

special distinction

special distinction

jury prize



THE  
SIX DOLLAR  
FIFTY MAN



**PRESS KIT**

**The world needs another hero.**

A short film written and directed  
by Mark Albiston and Louis Sutherland

**INTERNATIONAL SALES**

NZ FILM Juliette Veber  
PO Box 11546, Wellington, NZ. Tel +64 382 7686. Fax +64 384 9719.  
juliette@nzfilm.co.nz

**NEW ZEALAND FILM**

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## **PRODUCTION NOTES:**

Writer: Louis Sutherland  
Story by: Mark Albiston  
Directors: Mark Albiston & Louis Sutherland  
Producer: Wendy Cuthbert  
Production Company: Sticky Pictures  
Executive Producers: Shuchi Kothari & Sarina Pearson  
Screening Format: 35mm / Dolby Digital SRD 5.1  
Screen Ratio: 1:2:35  
Length: 15mins  
Year of Completion: May 2009  
Responsible for Sales: Juliette Veber  
New Zealand Film juliette@nzfilm.co.nz  
mob. +6421 526 452

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## **SHORT SYNOPSIS:**

Set in 1970s New Zealand, *The Six Dollar Fifty Man* follows Andy, a gutsy 8 year-old boy who is forced to break out of his make-believe superhero world to deal with playground bullies.

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## **SYNOPSIS:**

It's hard to look after yourself in the playground when you're different. Set in 1970s New Zealand, *The Six Dollar Fifty Man* follows Andy, a gutsy eight year-old boy who lives in a make-believe superhero world where his imagination allows him to perform extraordinary physical feats, to deal with playground bullies. But when Andy gets in trouble with the headmaster, he realises that to save himself & his only friend Mary, he must face up to the real world.

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## AWARDS

- 2009 *Special Distinction* - 62<sup>nd</sup> Festival De Cannes, France  
2009 *Best International Short Fiction Film* - Expresion en Corto, Mexico  
2009 *Black Pearl 09 for Best Narrative Short* - Middle East International Film Festival, United Arab Emirates  
2009 *Best Short Film, Best Screenplay, Best Actor* - Qantas Film & TV Awards New Zealand  
2009 *Silver Spike* - 55<sup>th</sup> Valladolid International Film Festival, Spain  
2009 *Best Short Film* - Trouville Off-Courts Film Festival, France  
2010 *Coopers Award for Best Short Film* - Flickerfest, Australia\*  
2010 *Jury Prize in International Short Filmmaking* - Sundance Film Festival, USA\*  
2010 *Special Mention* - 60<sup>th</sup> Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin-Generation Kplus, Germany  
2010 *Best Narrative Short* - 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Cinequest Film Festival, USA\*  
2010 *Special Jury Award* - NY Children's International Film Festival, USA  
2010 *Best Drama* - Aspen Shortsfest, USA\*  
2010 *British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA)*, Los Angeles Prize for Excellence - Aspen Shortsfest, USA  
2010 *Best Short Film* - Magma Short Film Festival, N.Z.  
2010 *Best Short Film* - Corto In Bra, Italy  
2010 *Best International Short Film* - Dokufest, Kosovo  
2010 *Best Short Film* - Vladivostok International Film Festival, Russia  
2010 *Best International Short Film* - La Boca del Lobo Film Festival, Spain  
2010 *Best Short Film* - 24fps International Short Film Festival, USA  
2010 *Best of Festival* - St. Louis Film Festival, USA  
2010 *Audience Award, International Competition* - 'Sequence' Toulouse Short Film Festival, France  
2010 *Best Short Fiction* - Olympia International Film Festival for Children and Young People  
2010 *IPJ IndieJunior Award* - IndieLisboa, Portugal

\* Academy Qualifying Awards

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## FESTIVALS

- 2009 In Competition - 62<sup>nd</sup> Festival De Cannes, France  
2009 New Zealand International Film Festival, New Zealand  
2009 Melbourne International Film Festival, Australia  
2009 Expresion en Corto, Mexico  
2009 Middle East International Film Festival, United Arab Emirates  
2009 BFI 53<sup>rd</sup> London Film Festival, U.K.  
2009 St Tropez Antipodes International Film Festival, France  
2009 Stockholm International Film Festival, Sweden  
2009 Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival, Taiwan  
2009 55<sup>th</sup> Valladolid International Film Festival, Spain  
2009 Zinebi 51, International Festival of Documentary and Short Films of Bilbao, Spain  
2009 Trouville Off-Courts Film Festival, France  
2010 Flickerfest, Australia  
2010 Sundance Film Festival, USA  
2010 In-Competition - 32<sup>nd</sup> Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival, France  
2010 60<sup>th</sup> Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin- Generation Kplus, Germany  
2010 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Cinequest Film Festival, USA  
2010 34<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Film Festival, China  
2010 New York International Children's Film Festival, USA  
2010 Minimalen Short Film Festival, Norway

