# FLIMMAKERLIFE

Special Edition 2023

Issue Nr. 41



## "A FIRE IN AFRICA"

UNVEILING THE EPIC ODYSSEY OF A TRIBE'S RESILIENCE

FEEL THE HEAT, SENSE THE SPIRIT

CINEMA'S TRIUMPH OVER TIME

FROM KUNENE TO KOLMANSKOP

> WHEN HISTORY WEAVES ITSELF INTO THE SAND





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# World Class Film Awards



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## **Editor's Note**

Welcome to a cinematic marvel, an odyssey that transcends the boundaries of time and space. In this special edition of FilmmakerLife Magazine, we immerse ourselves in the brilliance that is "A Fire in Africa" – a film that not only captivates the eyes but also ignites the soul.



Within these pages, we unravel the tapestry woven by **Gerhard Uys**, a cinematic maestro whose vision has resurrected a tale lost in the annals of history. As you flip through, discover the magic that **Neels Smit's** editing mastery has brought to life, where each frame is a brushstroke in a canvas of arid landscapes and resilient spirits.

**Etienne Marais**, the orchestrator of digital revolution in film marketing, takes us behind the scenes of the exceptional campaign that propelled "A Fire in Africa" to global recognition. Join us in celebrating the intellect and vision of these filmmaking virtuosos.

This issue of **FilmmakerLife Magazine** is a celebration of great artists and storytellers who shape culture, create empowering social policies, and magnify the brilliance of communities towards thriving futures. We believe that artists are the champions of their own stories, reclaiming their histories with love and truth.

Together, we can create history by amplifying the creative wonder of FilmmakerLife's filmmakers and their projects to an international audience.

The Filmmaker Life Mayazine





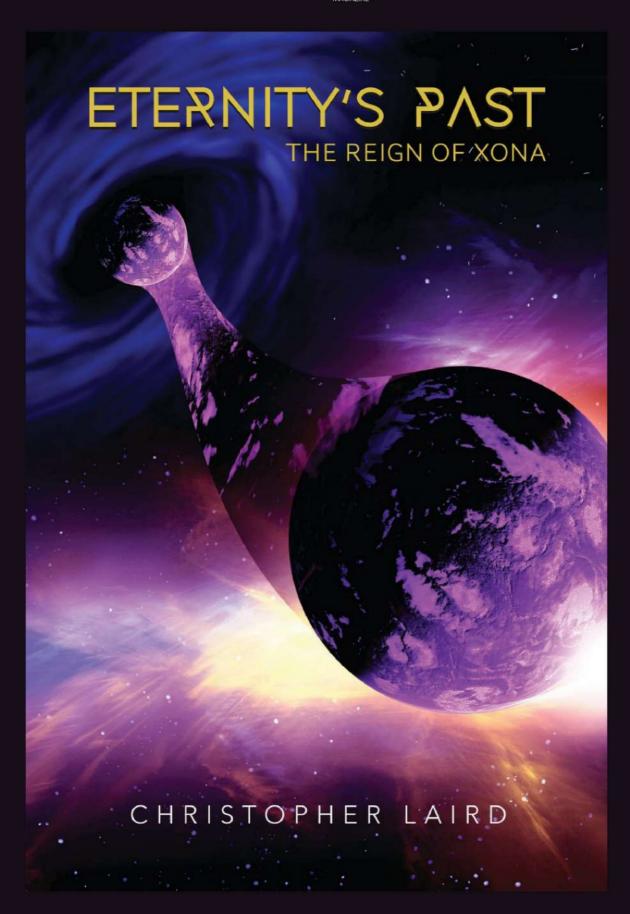


Discover new cultural threads, yours and those of your beloved community members, through films that open doors to new experiences. We urge you to join us on this exciting journey and create your own history. Let your light shine and be proud of your unique voice and vision.

Welcome to The FilmmakerLife

Magazine, a space where inspiration meets creativity. May this issue inspire and delight you, as our filmmaker's work have delighted the world.









# OBSERVATION OBSERVATION

HAN Sisisi ZHANG Xiaoming CAI Shaotian HAN Zeqian

#### A HAN Zeqian Film







GREAT GOOSE STUDIO with SHOEBILL PRODUCTION present a HAN Zeqian film"OBSERVATION"

Produced by: BAI Tingshu Cinematographer: SUN Jianxi Editing: CHEN Mo. KEDAKE POSTPRODUCTION

Sound: ZONG Handi. SMOKING SOUND



#### "A Fire in Africa" - A Man's Journey to a Universal Truth



Step into the enchanting world of "A Fire in Africa," a cinematic masterpiece that has redefined the boundaries of storytelling. This extraordinary film has emerged from a 33-year hiatus to claim eleven Best Picture Awards at esteemed international film festivals, solidifying its place in cinematic history.

#### A Captivating Story

Prepare to be transported into a world where the past shapes destiny, where a tribe's survival hangs in the balance, and where the human spirit defies daunting odds. "A Fire in Africa" is not merely a movie; it's an epic odyssey, a

masterpiece, and a tale that will captivate your imagination.

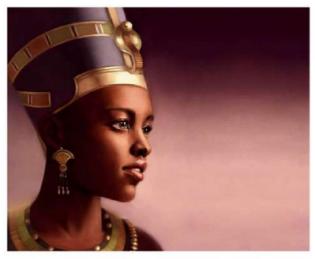
"A Fire in Africa" unfolds the gripping narrative of the OvaHimba tribe of the Namib Desert. Descendants of the Ancient Egyptians from the era of Queen Nefertiti, the OvaHimba were once Africa's wealthiest nomadic tribe. Now, envision their dramatic exodus from their beloved Kunene homeland with lush green foliage and water-rich plateaus. They fled the relentless grasp of the German army during the 1904 Herero-Nama war, finding their only safe haven in the unforgiving embrace of the Namib, the oldest desert on Earth. In this arid wilderness, where even the most basic necessity, water, is a rarity, the tribe's character transforms. They remain peace-loving while becoming as relentless as the land they inhabit, offering a striking contrast in their existence on the brink of extinction. Amid this turmoil stands Chief Nguzu, a man of unwavering hope, whose faith rests on the young shoulders of his grandson, Omusuverua. Omusuverua's destiny takes a breath-taking twist when he stumbles upon the mystical art of karate at a nearby army base during the tumultuous South African Border War. It's a transformation that defies belief, a testament to the boundless power of the human spirit.



