

**PSO**

**PRODUCERS SALES ORGANIZATION**

10100 Santa Monica Boulevard  
Fifteenth Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90067  
Telephone: (213) 552-9977  
Telex: 698652  
Cable: PSO-INC

"SMASH PALACE"

## "SMASH PALACE" - THE STORY

"SMASH PALACE" is the story of Al Shaw. While a successful driver on the European racing circuit, Al met Jacqui. She was impressed with his status as a top driver and Al's "exotic" origins intrigued her. After a whirlwind romance amongst the glamour of Grand Prix racing they married when Jacqui became pregnant.

Al talked of New Zealand as if it were paradise and Jacqui couldn't wait to see Al's home country. When Al's father died suddenly they decide to return to New Zealand immediately to attend his funeral - Al would run the family business and Jacqui would have the baby in New Zealand so it would be born a New Zealander.

The family business turned out to be in the middle of "nowhere" - a car-wrecking yard called "SMASH PALACE" - acres of rusting junk collected over the last 50 years by Al's father. Al didn't see the place as it was - to him it was "home". He had grown up here and the place had given Al a passion for cars that had lead to his Grand Prix racing.

Al failed to notice how Jacqui reacted to the place. His own sense of guilt at the lack of contact with his father before he died gave Al a sense of obligation to carry on with the business rather than sell up and move back to a lifestyle that would have fulfilled his wife's needs.

Jacqui had all the panache of a sophisticated European woman without any outlet for this side of her character.

The film is concerned with the period in their lives, 8 years after they arrived back in New Zealand. Al is still obsessed with car racing and apart from "Georgie", their daughter, Al has few interests other than hunting and the occasional game of snooker with Ray Foley

who is the local cop and a family friend.

Finally, Jacqui can stand it no more, and to force Al to come to terms with her feelings, she leaves, taking Georgie with her.

She starts teaching French at the local High School, and as a result of her confiding in Ray Foley, the relationship between them begins to flourish.

The story concerns the effect this has on Al and the lengths he is driven to, to get his child back.

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"SMASH PALACE"

CAST

AL SHAW	played by	BRUNO LAWRENCE
JACQUI SHAW	" "	ANNA JEMISON
GEORGIE SHAW	" "	GREER ROBSON
RAY FOLEY	" "	KEITH ABERDEIN
'TINY'	" "	DES KELLY

CREW

<u>Produced and Directed by:</u>	ROGER DONALDSON
<u>Associate Producer:</u>	LARRY PARR
<u>Story by:</u>	ROGER DONALDSON
<u>Screenplay by:</u>	ROGER DONALDSON PETER HANSARD BRUNO LAWRENCE
<u>Director of Photography:</u>	GRAEME COWLEY
<u>Cameraman:</u>	PAUL LEACH
<u>Focus Puller:</u>	PETER DAY
<u>First Assistant Director:</u>	STEVE LOCKER LAMPSON
<u>Second Assistant Director:</u>	SUSAN POINTON
<u>Production Manager:</u>	MELVINE CLARK
<u>Production Assistants:</u>	ANGELA ZIVKOVIC VERONICA LAWRENCE
<u>Casting:</u>	M & L CASTING
<u>Continuity:</u>	HELEN BROWN
<u>Art Director:</u>	RESTON GRIFFITHS
<u>Props:</u>	LEN NIGHTINGALE
<u>Standby Props:</u>	STEPHEN PENNY
<u>Wardrobe:</u>	ANNABEL BLACKETT
<u>Makeup:</u>	BRYONY HURDEN
<u>Sound Recordist:</u>	MIKE WESTGATE

Boom Operator: STEWART MAIN  
Gaffer: STUART DRYBURGH  
Electrician: DAVE BROWN  
Grips: BRIAN KASSLER  
JOHN SPURDLE  
Caterer: ROBIN McGHIE  
Editor: MIKE HORTON  
Assistant Editor: PATRICK MONAGHAN  
Production Accountant: Supplied by ROSS MELVILLE  
BRIDGMAN & CO.  
Music Soundtrack: SHARON O'NEILL

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BRUNO LAWRENCE

"AL SHAW" in "SAMSH PALACE"

Bruno Lawrence has figured prominently on the New Zealand show business scene for the last 20 years. His interest in music started with the Wellington University Jazz Club. Since these early days he has become a legend in both rock and jazz circles, having played with musicians of international repute both in New Zealand and overseas. He was a founder member of the rock group the "Crocodiles" until earlier this year.

