best one at sports, the best one with girls, and the boys have always been quite proud of that," adds writer Oscar Kightley. "Through Michael's studliness, they all feel like the man." What he has to realise is that girls only want Michael for sex and that's why he can't get a girl for the wedding.

Kightley references a defining scene in the movie. "Michael's looking through his phone at pictures of girls to date, and in the middle of all the pictures of pretty girls there's a picture of himself. And so that sort of defines one side of Michael. He's a lovely guy, actually. I like Michael. He doesn't even know when he's being dastardly."

Magasiva agrees, "He's very devoted to his parents and he'll do anything for his boys. He's very loyal. All the boys are like that, they've got that strong bond." Their bond is so strong that Magasiva says Michael would find life difficult without them. "Michael by himself? I think Michael somewhere without the boys would just be lost, a lost soul."

Tall, dark, handsome and an experienced actor who has shown his talent for comedy and drama on stage and screen, Robbie Magasiva was the obvious first choice to play the Duckrockers stud, Michael. "Michael was always going to be Robbie, there was never any question of that," says writer James Griffin.

Magasiva vividly remembers being offered the role. "I was driving in my car when I got the call from my agent. For an actor to be offered a role instead of going through the auditioning process is something special. "



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He says it was all uphill from there. "SIONE'S WEDDING is the best project I've worked on. I got to work with my good friends, and on top of that, had my mum and dad and my little bro [Pua Magasiva who plays Sione] be part of it. The crew were so passionate about what they were trying to achieve. I was part of something very special. I hope it does well. I'm sure it will."

One of Magasiva's favourite moments filming was the classic boys' drinking scene in Michael's sleep-out where the four actors drew on their long standing friendship and talent for improvisation to make it real and funny. "We initially had trouble making that scene work," he explains. "As we were struggling with it, Chris [director Chris Graham] said 'just play with it' and then Shimmy [Shimpal Leilisi], out of nowhere, stood up and just took his shirt off over his head - and we lost it completely! That made the scene a lot more natural. Suddenly that scene was fun for us. That was one of my favourite scenes because it was a rollercoaster ride to get there, but we finally pulled the rabbit out of the hat and it was hilarious."

As well as the fun and laughter, Magasiva says there were more serious moments where the fact that they were making the first feature based around contemporary Pacific Island humour sank in. "One day we had a lot of extras on set and when we were having lunch Reverend Mua announced that it was Samoan Independence Day. We all stood up and sang the Samoan National Anthem. My heart was pounding. I had goosebumps. That was a memorable moment - I was just going 'Wow!'"

He is delighted with the results. "I think everyone will want to see this film. It's a New Zealand story, a Pacific story and a universal story. Guys in their 30s or going on 30 will love it. Guys my age, and their girlfriends. The comedy that's successful at the moment has brown faces in it. You want a feel good film, come and see this one and it'll make you feel good."



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❖ SHIMPAL LELISI | Sefa

Shimpal Lelisi is a long time friend and collaborator of Oscar Kightley, and is one of the writers and performer of the animated series *bro'Town* with Kightley and the other members of the Naked Samoans. He has been a fan of SIONE'S WEDDING since the early stages of its development. "I really loved the story, I thought it was really funny, and I thought it was a good time for that type of story to be told. And what an opportunity!"



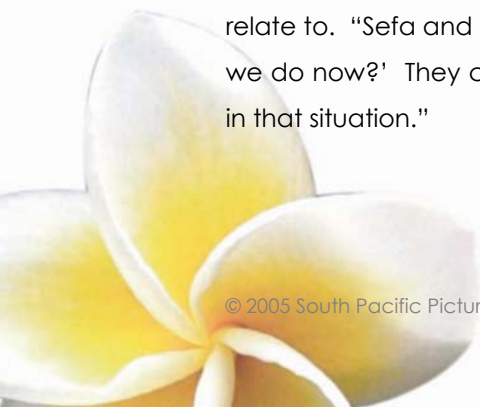
Lelisi auditioned for all the male leads before being cast as Sefa, the party boy extraordinaire whose uselessness on the domestic front keeps his relationship with girlfriend Leilani hanging by a thread.

"Sefa's an instant person, and an instant gratification person," says Lelisi. "That's why he hasn't planned ahead in terms of his relationship with Leilani of where they're going and what their future is going to be together. He's all about right here, right now. Like the rest of the boys he has a problem growing up. Sefa knows about growing up, but I don't think he's put much work or much study into it."

"Sefa's the guy who everyone wants to have a drink with," explains writer Oscar Kightley. "He's the one who's still going at seven, eight in the morning when they've all dropped off. He's carried the boys' honour in that side of life."

"He's out for a good time and making sure his boys have a good time," adds director Chris Graham. "Being with his boys and drinking with the boys is when he's at his happiest, so that's what he puts at the forefront of his lifestyle. He genuinely loves Leilani and deep down I think he knows he's the right guy for her and that she is the right girl for him but he has absolutely idea how to treat women, of how to grow and mature in himself."

Sefa may have a long-term girlfriend, but finding a date for SIONE'S WEDDING will prove to be as much of a challenge for him as the others. As far as Leilani is concerned Sefa has as much to learn as the other boys. Lelisi says their relationship stalemate is something that many people will relate to. "Sefa and Leilani have been going out since high school and it's that thing of 'what do we do now?' They can't afford a house, he hasn't got a proper job; a lot of our generation are in that situation."



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To make the storyline work, Lelisi and actress Teuila Blakely who plays Leilani knew they had to create a couple that the audience would really care about. "The relationship had to be real, their love had to be real. I knew that if that worked all the rest would fall into place," says Lelisi adding that keeping it real made for some on-set schizophrenia as comedic moments alternated with serious dramatic scenes. "You turn up some days and you're doing emotional scenes and thinking 'I'm sure I'm in a comedy, why am I feeling like this?'" The result is a funny but compelling story that gives the movie a lot of its heart.

Lelisi can't pick a favourite moment from the movie saying, "Just being on set with your friends is enough." Another of those good mates is David Fane, who plays Sefa's cousin Bolo. Lelisi and Fane brought years of experience improvising comedy together to their characters and their scenes are brilliantly funny. "I didn't put too much thought into the scenes with Bolo because it's Dave and whatever happens on the day is what happens," explains Lelisi. "Those are the surprises, the things you look forward to, playing with Dave. My biggest worry about those scenes was that they'd take ages because we'd be laughing too much."

Lelisi is looking forward to sharing the film with friends and family. "It'll be great seeing ourselves – brown faces - up on screen. But it's a really good story, fullstop. The themes in the story, they're not strictly Pacific. They're international."



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❖ IAHETO AH HI | Stanley



When he read the script for SIONE'S WEDDING, Iaheto Ah Hi saw himself as the safe, sensible Albert. He admits he took a while to figure out what makes the offbeat Stanley tick. "I found Stanley very hard to play in the early days. My real life persona is so different." For Ah Hi, the key to creating a character that hadn't grown up was to imagine being an adolescent again.

"I had to go back to when I was 14. That was the only way I could play him as wide-eyed, naïve and innocent. So I felt like I was stuck in 1984. That's what drove my character, a 14-year-old, coming into puberty, wide-eyed, innocent and into breakdancing. Then you morph it into someone who is in their early 30s and you have the weirdness of Stanley."

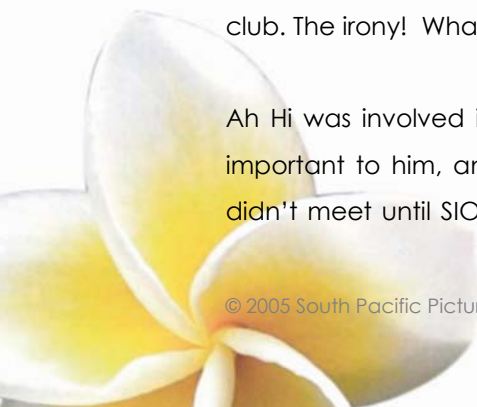
Stanley is the dreamer of the four boys. Living inside his own head, his contribution to the Duckrockers is what writer Kightley calls "an element of mystery and weirdness". Part of that mystery and weirdness is Stanley's fascination with phone chat lines, where he uses the alias Tyreeq to meet women. But the woman he's most fascinated by is the elusive Latifah.

"Stanley's an optimist without being a realist," says director Chris Graham. "He lives in a hip hop fantastical world and he really believes that he will find the mysterious Latifah character who he imagines as a music video model from the world of his television and the music he listens to. In fact the perfect girl for Stanley's would just be a really nice, pretty girl next door who would accept him for who he is."

Stanley's passion for the dance, music, and culture of hip hop is something that Ah Hi shares. "SIONE'S WEDDING isn't a hip hop movie, but hip hop is what drives Stanley. His attitude towards dance and music, that's definitely me. I do feel that. I do feel the energy towards dance and music."

SIONE'S WEDDING may not be a hip hop movie but Ah Hi's breakdancing expertise was called upon for a dance sequence with difference; Stanley big breakdance. "What a crazy scene! I've always dreamed of doing a dance sequence in a movie," he laughs. "And it is set in an Irish club. The irony! What a crazy scene."

Ah Hi was involved in the early hip hop scene in New Zealand. It is an art form that remains important to him, and a background he shares with director Chris Graham, although the two didn't meet until SIONE'S WEDDING. "I was very proud to work with Chris because we're both



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from Wellington and we were both involved in the hip hop scene together," Ah Hi explains. "We shared a moment at the end where I thanked him and we talked about the old days."