"A Fire in Africa" is a unique cinematic experience - an immersive journey into the annals of history, an exploration of enduring truths, and a visceral narrative that has challenged the intellect of its viewers since its release.

#### Intellectual Challenge

"A Fire in Africa" is not just a film; it's an intellectual exploration that delves into deep figurative comparisons, employing motifs, symbols, and metaphors that challenge the audience's intellect. The intricate use of circular motifs and abstract metaphors, like the protagonist's quest for water with deteriorating juxtaposed structures in the ghost town of



Kolmanskop, invites viewers to decipher hidden meanings. At its core, it tackles the theme of human sustainability, symbolized by the executive toy "equilibrium," prompting viewers to ponder its significance. To assist



audiences to better understand these cinematic techniques, Nickelodeon Films have produced "The Making of A Fire in Africa" video, which not only explains the concepts but also provides a behind-the-scenes look at the filming process, including the challenging

90-second helicopter scene that required a full day to capture. You can watch this video at **www.afireinafrica.com**.





#### **Arctic Film Festival Review**

According to the Arctic Film Festival (AFF), the film's narration is as insightful as it is poetic. Historical re-enactments, including a captivating lion fight scene, masterfully tell the story. The abandoned town of Kolmanskop and Omusuverua's desert journey



#### International Acclaim

With an astounding evolution, "A Fire in Africa" has earned an impressive 37 awards, including 11 Best Picture Awards from countries as diverse as Germany, England, France, Portugal, Spain, Croatia, Mexico, and Australia. This film is now accessible to a global audience of over 200 million subscribers in 133



are portrayed with meticulous detail, and the martial arts scenes remain impressive throughout. "A Fire in Africa" offers a high-production learning experience that deserves widespread distribution and appreciation.





countries on platforms like Prime Video and TUBI. It's more than just a film; it's a testament to the enchantment of storytelling, challenging even the most discerning film critics.

#### Director Biography

Gerhard Uys, adorned with an impressive array of seven academic qualifications, holds an unmatched distinction in South African cinema with his Ph.D. in Motion Picture Production. "A Fire in Africa" serves as a testament to his directorial brilliance, captivating discerning film enthusiasts.



Dr. Uys has also made significant contributions to scriptwriting, with his screenplay "Frankie's Flyer" published by Dizzy Emu in Hollywood, printed in Las Vegas and licensed to Grundy TV Australia, and distributed by Amazon

Books in Washington DC.

#### **Editor Biography**

Neels Smit, a stalwart in the realm of video editing with two decades of expertise. renowned for his mastery of visual effects. His impeccable editing of "A Fire in Africa" played a pivotal role in the film's acclaim at international film festivals. Furthermore, Neels has been instrumental in Netflix's acquisition of the feature film "Eintlik Nogal Baie," solidifying his role in bringing outstanding productions to the screen.





#### Marketing Strategist Biography

Etienne Marais, with a background in the South African film industry qualifications as a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer, was ideally positioned to thrive in the digital revolution of film. His expertise in web development, graphic design, and online marketing allowed him to orchestrate an exceptional marketing campaign for "A Fire in Africa." This campaign garnered unprecedented recognition at international film festivals, and the acclaimed Filmhub in Los Angeles distributed the film globally across 14 VOD TV channels.



#### Producer's Achievements

Gerhard Uys' illustrious career, from his early days as a film editor at SABC TV to his leadership at the Pretoria Technikon Film School, has showcased unwavering prowess. He has produced an array of productions, including documentaries and commercials, and had the honour of producing "The Inauguration of F'SATIE," presided over by former French President Jacques Chirac. Amidst his achievements, "A Fire in Africa" stands out as a cinematic triumph etched in history.

Join the Journey

To embark on this cinematic journey and experience the magic of "A Fire in Africa," watch it on TUBI or PRIME VIDEO.









#### Discover More

For comprehensive information about "A Fire in Africa," including media releases, trailers, gallery, cast and crew details, and a list of awards, visit: www.afireinafrica.com. Explore the world of "A Fire in Africa" and become part of its extraordinary legacy.







"Home Is" has been used in an NHS GP training context to trigger discussions about the value of understanding patient's stories, social prescribing and the listening skills needed to build trust quickly and tell stories in an authentic and collaborative way.



#### Home Is

"Home Is" shows a social prescribing model of healthcare in practice. The film highlights how members of Barnet Asian Women's Association (BAWA) support each other with talking therapies, shared activities and the writing and performance of plays.





PUNE

KADAM

Sachin is a hardworking teenager with a big dream that one day he will make his mark in the world of cricket like a legendary cricket player Sachin Tendulkar - whom he is named after. Sachin lives with poor family in a metro slum area of Pune. He has an immense love for cricket but can't afford professional coaching. He finds a way to train himself. He watches other kids practicing under coach and learn from it.

One day, at inter-school cricket competition, he impresses the selection committee and gets a chance to show his skills in All India Under-18 Team Selection process. But destiny has planned something else for him. Sachin Live from Pune is a universal story of how minor sport injuries which teenagers choose to hide in fear of financial burdens on parents, could affect their dreams, sometimes the life.



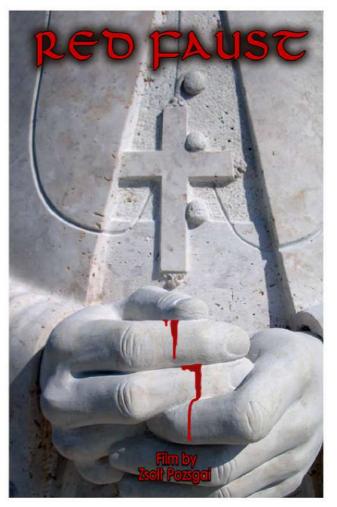
### Exploring the Universal Tapestry of "RED FAUST" with acclaimed filmmaker - Zsolt Pozsgai



Can you share the journey of adapting the play "RED FAUST" into a film, and what inspired you to undertake this project?

