

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT



COSMIC ADVENTURES

DIRECTED BY BAILEY POCHING



PRODUCED BY MARONUI TAIMANA

Synopsis:

Kent Lasershaft is a superhero for the ages.
A defender of the weak and hero of the innocent.
He's also the creation of Kent Edwards, a quiet nerd who finds solace in his fantasy creation:
the world of *Cosmic Adventures!*

But what Kent does not realize is that the biggest threat to his fantasy world is not his fictitious villains,
but rather, the hubris of its own creator.

The worlds of science fiction and superheroes are very familiar to us, and yet, they are, in many ways drastically different to our own. Kent is a young boy who spent his childhood in these worlds and has built an entire mythology of his own making. But what happens when your worldview is informed by comic books and TV shows?



FACT SHEET

Title: Cosmic Adventures

Writer/Director: Bailey Poching

Producer: Maronui Taimana

Production Company: South Seas Film & Television School

Budget: 500 NZD

Cast: Kurt Utai-Laurenson
Bryn Henry
Ward Dinsdale
Michaela Hilder
Bailey Poching

Narrator: Murray Keane

Locations: Auckland, New Zealand

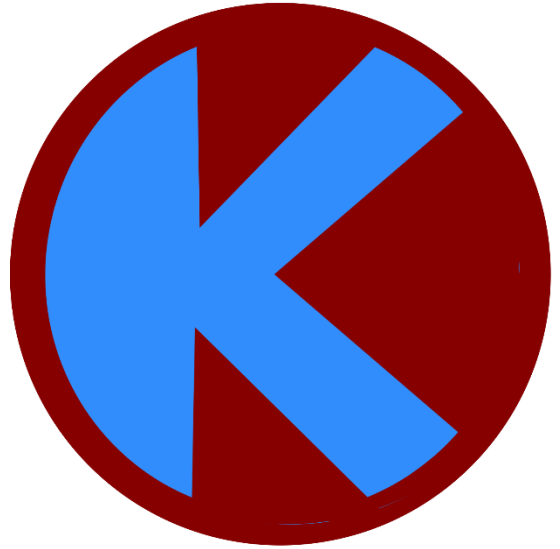
Technical: Colour
Aspect Ratio 16:9
1080/25p
Stereo Audio

Camera: Sony FS700

Language: English

Runtime: 13 min, 29 sec

On Set Photographer: Maronui Taimana



DIRECTOR:



Bailey Poching | Director

Bailey Poching is a 20-year-old director, actor and comic book nerd who has spent the better part of the last two decades trying to make a movie about a brown superhero. In *Cosmic Adventures* he has, for the most part, succeeded.

As a Samoan/Māori Raised in the cold grey suburbs of West Yorkshire, England, Bailey's childhood was fraught with identity issues, stemming mostly from a lack of representation in the stories he held so closely.

There were no Samoan supermen, no Māori romcoms. With that in mind Bailey geared his career towards telling stories for his people in any way he can. From fantastical space operas to ensemble comedy dramas there's no ceiling to his ambition, but there is a singular guiding vision: to create a world where his children see themselves on the big screen.

DIRECTOR STATEMENT:

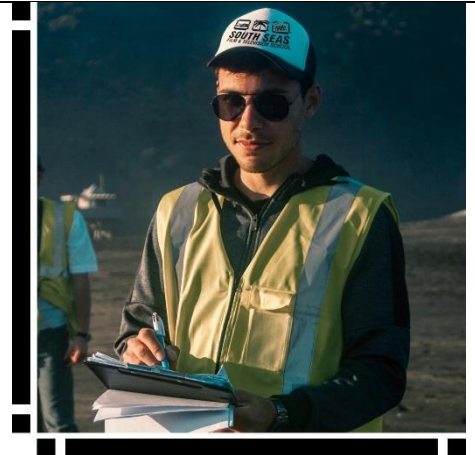
Cosmic Adventures is a film about creativity. As a naïve cynical creative whose characters are thinly veiled self-portraits, I wanted to make a film about naïve young creatives whose characters are thinly veiled self-portraits. *Cosmic Adventures*, at its core, is about the dichotomy of reality and fiction, and its arc is similar to that of Poching's own development as a creator.

PRODUCER:

Maronui Taimana | Producer

Maronui Taimana is a 19-year-old Polynesian filmmaker & photographer, inspired by promoting indigenous cultures around the world.