Most of Ah Hi's acting has been done on stage, including three tours with the Naked Samoans. SIONE'S WEDDING was his first experience of film acting, and it was a rewarding learning curve. "I needed a 120% focus to discover a working method for myself in film," he explains. "I've done a lot of theatre and theatre to me is relatively easy. But working in front of a camera is very different. I felt that I was given the space to work and be able to be in the zone where I needed to be. I was looked after creatively."

Some of Ah Hi's favourite parts of the movie are the scenes involving Albert and Tania's workmate Derek aka D-rizzle, a white guy who has grown up in a brown neighbourhood and thinks he's brown.

"David was fantastic as Derek," says Ah Hi. "He brought realism to his character that was very funny. He didn't come across as a caricature. His character is real. It's not a "dis" or a stereotype. I was like that when I was young and acting like this wannabe hip hop guy. We all do it. It's not necessarily a white thing. It's the funny side of hip hop, the bling without the soul. Hilarious."



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❖ TEUILA BLAKELY | Leilani

"Leilani really gives a voice to New Zealand Pacific Island women. She is your archetypal New Zealand born Pacific Island chick. She's partly me, partly my best friends, partly my cousins. I love that about her character." Actress Teuila Blakely says she liked her character Leilani immediately. "She's a really awesome, strong character and as simple as the role seems on paper, Leilani has an intense journey throughout the film."



As the long suffering but feisty Leilani, Blakely was half of the movie's most pivotal relationship, a relationship she describes as very real and very recognisable. "One of the things I immediately liked about Sefa and Leilani was that I felt they reflected parts of so many people's relationships. I could imagine couples just coming and thinking; that little moment is so us, that's so me, that's so my partner. It was a real relationship. There are a lot of women at home waiting for Sefas and looking after them."

Leilani puts up with a lot from Sefa, but Blakely is adamant that this girl's no pushover. "I recognised straight away her strength and her commitment and her love for Sefa. She doesn't put up with his behaviour because she's weak, she puts up with that because she absolutely loves him and she is absolutely committed to making this work. She has the strength to turn around and say 'no, see that point there, yeah that was it. I'm out of here.' And yet at the same time she still maintains her absolute love for him. I think that's fascinating."

Director Chris Graham agrees. "The way Teuila played Leilani shows that she knows exactly what's going on. Leilani knows that if she's meant to be with Sefa, then Sefa will figure it out. If he's not capable of figuring it out for himself than he's not the right guy. So she never spells it out for him, she just pushes him right to the edge of the diving board until he's finally ready to take that dive and figure it out for himself."

Graham worked with Blakely and Shimpal Lelisi (who plays Sefa) to ensure that Sefa and Leilani's relationship had the heart and substance required by the storyline. "The audience had to understand that these two absolutely love each other, but it was going to be a challenge to make that work in the few serious scenes they had among all the comedy," explains Blakely. "It really helped that Shim and I are friends and that as an actor I really trust him and I admire his work. We could trust each other and have that genuineness."



SIONE'S WEDDING

"Shim is in a really loving committed relationship with children, and I know what it is to be in love. And because we genuinely know what it is to be in love in real life we can bring that to Sefa and Leilani. I hope that's what people see."

When SIONE'S WEDDING went into production Blakely, a relatively inexperienced actor, found herself carrying the female lead in her very first feature film. "I was petrified," she says. "It was the scariest and the most amazing thing I've ever done. I hate to say it because it's such a cliché, but it was like I went to another planet for six weeks. It was thrilling and amazing and scary and hard and at the same time I kept thinking, 'I just want to give this everything I've got.' You only get one shot."

Despite her nerves, Blakely has relished the process. "I loved the script before we went to film it, and then seeing unfold on set and the whole experience of filming was just amazing. And to see the finished product honestly it's mind-blowing.

She's looking forward to others seeing the movie, especially the real life Sefa and Leilani. "How wonderful, there's going to be a movie where couples can go 'hey let's go to the movies together' rather than it being a guy flick or a chick flick. It's a good date film. Take your boyfriend to the movies!"



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❖ MADELEINE SAMI | Tania



Madeleine Sami plays Tania, the nice girl from Albert's office, who would be perfect for him if only he would stop thinking of her as just a friend. Sami says Tania is "your everyday nice girl who is looking for happiness. She's basically your sincere, honest, shy girl."

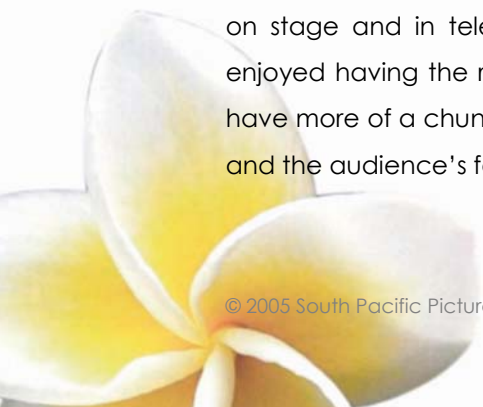
Sami describes Tania and Albert's relationship as "Jane Austen-y", a classic "comedy of manners where someone likes someone else, but they take a long time to find out." It's certainly a slow moving romance. "Tania really likes Albert but she's a bit scared to come out and show her true feelings. She doesn't want to broach the subject so she's a little bit awkward. She's hesitant to make the first move. In the end she's hinting quite heavily but Albert's quite slow on the uptake to say the least."

"It's not just that Albert's oblivious to Tania, He's oblivious to life." explains Oscar Kightley, who plays Albert. "He's oblivious to everything and hence he's oblivious to this girl that's perfect for him and has been sitting next to him for the past two years."

Further complicating the budding office romance is Albert and Tania's co-worker Derek, a white boy from the white suburb of Glenfield who acts as though he's Samoan. Perpetually mocked by Albert and his boys, Derek has a soft spot for Tania. Their friendship leads Albert to wrongly assume there's something more going on. "Tania's the sort of person who won't be mean to Derek unless she's forced to," says Sami. "She's quite sympathetic, she feels sorry for him. She's quite fond of him. She knows that Derek's ridiculous but she would never be mean."

Sami says that Albert and Tania probably have what it takes to "be together forever." But they are to get together in the first place, Albert must first get over his infatuation with the dazzling Princess, the beautiful cousin his mother is trying to set him up with. "The thing about Albert is that he's a little bit in denial about who he is," says Sami. "He's trying to keep up with the boys who are in their thirties but are trying to keep up this bachelor lifestyle. They're all trying to be something they're not. What they're striving for isn't what they really want."

Sami, who is recognised as one of New Zealand's up and coming stars, has done a lot of work on stage and in television, and had a small part in the feature film *Perfect Strangers*. She enjoyed having the responsibility that came with the larger role of Tania, saying "it was nice to have more of a chunk of character to work with." She's also looking forward to the film's release and the audience's feedback.



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"It's refreshing that it's a New Zealand film that isn't a dark film, which we seem to have a penchant for. It's a nice light comedy that not doing to drain you too much but is going to be entertaining and fun. It's not heavy, it's funny. It's a movie about male mates, but there are elements for chicks as well. I think it'll really appeal to a broad range of people."



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❖ DAVID FANE | Bolo aka PAUL



Dave Fane plays Sefa's cousin Paul, more commonly known as Bolo, a character writer James Griffin describes as "a kind of lovely strange angel sitting on the boys' shoulders trying to guide them to do right." Bolo loves to read and thinks deeply about life, love and philosophy. Throughout the movie he makes periodic attempts to get the boys, particularly Sefa, to be more reflective with little success.

"In many ways Bolo is the comic relief, but he also a clarity and wisdom which none of the other characters have in their lives," says director Chris Graham. "He's the one who points out 'actually, this is how it is' to which their response is usually 'what, shut up, how would you know?!' He's actually stating what they haven't yet discovered."

Where Bolo is, his van is never far away. In the daytime, Bolo uses it to transport everything from vegetables to floral shirts. At night, he drives the boys around in it, often reading his book or sleeping while he waits outside bars for them. Actor Dave Fane says Bolo is still a part of the Duckrockers' extended family, but in many ways has outgrown the boys. "They are still hanging onto the 'yeah we're the boys' thing. Bolo's just moved that one step ahead. You see it happen in little cliques, sometimes some members break away. You're still a group, but one of you has said 'Oh nah, I've got other things to do. I'm happy here. I'm happier searching new ground.' I think that's where Bolo is."

Fane is one of the Naked Samoans and writes and performs of *bro'Town* with Kightley, Lelisi and Mario Gaoa. His brilliance at comedy brings something special to SIONE'S WEDDING and in turn he was impressed by the production. "It was all professional. Done with respect. I just thought 'man, of course I'll work hard for this.' I mean, who wouldn't with that much care and concern, and professionalism."

His favourite moments in the film are the scenes between Tania and Albert in the office. "It's just beautiful, they're just so alone and there's this huge open space open space over their heads. She's hinting but it just doesn't get through to him. It's a relationship that you can see and that you hope will come about but you're not sure. But if your hopes get paid off, you know you'll be the happiest man in the world."