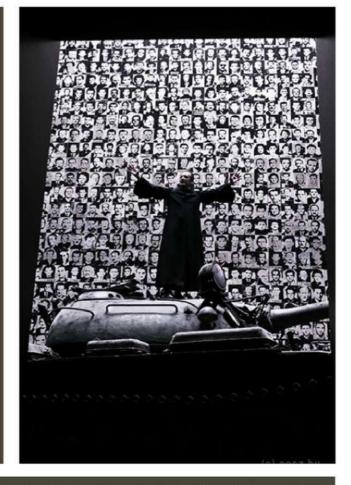
In my country, Hungary, it's not a rare evening when a successful theatre production is turned into a TV play or a TV movie, or even a feature film. The title of my original drama is "I Love You, Faust," and it is about one of the most important figures in 20th-century Hungarian history. A bishop who consistently spoke out against hatred, violence, and terror during the wars and the communist dictatorship. For this reason, he became a nuisance to all the new political regimes and was frequently imprisoned. However, the people released him several times, and he resumed his work each time. Towards the end of his life, even the Roman Pontiff was uncomfortable with the bishop's continued existence and work, attempting to silence him. The Hungarian people hold this martyred bishop in great esteem.

In the world of filmmaking, where stories have the power to transcend borders and cultures, there are certain tales that possess a remarkable ability to resonate with audiences from every corner of the globe. Such is the case with "RED FAUST," a cinematic journey that not only encapsulates the rich history of Hungarian martyrs but also delves into the intricate interplay between the roles we inhabit within ourselves. We had the privilege to interview the acclaimed filmmaker Zsolt Pozsgai to delve into the transformative process of bringing this unique story to life on the silver screen.





The drama about him has been continuously staged in Budapest for twenty years with the same cast. I was approached by Hungarian television to create the film version, but they also wanted to dictate how I should write the script - which characters to omit, especially those who were disliked by politicians, and whose roles I should reassign. I was not prepared to comply with those demands, nor was I willing to create a biopic that would span his entire life from childhood to death. I don't believe in that approach. I believe that in the life of every historical figure, there are one or more events or periods that can be portrayed in a way that encapsulates the essence of the protagonist's life without changing actors or ageing them as the story progresses. Of course, there have been successful films made with this concept, but this is not one of them. In both the drama and the film, the bishop is placed in a prison cell in 1944 alongside the most famous male actor of the era, Jávor Pal.



This is a historical fact. By depicting their encounter, I was able to portray the bishop's activities, sufferings, and joys. The actor, like a Mephisto, reveals to the bishop what his future will hold once released from prison, the tragedies he will have to endure, and then he must make a choice: to continue and face them or to commit suicide. Subsequently, the actor takes on several roles, as do other actors in the film. Five actors portray approximately twenty roles. I have maintained this dramaturgy in the film. When I expressed my desire to make the film according to my vision, my friends supported me. These included professional artists, cinematographers, visual designers, and other artists, as well as world-class film technology companies that provided me with the best camera and lighting technology free of charge. So, we had access to the best technology for our work. With only a total of \$15,000 in cash available, I had to consider where we could shoot the footage. That's when the House of Terror Museum in Budapest was completed - a modern, state-of-the-art museum unparalleled in Europe. Given its six-story structure portraying the fascist and communist dictatorships, the interior spaces were well-suited for depicting a man's life without having to leave the museum premises. The prisons, video installations, the military tank inside the building, and even the glass lift were all suitable. So, I set the script within these spaces, and that's how we filmed the project, which, at the time, was still a TV drama. In total, we were able to work for four nights, from the museum's closing time until its morning opening. This required significant organisation and precision from everyone involved. Alongside the cameraman, Mark Győri, and the chief lighting technician, we carefully planned and set up scenes in every room of the museum, from the attic to the cellar. These spaces became the backdrop for the main character's life.







Zsolt Pozsgai, as a filmmaker, could you delve into how the transition from a stage production to a film impacted the storytelling of "RED FAUST"?

What we say on stage in the theatre must be seen in the film. The acting is magnified in the film, and certain dialogues become redundant. At that time, I had already written nearly two hundred scripts for television or film, which I had realized, and it was more of a pleasure, a challenge than a

difficulty. Nearly half of the drama had to be discarded, as the laws of film are quite different. The dialogue remains the primary element, but you can perceive a whole other world in the background. This duality imparts the film's style. At the time, we didn't anticipate it being a feature film; we were thinking in terms of a TV drama. It's very interesting how an actor needs to be taught to portray a stage role that has been performed for a very long time in a completely distinct manner in a film. The gestures, accents, and even the volume differ. We rely much more on movements, eye contact, and playing with the body instead of words. However, by collaborating with exceptionally talented actors, we managed to make this transition swiftly. Additionally, there were scenes in the play that would have been unnecessary for the film, so we omitted those.

Photography often plays a pivotal role in the filmmaking process. How did Zsolt Eöri Szabó's involvement as a photographer impact the film's overall visual storytelling, particularly in capturing the essence of the House of Terror Museum?





Márk Győri and I have collaborated on several occasions; we are familiar with each other's thoughts. He also enjoys working in abstract spaces, transitioning from the real to the unreal world. He was genuinely enthusiastic about the task. Each room and space presented a significant challenge for him—how to manage the lighting and which aspects to emphasize. For instance, if I mentioned that we were filming a clandestine meeting, my intention was for the audience to feel like they were observing the scene through a keyhole, and Márk Győri executed this brilliantly. When we needed a location in the museum to represent the Roman papal suite, we found one. Similarly, when we had to portray a surreal journey and had the two main characters frequently ride the glass elevator, we later edited it to appear as one continuous journey.