His television acting debut earned him the first-ever Feltex award for acting awarded in New Zealand and since then he has been in various television shows in both Australia and New Zealand, the more recent being "All Things Being Equal", and "Play Something Fantastic".

A summer tour with the "Southern Comedia Players" kindled his interest in acting, his first role being in a 30-minute film "Tank Busters" directed by Geoff Murphy.

For 6 years Bruno toured Australia and New Zealand with his own group "Blerta", giving concerts which consisted of live music and theatre on stage with film especially made for the shows and featuring members of the troupe.

Bruno has a cameo role in Geoff Murphy's feature film "Goodbye Pork Pie". He also appeared in "Wild Man" and "Beyond Reasonable Doubt".

His latest film role is a major one in the film "Race to the Yankee Zephyr" now in its final stages of production.



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ROGER DONALDSON - PRODUCER/DIRECTOR

Originally a stills photographer, Donaldson became involved in film-making as the demand for television commercials increased. He used his commercial profits to finance the production of his own films.

The first of these was a documentary shot largely in the USA on Burt Munro, a 74-year-old motor-cyclist. Around this time Donaldson met with actor/director Ian Mune and together they produced the award-winning drama "Derek". After "Derek" came more documentaries. One, commissioned by Suzuki Japan, was made at the famous motor-cycle race, The Daytona 200 in Florida, USA. Then Donaldson teamed up with Mune again and they made the critically acclaimed film of the Katherine Mansfield story, "The Woman at the Store". After this, Donaldson made three adventure documentaries. The first with yachtsman Peter Mulgrew, around Cape Horn; and the other two with Sir Edmund Hilary in New Zealand and Nepal. The success of "The Woman at the Store" enabled Donaldson and Mune to raise the budget for a further six drama films which were screened on television under the series title "Winners and Losers". The series was sold to a number of overseas countries, and one of them, "After the Depression", won Donaldson a prize at an international film festival in Iran.

After returning from the '76 Cannes Film Festival, Donaldson produced and directed the feature film "Sleeping Dogs" starring Sam Neill and Ian Mune. Donaldson scored a coup in securing US actor Warren Oates to take a part in the film. He also arranged for expatriate cinematographer Michael Seresin to return to New Zealand to film "Sleeping Dogs". Seresin has since gone on to photograph "Midnight Express".

"Sleeping Dogs" was shown at the '78 Cannes Film Festival and as a result was invited to be presented in film festivals in Italy, Berlin, London, Sydney, Canada, Ireland and Russia. As a result of attendance at the Cannes Festival, a number of sales of "Sleeping Dogs" were secured.

While in the United Kingdom selling "Sleeping Dogs", Donaldson started work on the script of "SMASH PALACE", assisted by a script development grant from the New Zealand Film Commission. After attending the Taormina Film Festival in Sicily as a guest of the organisers, Donaldson returned to New Zealand to continue work on the "SMASH PALACE" script and run the commercial side of Aardvark Films, producing and directing commercials for some of New Zealand's major advertisers.

In 1979 Donaldson directed the children's feature film "Nutcass" which was released in the 1980 May school holidays.

In June this year, Donaldson was commissioned by New Zealand television to direct two episodes in Wellington of their new television drama "Jocko". These programmes are to be screened in 1981.

Since returning to Auckland, Donaldson has been involved in final scripting and pre-production for "SMASH PALACE".

He is also working on his next project, "The World's Fastest Indian", and Roger Simpson, well-known New Zealand screen writer, is working on a script. The film is to be shot in New Zealand and the United States of America some time in 1982.



