

ROOF RATTLING



A SHORT FILM

PRESSKIT

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

Juliette Veber - NZ Film - PO Box 11 546 - Wellington - New Zealand
Tel +64 4 382 7686 - Fax +64 4 384 9719 - juliette@nzfilm.co.nz

N E W Z E A L A N D F I L M

ROOF RATTLING

Essential Information

Writer/Director	James Blick
Producer	Robin Murphy
Production Company	Robin Murphy Productions Limited
Executive Producers	Christina Milligan, Roger Grant, Rawiri Paratene
Shooting Format:	35mm
Screening Format:	35mm
Film Ratio:	1:1.85
Sound:	Dolby Digital 5.1
Running Time	15mins
Country of Production	New Zealand
Date of completion	2010
Sales	Juliette Veber, New Zealand Film Commission email juliette@nzfilm.co.nz Tel: +64 4 382 7686

One Liner

A young boy searching for fabled dirty magazines becomes trapped inside the house of an eccentric old man.

Short Synopsis

Sunday morning in the suburbs. James and his two friends break into an eccentric old man's house. They want to find out if the rumours are true. Is he stockpiling dirty magazines? But once inside, things don't go according to plan. James gets trapped in the house when he realises the old man is home...

Long Synopsis

Sunday morning in the suburbs. James and his two friends break into an eccentric old man's house. They want to find out if the rumours are true. Is he stockpiling dirty magazines? But once inside, things don't go according to plan. James gets trapped in the house when he realises the old man is home...

Roof Rattling tells the story of the brief connection between a young boy and an old man who couldn't be more different, or more alike. A chance encounter between the two has a dramatic effect on both of their lives.

Festivals

2010 Aspen Shortsfest, USA
2010 Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia, Japan
2010 Palm Springs Shortsfest, USA
2010 New Zealand International Film Festival, NZ
2011 Boulder International Film Festival, USA

2011 Heart of Gold Film Festival, Australia
2011 Cheyenne Film Festival, USA
2011 Magma Film Festival, Rotorua
2011 Rhode Island Film Festival, USA

Director's Notes – James Blick

As children we are developing our sense of self. We are a magnet and a sponge for influence and experience. And we all have moments and experiences in our childhood that remain within our consciousness for the rest of our lives. It's these experiences that are significant building blocks of the adults we become.

Roof Rattling is about one such experience for young James.

In the story, James stumbles into an experience where he is forced to stand on the frontier between childhood and adulthood, between innocence and experience. He is a quiet boy who lives in a world of young male friends and adventure, but he is also beginning to unconsciously piece together the world around him and his place in it. In the film he must confront the realities of adulthood – love, loss, memory and regret – for the first time in his life. And while he might not yet fully understand the significance of his experiences in the old man's house, by the end of the film we see that a change has taken place within the boy.

Growing up in Wellington, New Zealand in the mid 80s, my friends and I would often walk along the hills of my neighbourhood and throw stones onto the roofs of the houses down below. We called this "roof rattling". Other childhood memories include being caught stealing, sneaking into people's properties to peer in their windows and the neighbourhood myths and stories that existed about certain people (usually old) who lived around us.

So I wanted to write a story that evoked this free and exploratory nature of childhood – a time in our lives that includes an under-developed sense of responsibility and under-developed awareness of cause and effect. And I wanted to interrupt this world. I wanted to put a child character through a believable, unexpected and emotionally resonant rite of passage. I wanted to take that child of innocence on his first step to entering the adult world of love, loss and responsibility.

The old man has surrounded himself not with objects, but with the memories of a life lived. And following his wife's death, he is reflecting on his life, processing it, trying to come to terms. James' sudden appearance provides the old man with unexpected spiritual comfort and practical help. And between these two very different, and yet in a way very similar characters, there is a transfer of knowledge and

wisdom. The result being that James, by the end, has taken an important step towards the man he will be.

Director's Bio – James Blick

After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from Auckland University, James spent a brief spell working as an Auckland-based barrister and solicitor. But his true passion for filmmaking led him to quit his job as a lawyer and the next day he was making the coffee on a film set. Starting at the bottom he made connections and watched closely and in 2005 formed What the Thunder Said Films as the banner under which he would write and direct films.

He then wrote, directed and self-funded his debut short film *Us*. *Us* was invited to screen in 20 international film festivals and, at the 2006 New Zealand Screen Awards, was nominated for Best Short Film, Best Screenplay and won Best Performance.

James then wrote his next short film *Roof Rattling* while living in Toulouse, France and returned to New Zealand to direct it.

Currently James divides his time between directing television commercials through Prodigy Films, who represent him in New Zealand and Australia, and he is in development with his debut feature film (as writer/director) *From Lost to the River*. The film is a story of personal crisis and redemption set in Spain and New Zealand.