Photography often plays a pivotal role in the filmmaking process. How did Zsolt Eöri Szabó's involvement as a photographer impact the film's overall visual storytelling, particularly in capturing the essence of the House of Terror Museum?

Many times I had to work quickly, often with only a few days. But never so few. As a director, I had to be prepared for every situation. With the technical crew, we had to determine precisely what would happen at each location, the type of camera movements we were planning, and the lighting effects we intended to use. We also had to consider how to capture professional-quality sound recordings. The actors were well-prepared; we rarely had to halt shooting due to forgotten lines. I worried about whether the artists and the crew could physically endure from eight in the evening until eight in the morning, especially the two main actors who appeared in the film almost continuously without rest. It wasn't easy. One morning, around three o'clock, my friend Adam Lux, who portrayed the main character, collapsed, trembling and struggling to breathe. We were deeply concerned and immediately called for an ambulance and a doctor. However, the actor insisted on continuing. He requested injections, and after a brief rest, he resumed working. I've shared a photo of him lying on the floor, wrapped in a warmer garment, with his concerned partner kneeling beside him.





Everyone waited for the doctor, and he continued working until morning. I had the opportunity to collaborate with exceptional artists with high energy levels. We knew we had a limited time to make the film, and that brought our team together. Everyone was passionate about and believed in what we were doing, and that's a tremendous source of strength.

The relationship between the Priest and the Actor seems to be a central theme in the film. Can you explain how this dynamic is explored, and why it resonates universally across different cultures?

Obviously, the main character and his story are known to Hungarian audiences, but I enjoy creating films that can be appreciated worldwide. Not just in film but also in theater. Ten of my plays are currently being performed somewhere around the world, in theatres from London to India. In this film, it's the historical reality, the actual encounter, that intrigued me. It's a dialogue between a Priest and an Actor about a period, about life, about one's own life. And I believe we all possess this duality: within us, there's a priest representing faith, conviction, someone who prefers solitude, solitary prayer, and living in that faith. Simultaneously, there's an actor, for whom success and applause are paramount. To be present everywhere. These are two opposing desires.





The choice of whether to behave as a priest or an actor in various life situations falls upon us. It's often not an easy decision to make. To me, this film revolves around that theme. However, of course, viewers can also learn about a very intriguing historical situation in Hungary during the era of wars and dictatorships, which might pique their interest beyond the film's philosophy. And the list goes on. I've had the opportunity to attend numerous festivals, and I've found that even in a Buddhist country, people comprehend the film, a film about a Catholic bishop. But why wouldn't they? We are all human beings on this planet.



Your decision to reject political demands during the film's creation seems to have been pivotal. How did this decision influence the film's overall message and impact?

I believe that politics have no place in art because politics are subject to change, while a film you've created remains unchanged. In Hungary, politics attempt to influence the art of filmmaking, often entrusting big-budget films to individuals with no

prior experience, thereby causing significant harm to Hungarian cinema. I am an independent film director, and I hold a deep appreciation for the world of independent films, where producers refrain from dictating the actions of the cast and refrain from interfering in the creative process. Furthermore, in these productions, money's role is typically a primary concern, focusing on how much profit a producer and their associates can extract from a film. I've independently produced my own films on several occasions, so I am acutely aware of the costs involved. The funds we receive or generate have been allocated towards compensating the crew and the artists. Consequently, I receive an increasing number of projects from organizations or private individuals who genuinely support the art of filmmaking rather than being solely driven by profit motives.

The film's journey from a TV project to a feature film is intriguing. Could you discuss the process of reworking and polishing "RED FAUST" to transform it into a full-fledged feature with international appeal?

Originally, I wasn't the producer of the film but rather an individual with no interest in the film's fate or its future. For twelve years, we requested multilingual subtitles to transform a TV drama into a feature film, but he consistently refused. When our contract expired last year, I assumed ownership of the film, and I immediately started working on it. We conducted additional editing on the film, added subtitles, revamped the lighting, and improved the sound quality. All of these efforts were necessary because my previous two films, "THE DEVOTED" and "DARKING WAY," had received numerous festival awards, and festivals were increasingly requesting new films from me. Furthermore, this film, "RED FAUST," has gained popularity not only



in our most recent success in Zimbabwe, the film was broadcast on television there. For me, there's no greater pleasure than that.



Building upon the success of "RED FAUST," How do you envision your future projects aligning with your artistic vision and the impactful storytelling that defines your filmmaking?



