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CELEBRITY BUZZ

Check Out The Film That's Sending Local Movie Makers To HOLLYWOOD

19 September 2019



Husband and wife filmmakers Jess Milne and Nick Bolton are on their way to Hollywood after winning the inaugural Short + Sweet Illawarra film competition, Sunday 15th September.

Their short film *The Road to Vagator* won Best Film, Best Illawarra film, Judges choice and Peoples choice, in the top 20 Finalist categories (WATCH IT BELOW).

The couple, who live in Bulli on the northern beaches of Wollongong, also cleaned up in the Wildcards (best of the rest) with their short film *The Narrabundah Boy*.

Winning Short + Sweet Illawarra means that *The Road to Vagator* automatically qualifies for Short+Sweet Hollywood 2019 running in Los Angeles in September and October this year.
(<https://www.facebook.com/Wavefm>)(<https://twitter.com/965wave>)(<https://www.instagram.com/965wave>)

Director and cinematographer Jess Milne says: "Short film festivals are so important to provide a platform for local filmmakers, help build a community, and enhance the arts culture in Wollongong. We are very grateful to Festival Director Luke Berman and his team, for all their hard work in providing this platform for us. The standard of the local Illawarra films was very high"

The Road to Vagator was made by Nick and Jess on honeymoon in January 2018 and has been screened at over 20 film festivals around the world winning Best Film in Mumbai, and the Coal Coast Film Festival in Thirroul in March 2019

Jess says: "Our honeymoon took us firstly to England to see Nick's Dad, via a stopover in Hong Kong. We then flew to India via a stopover in Dubai, for our honeymoon in Mumbai, Goa and Kerala. We were excited by the challenge of just the two of us making most of the film in 5 countries. Travelling light means we couldn't take much equipment, so we filmed on just one DSLR, a GoPro and mobile phones. Our editor James Vass worked wonders in the edit, sound and grade to make it not only festival worthy but capable of winning festivals."

The film synopsis describes the film "A man is issued a series of challenges, by an unknown person, and left with no option but to carry them out, taking him from London to Sydney, via Dubai, Mumbai, Goa, Kerala and Hong Kong."

Writer and actor Nick Bolton commented: "it's a difficult film to describe as there is a very big twist halfway through that reveals what the man is doing. It's a very personal film, a very autobiographical film, and one that resonates with all audiences. Tissues are required by most people!"

CHECK IT OUT:



The Road To Vagator | TEN ALPHAS ORIGINALS

12:16



[The Road To Vagator | TEN ALPHAS ORIGINALS \(https://vimeo.com/277855679\)](https://vimeo.com/277855679) from [TEN ALPHAS \(https://vimeo.com/tenalphas\)](https://vimeo.com/tenalphas) on [Vimeo \(https://vimeo.com\)](https://vimeo.com).

The films will be shown at the sister events in Short +Sweet Illawarra starting this Friday.

20 September | SHORT+SWEET CABARET AND COMEDY SHOWCASE

At the Illawarra ITEC, 1-5 Miler street, Coniston at 7.30pm

27 - 29 September | SHORT+SWEET THEATRE WEEK 1 | [Buy Tickets \(https://www.trybooking.com/BEMFB\)](https://www.trybooking.com/BEMFB)

11 - 13 October | SHORT+SWEET THEATRE WEEK 2 | [Buy Tickets \(https://www.trybooking.com/BEMFH\)](https://www.trybooking.com/BEMFH)

<https://www.facebook.com/wavefm><https://twitter.com/965wave><https://www.instagram.com/wavefm>

at the Bridge Street Theatre Coniston

Performances: 7:30pm Friday+Saturday, 5:30pm Sunday

More information at <https://blackboxtheatre.org/shortsweetillawarra/>
(<https://blackboxtheatre.org/shortsweetillawarra/>).



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