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PRODUCTION STORY

The idea behind SIONE'S WEDDING came from a conversation between *Whale Rider* producer John Barnett and writer James Griffin. "John Barnett pitched me the idea of doing a film set in the Samoan community," Griffin remembers. "At first I was, like, 'John, you do know I'm not Samoan, right?' but he suggested I go away and think about it. So I did – and two things emerged: a story and a person. The story was about guys I know – some Samoan, some not – and the way we can all screw up what we're looking for in life without actually knowing what it is we're looking for in life. The person was Oscar Kightley, who was the only guy I really knew who could make this a reality."

Barnett says the influence of Polynesian culture in New Zealand played a huge part in the genesis of SIONE'S WEDDING. "In common with large migrant groups in many cities throughout the world, the Pacific Island community in Auckland has sufficient numbers to create its own world within the city," he says. "Nearly all the community – about 14% of the Auckland population – is Pacific born or first generation. And now they influence music, sport, fashion and lifestyle. The parents bring church, village and family ethics and the kids want to assimilate – this is no different to the immigrant experience throughout the world."

Barnett was certain that Kightley, an accomplished playwright, actor, television presenter and radio host, would bring the right sort of Samoan flavour to the film. "I'd watched the theatre group, The Naked Samoans, which Oscar and our actors are part of, and I was entertained by their irreverence and their take on the world," he explains.

Griffin wrote a treatment for the movie and showed it to Kightley. "I had originally thought there would be one Samoan character," says Kightley. "But they were all Samoan and I thought 'wow there are parts here for all my boys.' They were characters that I immediately saw reflections of in all of my friends, people I knew and parts of myself."

"Oscar read the proposal I'd written and was on the same page immediately," recalls Griffin.

"The first thing he suggested was that two of the characters that I'd created were essentially a

The Boys on the Filming Process

OSCAR:

"*Sione's Wedding* was my first screen acting. I've done heaps of stage stuff and on television but it was always as a presenter. It was terrifying, but you know you couldn't afford to be terrified because you were surrounded by so many great people who were just doing it. You just had to get on with it. It was hard, but man it was fun. The thing is with everything you just have to jump off the cliff, whether it's acting in a film or presenting rugby or doing whatever. It's all just jumping off the cliff and believing it. It's a big thing being on film. I don't know if I'm going to be able to watch it without covering my eyes."

SHIMPAL:

"A lot of the cast and crew are old friends, people we have known. And in that respect it was fun. I looked forward to going to work, hang out with your mates. Making a comedy. It was all fun and it was uplifting for a lot of us, having our communities involved."

ROBBIE:

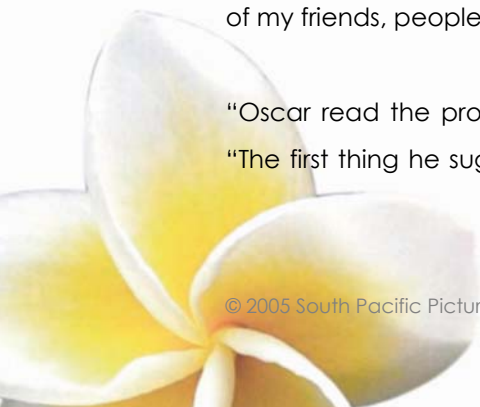
"When I met the crew, I said 'Man, the crew is flasher than the cast! These guys have done mega stuff. It helped a lot to have such a talented crew.'"

SHIMPAL:

"Everyone brought their top game to the set and they were going hard out. You're just in there. I don't know how many times I went 'Man this is great. This is so much fun.'"

DAVE:

"Bolo, my character, had this book he was always reading. It was actually *Sons for the Return Home* by Albert Wendt. I started reading it in the van between takes and I missed the 'action' when I was supposed to drive out of the driveway. And the next minute the AD came up and said 'Move. You're supposed to move.' And I said 'Excuse me, I'm reading Albert Wendt. *Sons for the Return Home*. It's a classic.' I was at a very funny page."



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bit too similar and should be rolled them into one. He had an idea for the more out-there misfit character who became Stanley." With Stanley in place, Kightley and Griffin began to write.

"The only major problem we had during writing was finding the time because Oscar is the busiest Polynesian in broadcasting and I was holding down two or three other jobs," says Griffin. "We would write in frenzied bursts and we developed a very efficient way of writing. It did the business."

"It was always just really easy," agrees Kightley. "The only issue getting us together at the same time, and sometimes I was late. But when we were in the same room it just flowed."

Both writers had a clear idea of the actors they wanted to involve in the movie. "I'd seen all the Naked Samoans' shows and really enjoyed them so it was pretty obvious from the moment the first word was written who we wanted for the cast," says Griffin. "Michael was always going to be Robbie; we wanted Shim [Shimpal Lelisi] and Heto [Iaheto Ah Hi] in the film, and we wanted to find places for Dave Fane and Mario Gaoa to get all the Naked in. Teuila [Blakely] was there as Leilani all the way through and once someone had suggested Madeleine [Sami] for Tania there wasn't anyone else. It was great that all our first choices came through."

"The parts were written for these actors," comments John Barnett. "They have a chemistry on stage and on screen."

With the cast confirmed, Barnett had to find the right person to direct the film. "Chris Graham was a young filmmaker whose work to date included a short film *Water*(Sundance 2004), some very good commercials and the best music videos in the country," he explains. "What was particularly pertinent was that the videos all had a strong RnB and hip hop style and Chris had worked in the milieu covered by the film."

"I got a phone call out of the blue from John Barnett, who I knew of as a legendary producer in New Zealand film history," remembers Graham. "He literally said: 'Listen, we've got this project, it's green lit, we've got the core cast attached, and we think you're the perfect person to direct it, you should come in and talk to us.' It was essentially the phone call of my childhood dreams come true."

"Chris immediately had the right handle on the script and an exciting approach to it," says Barnett. "His music background and his affinity for the elements made him the right man for the job."



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Graham met with Barnett and the writers and was immediately excited about the project. "Oscar and James described it to me as a romantic comedy for guys and when they told me that I laughed out loud. I thought the script was hilarious, and I felt that we were unbelievably overdue for a New Zealand comedy. There have been dozens of beautiful New Zealand films in the last couple of decades and the majority of them have been quite dark and introspective. As a cinema-goer, I was dying to see a New Zealand comedy and leave the theatre with a bounce in my step, in a good mood, feeling optimistic about life."

Producer Chloe Smith came on board...

"I leapt at the opportunity to work with John Barnett, James Griffin, Oscar Kightley and Chris Graham on SIONE'S WEDDING," says Smith. "It is a New Zealand story about us, a script that made me laugh out loud. I'm not Samoan but I've been young and foolish - I've been older and foolish. It's how we all are and it's life!"

Smith, Barnett and Graham put together an outstanding creative team.

"For me, a significant part of production success is in 'match making' the team," adds Smith. "With Moira Grant, Aaron Morton, Clayton Tikao, Iain Aitken, Jane Holland, Tony Johnson, Jane O'Kane, Rebecca Hutton, Paul Maxwell, Chris Burt Everyone It was a celebration of experience."

"The challenge of working with a tight domestic budget across an ambitiously location driven shoot was also another enticement to SIONE'S WEDDING. I'm so proud to say that we had a terrific time!"

"The script was bigger than the budget so we always moved fast," explains Graham. "We never compromised, and we never moved on until we had it, but we found quick ways both technically and creatively of achieving what we needed within the timeframe."

"It always read as a summer movie," says cinematographer Aaron Morton. "We ended up shooting it in winter, but still wanted to retain a summer feel because of the way that the neighbourhood works in the story. We also tried to have the feel of the Pacific with warmth and lush greens. It needed to feel like the boys lived in a tropical paradise. It was tricky to do that in the winter but we were pretty lucky with weather."

The challenge for the design team was to create a real contemporary world for SIONE'S WEDDING that blended urban and Pacific elements. Production Designer Iain Aitken worked



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closely with the film's Cultural Advisor, Reverend Mua Strickson-Pua, to create authentic environments for the characters.

"I'm fascinated with the generations of Samoans who live in the Auckland suburb of Grey Lynn and the new generation of Samoans that I have as friends," says Aitken. "I felt that it would be a really interesting thing to explore, but I was absolutely determined not to fall into the cliché of hanging a tapa cloth on a wall. I didn't want to go down that road at all. That doesn't truly represent the Polynesian community."

"It was very important to us that the characters weren't caricatured," agrees costume designer Jane Holland. "On the page they were quite archetypal, but it was very important that there was a strong element of reality to them so that anything that was larger than life would come out of performance, rather than being inflicted that on them by costume. You want people to recognise and identify with rather than be too observational."

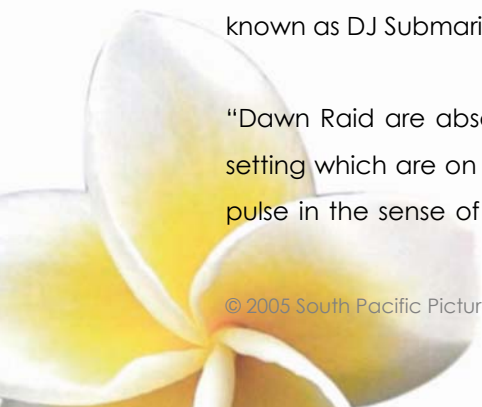
The sense of realism and naturalism was reflected in Jane O'Kane's makeup design. "I didn't want the film to be about makeup." She explains. "What Chris was trying to achieve was an realness with the characters being who they really were, not stylised to what we thought they should look like. In my field there's a natural instinct to make everything look great, but if you're trying to bring a sense of realness to the image you have to let some of that go."

