



SHORT FILM
competition
FESTIVAL DE CANNES

NIGHT SHIFT

A SHORT FILM BY
ZIA MANDVIWALLA

PRESS KIT



LOG LINE

Amidst the arrivals and departures, an airport cleaner faces the longest journey.

SYNOPSIS

Salote, an airport cleaner starts another long night shift. She keeps her head down, does her job and gleans her survival from what others leave behind. No one would usually spare her a second glance.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The story for *Night Shift* came about through considerable delays at airports and long hours flying to and from the antipodes.

Night Shift is a film about people who exist on the periphery. As we walk through the security checks, lengthy queues and muffled announcements, rarely do we notice or pay attention to someone like Salote – much less think about what her life might be like.

This is also a film about perception. How we perceive and judge others based upon their jobs, their appearances and their actions. And how those perceptions can shift and judgements can be misguided until we fully understand the nature of someoneelse's predicament.

Night Shift shows us a different side of a country renowned for its majestic natural beauty and its idyllic lifestyle: a more 'interior' landscape, in every sense of the word.



APPROACH

Shot over several nights on location at Auckland International Airport, *Night Shift* is set against the thoroughly authentic backdrop of a fully functioning international terminal.

The film's delicately observational style evolved from a need to remain unobtrusive to the day-to-day workings of the environment, actors were sent out into the world of the airport while the camera remained invisible, observing from a distance. The film features dramatised scenes alongside real, incidentally captured moments.

Bringing Salote's story to life involved considerable research into the world of the airport cleaner. Aside from numerous nights spent observing and photographing the airport in its various public and 'behind the scenes' spaces, writer/director Zia Mandviwalla and lead actress Anapela Polataivao followed cleaners on their shifts and learned for themselves what real night shifts are like.



THE FILM MAKER WRITER / DIRECTOR

ZIA MANDVIWALLA



A Zoroastrian- Indian by birth and parentage, Zia Mandviwalla immigrated to New Zealand in 1996.

Zia's work thus far has travelled to film festivals worldwide including London, Pusan and Melbourne.

Her films carry a host of awards, including Best Short Film Script at the 2005 NZ Screen Director's Guild Awards, Best Director and Best Short Film at Fitzroy Shorts in Melbourne and a grand jury nomination at the South Asian International Film Festival in New York in 2008.

Zia was also the recipient of New Zealand's New Filmmaker of the Year Award in 2009.

Zia has represented New Zealand at the Berlinale TalentCampus and at the prestigious Accelerator program at the Melbourne International Film Festival.

In 2008, she spent four months in India working alongside Nandita Das on her directorial debut Firaag, the award winning, multi-lingual feature film based on politically contentious material in India.

Since 2010, Zia has been a writer/director represented by Curious Film. Night Shift is her fourth short film.

AWARDS

2009 – New Filmmaker of the Year, Screen Production and Development Association NZ

2008 – Grand Jury Award Nomination, South Asian International Film Festival, New York

2006 – Best Director and Best Short Film, Fitzroy Shorts, Melbourne

2006 – Best Short Film Script, Richmond Road Short Film Festival, NZ

2005 – Runner Up SPADA New Filmmaker of the Year, NZ

2005 – Best Short Film Script, New Zealand Screen Director's Guild Awards

2005 – Audience Favorite, Brisbane International Film Festival

2005 – Honorable Mention, International Women's Film Festival, Torino

2002 – Kodak Award, Best Short Film, Wellington Fringe Film Festival

AMADI Festivals

2010 Melbourne International Film Festival, Australia, 2010 New Zealand International Film Festival, New Zealand, 2010

Hawaii International Film Festival, New Zealand, 2011 Australia Refugee Film Festival, Australia, 2011 Show Me Shorts Film Festival, NZ, 2011 Asiana Film Festival, Korea

CLEAN LINEN Festivals

2007 Melbourne International Film Festival, Australia, 2007 New Zealand International Film Festivals, New Zealand, 2008 San Francisco Asian American Film Festival, USA, 2008 Portable Film Festival, Australia, 2008 Seoul International Family Film Festival, Korea, 2008 South Asian International Film Festival, USA, 2009 Magma Short Film Festival, NZ.

EATING SAUSAGE Festivals

2004 Official Selection Pusan International Film Festival, 2004 London Film Festival, 2005 Brisbane International Film Festival, Vladivostok Film Festival, Cinema Jove Film Festival (Spain), Palm Springs Film Festival, Rhode Island International Film Festival, Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival, Fitzroy Shorts Melbourne, Richmond Road Short Film Festival.