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KEITH ABERDEIN

"RAY FOLEY" in "SMASH PALACE"

36-year-old, British-born, but claims to have gotten over it. Keith spent much of his childhood in Africa -- mainly Tanzania. He was educated at Portora Royal School, Enniskillen - Oscar Wilde's and Samuel Beckett's school. Worked as a journalist in Hong Kong before coming to New Zealand to study law at Victoria University in 1963. Dropped out to do a variety of jobs - labouring, running all-night coffee bar - before joining NZBC as a reporter. Subsequently worked on "Town and Around" and "Compass", before being fired in 1969 for refusal to change the script of a programme on the Chatham Islands. Worked in public relations and advertising and then went back to television current affairs before turning freelance in 1975.

Predominantly a writer, Keith Aberdein's credits include episodes of "Pukemanu", "Section Seven", "Moynihan" and "Mortimer's Patch" and series such as "Epidemic", "Rachel" and "The Governor". He has also written literally hundreds of episodes of "Close to Home", as well as producing it through 1980. He was involved in the writing of the screenplays for "Middle Age Spread" and "Nutcuse". In June of this year he acted in an episode of a new television drama "Jocko" which was directed by Roger Donaldson. It was this contact with Donaldson that led to his being cast as "Ray Foley" the local cop in "SMASH PALACE".

Keith lives in Wellington with his wife and two children.

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GREER ROBSON

"GEORGIE" in "SMASH PALACE"

9-year-old Greer Robson is the daughter of well-known Auckland actress Lyn Robson. Greer's first role as an actress was on the stage at the age of 3 in a song-and-dance routine of her own invention. She had only a peice of rope instead of a microphone, the theatre was dark at the time and her performance was seen only by a couple of amazed stage-hands. Nevertheless Greer was on her way. She appeared in Ibsen's "A Doll's House" winning her own private burst of applause and gained mentions in newspaper crits of the production.

As a moppet in Ben Jonson's "Bartholomew Fair" she once again held her own in a large cast. Early this year she made her musical debut in "Hans Christian Andersen" as Ana and quite enchanted her audience and fellow actors with her performance.

Television appearances followed, including "Mortimer's Patch" as well as, to quote Greer, "a whole load of commercials." In one of these she became widely known as Wendy, the little girl with a passion for yoghurt, to the delight of her sponsors.

Roger Donaldson first met Greer when she was auditioning for another film, and although she was too young for the part, Donaldson was impressed with her abilities. As a result of those auditions two years ago, she successfully tested for the part of "Georgie" in "SMASH PALACE". To quote Donaldson, "Greer has a very sensitive and mature approach to acting. Many people do not respond well to the attention they receive as stars in a film, but Greer remains unaffected."

Greer Robson goes to more theatre, and more regularly, than most adults. She looks at plays and performances with a discerning eye - a continual learning process. She has already learnt enough to give herself an unmistakeably professional status.

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ANNA JEMISON

"JACQUI" in "SMASH PALACE"

Anna Jemison was born in Tangiers of an Italian father and Spanish mother. At the age of 3 her family moved to Rome where they lived for the next 8½ years. From there her parents emigrated to Australia where Anna lived till she was 17. She returned to Europe and attended the University of Geneva where she studied languages and psychology.

Acting was always at the back of her mind, but she felt it was a dream she would never realise as she believed she either would have to be discovered or born to it. After completing her studies in Geneva she returned to Australia for a short time and then went to live in London for 3 years. There she started modeling and her dream of acting started to seem possible. While modeling she had the opportunity of working with top British and American film directors, who were working on commercials between features. Several of them encouraged her to work towards a career in acting.

On returning to Australia she enrolled in an acting school, studying under Hayes Gordon. She took dancing, singing and voice lessons, and immersed herself in working towards her goal to be an actress.

Since then she has been involved in television productions in Australia.

Roger Donaldson went to Sydney to cast the part of Jacqui for "SMASH PALACE" and was introduced to her as a potential "discovery". The audition piece was emotionally demanding and when the fill-in actor reading the part with her started to cry, Donaldson realised her potential.

Since casting her in the lead role in "SMASH PALACE", Anna has learnt

that she also has the lead role in a major Australian feature to be made straight after she completes filming here.

She is an actress who will attract a lot of attention when her performance is seen on the screen.