A significant design effort went into the actual wedding of the film's title. "The wedding was an opportunity to have a strong Pacific Island flavour," says Holland. "It was a chance to really go with the cultural point of difference and make it unique, and also visually really interesting. It has a fresh, fun celebratory feel."

Aitken showcased a different Pacific Island art form by commissioning an original graffiti work of art to decorate the hip hop bar. "I felt it was an opportunity to show that part of contemporary art and bring it alive in the film."

The final creative element was the music, which Graham describes as "a major character in the movie." The filmmakers chose songs from the hip hop decades and commissioned iconic New Zealand hip hop label Dawn Raid to create original tracks for the soundtrack. Andy Morton, also known as DJ Submariner, is the film's composer.

"Dawn Raid are absolutely the best choice to make new songs for the film in a contemporary setting which are on the themes of the movie," says Graham. "Andy really has his finger on the pulse in the sense of contemporary Polynesian/hip hop sound. He's someone who understood



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where these characters came from and what they were going through. He has created a tone and a mood of humour and encouragement of comedy."

SIONE'S WEDDING received major funding from the New Zealand Film Commission, NZ on Air, and Village SKY CITY Cinemas. It is the first time that the exhibition chain has invested directly in a New Zealand film. SIONE'S WEDDING is represented internationally by UK-based sales agents Hanway Films, with local distribution handled by Village SKY CITY and South Pacific Pictures.



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KEY CAST BIOGRAPHIES

❖ OSCAR KIGHTLEY | Writer, Associate Producer, Actor (Albert)



Oscar Kightley is a Samoan-born actor, writer, sports presenter, television and radio host, and one of New Zealand's most popular and respected media personalities.

Oscar is part of the Naked Samoans comedy theatre group and is one of the writers and performers on the hit animated series *bro'Town*, which won Best Comedy at the 2005 New Zealand Screen Awards. At the same awards, Oscar also won the award for Best Script, Comedy along with Shimpal Lelisi, Dave Fane and Mario Gaoa .

Oscar began his writing career as a journalist on the Auckland Star and Sunday Star-Times. He was one of the founders of the groundbreaking contemporary Polynesian theatre company, Pacific Underground and has written and produced a number of plays. In 1998, Oscar won the Bruce Mason Award for Best New Playwright.

On the small screen:

- ✂ *Sportzah* (presenter)
- ✂ *Snatch Our Booty* (host)
- ✂ TV3 rugby coverage (presenter)
- ✂ *Skitz* (writer/performer)
- ✂ *Telly Laughs* (writer/performer)
- ✂ *Shortland Street* (storyliner)

On the airwaves:

- ✂ Niu FM (presenter)

On stage:

- ✂ *Niu Sila* (co-writer)
- ✂ *Fresh Off The Boat* (co-writer)
- ✂ *Dawn Raids* (playwright/director)
- ✂ *Tatau* (playwright)
- ✂ *A Frigate Bird Sings* (co-writer)

The Boys on their Characters

SHIMPAL:

"When I read the script I went 'whoa.' A lot of the stories in the script; that's us, the stuff we did, being stupid. Or situations we knew of. So I said 'Oscar, have you asked the boys if you can use this?'"

OSCAR:

"The parts we play, they're not us, but we channel different versions of ourselves to make them real. They're composite characters of all the boys that James and I have ever met and hung out with. But there are little scenes all throughout the film that are taken from real moments, and the weird thing about that was how they involved people in the cast. Its really strange because you think 'I remember the funny time we got kicked out of the club and someone was break-dancing in front of the bouncer to make a point' and then a version of it ends up in the film."

SHIMPAL:

"So Oscar went 'No, it's not about the boys, it's just an interesting story.' I really loved the story, I thought it was really funny, and I thought it was a good time for that type of story to be told. It happens to everybody, this sort of stuff."

IAHETO:

"We've all joked about how the characters are similar to us in real life. They're facets of our own personalities that have been blown up. The more I read the script, the more I thought; hmmm this sounds an awful lot like us."

DAVE:

"Capricorn. That's all you need to know."

OSCAR:

"I didn't have any expectations of how it was going to be. I saw the people who were responsible for what they were responsible for and only ever looked forward to seeing what they came up with. It was about discovering how great it could be at different stages. You never know what to expect, you just take it all as it happens. It takes a village to make a movie."



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❖ ROBBIE MAGASIVA | Michael



Robbie Magasiva is an established stage and screen actor and is also a member of the Naked Samoans comedy group. In addition to his many acting roles Robbie also toured with the internationally acclaimed Black Grace Dance Company.

On the big screen:

- ✧ *Perfect Creature* (dir Glenn Standring)
- ✧ *Stickmen* (dir Hamish Rothwell)
- ✧ *Lord of the Rings* (dir Peter Jackson)

On the small screen:

- ✧ *Doves of War*
- ✧ *Mataku*
- ✧ *Power Rangers*
- ✧ *The Strip* (male lead)
- ✧ *Skin and Bone*
- ✧ *Jacksons Wharf*
- ✧ *Coverstory*
- ✧ *Skitz*
- ✧ *Telelaughs*
- ✧ *The Semisis*

On stage:

- ✧ *Ladies Night*
- ✧ *Rantastantrum*
- ✧ *Sons*



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❖ SHIMPAL LELISI | Sefa

Shimpal Lelisi is a Niuean-born actor and presenter and is a member of the Naked Samoans comedy group. He is also one of the writers and performers of *bro'Town*, the series which won Best Comedy at the 2005 New



Zealand Screen Awards. At the same event, Shimpal also shared the award for Best Script, Comedy with Oscar Kightley, Dave Fane and Mario Gaoa.

On the big screen:

- ✂ *The Nightmare Man* (dir Jim Kaufman)
- ✂ *Topless Women Talk About Their Lives* (dir Harry Sinclair)

On the small screen:

- ✂ *bro'Town*
- ✂ *Shortland Street*
- ✂ *Tangata Pasifika* (presenter)
- ✂ *Spin Doctors*
- ✂ *Matou Uma*
- ✂ *City Life*

On stage:

- ✂ *Naked Samoans Talk About Their Knives*
- ✂ *Naked Samoans Go To Hollywood*
- ✂ *Naked Samoans Go Home*
- ✂ *Dawn Raids* (dir Oscar Kightley)
- ✂ *Romeo and Tusi* (dir Oscar Kightley)
- ✂ *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*
- ✂ *Nga Tangata Toa*
- ✂ *Ladies Night*

The Boys on Friendship

OSCAR:

"The whole essence of the film is that you have to believe that these guys have this history and that together they could cause this sort of trouble, and that they were kind of useless but meant well. Because we had that history before *Sione's* over years and years of working together it really worked. Not just the Boys, but the people around them; Teuila, Pua, Robbie's parents."

ROBBIE:

"We have a history of being very good friends which added something that hopefully comes across on screen. And having my little bro, and my parents around was a big buzz in itself, man. Having them on set, especially on my birthday, was very special. You don't get that much in film. I've worked on other projects where you meet your co-stars for the first time when you start."

OSCAR:

"It was hilarious shooting weddings at Auckland's Manhattan Ballroom because we've all been there so many times for weddings, so it was just ridiculous. When you sit at weddings sometimes you get bored during the speeches and you have little fantasies in your head and you think 'wouldn't it be funny if someone fell through the cake.' That's what it was like."



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❖ IAHE TO AH HI | Stanley



A graduate of Toi Whakaari; The New Zealand Drama School, Iaheto (Heto) Ah Hi has acted in theatre and television and along with the other leads in SIONE'S WEDDING is a member of hit comedy theatre group the *Naked Samoans*.

Ah Hi is passionate about hip hop and has worked as a professional hip hop dancer, including a project with acclaimed New Zealand choreographer Douglas Wright.

On the small screen:

- ✧ *The Market*
- ✧ *Market Forces*
- ✧ *Plain Tastes*
- ✧ *Overnight*

On stage:

- ✧ *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- ✧ *A Frigate Birds Sings*
- ✧ *Dawn Raids*
- ✧ *Sons*



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❖ TEUILA BLAKELY | Leilani



Teuila Blakely has a diverse background as an actor, presenter, broadcaster and writer. Teuila is one of the key faces for New Zealand music channel C4, where she presents the show *Freestyle*, and hosts the

Niu FM breakfast show with Oscar Kightley and Mario Gaoa.

On the small screen:

- ✂ *Outrageous Fortune*
- ✂ *bro'Town*
- ✂ *One West Waikiki*
- ✂ *Shortland Street*
- ✂ *Citylife*
- ✂ *Pacific People TV* (presenter)
- ✂ *M2* (presenter)

On the airwaves:

- ✂ Niu FM (host)
- ✂ Flava FM (host)
- ✂ 531PI (host)

On stage:

- ✂ *Island Girls* (writer/performer)
- ✂ *Island Girls; The Remix* (writer/performer)
- ✂ *Play 2.03*

The Girls on the Boys

TEUILA:

"As flawed as the main characters are, I think *Sione's Wedding* is a celebration of men and how they are. You get to see into the *secret boy's club*; learn the secrets of the code. And you know what? It's kind of fabulous that that's how they are. That's why you love your man!"