ARI WEGNER (DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY)

Born in Melbourne, Australia in 1984 and now based in New Zealand, Ari is a cinematography graduate of the Victorian College of the Arts School of Film and Television. In her graduating year she attended the Budapest Cinematography Masterclass in Hungary and in 2009, the Berlinale Talent Campus as part of the Berlin International Film Festival.

Her cinematography work extends from feature length drama to short films, music videos, commercials and documentaries. Her short film credits as cinematographer, include Hawker (2008) by Dustin Feneley, Catch Fish (2006) by Adam Arkapaw, Go The Dogs (2010) by Jackie van Beek, Bino (2011) by Billie Pleffer and Lily (2011) by Kasimir Burgess, which won a Crystal Bear for Best Short Film at the Berlin International Film Festival 2011. Her work has screened at numerous international film festivals including Berlin, Rotterdam, Tribeca, Locarno, London, Cinema Jove, Sapporo and Melbourne. She shot her first feature film for director Kivu Ruhorahoza, Matière Grise, which premiered at Tribeca Film Festival in 2011. Shot in Kigali it is the first Rwandan feature film made by a Rwandan filmmaker.

DAVID COULSON (EDITOR)

David Coulson is one of New Zealand's most experienced editors. After graduating from the Canterbury School Of Fine Arts majoring in Film he worked initially as an editor in television, primarily on documentaries and drama.

Since the 1980's he has edited a wide range of material, including features, short films, and commercials. Much of this work has been awarded both locally and internationally, and the feature film Whale Rider was an international box-office success. Night Shift is the third short film he has edited to be selected for Official Competition at the Cannes film festival.

CAST

ANAPELA POLATAIVAO (SALOTE)

Anapela Polataivao is a graduate of The New Zealand Drama school - Toi Whakaari. She is currently an Acting tutor at the Pacific Institute of Performing Arts in Auckland and is Artistic Director of New Zealand's leading Pacific theatre company, Kila Kokonut Krew Entertainment.

LEON DOBRINSKI (YURY)

Leon Dobrinski's career spans more than 30 years and over two continents. A resident actor for prestigious Russian theatre companies National Lenkom Theatre, National Academic Theatre and the National Maya Kovsky Drama Theatre. Now, having relocated to Australia, Leon's credits include: Feature Film The Man Who Sued God, and series' Going Home for SBS Australia and All Saints for the Seven Network.



MATT NOONAN (PRODUCER)

In 1999 Matt started Curious Film, One of Australasia's most dynamic production companies, producing music promos for some of New Zealand's best-known musicians and TV commercials for the region's top advertising agencies.

Recently, Matt has produced award-winning documentaries and short films such as the beautifully atmospheric Manganui, by director Summer Agnew, Rites Of Courage and Uso, by director Miki Magasiva. He was associate producer on digital feature Bikini Bandits: Curse of The Pirate's Bootie and on the feature documentary Trouble Is My Business, directed by Juliette Veber.

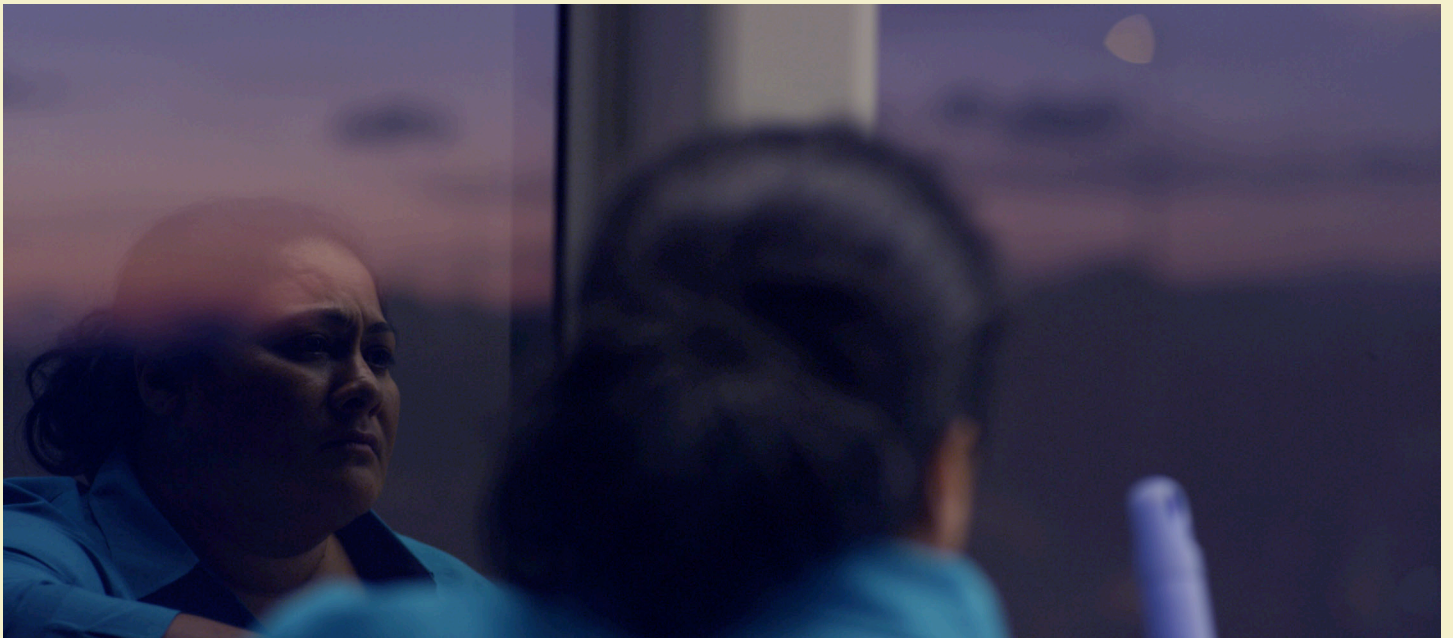
He was co-producer on both Stephen Kang's feature film Desert which premiered at Pusan 2010 & also Stephen's short film Blue, which won Best Short Film at the 50th La Semaine de la Critique at Cannes in 2011. Noonan worked with Chelsea Winstanley on Nightshift and Tammy Davis short film Sonny My Older Brother.