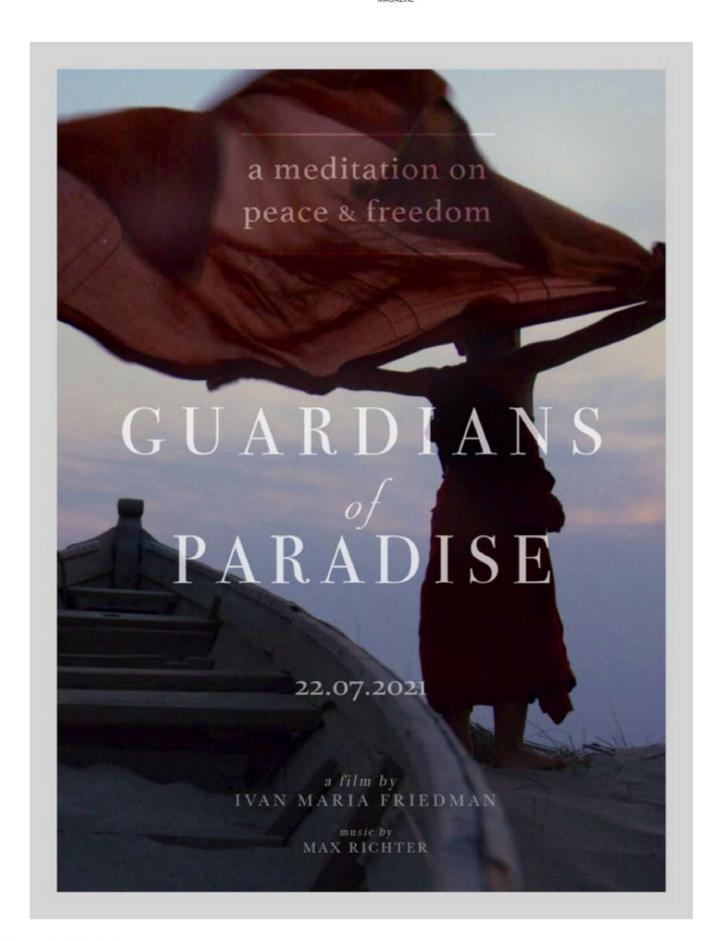


After the success of these three films, I have received several requests. I'm currently working on a documentary, and it's in progress. I also have a historical film in development, set in the 14th century, as well as another project focused on a contemporary event related to the subject of migrants. Additionally, I have a strong desire to create a genuine ballet film that incorporates a compelling narrative. There are plenty of themes and ideas to explore, and I am actively seeking partners from around the world who share a passion for producing truly independent films to collaborate with me. They say that you don't age when you have a multitude of plans waiting to be brought to life. If that's the case, I anticipate a long and fulfilling life ahead.











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Film Director - Simon Miles Constantine

#### Lady Samurai - Overview

While the Samurai were outlawed long ago, the ritual and prowess associated with a deadly blade brought with it an understanding of perfection, combining mind and body. Today this same art is assimilated in the practice of lai-do, the Art of Drawing the Japanese Sword. The journey to perfection for the Samurai is a journey rarely undertaken by anyone outside of Japan, particularly by a western



#### **Director Biography - Fay Yvonne Goodman**

As a Director/Producer of the award winning 'Thunderfingers: A Tribute to John Entwistle' of The Who Fay is committed to profiling important public issues such as her more recent short documentary on Lady Victoria Starkey: 'Riches to Rags'.

From the age of 6, Fay composed music and as a singer/songwriter with China Doll went on to have a top 10 hit in EMI France. She continues to compose her own music and writes jointly with other artists including Mark Wolski as featured on Lady Samurai.

Fay is one of the world's highest ranked female martial artists on several disciplines including laido (Way of the Sword) and internationally acclaimed author of several books. She is passionate about sharing her knowledge as a coach and mentor to martial artists and sport pupils of every ability, disability, culture, gender, and age.

Fay's desire to raise awareness of the many benefits martial arts has to offer led to her being the author of internationally acclaimed best-selling books: The Ultimate Book of Martial Arts' and 'Self Defence for All'.

Other authored works includes DriveSafe for Female Motorists; DriveSafe and StaySafe Guide and 'Beating Crime in Your Business, Is Your Business' for small businesses.

Studying martial arts encouraged Fay to develop the UK's first NVQ on 'Personal Safety at Work' and VRQ on 'Handling Violence in the Workplace' which has led to a new system SHEFUAY promoting self-protection and empowerment for vulnerable adults, women and girls.

Fay's passion to support children's safety includes a new children's brand The Conies' which is also now a registered charity to help primary school safety in all areas especially road safety, supported by the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership and Pertemps Network.

As a leading campaigner Fay is fighting to 'Save Barrows Lane football fields and community hall' for the health and safety of children, young people, and all residents in Yardley.









# You Rock, Zé Perri!

#### BY ZÉ DASSILVA

In this fiction set in 1930 and inspired by real events, the legendary aviator and writer Saint–Exupéry lands in Florianópolis, in southern Brazil, to help a humble artist who lives in the city to fulfill the dream of the woman he loves: taking her for a ride in an airplane.

Zé Dassilva has been working as a screenwriter at Rede Globo (the main television network in Brazil) since 2000. He is one of the screenwriters for Imperio (winner Emmy International 2015 as best telenovela), broadcasted in Brazilian prime time (watched daily by 30 million viewers and released in 30 countries). Along 20 years, he'd written some epoch-making TV series in Brazilian TV (as Sai de Baixo, Casseta & Planeta, Linha Direta and Malhação). He'd produced, written, and directed two non-fiction movies about soccer. Working as a cartoonist as well, he is passionate about histories that involve people who draw – like this one he has created for the movie "You Rock, Zé Perri".









#### Overview

Struggling with his past history of violence, Ramon tries to salvage his relationship with his son, Umberto, as his wife, Maria, files for divorce, threatening to block Ramon from seeing Umberto. After his recent job loss forces him to to seek desperate options, he succumbs to a woman's offer for help and finds his violent ways set in motion unexpected consequences.



#### **Director Statement**

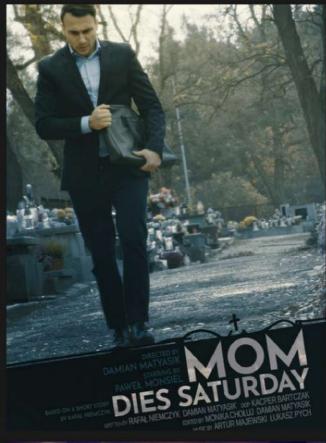
Film is such a powerful medium for capturing, exploring and interpreting all dimensions of human experience. A director has the unique opportunity to guide a viewer towards some new insight or understanding of that experience.





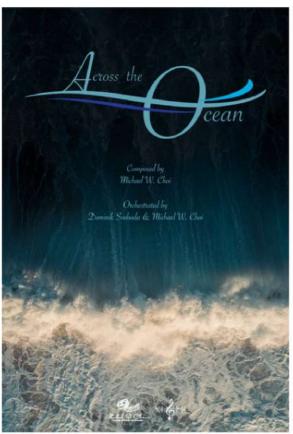
# OF CONSEQUENCES











The ocean — both wild and calm, dangerous and beautiful — is made up of majesty and mystery, and it is indeed a force of nature we stood in awe. While we may appear very small to such of the greatness ocean. human endeavors and emotions can powerful like the ocean. Beyond the horizon of the sea, we may have someone dear to one's heart. Especially during this stressful year, it's important to reflect on all of the kinship, blessings, and emotions you miss. So I wrote this piece of music and made this clip, dedicating it to all the people who love the ocean and miss their loved ones who may be missing you across the ocean.