MADELEINE:

"The main characters remind me of a lot of the boys I grew up with. Most of my friends aren't as dysfunctional, but we all have shades of those people in ourselves. I can be a bit like those boys at times. On set it was a really relaxed vibe. It was nice to slot in with the boys. They're very generous and protective which was lovely – having these big Island guys looking out for you. I tried to be part of their gang."

TEUILA:

"There are a lot of interesting similarities between the actors and the characters they play, even though they would all deny it. But they really are über-versions of themselves. Maybe even the truest versions - which could be why they had so much fun playing them. They've been training for this for the past decade. That's how dedicated they are. It was all research."



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❖ MADELEINE SAMI | Tania

Madeleine Sami is recognised as one of New Zealand's brightest young stars. She has twice performed at the Edinburgh Festival in Toa Fraser's plays *No. 2* and *Bare* which also had successful tours of New Zealand, Australian and the UK.



On the big screen:

✂ *Perfect Strangers* (dir Gaylene Preston)

On the small screen:

✂ *Shortland Street*

✂ *The Insider's Guide to Happiness*

✂ *Fish Skin Suit*

✂ *Ice As*

On stage:

✂ *No. 2* (solo show)

✂ *Bare*

✂ *The Vagina Monologues*

✂ *Bad Jelly The Witch* (title role)



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ DAVID FANE | Bolo aka Paul



Dave Fane's comedic talents are showcased in *bro'Town* and the work of the Naked Samoans, but he is equally at home with serious drama.

With fellow 'Naked' Oscar Kightley, Shimpal Lelisi and Mario Gaoa, Dave created and performed in two series of the highly successful animated television show *bro'Town*, winning the award for Best Script; Comedy at the 2005 New Zealand Screen Awards.

On the small screen:

- ✂ *The Strip*
- ✂ *Telelaughs*
- ✂ *Skitz*
- ✂ *The Semisis*
- ✂ *What Now?* (presenter)

On the airwaves:

- ✂ Flava FM (breakfast host)

On stage:

- ✂ *Niu Sila* (co-written by Oscar Kightley)
- ✂ *Naked Samoans Talk About Their Knives*
- ✂ *Naked Samoans Go To Hollywood*
- ✂ *Naked Samoans Go Home*
- ✂ *Fresh Off The Boat* (dir Nathaniel Lees, co-written by Oscar Kightley)
- ✂ *Ladies Night*
- ✂ *A Streetcar Named Desire*
- ✂ *Serial Killers* (written by James Griffin)
- ✂ *Sons*
- ✂ *A Frigate Bird Sings* (co-writer)



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ PUA MAGASIVA | Sione

Pua is best-known to New Zealand audiences as Nurse Vinnie Kruse on the five-night-a-week primetime serial drama *Shortland Street*.

He is the real-life brother of SIONE'S WEDDING cast mate Robbie Magasiva (Michael).



On the big screen:

- ✂ *Crime Story*
- ✂ *Other Side of Heaven*

On the small screen:

- ✂ *Shortland Street*
- ✂ *Power Rangers*

On stage:

- ✂ *Ten Days in Dream* (written by Mario Gaoa)
- ✂ *Sex with Strangers*

❖ DAVID VAN HORN | Derek aka D-Rizzle



David van Horn is a relative newcomer to the professional acting world having graduated Unitec Performing Arts School in 2002 with a Bachelor of Performing and Screen Arts.

Shorts and features:

- ✂ *Inite* (digital feature)
- ✂ *The Donor* (short)
- ✂ *Shaken* (short)
- ✂ *Cut Out* (short)

On the small screen:

- ✂ *P.E.T. Detectives*

On stage:

- ✂ *This is Our Youth*
- ✂ *Shopping & F*cking*
- ✂ *Bash*

- ✂ *Unidentified Human Remains & the True Nature of Love*
- ✂ *Play 2.03*
- ✂ *Caligula*

SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ NATHANIEL LEES | Minister

Nathaniel Lees is a well known stage and screen actor as well as an accomplished theatre director.



On the big screen:

- ✂ *The Matrix Reloaded* (dir Wachowski brothers)
- ✂ *The Matrix Revolutions* (dir Wachowski brothers)
- ✂ *Lord of the Rings – The Two Towers* (dir Peter Jackson)
- ✂ *No.2* (dir Toa Fraser)
- ✂ *Rapanui* (dir Kevin Reynolds)
- ✂ *Bonjour Timothy* (dir Wayne Tourell)

On the small screen:

- ✂ *Doves of War*
- ✂ *The Lost Children*
- ✂ *The Market*
- ✂ *Street Legal*
- ✂ *Duggan II – Last Resort*
- ✂ *Young Hercules*
- ✂ *Xena – Warrior Princess*
- ✂ *Hercules*
- ✂ *The Chosen*
- ✂ *The Legend of William Tell*
- ✂ *One West Waikiki*
- ✂ *CityLife*
- ✂ *Coverstory*
- ✂ *The Lost World*
- ✂ *Shark in the Park*
- ✂ *The Billy T James Show*

On stage:

- ✂ *A Frigate Bird Sings* (director)
- ✂ *The Songmaker's Chair* (director)
- ✂ *Foh Sam – Fire Mountain* (director)
- ✂ *Think of a Garden* (director)
- ✂ *Threepenny Opera* (performer)
- ✂ *The Changeling* (performer)
- ✂ *Macbeth* (performer)
- ✂ *Foreskin's Lament* (performer)
- ✂ *Titus Andronicus* (performer)



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ MARYJANE MCKIBBIN-SCHWENKE | Princess

Maryjane McKibbin-Schwenke was born in Australia to a Palagi (New Zealand European) father and a Samoan mother. A former Miss Samoa, Sione's Wedding is her first acting role.



As a youngster Maryjane traveled between Australia and Samoa, attending primary school in Samoa from the age of five and then moving to Australia for schooling when she was 10. She has lived much of her adult life in Samoa but in 2003 she moved to New Zealand with her young daughter and husband in order to finish her tertiary education.

Maryjane lives in Auckland where she and her husband have formed Pacific Xpresions, a traditional Pacific dance group. The motivation for the group is to encourage young Pacific Islanders to learn about their culture and their parents' backgrounds through dance. Pacific Xpresions have performed in New Zealand and internationally and in 2005 were invited to perform in Dubai.

On stage

- ❖ Pacific Xpresions (dance group)
- ❖ Miss Samoa 1997/1998
- ❖ Miss Samoa Australia 1996

On the airwaves:

- ❖ 531pi (presenter)

❖ ANA TUIGAMALA | Albert's Mum



On the big screen:

- ❖ *Tiga a le iloa*
- ❖ *Leoleo le Uso*

On the small screen:

- ❖ *Outrageous Fortune*
- ❖ *The Market*
- ❖ *Good Hands*

On stage:

- ❖ *Taro King*
- ❖ *The Songmaker's Chair* (dir Nathaniel Lees)

SIONE'S WEDDING

KEY CREW BIOGRAPHIES

❖ JOHN BARNETT | Producer

John Barnett began his career in the film and television industry as an independent producer in 1974. Over the past 30 years, he has produced television drama, documentaries and feature films, including the international award-winning film *Whale Rider*. He was responsible for the transition of *Whale Rider* from page to screen, having first read the novel in the early 1990s, and actively led the project through its development into production.

John has produced or executive produced three of the highest grossing New Zealand films at the New Zealand Box Office and has been active in the film and television industry throughout his career. He founded New Zealand's film industry magazine, *OnFilm*, and setting up Sundance Channel (NZ) – the first Sundance affiliated channel outside the United States. He has also been actively involved in film, television and video distribution and in the development of multiplex cinemas in New Zealand.

Barnett was on the Board of the New Zealand Film Commission until 2002. He is now a member of the Screen Production Industry Taskforce, part of a Government initiative to further develop the New Zealand film and television industry.

In November 2002, he was made the SPADA/OnFilm Industry Champion of the Year, for his ongoing contribution to the New Zealand industry, and in 2003, was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queen's Birthday Honours list, for services to the film industry.

On the big screen:

- ✧ *Whale Rider*
- ✧ *Jubilee*
- ✧ *What Becomes Of The Broken-Hearted?*
- ✧ *Footrot Flats*
- ✧ *Race for the Yankee Zephyr*
- ✧ *Beyond Reasonable Doubt*
- ✧ *Middle Age Spread*

For small screen credits and a full version of John's biography, check out:

- ✧ www.southpacificpictures.com/default,15.spp



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ CHLOE SMITH | Producer

In a career that spans more than 25 years, Chloe Smith has worked on many of New Zealand's most successful and memorable film and television projects. Her involvement with the television series *Hercules* and *Xena – Warrior Princess* established her standing in the screen industry.

Chloe began her career in the performing arts, working in promotions and subscriptions for Auckland's iconic Mercury Theatre, and was assistant manager of internationally renowned Limbs Dance Company, before moving into the film industry.

She is a member of the board that governs SPADA, the Screen Production and Development Association of New Zealand.