CHELSEA WINSTANLEY (PRODUCER)

Chelsea Winstanley graduated from EAVE the European Audio Visual Entrepreneurs Producers workshops in October 2011 and is now pursuing a career in international co-productions. She has been involved in the film and television industry for almost 10 years. She is an independent producer and part owner of StanStrong a NZ based production company. Throughout her career she has produced and directed TV Series, Documentaries and Short Film. She has won and has been nominated for Media Peace Awards with her documentaries.

Chelsea co-produced her first short film in 2007 Patu Ihu by Summer Agnew. As a producer she has made several short films including Sam Holst's Meathead - Official competition Cannes 2011 and Crystal Bear winner Berlinale 2012, Tammy Davis's Ebony Society - Sundance, Berlin 2011, Kararaina Rangihau's Taku Rakau E Imaginative 2010, recently completed Sonny My Older Brother her second collaboration with Tammy Davis and now Zia Mandviwalla's Night Shift Official competition Cannes 2012. Chelsea has worked on feature films in various production roles including the highest grossing NZ film of all time Taika Waititi's Boy, Anthony McCarten's Show of Hands and Etienne Chatiliez L'oncle Charles.

Chelsea is currently the NZ principal producer for feature film JOJO Rabbit with writer / director Taika Waititi and is developing several screenplays. She has been an executive board member of Nga Aho Whakaari, has sat on the governance board of WIFT – Women in Film and Television NZ and in 2009 Chelsea won the Woman to Watch Award at the WIFT Film and Television Awards.



CAST

Salote

Anapela Polataivao

Yury

Leon Dobrinski

Aleki (child-boy)

Desond Malakai

Ana (child-girl)

Anapela Nimeti

Supervisor

Bree Peters

Mum

Trudi Nelson

Child

Freida Joiner

Workmate

Ramesh Narsai

Teenage Boy

Bejamine Lewer

Teenage Girl

Ana Blackman

Hostess 1

Janet Pyo

Hostess 2

Jane Kim

Hostess 3

Holly Shin

Hostess 4

Dawoomi Kim

Phone Voice

Miki Magasiva

KEY PRODUCTION CREDITS

Production Company

Curious Film

Writer / Director

Zia Mandviwalla

Producers

Chelsea Winstanley,

Matt Noonan

Executive Producers

Maile Daugherty,

Michael Bennett,

A Collective intake Of Breath

Director Of Photographer

Ari Wegner

Art Director

Michael Williams

Wardrobe

Jasmin Edgar

Editor

Dave Coulson

Original Score

Warren Maxwell

COUNTRY OF PRODUCTION

New Zealand

Date of Completion

2012

Format

35mm & Digital

Ratio

1:85:1

Duration

14 mins 30 secs

Genre

Drama

INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION & ENQUIRIES

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NIGHT SHIFT

AMIDST THE ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES,
AN AIRPORT CLEANER HAS THE LONGEST JOURNEY

CANNES SCREENINGS

WEDNESDAY 23RD MAY 11AM BAZIN THEATRE (PRESS SCREENING)

SATURDAY 26TH MAY 11AM DEBUSSY THEATRE

SATURDAY 26TH MAY 2.30PM THE BUNUEL THEATRE

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