Passionate by all aspects of his crafts, he has directed, produced & shot several short films as well as short documentaries. Having worked for the past 3 years as a camera operator, a first AD & an editor in the industry on various projects he has spent the last year gaining a Diploma in Screen Production at South Seas Film & Television School in Auckland, New Zealand.



PRODUCER STATEMENT:

From the second I heard Bailey's pitch I knew that this story would had a huge potential, and that it really needed to be tell & share with people.

Cosmic Adventures is not only the story of Kent Lasershaft and his adventures through the stars, but also the story of the Kurt, inside all of us, which try day to day to find his place into this world.. Being directly attached to his character and his journey along the story, I've put all my efforts into this production to bring the best of everyone and create with the team a successful film! The production has been as much challenging as fun to produced, working with this great team brought a lot of energy on and off set, which helped us going through the issues.. It has been a long process involving a lot of efforts from everyone, but which brought to the story the quality we got on screen now..

Follow us in this incredible journey through the stars..!

CAST:



Kurt Utai-Laurenson | Kent Lasershaft

Kurt Utai-Laurenson is a 19 Years Old Samoan/German/Cook-island actor. Born in NZ Auckland & raised in South Auckland attended De La Salle College a All boys private school. Kurt was in a play in primary school and got a lead role after that he went into high school taking Drama from year 7-13 no thought in becoming an actor because he has been offered to play rugby overseas. In year 13 Kurt Utai-Laurenson was offered a role in a South Seas short film called the Dawn Raids directed by a graduate student Destiny Momosiea after that he just knew that acting was his calling.

Kurt Utai-Laurenson auditioned at Unitec Performing and Screen Arts.. Which took him now on his 2nd Year, something he never looked back since. Kurt have theatre and screen acting experience. Also loves playing sports experienced in Rugby, Basketball & Athletics.

His future goal is to obviously to make the big screen in USA but he knows that it's definitely going to be a struggle but right now Kurt Utai-Laurenson just wants to get more screen & theatre experience in New Zealand before going overseas developing his art..



Bryn Henry | Donna Dangerous

Bryn Henry grew up in a small town in the Bay of Plenty called Whakatane. She is of Cook Island and New Zealand Maori descent, and her iwi are Whakatohea and Tainui. Her inspiration and passion for performing arts came after she started primary school, becoming involved in theatre productions throughout her schooling years. Music has been a significant part of Bryn's life, learning to play musical instruments at a young age. Bryn plays the flute and guitar, and began busking around the age of 7 with her younger sister Alex. She has since performed solo, singing and playing for various shows, competitions and functions.



She credits her love and inspiration for music from her guitarist father Wayne, and still enjoys “jamming” with him and her sister. She has also trained in jazz and hip-hop dance for over 10 years during her time in school. Upon finishing high school, she moved to Auckland at 18 years old to study a communications degree at Auckland University of Technology. After graduating 3 years later, she worked full time for a year, before pursuing on screen acting at South Seas Film and Television School.





Ward Dinsdale | Lord Tunsapus

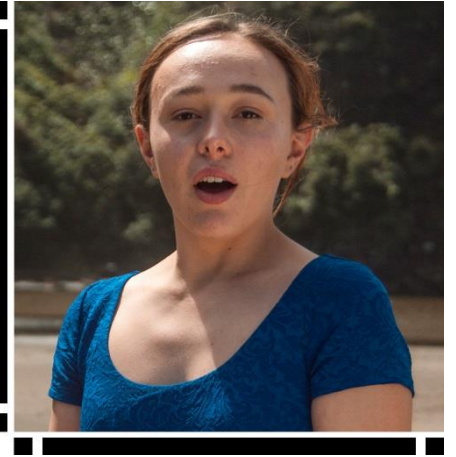
Ward Dinsdale is 20 years old and grew up in Matamata. He studied at Matamata College where he took drama classes all through his time there. In his last year he performed in a year 13 production with his fellow classmates. He never had experience in the performing arts prior to high school but when he started being involved in them, he never looked back. He grew up with his mother, father and sister. He excelled in sporting activities such as volleyball and athletics. His family weren't involved in the performance industry.

His father played some piano and guitar but that is it for performing arts in his home, but his parents always encouraged his love for the arts and always supported him in his choices. He has an affinity for all adrenaline sports, anything that is potentially dangerous including but not limited to cliff jumping, bungee jumping. His special skills include firearms handling experience and a strong swimming background.