On the big screen:

- ✂ *Boogeyman* (line producer)
- ✂ *The Last Samurai* (costume manager)
- ✂ *Came A Hot Friday* (production secretary)
- ✂ *Shaker Run* (production secretary)
- ✂ *Bridge To Nowhere* (production secretary)
- ✂ *Crush* (production manager)
- ✂ *The Piano* (production manager)
- ✂ *Cow* (short film producer)
- ✂ *A Fish Tale* (short film producer)

On the small screen:

- ✂ *Kidnapped* (line producer)
- ✂ *Hercules* (producer)
- ✂ *Xena - Warrior Princess* (producer)
- ✂ *Cleopatra 2525* (producer)
- ✂ *Hercules* telemovies (production manager)
- ✂ *Dance And The Camera* (production manager)



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ JAMES GRIFFIN | Writer, Associate Producer

Writer James Griffin is one of New Zealand's most prolific script writers and currently works as the Head of Development at South Pacific Pictures. He co-wrote SIONE'S WEDDING with Oscar Kightley. James' most recent writing credits include the hit New Zealand television series *Outrageous Fortune* (which he co-created) as well as *Serial Killers*, and the play *Then Comes Love*.

James began his career as a scriptwriter when he joined the TVNZ Drama Department in 1985 and over the years he has written for many of New Zealand's best-loved series. In addition to his screen writing, James also writes a weekly satirical column in the magazine section of the Weekend Herald newspaper.

On the small screen:

- ✂ *Outrageous Fortune* (co-creator, Executive Producer, Writer, Script Editor)
- ✂ *Serial Killers* (based on James' award-winning play of the same name)
- ✂ *Mercy Peak*
- ✂ *Maddigan's Quest*
- ✂ *Spin Doctors*, which won Best Comedy Script at the 2003 AFTA awards.
- ✂ *Gloss*
- ✂ *Funny Business*
- ✂ *Marlin Bay*
- ✂ *More Issues*
- ✂ *Plain Clothes*
- ✂ *That Comedy Show*
- ✂ *The Chosen*
- ✂ *Citylife*
- ✂ *Jacksons Wharf*
- ✂ *Shortland Street*
- ✂ *Street Legal*
- ✂ *Being Eve*
- ✂ *Double Booking* (Best Script, Comedy at the 1999 TV Guide Television Awards)

On stage:

- ✂ *Then Comes Love*
- ✂ *Serial Killers*

For a full version of James' biography, check out:

- ✂ www.southpacificpictures.com/default,57.spp



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ OSCAR KIGHTLEY | **Writer, Associate Producer, Actor (Albert)**

✂ See Cast Biographies 'Albert' – p.27.

❖ CHRIS GRAHAM | **Director**

Chris Graham is an award-winning short film and music video director who is making his feature film debut with SIONE'S WEDDING. Chris is the director of choice for New Zealand's best hip hop artists. His short films have screened in festivals in Melbourne, Arizona, Tel Aviv and New Zealand.

Chris' first foray into the visual arts was as a graffiti artist, first in his hometown of Wellington, then in New York where he was studying filmmaking at the School of Visual Arts. He graduated in 1993 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film Directing with Honours, winning Best Director, Best Film, and Best Sound for his film *Life Before Me*.

After extensive crew work and experience on independent and studio features, including directing a music video for Puerto Rican hip hop producer Frankie Cutlass, Chris returned to New Zealand and established himself as a leading director of music videos and television commercials.

Short films:

- ✂ Water (screened in competition at the Sundance Film Festival)
- ✂ Life Before Me (winner Best Film Student Jury Prize at the Tel Aviv Student Festival in 1994)
- ✂ Bus Stop (shortlisted for Cannes in 2002)

Music videos:

- ✂ Dei Hamo, *We Gon' Ride* (Best Video, 2005 NZ Music Awards)
- ✂ Scribe, *Stand Up* (Best Video, 2004 NZ Music Awards; Best Breakthrough Video, 2003 Juice TV Video Awards)
- ✂ Scribe, *Not Many (the Remix)*
- ✂ Bic Runga, *Something Good* (Best Solo Female Video, 2003 Juice Awards)
- ✂ King Kapisi with Che Fu, *U Can't Resist Us* (Best Hip Hop Video, 2003 Juice Awards)
- ✂ Rhombus, *Hello Dub Pie* (Best Video, 2003 bnet Awards)
- ✂ Tha Feelstyle, *Su'amalie*
- ✂ P-Money & Scribe, *Remember*
- ✂ The Black Seeds, *Fire*
- ✂ Trinity Roots *Little Things, Home, Land and Sea*

On the web

- ✂ www.flyingfish.co.nz/the_directors202/directors_cvs/chris_graham_cv.php



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ PAUL DAVIS | Executive Producer

Paul Davis has worked in the film industry for 20 years. Prior to working on SIONE'S WEDDING, Paul was president of worldwide marketing at Intermedia, a London-based leading independent film development, financing and distribution company.

In that role he oversaw the marketing of 10-12 feature films a year, preparing marketing campaigns for presales, overseeing marketing materials and publicity, liaison with distributors and approval of local release campaigns and participation at major festivals.

Paul also worked at London-based Majestic Film where he recruited to oversee design and implementation of a computerised rights tracking system for the company's new feature films and library.

On the big screen:

✧ *Iris*

✧ *Hilary and Jackie*

✧ *The Quiet American*

✧ *Adaptation*

✧ *The Wedding Planner*



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ AARON MORTON | Cinematographer

Aaron Morton was named Best Cinematographer (Feature Film) at the 2003 New Zealand Film Awards for his work on *Nemesis Game*. He has won two Bronze Axis Awards for his cinematography work on commercials, and was awarded the Best Cinematography prize at the 2001 New Zealand Music Video Awards.

On the big screen:

- ✂ *Nemesis Game* (dir Jesse Warn)
- ✂ *Boogeyman* (cinematographer)
- ✂ *Truant* (short film cinematographer)
- ✂ *Auld Lang Syne* (short film cinematographer)
- ✂ *The Painted Lady* (short film cinematographer)

On the small screen:

- ✂ *Xena: Warrior Princess* (Director of Photography)
- ✂ *Murder In Greenwich* (splinter unit DOP)
- ✂ *Slayer: Evil On Tour* (splinter unit DOP)

Music videos:

- ✂ Pacifier, *Everything*
- ✂ Beth Hart, *Leave The light On*
- ✂ Zed, *Glorafilla*
- ✂ Che Fu, *Fade Away*
- ✂ Anika Moa, *Good In My Head*

❖ IAIN AITKEN | Production Designer

Iain Aitken is a designer for film, theatre, opera and tv commercials. He has worked extensively in the performing arts and was Head of Design at the National Opera of New Zealand, the Mercury Theatre and Theatre Corporate. He has exhibited his stage designs at the Prague Quadrennial and London's National Theatre.

On the big screen:

- ✂ *Sylvia* (supervising art director)
- ✂ *He Died With A Felafel In His Hand* (production designer)

On stage:

- ✂ Australian Opera, *Falstaff* (production design)
- ✂ Sydney Theatre Company, *The Threepenny Opera*
- ✂ Melbourne Theatre Company, *Hysteria*



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ JANE HOLLAND | Costume Designer

Jane Holland has worked as a costume designer for film and television for over a decade. Her signature costume for *Xena: Warrior Princess* character Gabrielle is on permanent display at Te Papa, Museum of New Zealand.

In 2002 Jane directed her first short film *A Fish Tale*, written by Michael Bennett and produced by Chloe Smith, which screened in film festivals in Italy and New Zealand.

On the big screen:

- ✂ *The World's Fastest Indian* (costume designer)
- ✂ *Soft Fruit* (costume designer)
- ✂ *Boogeyman* (costume designer)
- ✂ *The Legend of Johnny Lingo* (costume designer)
- ✂ *Ruby and Rata* (costume standby)
- ✂ *The Piano* (costume standby)
- ✂ *The Frighteners* (assistant costume designer)

On the small screen:

- ✂ *Young Hercules the Series*
- ✂ *Hercules, the Legendary Journeys*
- ✂ *Jack Of All Trades*
- ✂ *Cleopatra 2525*
- ✂ *Xena: Warrior Princess*
- ✂ *The Chosen*
- ✂ *House Of Sticks*
- ✂ *Duggan*
- ✂ *Coverstory*
- ✂ *Riverworld*



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ JANE O'KANE | Hair and Make-Up Designer

Jane O'Kane has worked in film, television and theatre since the late 1980s, creating hair and make-up for period, contemporary and futuristic drama.

Jane began her career in theatre in the UK where she worked for the Royal Exchange Theatre Company and the Royal Shakespeare Theatre Company, working with legendary British actors Vanessa Redgrave, Alex Kingston, Alan Cummings, Ralph Fiennes, and Kate Winslet.

On the big screen:

- ✧ *The Grudge*
- ✧ *Aeon Flux*
- ✧ *In My Father's Den*
- ✧ *Perfect Strangers*
- ✧ *Whale Rider*
- ✧ *The Frighteners*
- ✧ *A Fish Tale* (short film)
- ✧ *Cow* (short film)

On the small screen:

- ✧ *Mercy Peak*
- ✧ *Xena - Warrior Princess*
- ✧ *Street Legal*
- ✧ *Jack Of All Trades*
- ✧ *Cleopatra 2525*



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ PAUL MAXWELL | Editor

Paul Maxwell has worked as an editor and sound editor in television and film in the UK, Australia and New Zealand, as well as being an award winning editor of television commercials.

