

# MY FATHER'S SHOES



## Presskit



World Sales & Festival Distribution: New Zealand Film Commission  
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# Production Notes

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Director  
Producer  
Written  
Executive Producer

Samantha Scott  
Lisa Schultz  
William Brandt  
Vanessa Alexander

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## Log Line

Frederick and Cynthia's adult son pay them a visit. When Jeremy tries to convince his Father to give him his shoes, conflict results and familiar patterns are played out to their conclusion.

## Synopsis

Jeremy pays a surprise visit to his parents in their affluent suburb. They are not unhappy to see him and all are making an effort to not fall into their usual dysfunctional mode of communicating. Jeremy fails first, secretly throwing the Sunday roast from the refrigerator to the rubbish bin as he helps himself to a beer. Father and Son, with Mother observing and attempting to peace-keep, then thrash out the familiar and painful aspects of their relationship. When Jeremy demands his inheritance, 'I'll take a cheque', Frederick decides to call the police and Jeremy leaves, taking his Father's shoes, but not the love and acceptance that he craves.

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## Director's Notes

The script was adapted by William Brandt from a story in his award-winning collection, Alpha Male. Sam had always wanted to work with William and chose this story because of its strong dramatic narrative and three complex characters. Sam and William communicated constantly through pre-production and production, and William spent time with the actors during rehearsal. One of Sam's challenges was finding actors to play Frederick and Cynthia, the Mother and Father, particularly with a limited range of older actors available. Sam invited Elizabeth McRae to play the role of Cynthia and cast Frank Whitten who, fortuitously, was visiting from Melbourne having just completed work on a major feature film.

Apart from the rewards of working with such a talented cast on such a character-driven piece, highlights for Sam in making 'My Father's Shoes' include the strong technical team, led by Director of Photography Dale McCready, who brought their collective wide range of experience to the 4-day shoot. Their generous commitment to the 12-hour days aided the films' success. For Sam, having people of this calibre sharing her vision was inspiring.

'My Father's Shoes' is described by Sam as 'A drama with a strong story, that is both familiar and bizarre'. She is looking forward to directing a feature, and is working on a script with Lennie James and Phillipa Campbell based on her theatre company Massive's play 'The Sons of Charlie Paora', the stage version of which has been invited to play at the Royal Court Theatre in London.

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# Director

# Sam Scott

Sam Scott is a drama director with eighteen years experience and numerous credits to her name. She is the founder and Artistic Director of Massive Company, where she has specialised in directing new work for performance by emerging artists. She has also directed for television, including the long-running New Zealand soap 'Shortland Street'. 'My Father's Shoes' is her first foray into film.

# Writer

# William Brandt

William Brandt was born in London in 1961 to New Zealand parents. He grew up in New Zealand. He has worked in stage, film and television as a technician, a producer, a script-reader, an actor and a writer. In 1993 he wrote Verbatim, a stage play which won the John Pilger Peace Prize. His Father's Shoes was originally a short story from the collection, Alpha Male, published in 1999. Alpha Male won the Montana Prize for Best First Book in that year. His novel, The Book of the Film of the Story of My Life was longlisted for the 2003 Montana Prize for Best Book, has been published in New Zealand and the UK, and will be published in the U.S. in 2005. William is currently shortlisted for the prestigious Prize in Modern Letters. He lives in Wellington and is working on two screenplays and a novel. He is married to a New Zealand diplomat and has three children.

# Credits

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## Cast

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Jeremy	EDWIN WRIGHT
Frederick	FRANK WHITTEN
Cynthia	ELIZABETH McRAE

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## Crew

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Directed	SAMANTHA SCOTT
Produced	LISA SCHULZ
Written	WILLIAM BRANDT
Executive Producer	VANESSA ALEXANDER
Director of Photography	DALE McCREADY
Editor	NIC SMITH
Production Design	BRETT SCHWIETERS
Location Sound	GRAHAM MORRIS
Score	SEAN DONNELLY
First Assistant Director	SOPHIE CALVER
Focus Puller	GAYSORN THAVAT
Clapper Loader	ALICIA HUDSON
Gaffer	PAUL EVERSDON
Best Boy	SPENCER LOCKE-BONNEY
Lighting Assist	TROY FINAN
Grip	SIMON HAWKINS
Grip Assist	GARY ILLINGWORTH
Continuity	KATHE CALIS
Makeup	BIANCA CALIS

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# Credits cont...

Wardrobe	FIONA SCHWIETERS
Location Scout	MIKE HOLLOWAY
Location Manager	KAREN INGMAN
Unit	MISSY RIKA, TINA McLAREN, GILLIAN STEWART
Boom Op	FRED ENHOLMER, MARK WILLIAMS
Production Accountant	GAYLE MUNRO
Runner	WENDY DAHLBERG, WESLEY DOWDELL
Assistant Editor	NIKI HIINI
Film Processing	ATLAB
Telecine	IMAGES POST
Neg Matching	UPPER DECK
Sound Manager	JOHN NEILL
Sound Mix Facility	DICK REEDE AUDIO, THE FILM UNIT
Audio Engineer	AMY BARBER
Re-Recording Mixers	JOHN BOSWELL, GILBERT LAKE
Foley Artist	DEB FRAME
Laboratory	THE FILM UNIT
General Manager	SUE THOMPSON
Post Production Supervisor	BRIAN SCADDEN
Grading	LYNNE REED
Rostrum Camera	REINER SCHOENBRUNN
Titles	WYNTER BLATHWAYT
Camera Equipment	PANAVISION
Film Stock	FUJI HANIMEX
Insurance	CROMBIE & LOCKWOOD