A former musician finds his life turned upside down when he re-encounters the woman who caused him to walk away from music in the first place.













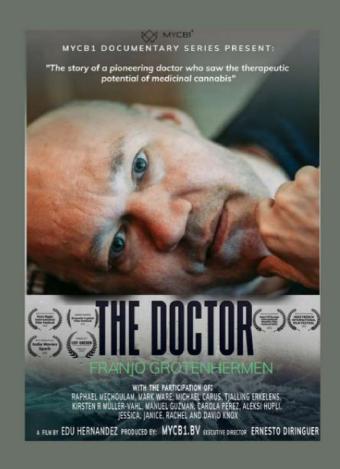
'The Piano Man' tells the story of Pianist Michael. During rehearsals before the start of his concert, the piano sounds very out of tune. When Michael checks all the keys on the piano it becomes clear what is really inside the piano.

The Doctor is a documentary about the life of Franjo Grotenhermen, a pioneering doctor who saw the therapeutic potential of medicinal cannabis

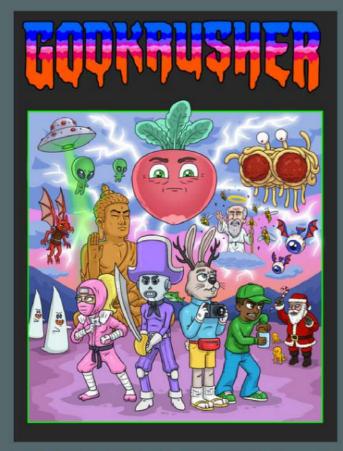
A doctor, a researcher, and a political activist who has been fighting for the right of his patients to have legal access to medical cannabis.

The documentary takes place during the 10th Conference on Cannabinoids in Medicine in Berlin in 2019, organized by the International Association for Cannabinoids in Medicine (IACM) which Franjo co-founded and directed for several years. "

The documentary is a journey through his life and work of the last 30 years with interviews with his colleagues and fellow scientists like Raphael Mechoulam, Mark Ware, and R Müller-Vahl, Manuel Gúzman etc..



#### FILMMAKERLIFE MAGAZINE







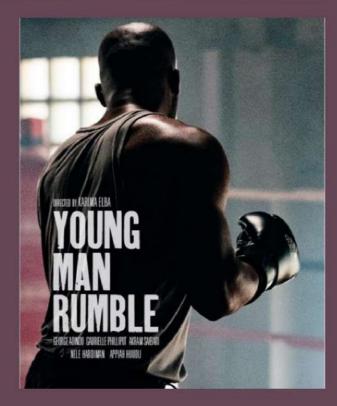




"A fighter's journey gets intervened when someone close returns into his life after a long absence. Trough the guidance of family and friends, he finds the courage to seek answers."



## YOUNG MAN RUMBLE





CAM 3 02:35:48:18 • REC

PHOTOWORKS presents

#### [unfinished

a film by sudeep mehta



A super-short/micro silent student film made for Harvard University (DCE)

ANAND JADHAV | RISHI SINGH | AMIT PALKAR
produced by: WORLDWIDE PHOTOWORKS & SUDEEP MEHTA | music: YASH BHALEKAR
camera operator: ANIKET CHEULKAR | assistant director: SHUBHAM WALAVALKAR
lights: PARTH DAVE | vfx: SUDEEP MEHTA & PRAVIN KASKAR
written, directed, photographed & edited by: SUDEEP MEHTA

09/07/2021

Bld. 6 NE







A young woman tired of being coddled because of her hereditary heart condition enters an intense physical relationship with a young man obsessed with ice swimming.

During a wintery night out in Copenhagen, Louise spots a young man swimming naked in the canal. What starts as a confrontation ends in frenzied passion in Magnus' apartment. They dive into a relationship almost competitive in its intensity, both struggling to trust one another. Louise hides from Magnus the hereditary heart condition that requires her to take daily pills and avoid strenuous physical activity. She learns that Magnus has always wanted to go to the Faroe Islands but has not done so out of fear of flying. Magnus eventually takes her to his favorite spot, a secluded beach in the North of Denmark, to swim together in the freezing sea.

She refuses, almost telling Magnus about her condition, but when he taunts her she makes the decision to prove that she can do it, to herself as well as to him.

# KOLD

Magnus is in his element and enjoying the experience when Louise goes into shock. A panicked Magnus runs away into the forest. We do not find out what happens to Louise, but instead are transported to the Faroe Islands. Magnus has moved on from his fear of flying and we see him on the Faroese shore, alone, affected and suddenly identifiable. He takes in the scenery, inhales deeply and walks towards the sea, returning to his isolation once more.











## STAY ALIVE, MY SON

Upon being shown a photograph of a 6-year old boy, now digitally aged to 50, Yathay Pin's realities collide. Haunted by his inner demons, his guilt his surfaces for abandoning his son to escape during the Cambodian genocide. The Player, embodying Yathay, plummets into his mental prison, containing locked memories. As they experience Yathay's journey, they discover his reason for living: to reclaim all that he lost and to reunite with his son. Therefore, finding his salvation and healing his heart.

Directed by Victoria Bousis

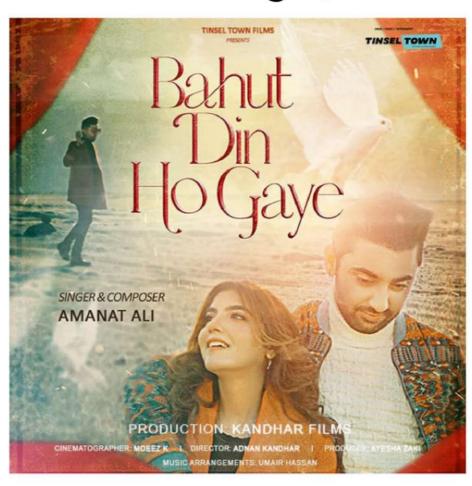




## Bahut Din Ho Gaye (It's been so long...)

Tinsel Town Films presents Bahut Din Ho Gaye, a Hindi language with English subtitles music video that will melt your heart. A song sung by Amanat Ali whom you will also see acting in this most lovable music video of the year. Bahut Din Ho Gaye, a masterpiece produced by Ayesha Zaki and Directed by Adnan Khandar has won millions of hearts at the various film festivals worldwide.