On the big screen:

- ✂ *Rain* (editor)
- ✂ *Turangawaewae* (short film - editor)
- ✂ *Untitled* (short film - editor)
- ✂ *Starstruck* (chief sound editor)
- ✂ *Utu* (international version – sound editor)

❖ ANDY MORTON (aka DJ SUBMARINER) | Composer

Andy Morton (aka DJ Submariner) is one of New Zealand's most prolific DJs and producers. In the 1990s Andy's first studio, 'the hut', became the locale of choice for some of New Zealand's best RnB and hip hop acts including, Che Fu, Token Village, Ermehn and King Kapisi. Often part of the Dimmer live band, Andy also works as a radio DJ on student radio station 95bFM and alternative stations George FM and Base FM.

Remixes include:

- ✂ Bic Runga
- ✂ Salmonella Dub
- ✂ Rhombus
- ✂ Reclouse

Production for:

- ✂ Tha Feelstyle
- ✂ Mark De Clive-Lowe, *Six Degrees* album
- ✂ Dam Native
- ✂ King Kapisi
- ✂ Sola Rosa
- ✂ Dimmer



SIONE'S WEDDING

❖ SOUTH PACIFIC PICTURES | Production Company

South Pacific Pictures Ltd is New Zealand's most prolific producer of film and television drama. In its 15 years, the company has produced nearly 2000 hours of drama programming that has entertained audiences in New Zealand and around the world.

On the big screen:

- ✧ *Whale Rider*
- ✧ *What Becomes of the Broken Hearted?*
- ✧ *Jubilee*

On the small screen:

- ✧ *Shortland Street*
- ✧ *Outrageous Fortune*
- ✧ *Maddigan's Quest*
- ✧ *Mercy Peak*
- ✧ *Being Eve*
- ✧ *Mataku*
- ✧ *Kidnapped*
- ✧ *NZ Idol*
- ✧ *How Clean is Your House?*
- ✧ *Interrogation*
- ✧ *Lawless telemovies x 3*
- ✧ *Fearless*
- ✧ *Double Booking*
- ✧ *House of Sticks*
- ✧ *McPhail & Gadsby*
- ✧ *Tales of the South Seas*
- ✧ *Citylife*
- ✧ *Riding High*
- ✧ *Plainclothes*
- ✧ *Marlin Bay*
- ✧ *Adrift*
- ✧ *Deepwater Haven*
- ✧ *Fallout*
- ✧ *Soldier Soldier*
- ✧ *White Fang*
- ✧ *Ray Bradbury Theatre*

On the web:

- ✧ www.southpacificpictures.com



SIONE'S WEDDING

THE MUSIC

❖ DAWN RAID ENTERTAINMENT

Dawn Raid Entertainment is New Zealand's number one independent hip hop production company. Since 1999, when founders Brotha D and YDNA started up the company and released their first album, Dawn Raid's business has expanded to include music production, graphic design, a clothing range and a community trust.

The initial idea behind Dawn Raid was to record undiscovered hip hop artists from South Auckland (traditionally a lower socio-economic area of Auckland), and to expose these artists to the public thereby building them into local and international stars. Dawn Raid's now boast a stable of New Zealand's best hip hop artists.

Albums released:

- ❖ Southside Story April 2000
- ❖ Southside Story 2: International May 2001
- ❖ Deceptikonz - Elimination March 2002
- ❖ Ill Semantics - Theory Of Meaning November 2002
- ❖ Ill Semantics - Watching you/ Highway Single April 2003
- ❖ Mareko is the Future - Dawn Raid Mix tape May 2003
- ❖ Mareko - White Sunday July 2003
- ❖ Mareko - Mareko(Here To Stay) - Single August 2003
- ❖ Adeaze - A Life With You - Single October 2003
- ❖ Mareko - Stop, Drop & Roll feat. Deceptikonz - Single November 2003
- ❖ Mareko - 12' Street Rap feat. Inspectah Deck - December 2003
- ❖ Adeaze - How Deep Is Your Love - Single March 2004
- ❖ Adeaze - Always & For Real - May 2004
- ❖ Dawn Raid All*Stars - Hook Up single May 2004
- ❖ Adeaze - Getting Stonger feat. Aaradhna - August 2004
- ❖ R.E.S - Red Eye Society - October 2004 (Clientele Records)
- ❖ Alphrisk - The Best Kept Secret - October 2004 (Clientele Records)
- ❖ Savage - Swing single - January 2005
- ❖ Alphrisk - Sunshine feat Adeaze single - January 2005
- ❖ Savage - Moonshine single - April 2005
- ❖ Savage - Moonshine - April 2005

On the web:

- ❖ www.dawnraid.co.nz



SIONE'S WEDDING

CREDITS

South Pacific Pictures presents

In association with
The New Zealand Film Commission, NZ On Air
Village SKYCITY Cinemas, Joseph P. Moodabe

SIONE'S WEDDING

Director
CHRIS GRAHAM

Screenplay
JAMES GRIFFIN
OSCAR KIGHTLEY

Producers
JOHN BARNETT
CHLOE SMITH

Executive Producers
PAUL DAVIS
MARK HOROWITZ

Associate Producers
JAMES GRIFFIN
OSCAR KIGHTLEY

Composer
ANDY MORTON

Music
DAWN RAID ENTERTAINMENT

Editor
PAUL MAXWELL

Cinematographer
AARON MORTON

Production Design
IAIN AITKEN

Costume Design
JANE HOLLAND

Casting
CHRISTINA ASHER



SIONE'S WEDDING

Albert	OSCAR KIGHTLEY
Stanley	IAHETO AH HI
Sefa	SHIMPAL LELISI
Michael	ROBBIE MAGASIVA
Leilani	TEUILA BLAKELY
Tania	MADELEINE SAMI
Bolo/Paul	DAVID FANE
Princess	MARYJANE McKIBBIN-SCHWENKE
Minister	NATHANIEL LEES
Albert's Mum	ANA TUIGAMALA
Sione	PUA MAGASIVA
Derek	DAVID VAN HORN
Jane	KARENA LYONS
Eugene	MARIO GAOA
Leonie	CILLA BROWN
Leilani's Girls	BELLA KALOLO JOY VAELE
Security Guard	KELSON HENDERSON
Derek's Crew	GERARD JOHNSTONE JASON MOON MATT TURNER
Minister's Henchmen	ENE PETAIA REVEREND MUA STRICKSON-PUA
Tony	JOHN SAGALA
Exodus	DYLAN TAVITA
Dream Latifah 1	SHAVAUGHN RUAKERE
Dream Latifah 2	BGIRLSHEEQ
Dream Latifah 3	SONIA GRAY
Yes Yes Girl	SARA WISEMAN
Café Girl	GINA VARELA
Elevator Girl	RACHEL WALLIS
Video Calling Girl	RACHEL GILCHRIST
Aaliyah	VICTORIA SCHMIDT
Cellmate	GEOFFREY DOLAN
Michael's Cousin	HARRISON FA'ATOAFE
Barmaid	GORETTI CHADWICK
Bar Hotties	AWANUI SIMICH-PENE FLEUR SAVILLE
Cop	FASITUA AMOSA
Doorman	ALPHA MAIAVA
Michael's Dad	ROPATI MAGASIVA
Michael's Mum	KATARINA MAGASIVA
Tattooed Shop Girl	FIVE
Rich White Guy	BRETT HUMBLE
Eugene's Bride	DORIAN SCANLAN
Iakopo	BEN BAKER
Iakopo's Bride	DAYNA PORTER
Mose	ALENI TUFUGA
Mose's Bride	ANGELA GRIBBEN
Tavita	JOHN TUI
Tavita's Bride	SUSANA TALAGI
Stag Party Dancer	ANOUK KOENE
Café Waiter	STEPHEN AUSTIN
Limousine Girl	ALEX LONG



SIONE'S WEDDING

Wedding Band	DR PITA TAOUMA PAUL TAOUMA MAUA MILLER HARRY PASESE
Slap Dance Matai Body Double	LEAPAI HUNKIN SARAH-LINA BROWN
Line Producer	MOIRA GRANT
First Assistant Director	JOE NOLAN
Location Manager	CLAYTON TIKAO
Art Director	NICK BASSETT
Makeup & Hair Supervisor	JANE O'KANE
Gaffer	PETE GILMOUR
Key Grip	SIMON HAWKINS
Production Sound Mixer	TONY JOHNSON C.A.S
Focus Puller	TODD BILTON
Spiritual & Cultural Advisor	REVEREND MUA STRICKSON-PUA
Production Co-ordinator	JO TAGG
Assistant Production Co-ordinator	JANE GADD
Cast Co-ordinator	SARAH SPURWAY
Production Secretary	KARLA WALLACE
Script Supervisor	KATHLEEN THOMAS
Steadicam Operator	CAMERON McLEAN
Clapper Loader	JONNY YARRELL
Video Assist	BRADFORD WOOD
Best Boy	JAMES BRUCE
Generator Operator	PHIL TOTORO
Lighting Assistants	TROY FINAN AARON TOMLINSON
Best Boy Grip	JONATHAN BIXLEY
Grip	GARY ILLINGWORTH
Boom Operator	MARK WILLIAMS
Art Department Co-ordinator	RACHAEL COOPER - WHITE
Props Buyer	DONNA MARINKOVICH
Lead Set Dresser	MILTON CANDISH
Set Dresser	ANITA DEMPSEY
Set Dresser/Buyer	JACKIE GILMORE
Standby Props	ROB BAVIN
Standby Props Assistant	PATRICK WALKER
Greensman	ROGER ALLEN