Michaela Hilder | Princess Blue

Since moving to New Zealand three years ago from South Africa, Michaela Hilder has been completing a Diploma in On screen acting, at South Seas Film and Television School. Having done three shows with KISS theatre & stage co; Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs, Toms Magical Imagination and Rapunzel, she joined the New Zealand Performing Arts Junior Associate. After dancing as apart of their program for a year she then moved to Auckland Academy Of Dance. One of her final projects was “Cosmic Adventures” in which she describes as having a “Fun and well written script”, overall enjoying the making of the film.



Murray Keane | Narrator

Actor/director Murray Keane played a 60s teen in TV's *Peppermint Twist*, multiple roles in sketch show *Away Laughing*, a soldier in *Chunuk Bair*, and a zombie victim in *Braindead*. In the 90s he moved into directing, with short films and episodes of *Shortland Street*. Keane has since helmed multiple episodes of *Outrageous Fortune* and *The Almighty Johnsons*, and co-created cross-cultural car drama *Ride with the Devil*. He was nominated at the 2006 NZ Screen Awards for police show *Interrogation*.

MAIN CREW:



Taylor Armstrong | Editor & Continuity

Kia Ora, my name is Taylor Armstrong, being creative has always been a big part of my life growing up. Whether it be performing in Kapa Haka, drawing, acting or editing it's always been a passion I took with me wherever I went, and I went a lot of places growing up! After graduating high school, I went on to film school where I studied On Screen Acting which then lead me to study editing. I feel that having a background in acting has enhanced my abilities as a storyteller immensely, I understand the nuances of a performance and what's needed to drive the story. Studying at South Seas has been very testing both technically and creatively but, just as equally rewarding. The projects I have been able to be a part of this year have allowed me to challenge myself and grow creatively each time. I am very proud of what I have created and can't wait for it to be shared.

Bo Beaufill | 1st Assistant Director

Bo has always been a story teller, starting to write from the moment they were able to hold a pen. They spent their childhood writing, and in high school they discovered Dungeons and Dragons, and started exploring different methods of storytelling. Bo fell in love with television and web series and decided that was what they wanted to do.

They're most comfortable as a writer, but any aspect of film excites them, as it's all storytelling.

Their ultimate goal is to create stories that makes people think deeper about the world and people around them. They also want to provide positive representation of minorities, specifically the LGBT community which Bo identifies strongly with as a non-binary individual.

Bo is easily excited by stories that are geeky, original, creative, thought provoking or well representative of minorities, and you can expect a lot of enthusiasm from them when they get to be involved with these kinds of stories.



Daniel Barrington | Camera

When Daniel found out he was gifted with better than 20/20 vision he knew he wanted to pursue a career in some form of visual art. And with his already established love for film and television he knew that was the path for him. He originally wanted to be an editor, but after editing throughout high school he got sick of sitting at a computer and wanted to experience the action for himself. Which drew him to Camera, Lighting and Audio.

Lavinia Gomes | Art Director

Lavinia Priyanka Gomes is an international student that grew up in Selangor, Malaysia.

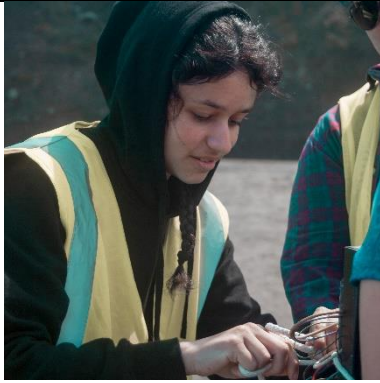
She has always been drawn to the creative and loves SPFX gore Makeup hence her starting her own online business for soap and lip balm when she was 14 years of age she continued to study in makeup and started as a freelance SPFX makeup artist by the age of 16.

In 2018 she travelled to Auckland, New Zealand to study a Diploma in Screen Production at South Seas Film & Television School where she majored in Production Design, because of her passion in SPFX makeup and all things DIY, Lavinia gained a wide range of experience as an Art Director and Costumer.

Art directing is something she hopes to pursue as she really enjoys prop making, creating sets, and just transforming the director's visual into reality.

Her goal is to one day be a part of movies such as the Conjuring series, The Grudge or Harry Potter.





Nadia Gharehbaghi | Art Director

Born in 1998, Nadia grew up in a small town in southwestern Germany. She came to New Zealand in January 2018 where she studied Art and Design at South Seas Film and Television School.

Her passion for film was discovered when she watched the making of *The Lord of the Rings* Trilogy. The work of the art department inspired her to try and pursue a career in the film industry.

Since she was a child, she always loved to draw and build things. At South Seas she especially enjoys prop making and set dressing but she learned skills from various parts, including wardrobe, set building, and working with the directors' scripts when she studied at South Seas. One of her greatest loves is the making of clay models in which she is always aspiring to get better.