2010 Filmfest DC, USA  
2010 International Film Festival Breda, The Netherlands  
2010 Aspen Shortsfest, USA  
2010 Nashville Film Festival, USA  
2010 IndieLisboa, Portugal  
2010 BE Film, USA  
2010 Leeds Young People's Film Festival, UK  
2010 Magma Short Film Festival, N.Z.  
2010 Internationale Kurzfilmtage Oberhausen, Germany  
2010 Seattle International Film Festival, USA  
2010 CFC Worldwide Short Film Festival  
2010 Norwegian Short Film Festival, Norway  
2010 Palm Springs International Film Festival, USA  
2010 26th International Short Film Festival Hamburg, Germany  
2010 Los Angeles Film Festival, USA  
2010 Munich International Short Film Festival, Germany  
2010 Cinema Corto in Bra, Italy  
2010 Tabor Film Festival, Croatia  
2010 Short Shorts Japan  
2010 Just For Laughs Film Festival, Montreal  
2010 Images That Matter - International Short Film Festival, Ethiopia  
2010 Milwaukee Film Festival, USA  
2010 VI Seminário Internacional de Cinema e Audiovisual, Brazil  
2010 Wairoa Maori Film Festival, NZ  
2010 Seoul International Youth Festival, Korea  
2010 Kyoto International Children's Festival, Japan  
2010 Dokufest 2010, Kosovo  
2010 VI Seminario Internacional de Cinema e Audiovisual, Brazil  
2010 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Hollyshorts Film Festival, USA  
2010 Sao Paulo International Short Film Festival, Brazil  
2010 9<sup>th</sup> International Best Of Short Film Festival, France  
2010 Brest European Short Film Festival, France  
2010 ICFE 31 Manaki Brothers, Republic of Macedonia  
2010 Vladivostok International Film Festival, Russia  
2010 Silhouette Short Film Festival, France  
2010 Les Perceides International Film Festival, Quebec  
2010 24 fps International Short Film Festival, USA  
2010 Austin Film Festival, USA  
2010 St Louis Film Festival, USA  
2010 Brussels Kinderfilmfestival, Belgium  
2010 14<sup>th</sup> Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur, Switzerland  
2010 International Short Film Festival Berlin, Interfilm  
2010 Rehoboth Beach Independent Film Festival, USA  
2010 Cinemagic International Film Festival, Belfast  
2010 Human Rights Film Festival, Sarajevo  
2010 Ljubljana International Film Festival, Slovenia  
2010 Leeds International Film Festival, UK  
2010 International Young Audience Film Festival Ale-Kino! Poland  
2010 Children's Film Festival Cine-Junior, France  
2010 'Sequence' Toulouse Short Film Festival, France  
2010 La Boca del Lobo Film Festival, Spain  
2010 DaKINO International Film Festival, Romania  
2010 Olympia International Film Festival for Children and Young People  
2011 FIFO, Tahiti  
2011 Prague Short Film Festival, Czech Republic  
2011 Boulder International Film Festival, USA  
2011 Festival Cine-Junior, Toulouse, France  
2011 *Best Short Film*, Heart of Gold Film Festival, Australia  
2011 Portland Film Festival, USA

2011 Sprockets Film Festival, Canada  
2011 Dresden Film Festival, Germany  
2011 Augsburg Film Festival, Germany  
2011 Cheyenne Film Festival, USA  
2011 Warsaw Film Festival, Poland

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## **DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY:**

*The Six Dollar Fifty Man* is the third short film that Mark & Louis have collaborated on and the first that they have officially co-directed. It continues a body of work built on tales exploring the depths of the human spirit.

*Run*, their earlier short film was awarded an Honourable Mention at Festival de Cannes Shorts Competition 2007 and First Place at Best of Shorts Film Festival, Marseille, as well as a Golden Horseman Audience Award at the Filmfest Dresden International Short Film Festival 2008.

Mark and Louis grew up together in a small west coast village called Raumati Beach. There they both began working together for a cable TV network that began its early trials in their home town.

Louis then went to Drama school and Mark started his own production company Sticky Pictures after working in the television industry in the UK. The two have now worked together in the industry for over 15 years creating a strong language through their many shared experiences, breathing an authenticity into their films.

Mark and Louis are currently writing their feature screenplay *Shopping*, a story of a young Samoan boy who escapes from home only to become trapped in a shoplifting gang masterminded by Charlie, a 50 year old man.

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## **DIRECTORS' NOTES:**

Mark: When I told my kids of the time I tried to escape from Raumati Beach primary school I knew we had the bones of a good story - they asked me to tell it a lot. The interesting thing is Louis and I went to that same school back in the 70's and when we were bouncing ideas to develop into a script he remembered the event.

Louis: Our classrooms lined the rugby field of our primary school. When this skinny little kid, that's Mark, sprinted past our windows with two bigger boys giving chase everyone dropped their work and crowded around to watch. It sounds comical now but from a kids perspective it was a big deal.