SIONE'S WEDDING

Art Department Runner	SOPHIE GUTHRIE
Vehicle Wrangler	JUSTIN CARDON
Construction Manager	JOHN MILES
Carpenters	RUSSELL MUNRO
	JULIAN ROSENBERG
Painter	TANE GRIFFIN
Scenic Artist	SPENCER PULLON
Costume Supervisor	JAINDRA WATSON
Standby Costume	JOAN WILSON
Asst Standby Costume	OLIVIA DOBSON
Extras Costumer	JENNY RUSHTON
Costume Workroom Assistant	HAYLEY MAY
Extras Dresser Assistant	REHANA DAYANANDA
Key Makeup & Hair	KEVIN DUFTY
Makeup & Hair Artist	VINNIE SMITH
Second Assistant Director	KATIE TATE
Third Assistant Director	KATIE FLANNIGAN
Fourth Assistant Director	CHRIS PAYNE
Crowd Assistant Director	KATIE HUTCHINSON
Additional Casting	STUART TURNER
Extras Casting	ANITA CORCORAN
Production Accountant	REBECCA HUTTON
Accounts Assistant	LISA MARINKOVICH
Assistant Location Manager	TAULUA MOIMOI
Location Scouts	JEREMY GALVIN
	MIKE HOLLOWAY
Unit Manager	TOMMY COLLINS
Unit Assistants	TEM MOREHU
	PATRICK WALKER
Traffic Control	ACTION TRAFFIC CONTROL
Security	J BROTT SECURITY
Safety Supervisor	NICK FRYER
Stunt Co-ordinator	MARK HARRIS
Production Assistant	STEPHEN AUSTIN
Production Runner	MICHAEL SHORT
Post Production Supervisor	CHARLES KNIGHT
Assistant Editor	NICKY SPENCER
Film Laboratory + Digital Film Services	ATLAB
Laboratory Liaison	BRUCE McARTHUR
	DAVID DONALDSON
Telecine + Digital Intermediate Facilities	DIGITAL POST LIMITED
	GARRY LITTLE
Digital Intermediate Colourist	PETER WILLIAMS
Sound Post Production	THE INSIDE TRACK
Sound Designer	CHRIS BURT



SIONE'S WEDDING

Dialogue Editor	GLEN BULLEN
Sound FX Editors	STEFAN BROUGH DAVID VRANKEN
Foley Artist	OSCAR BURT
Re Recording Mixers	CHRIS BURT GETHIN CREAGH
Studio Manager	PAM SHEARER
Dolby Consultant	BRUCE EMERY
Legal and Business Affairs	VICTORIA SPACKMAN
Financial Controller	TANIA BETTANY
Post Production Accountants	VICKI HUDSON VIVIENNE LEE
Assistant to John Barnett	TANIA SAXON
Export Script	LOUISE JONES
Title Design	DIGITAL POST LIMITED
Title Aerials	TONY MONK FILMS
Website	SATELLITE INTERACTIVE
Unit Publicist	RACHEL LORIMER
Stills Photographer	KIRSTY GRIFFIN
EPK	REINA WEBSTER
Caterers	LUSCIOUS CATERING

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Auckland City Events & Film Facilitation
 Peka A'ati, St John's Otara Samoan Catholic Church
 Newton Pacific Islanders' Presbyterian Church
 Tokelau Tuvalu Grey Lynn Pacific Islanders' Presbyterian Church
 Samoan Methodist Church King Street
 St Paul's College
 Richmond Rovers' Rugby League Club
 The Late Agnes Tuisamoa Family
 Mena Design, Adam Holt, Phil Howling Disruptiv Limited, Jeremy Birchall

Music Supervision Services	MANA MUSIC
Music Supervisors	CHRIS GOUGH NICKY DONOGHUE
Music Editor	PETER HOBBS: MOTION SOUNDS

<p>"I Do Believe (tha Remix)" (K Futialo, A Morton, N Ngatae, M Sagapolutele, F Siloata) Control/Dawn Raid Entertainment/Universal Music Publishing. Performed by Feelstyle featuring Mareko Flowz , Manuel Bundy and Lapi Mariner. Courtesy of Can't Stop Music © 2005</p>	<p>"Profile" (S Tuitahi, R Tuitahi, S Tanielu) Control Performed by Usual Suspects Courtesy of Breakin Wreckwordz</p>
<p>"Ole Aso Ua Ula" (Pita Taouma) Control Performed by Pita Taouma Band Courtesy of Pita Taouma</p>	<p>"They Don't Know" (E Franklin/D Savelio, D Puniani M Sagapolutele) ,Tenyor Music/ Dawn Raid/Universal Music Publishing/Control Performed by Savage featuring Aaradhna</p>



SIONE'S WEDDING

<p>"Let's Stay Together" (F Tupai', L Tupai', N Holmes) Dawn Raid/Universal Music Publishing Performed by Adeaze</p>	<p>"Wild At Heart" (A Munro, H Donald, I King, G Stack, M Clark)Control Performed by The Bleeders Courtesy of Universal Music NZ</p>
<p>"For Today" (M Black, N Sampson)Control Performed by The Netherworld Dancing Toys Courtesy of The Netherworld Dancing Toys</p>	<p>"9 2 5" (D McNulty, D Atai, H Manukau, J Rikiau, F Strickson-Pua, T A Reeder) Control Performed by Nesian Mystik Courtesy of Bounce Records</p>
<p>"Foggy Dew" Traditional Performed by Drui</p>	<p>"Mama" (Mt Vaea Band) Mt Vaea Band Performed by Mt Vaea Band and Julie Ta'ale Courtesy of Mt Vaea Band</p>
<p>"Limitation" (Alpha Maiava, D Leauga)Control Performed by Hamokane Courtesy of D1 Entertainment</p>	<p>"Chillin" (M Sagapolutele, D Savelio, M Maoate, D Puniani, J Chong-Nee) Dawn Raid/Universal Music Publishing/ Control Performed by Deceptikonz</p>
<p>"Better Than Change" (D Tamaira) Control Performed by Dallas Courtesy of The Drop</p>	<p>"Teine Ma Tama" (Mt Vaea Band) Mt Vaea Band Performed by Mt Vaea Band, Tila Kalolo and Hamokane Courtesy of Mt Vaea Band</p>
<p>"Gold" (K Tamati, B Park, J Dyne, M Luafutu, M Turua)Control Performed by Verse Two Courtesy of Verse Two</p>	<p>"Kafikafi Ese" (K Futialo, Mt Vaea)Control/Mt Vaea Band Performed by Mt Vaea Band, Tha Feelstyle and Sam Cowley-Lupo Courtesy of Mt Vaea Band</p>
<p>"Music / Life" (J Ferguson) Woodcut Performed by Juse Courtesy of Woodcut Productions</p>	<p>"Whatever" (S Sagala, M J Chong Nee)Control Performed by Dei Hamo Courtesy of Universal Music NZ</p>
<p>"I Can See" (K Tamaiti, N Holmes) Dawn Raid/Universal Music Publishing/ Control Performed by Ladi 6</p>	<p>"Nobody Like Me" (I Seumanu)Control Performed by DJ Raw Courtesy of Raw Entertainment/2 Much Records</p>
<p>"Wandering Eye" (C Faiumu, I Gordon, D Kerr, T Laing, W Maxwell, J Lindsay, D Tamaira) Control Performed by Fat Freddy's Drop Courtesy of The Drop</p>	<p>"Swing" (D Savelio, N Holmes, A Ngawhika) Dawn Raid/Universal Music Publishing/ Control Performed by Savage</p>
<p>"Brothaz" (T A Reeder, D McNulty, J Rikiau, D Atai, F Strickson-Pua)Control Performed by Nesian Mystik Courtesy of Bounce Records</p>	<p>"Devil Woman" (M J Chong Nee)Control Performed by John Chong Nee Courtesy of Kog</p>
<p>"Move (Make Way)" (E Franklin, D Savelio, S Hansen, T Tautogia) TenyorMusic/Dawn Raid/Universal Music Publishing/Control Performed by Savage featuring PNC and Tyree</p>	<p>"Botany Bay" Traditional Performed by Druid</p>



SIONE'S WEDDING

<p>"Go Down Moses" Traditional Performed by Geoff Dolan</p>	<p>"Su'amalie" (K Futialo, I Seumanu)Control Performed by Tha Feelstyle Courtesy of Can't Stop Music/ Festival Mushroom Records</p>
<p>" A Life With You" (F Tupai, L Tupai) Dawn Raid/Universal Music Publishing Performed by Adeaze</p>	<p>"Lou Seie" Traditional Performed by our Cast and Extras</p>
<p>"Alofa Mo Oe" (Pita Taouma)Control Performed by Pita Taouma Band Courtesy of Pita Taouma</p>	<p>"Knowing You So Long" (S Tuuga)Control Performed by Bella Kalolo, Teuila Blakely and Joy Vaele</p>
<p>"Forever" (A Patel, M Sagapolutele, T Leaosavaii) Dawn Raid/Universal Music Publishing/ Control Performed by Aaradhna featuring Kevin Sou</p>	

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MAHONY TRENDALL & JACK
MARTIN TRENDALL

Soundtrack album available through Dawn Raid Entertainment

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