Her goal is to build a career in the production design area, especially as an art department in the film industry.

Georgia Quaid | Wardrobe

Georgia has always loved the beauty and creativity of film and television, studying media studies for three years in high school is where she stated to follow a career path into this industry. Through a supportive teacher Georgia found her way into South Seas Film and Television school, this is where Georgia discovered that her passion lies within Art Department where she could allow herself to be creative and passionate about art. Specialising in set dressing, props and costume she learned to take control artistic side by designing or putting together costumes and making props like books that would be used to illustrate someone's dream through film. Georgia hopes to pursue this creative path and have a successful career in the film and television industry.



Finn Bowman | Lighting

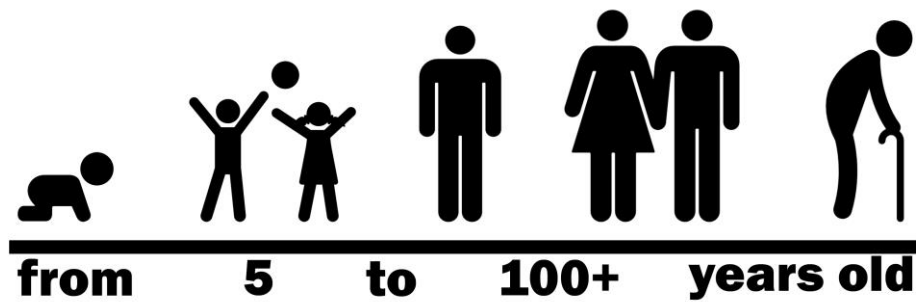
Since a young age Finn has been immersed in arts. During his years at school he was drawn to painting and photography, with this his father then gifted him his first camera. After school Finn spent some years in Wanaka, this is where his photography evolved. The beautiful landscapes captivated and inspired him and his camera captured these distinct memories. Moving back to Auckland and his childhood friends, his images changed. He would now capture his friends and the people around him in their most innate state. This passion for photography is what drove Finn to study camera, lighting and audio at South Seas. Watching films as a child, Finn became fascinated by the technical aspects. How certain movements, lighting and shot sizes can augment the visual side of telling the story. Finn believes studying cinematography at South Seas is the next step in developing his passion for photography and he is excited to see where it will take him.

Titus Sutherland | Audio

Titus Sutherland has always had a passion for the arts and all things creative. Upon discovering a burning passion for film, he moved from Christchurch to chase his dreams and study at South Seas Film and Television School in Auckland. Having explored many creative mediums, Titus wants to apply these different experiences to his work in the hope of telling meaningful and compelling stories through camera, lighting and audio. He has his sights set on entering the Film and Television industry to learn and gain new experiences but more importantly, do what he loves most!



TARGET AUDIENCE:



Intended mainly to a young audience, Cosmic Adventures is definitely a film which can spoke to anyone, youth as well as mature adults keeping a child soul.

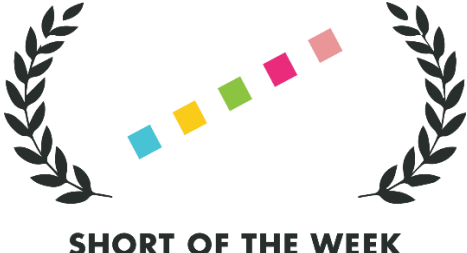
It's a film which will reminding to the oldest the era of Space Knights (*New Zealand TV Show - 1989*). And to the younger the famous TV comics that we all know.


Starring a Pacifica actor and coming from the mind of multiple Pacifica people, It's a film which will definitely fit to a Pacifica audience and other in order to promote our young talented filmmakers.


Currently only available in English, we are seriously thinking to work on a French version of the film and maybe more, in order to reach as many people as possible.

FESTIVALS:

	<p>Maoriland Film Festival Otaki, New Zealand</p>
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	<p>Short Of The Week Brooklyn, New York City, USA</p>
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	<p>FIFO <i>Nuit de la fiction</i> Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia</p>
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	<p>In The Palace Sofia, Bulgaria</p>
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Even if we try to get into comedy/fiction film festivals first. Our main goal is to reach as much film festival as possible and reach a worldwide audience.

COSMIC ADVENTURES

CREW



Maronui Taimana
Producer

Bailey Poching
Director

Bo Beaufill
1st AD

Daniel Barrington
Camera

CONTACT DETAILS:



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Thanks for taking time reading us,