Producer's Bio – Robin Murphy

Robin Murphy has worked in the New Zealand Film Industry as a freelancer for nearly 30 years. In this time she has worked on 27 feature films, 11 short films, hundreds of hours of TV Drama and numerous TVC's.

Robin has gained experience in many departments from art department and production to location management and assistant directing. She has crewed on an array of local and international productions, ranging from costume work on *Goodbye Pork Pie* in 1979 to Supervising Location Manager on *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy in 2000 - 2003.

As a Producer, Robin has so far successfully completed 5 short films and has several feature films in development.

Director of Photography – John Blick

Over 40 years John has built an extensive and award-winning international filmmaking career as a director, cinematographer and producer. He has made many high-profile and award-winning television commercials throughout the USA, South-East Asia, Australia and New Zealand. His feature film credits include *Solo*, *The Last Tattoo* (for which he was awarded Best Cinematography at the 1993 New Zealand Film Awards) and *The Frighteners* (as cinematographer and second unit director).

Composer – Peter Scholes

Peter Scholes pursues the dual career of composing and performing (both as a conductor and a clarinettist).

He has composed and conducted for the New Zealand feature films *Desperate Remedies* by Peter Wells and Stewart Main and the short film *Hinekaro goes on a Picnic and Blows Up Another Obelisk* by Christine Parker based on the story by Keri Hulme. Recent film score composition also include *The Tattooist* by Pete Berger, *Memory and Desire* by Niki Caro based on the story by Peter Wells and recorded by the NZSO, and also *Fifty Ways of Saying Fabulous* by Peter Wells and Stewart Main.

Key Crew

Writer/ Director	James Blick
Producer	Robin Murphy
Associate Producer	John Blick
Executive Producers	Conbrio Shorts Christina Milligan Roger Grant Rawiri Paratene
Photographed by	John Blick
Edited by	Paul Maxwell Jonathan Venz Margot Francis Steven Chow Darmyn Calderon
Production Designer	Robert Key
Music Composer	Peter Scholes
Sound Designer	Simon Adams

Cast

Old Man	Grant Tilly
James	Ted Holmstead-Scott
Adrian	Kyle Finnegan
Chris	Gene Hollins-Werry
Wife	Mabel Musson

Crew

Production Manager
Production Accountant
1st AD
2nd Assistant Director
Continuity

Casting Director
Casting Assistant
Additional Casting

Acting Coach
Production Runners

Location Assistant
Caterers
Safety

Swing Drivers
Security
Focus Pullers

Clapper Loader
Grip
Grip Assistant
Crane Operator
Gaffer
Lighting Assistants

Lighting Trainees

Sound Recordists

Boom Operators

Stills Photographer
Props buyers/Standby

Greens
Set Dresser
Model maker
Art Dept Assists

Costume Designer
Costume Standby
Make Up

Mareena Facoory
Linus Murphy
Anton Steele
Fraser Ross
Katherine Phyn
Pat Robins
Suzanne McAleer
Yolanda Martin Mendieta
Liz Baldwin
Rachel Bullock
Maia Dalziel
Kamil Grzybowski
Anoushka Klaus
Kinder Te Moana
Marvel Kitchen
Scene Safe
Martin Clist
Robert Gibson
Campbell Hope
Redwood Industries
Strategic Security
Greg Diffenthal
Bruce Polwart
David Shope
Daimon Wright
Russell Lloyd
Chris Rawiti
Grant McKinnon
Brian Laird
Stephen Joyce
Drew Wright
Matt Fill-Wilson
Jonathan Huston
Ande Schurr
Ben Vanderpoel
Ben Corlett
Ben Vanderpoel
Matt Klitscher
Rod Haag
Ross Goffin
Haley Williams
Noel Ward
Kirsten Nicholls
John Osbourne
Piet Strulick
Matthew Ellison
Claire Croskery
Mina Jafari
Yeshe Dionnet

Animal Handler
Film Processing
Offline/Avid
Digital Intermediate
Digipost Colourist
Digipost Liason
Dolby Sound Mix
Re-recording Mixer
Sound Designer
Sound Editor
Foley Artists

Audio Studio Manager
Audio Post Co-ordinator
Additional ADR
Film Record Out
Film Deliverables

A Grade Animals
FilmLab Limited
RPM Pictures
Digipost
Peter Williams
Garry Little
Digipost
Bruno Barrett-Garnier
Simon Adams, Auckland Audio
Vedat Kiyici
Mike Hall
Simon Adams
Tanja Mandic
Janeen Langley
Marmalade Audio
Weta Digital
Park Road Post