Amanat also rendered his voice as a playback singer in Bollywood movies, including Dostana for the songs 'Khabar Nahin' and KC Bokadia's 'Junoon'.





#### **Artist Statement**

Amanat, who holds Canadian citizenship, claims that the video contains an unexpected twist that viewers will be surprised to see, and that the song is a treat to listen to.

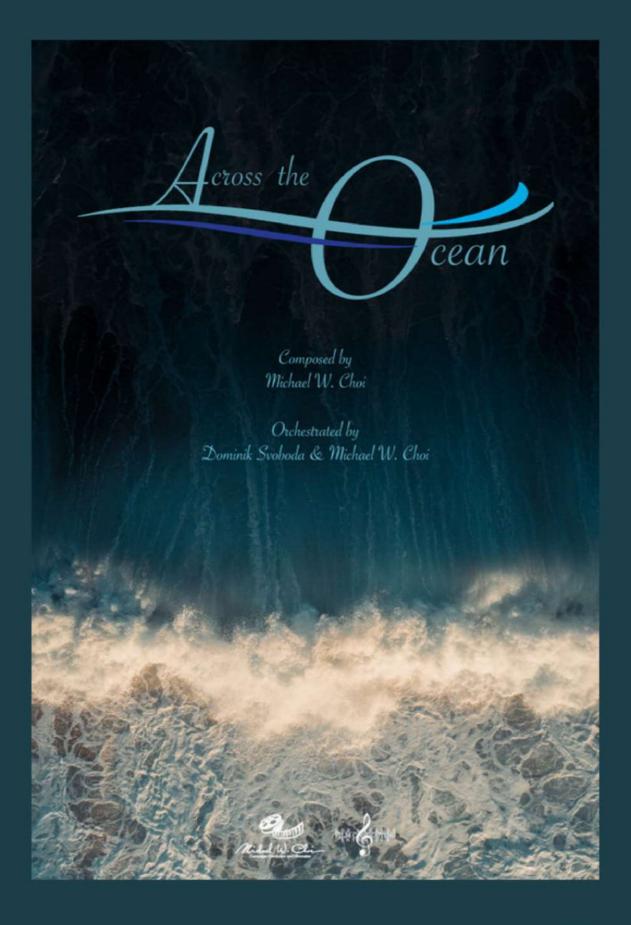


#### Directed by Wing Ka Francisca So

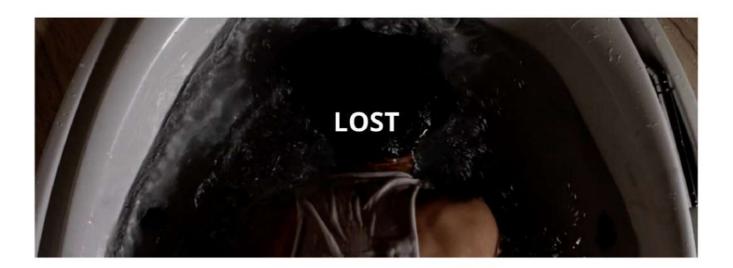
The story centers around temple youth Wei, who discovers the benefits of being a holdout when his grandfather urgently needs money for surgery. In order to get more money out of property developers, Wei teams up with Rainy, a girl opposed to community reconstruction, to apply for historical landmark status for the temple his grandfather left him.

From performing traditional religious ceremonies to participating in a global singing and dancing competition, Wei and Rainy's efforts to enhance the value of the temple capture the attention of the public by participating in a global singing and dancing competition. As their relationship grows over time, they also find themselves torn between family, friendship, and even love.









By dramatising the fundamental insecurities and weaknesses that every single one of us experience on a daily basis, this is an experimental film that illustrates the journey of a person finding renewed hope and confidence through embracing one's true self, confronting insecurities, and living with flaws.



Directed by Michael Ian Poon, Tyler Fang, James Wang





The Land of Ahimsa is a feature-length documentary that strives to inspire and encourage India to adopt a vegan lifestyle. Indians are waking up to the truth that all animals deserve a chance to live. India is considered the land of Ahimsa, which means non-violence to all living beings in our actions, thoughts, and words. As a country, we citizens have drastically grown apart from the true meaning of this word. The mission of this documentary is to convince India as a whole that it is time to put this word back into action in what we say, think, and do.

The film follows Dolly Vyas-Ahuja on her journey to veganism. Once vegan, she made it her mission to educate and create awareness regarding the cruelty of the animal agriculture and dairy industry, as well as its impact to animal rights, personal health and the environment. Just like her grandfather, a freedom fighter who marched alongside Gandhi to liberate India from British rule, she strives for animal freedom and liberation.

Gandhi once said, "The moral of a nation can be judged by the treatment of its animals." Like Gandhi and her grandfather, Dolly has a dream that India will rise up to the true meaning of non-violence, Ahimsa, choosing justice over habit and creating a new divine imprint.

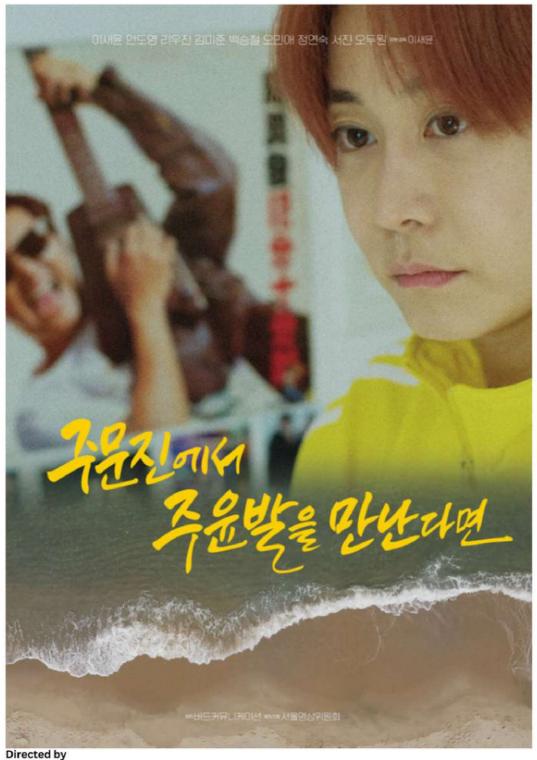
Produced by Dolly Vyas-Ahuja and Mayur Ahuja

