



**"LOVELY SUBTLE PERFORMANCES PAINT
A SWEET, SAD AND GENTLE STORY"**

ANDREW ADAMSON



ROSS & BETH

press kit

A short film by Hamish Bennett



Sales

Hamish Bennett: +64 21 0241 3802 hkbennett@gmail.com

Orlando Stewart: +64 21 125 8665, orlando_stewart@yahoo.co.nz

Production Notes

Writer/Director Hamish Bennett
Producer Orlando Stewart
Production Company Scottie Productions
Country of Origin New Zealand
Date of Completion February 2014
Shooting Format Digital (Red Epic)
Screening Format HDCAM SR / Blu-ray
Aspect Ratio 2.39:1
Duration 15.27
Genre Drama



Logline

The story of a humble farming couple, a sudden upheaval and an unlikely saviour.

Director's Statement

The characters of Ross and Beth were inspired by my childhood neighbours in the small rural Northland community of Tauraroa. They're in their 80's now and still living on the same farm that they've had all their married lives. They're great people – humble, funny, hard-working, gruff, stuck in their ways - fairly typical traits of many older rural couples. You don't see many outward displays of affection or emotion, but this can't be mistaken for not caring. It's very much the opposite. The love, the loyalty, the reliance - it can all be found in the little moments, buried under the layers of cheeky banter and cow shit. You know these people are devoted to one another. And you also know that if one of them weren't there, the other would be completely lost. This film is an ode to these people and this way of life.

Director

Hamish Bennett is a New Zealand based film-maker of Maori descent (Te Arawa, Ngapuhi, Kai Tahu) and a fulltime school teacher. He was raised in the rural Northland setting that his first two short films (**The Dump** and **Ross & Beth**) are set in.

His first film **The Dump** won The NZ Writers Guild Award for Best Short Film Script in 2012. The finished film featured in numerous festivals around the world including Palm Springs, Dallas and Brisbane and continues to be screened at film festivals around the country.

Ross & Beth was funded by the New Zealand Film Commission's Fresh Shorts scheme, shot in July 2013 and completed in February 2014.

Hamish is currently developing the feature film **Expat** with seed funding from The NZ Film Commission.

Cast

Ross	John Clarke
Beth	Annie Whittle
Boy	Reiki Ruawai
Boy's mum	Naomi Tuao
Boy's dad	Jason Parangi
Margaret	Katie Rogers
Margaret's Boyfriend	Simon Ogston
Singer at funeral	JK Hill

Crew

Written and Directed by	Hamish Bennett
Producer	Orlando Stewart
Executive Producers	Meg Douglas, Michael Bennett
Director of Photography	Grant McKinnon
Editor	Jason Pengelly
Production Designer	Jane Holland
Costume Designers	Jane Holland, Katie Rogers
Art Direction	Simon Ogston
First Assistant Director	Maika Bennett
Gaffer	Andy Lau
Camera Assist	David Chan
Sound Recording	Al Wilson
Wardrobe & Makeup	Katie Rogers
Continuity	Maryann Tuao
Original Music	Karl Steven
Bagpipes	Peter Jones
Sound Design	Tom Miskin
Colourist	Alana Cotton
Catering	Marie Gallichan
Title Designer	Phil Brough



Contact Info

Hamish Bennett - Writer/Director +64 21 0241 3802
hkbennett@gmail.com

Orlando Stewart - Producer +64 21 125 8665
orlando_stewart@yahoo.co.nz

Whetu Fala - NZFC Short Film Manager +64 21 586 361
whetu@nzfilm.co.nz