Mark: That's where *The Six Dollar Fifty Man* started. But another inspiration was my oldest son Jude (5) who believes he is invincible. On any given day you'll find him climbing up something ridiculously high or leaping off the garage roof. He freaks me out but he reminded me of my warped sense of reality that I had at the same age. I used to think by hanging onto electric fences it would make me bionic (give me super strength). I would then try to lift heavy things like my mum.

Louis: We wanted to take an adult audience and suck them into a small

boy's world to see the size and weight of something that as an adult we might overlook. It gives you a good heart or core to hang things on.

Mark: We spent a really healthy amount of time working the script and then hunted for our cast. We must have seen a couple of hundred 8-12 year old boys before we found Andy (Oscar). The irony is that after scouring so many schools to find the right amount of grit we discovered him right under our noses.

Louis: Oscar was 8 years old but even then he could cut you down with a frown - he is that sharp. So when we auditioned him it was really no surprise when Oscar delivered one of the most engaging improv we'd seen. We pretty much took him there and then and immediately started adjusting the script to accommodate for the strength of his natural character.

Mark: We are firm believers in getting the right cast. And in fact in this film we changed our story to accommodate for Andy's girlfriend in the film Celina (Mary). When we auditioned Celina together with Oscar she was the only one who managed to match Oscar's personality and who really felt like his friend.

Louis: We filmed on the Kapiti Coast (where the story came from) and took over Te Horo Primary School, borrowing their children for schoolyard extras.

Mark: We like telling stories that are familiar to everyone but unique from the rest of the world.

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## **PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHY:**

Wendy has over 20 years of film experience spanning a vast range of skills, across a variety of productions. Her time has been split between working & living in London and here at home, in New Zealand.

She began her film training in continuity, working on early shorts *The Lounge Bar* & Peter Jackson's early version of *Meet the Feebles*. Travelling to the UK in the late eighties, she pursued her interest in photography and worked as a camera assistant during London's hey day of pop promo production and also worked on several TV Dramas, most notably Dennis Potter's *Lipstick on Your Collar*.

In the mid-nineties Wendy returned to New Zealand with her young daughter, and worked in production on commercials & feature films. She also spent time at Weta Digital during the R&D phase of *Lord of the Rings*. In 2001 she was lured back to the UK to run Flying Fish's Soho based office.

Returning to New Zealand in 2006 she worked as Park Road's Post Producer. Projects included *Rain of the Children* and *The Tattooist*.

She continues to work as a freelance producer & line-producer on both commercial and non-commercial projects.

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**CAST:**

Andy	Oscar Vandy-Connor
Mary	Celina Russo-Bewick
Mr Hannah	Nick Blake
Mrs Rainer	Carmel McGlone
Max	Thomas Kimber
Jason	Sam Ahie
School Kids	TeHoro & Raumati Beach Schools

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**CREW:**

Directors	Mark Albiston & Louis Sutherland
Writer	Louis Sutherland
Story by	Mark Albiston
Producer	Wendy Cuthbert
Executive Producers	Shuchi Kothari & Sarina Pearson
DOP	Simon Baumfield
Composer	Connan Hosford
Sound Designer	Matt Stutter
Production Manager	Jonathan Hawke
Production Co-ordinator	Kate Sutherland
Continuity	Pat Robins
Unit Manager	Gabrielle Page
Production Assistant	Sophie Cherry
P/Ups Co-ordinator	Simon English
1 <sup>st</sup> AD	Darren Mackie
2nd AD	Adrian Carswell
Casting	Tina Cleary
Casting Assistant	Natasha Falconer
Chaperone	Lee Smith Gibbons
Stunt Co-ordinator	Rodney Cook
Stunt Doubles	Gala Baumfield & Liam Sorrenson
Focus Puller	Mike Knudsen
Clapper Loader	Jesse Neville
On-Set Editor	Mike Bridgman
Video Split	Natasha Turner
P/Ups Cameraman	Marty Williams
Sound Recordist	Chris Hiles
Boom Op	Benoit Hardonniere

Key Grip	Murray Love
Grip Assistant	Andy South
Crane Grip	Graeme Tuckett
Gaffer	Giles Coburn
Best Boy	Ryan O'Donnell
Genny Op	Lee Scott
Production Designer	Josh O'Neill
Props Buyer	Nicole Spackman
Stand-by	Clint James
Wardrobe Designer	Kate Trafford
Stand-by Wardrobe	Estelle
Stand-by Wardrobe	Phil Griffiths
Make-up Artist	Erin Kelly
Make Up Assistant	Jodie Clipstone
Catering	Blue Carrot
Camp Cook	Zoe McIntosh
Assistant Editor	Nathan Hickey
Post Production Coordinator	Peter Amies
Laboratory Liaison	Andy Wickens
Telecine	Matt Wear
Scanning & Recording Manager	Pete Williams
Scanning & Recording Supervisor	Nick Booth
DI Colour Grader	Jon Baxter
Sound Re-recording Mixer	Michael Hedges
Credits	Liam Bachler
Stills Photography	Gareth Moon
Additional Music & Music Editor	Joe Callwood