Directed by Aryeman Ramsay





## JUJUMAN - If you meet Chow Yun-Fat at Jumunjin



Directed by Sea\_yun Lee



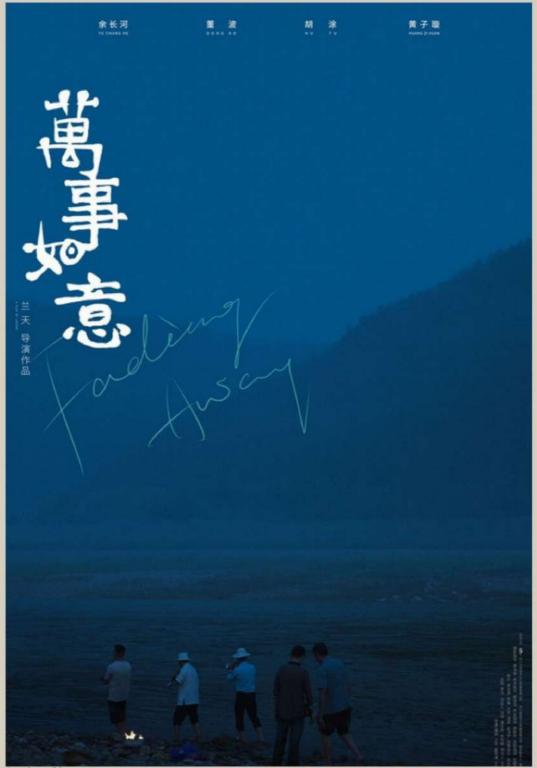


Under a starry night, Grandpa shared with his granddaughter his big secret that he came from outer space. Grandpa decided to take the doubtful girl on a magical space journey to let her see for herself.



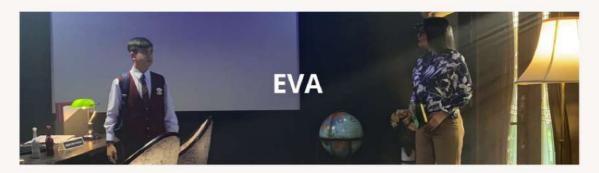
A Film by Ruohan (Eve) Ren & Zhenzhen (Rosy) Yue

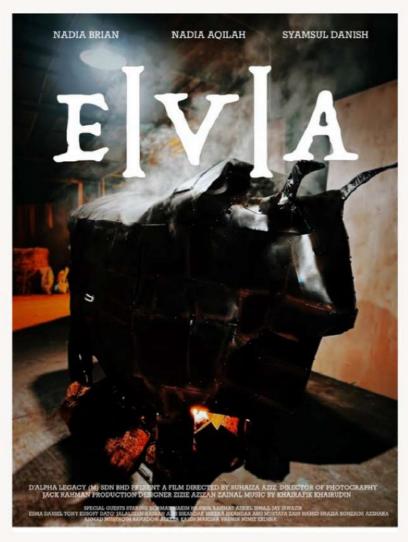




Produced by Dylan Lei & Tian Lan

Directed & Written by Tian Lan





Eva, Amy and Mike are different alters trapped in one body. Eva, being the host of the body had to deal with her different alters. The different personalities were developed over time as a result of her coping mechanism due to childhood trauma. Eva too has a son, who is trying to understand her situation and Elly her sister who had always been by her side. Eva became a prosperous lawyer while having 2 more alters, Amy the forensic and Mike a murderer. Due to her childhood trauma, the hunger for revenge feeds on Mike causing him to kill the rapist which Eva will set free during her trial.

Produced and Written by Diyana Ismail & Nur Aminahtul Mardia Md Nor

Directed by Suhaiza Aziz





Directed by Raymond Lau

#### "How long have you not been home since you worked in a foreign country?"

With the theme of young people and grandparenting, it describes the heroine who was brought up by Grandma and working away from home. One day the heroine returned to her hometown in Taichung when Grandma was ill. The heroine finds a wooden box full of memories that have broken in the grandmother's room. Through the process of repairing the wooden box, she goes through the streets and reminds her all memories of the family love, and gradually reveals the unspoken love. In this film, the out-of-town heroine who returns to her hometown leads the audience into her life and shows the culture of Taichung.

The core spindle of the story tells not only the relationship between grandma and granddaughter but also hopes to bring everyone a growth story with the memory of Taichung City.

#### **Director Statement**

A-Hâ's Egg Cake, released in 2022, is a Taiwanese animated film based on the stories of family affection and memories through delicate and realistic scenes, combined with full of Taichung regional accents and slang which provoke a strong sense of emotional resonance amongst the audience.

We used both CG and hand-drawn animation in A-Ha's Egg Cake, with high contrast lighting and warm colors to create the specific atmosphere, leading everyone immerse in the memories and stories in Taichung as the heroine did.

As the story goes on, it seems to reveal those feelings and homesickness that gradually being ignored by everyone due to the routine busy working life. For those strangers in the city - Live of the moment, and cherish your loved ones! According to A-Hâ, " To make living, to be positive."



Film Director - Raymond Lau

An artwork by HUNTER & GATTI

# Nick INFINITE Fouquet

The film has been shot with infrared camera. Infrared cinematography opens up a whole new spectrum of light not visible to the unaided eye, breaking with the preconceived reality.

A FILM BY HUNTER & GATTI INTRODUCING NICK FOUQUET
PRODUCED BY THE NEAR EAST SUITE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY OLIVIA SEGARRA
MAKE UP ARTIST JAMES McMAHON



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