

Trespass

Presskit



TE TUMU WHAKAATA TAONGA

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Production Notes

Writers
Director
Producer
Production Company

Peter Larsen and Belinda Schmid
Belinda Schmid
Alex Cole-Baker
Chocolate Fish Pictures Ltd

Colour

11 minutes

1:1.85

Dolby Digital

Log Line

Some lines shouldn't be crossed.

Synopsis

Peace is disturbed when a car of youths arrives at a desolate lakeside property, waking its lone inhabitant John Macfarlane from his dream of a mysterious water woman. Aggressive and hostile in their presence, he easily intimidates the youths into leaving but as day becomes night, it is clear that the incident has unsettled him. Drinking heavily, the cracks in his stoic façade widen throughout the night. His need for comfort and contact brings the woman from his dream to his hut but ultimately is he ready to surrender to his desires?

Director's notes

TRESPASS is the demystification of New Zealand archetype of "The Man Alone"; similar to the lone hero in American westerns. Based on James K. Baxter's poem "*The Ballad of John MacFarlane*", the challenge in adapting the poem for film was to preserve the subtext and meaning of the original text, but also bring to screen some of the character elements that would not have translated directly from the poem.

John Macfarlane is the embodiment of masculine virtues: strength, stoicism, aggression, and independence. However, his dream life reveals a vulnerability not acknowledged in his conscious life, a desire for human contact and acceptance of the emotions he feels he must repress in order to be a man.

We specifically chose to film at Lake Tekapo in the South Island, because of its lack of vegetation, burnt grass, and dry earth – thus depicting the parched, sun baked, and desolate world that Macfarlane inhabits. The use of water in *Trespass* is linked to the woman, who represents Macfarlane's subconscious needs, and in Jungian terms his sexuality and emotions, its absence from Macfarlane's waking world suggests his attempt to survive and sustain himself without it.

The appearance of the water woman, a hallucination from Macfarlane's subconscious, is symbolic of the breaking down of his stoic mask. She appears as both threatening and desirable.

Director's notes Continued

Ultimately Macfarlane is threatened by her. He views his desire as a weakness, and because he has been repressed for so long, his desires have become magnified, more intense, harder to contain. He drinks in order to escape from his fear of losing control, but instead the alcohol acts as a catalyst to unleashing his feelings, widens the cracks, and reveals the damaged man beneath the mask.

Director's biography

Belinda Schmid is a New Zealander who completed her tertiary education in the USA and has since returned to New Zealand to live and work. She was among the top graduates of New York University film school, and later enrolled in the highly selective MFA Directing Program at the American Film Institute.

Her NYU graduate thesis film ***Outskirts*** was selected for the Young Filmmakers section at the Venice Film Festival, and was recipient of the Martin Scorsese Post Production Award, and the Warner Brother's Post Production Award. Her second short film ***The Painted Lady*** was screened at the Montreal World Film Festival, the Cannes Film Festival Forum, and was nominated for Best Short Film in the New Zealand Film Awards. TRESPASS is Belinda's third short film.

Producer's biography

TRESPASS is Alex Cole-Baker's fourth short film. Alex's previous works include: ***Fine Amour***, ***Iosua*** and 1994 Chicago Gold Plaque winner ***La Vie en Rose***.

Freelancing in the industry since 1991, Alex also has credits on over a dozen short films, as well as a large number of feature films, documentaries, television dramas and commercials, as production manager, production accountant and assistant director.

Whilst living in London in the late-90's Alex produced her first feature film ***Long Hot Summer*** and is currently pursuing new feature projects.

Credits

Cast

John Macfarlane	Michael Lawrence
Water Woman	Tessa Mitchell
Shane	Nathan Pohio
Girlfriend	Jenny Marie Evans
Other Youths	Abbe Bachelor
	Daniel Urlich
Dog	Holly

Crew

Director	Belinda Schmid
Writers	Peter Larsen and Belinda Schmid
Based on a poem by	James K. Baxter
Producer	Alex Cole-Baker
Executive Producers	Frame Up Films
DOP	Allen Guilford
Editors	Nicola Smith and Cushla Dillon
Composer	Don McGlashan
Sound Design	Chris Burt
Production Designer	John McQuilkin
Costume Designer	Sian Evans
Production Managers	Gary Strangman • Anne Williams • Angela Hovey
First Assistant Directors	Seamus Cooney • Richard Barr • Alex Cole-Baker

Crew cont....

Production Coordinator	Melissa Dodds
Production Assistants	George Husband • Esta Hutchins
Trainee	Daniel Ulrich
Unit Managers	Carey Cambridge • Matthew Oakes
Unit Assistant	Tim Borrell
Camera Operators	Allen Guilford • Dale McCready
Focus Pullers	George Binnersley • Brad Willemse
Clapper Loader	Kent Belcher
Underwater Photography	Sigmund Spath • Armie Armstrong • Dave Dawson
Gaffers	TK Bedford • Marc Mateo • Adrian Greshoff
Best Boys	Solomon Bollinger • Medi Ramezian
Gennie Op / Rain FX	James Martin
Lx/Grip Assist	Sam Marshall
Key Grips	Baz Newton McGinn • Adrian Greshoff
Grip	Carl Venimore
Sound Recordists	Grant Finlay • Jim Hannah
Boom Operator	David Stone
Standby Props	Phil "Kea" Jones
Props Buyer/Scenic Artist	Ana Schwarz
Construction Managers	Paul Colvin • Keven Seuerich Chippie Viv Jackson

Crew cont....

Makeup/Hair Artists	Angela Wyndham • Abbe Bachelor
Standby Wardrobe	Pip O'Brien • Charlotte Johansen • Kristina Simons
Armourers	Ian Napier • Gunner Ashford
Extras Casting	Dawn Walsh
Dog Wrangler	Angela Edwards
Water Safety	Paul Anderson
Safety Divers	Grant Baguley • Kuika Illingworth
On Set Security	Malcolm Boyne
Catering	Hukinga Caterers • 5 Loaves and 2 Fish • Thai Friends
Edit and Online Facilities	Images Post
Audio Facility	Inside Track
Assistant Sound Editor	Reuben Rowntree
ADR Artists	Marissa Stott • Gregory King
Musicians	Don McGlashan • David Long
Laboratory	Atlab New Zealand
Telecine Operators	Julie Thompson • Kim Hickey
Online Grade	Julie Thompson
Digitiser	Grant Kronfeld
Online Editors	Brenton Cumberpatch • Richard Hobson
Titles Design	seven.co.nz
Post-Production Supervisor	Grant Baker
Cameras and Lenses	Panavision • Marine Movie Films
Lighting Equipment	Local Action • T.E.L.E • Ado Production Services

Crew cont....

Grip Equipment

NZ Grip.Com.Ltd • Ado Production Services

Film Stock

Kodak

Insurance

AON Risk Services

“Wet Rubber”

Written and performed by H.L.A.H.