



Electronic Press Kit

HD / 12'00" / Narrative Short / Australia

Press Contact

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ADULT

Written & Directed by Matthew A. Burns

Produced by Isaac Elliott

Future Room Films ©2019



SYNOPSIS

Emma is lonely. Nick is lonely. They are old friends. In a crappy hotel the tv is stuck on the porn channel. The decision they make will change their relationship forever.

Now living interstate, Emma returns home one weekend and spends the night getting drunk with her two old friends, but as the night comes to a close old and new feelings of desire and loneliness grip the trio, ending with a bizarre goodbye, and Emma feeling more alone than ever.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

About a year and a half ago two very distinct things happened to me. The first, I graduated from a Masters program at University, and the second, my long term relationship of the past four years ended dramatically. I found myself floating in an unemployable void, not really knowing what my next move was, or should be, and to make things worse, I was thrust into a world that I didn't understand or know how to function within. I was single, unemployable, drunk all the time and extremely lonely. I started doing the whole dating thing again and met some cool people along the way but for the most part nothing stuck, and my mental state seemed to be getting worse. I started looking for a connection in places and people that weren't right for me, and vice versa. The want for intimacy can be a selfish motivation, and I've had my fair share of both hurting and being hurt in the process. I realised after a while that I didn't know how to be by myself, and that I didn't know who I was individually, outside of a relationship. I didn't have the capability to function properly as a red eyed twenty four year old; as an adult.

Frustrated and lonely, I started to think about how weird trying to navigate this world was becoming, and how bizarre the modern notion of dating and meeting people really is. I didn't really know how to deal with these thoughts, and how to process them, so I started putting them down on paper. I took my own personal experiences, and that of good friends, and started to try and write something that felt genuine to all of our collective experiences, something that felt relatable, or at least something that I hoped would be relatable. The aim was to write something that helped me make sense of how I was feeling about connectedness versus loneliness, and where these two concepts work against each other.

'Adult' is a short narrative drama about navigating these types of intimate relationships, and what happens when the boundaries between close friends become blurred in a drunken haze. It is centred around two friends, Nick and Emma, who decide to hang out in a hotel room and when they switch on the television porn is playing. This leads them to begin experimenting with what is on the screen after a discussion about fake intimacy. It's a female led story where decisions led by loneliness and the seeking of connection can lead to an uncomfortable situation.

This project is a very personal one to me, and something that I hope resonates with people who have experienced or gone through similar feelings about loneliness, and the pressure we put on ourselves to find a connection, and the fault in doing so when incapable of acting as an 'adult.'



From the Cast

Emily O'Connor

Emma

‘For me, this story examines how humans deal with loneliness, and the reality that sometimes our attempts to find comfort and intimacy with one another can lead to a state of further isolation. My character Emma finds herself in a state of limbo, having been away from home for some time, and returning to find some relationships have changed in unexpected and at times disappointing ways. For me, this story is fascinating and unique as it intimately captures a seemingly inconsequential moment, but one that will have repercussions for the survival of an entire relationship.’

Samuel Howard

Nick

‘The film was an absolute pleasure to be apart of. Working with a passionate crew that were focused on creating an authentic film experience with a uniquely Australian style made me very proud to be involved with. Also the film from a character perspective deals with some universal relationship themes that I personally have engaged with in my own social development so bringing a truthful representation of a character like Nick became a focus for me as I could hopefully connect and educate audience with their own challenges.’



ISAAC ELLIOTT
Producer

Born in 1986, and raised in Alice Springs in the Northern Territory. After a motorcycle accident in 2007 left him paralysed, Isaac began to pursue filmmaking. After filming local and national motocross races, Isaac then moved to Melbourne in 2011 to study film at Deakin University. His undergrad and honours films have had some success including the ATOM award in 2016 and a Finalist in the 2017 Lexus Short Film Fellowship.

Isaac has a passion for telling often ignored stories, whether at the scale of an off road desert race in *FINKE: There and Back* (Producer) or a deaf preteen attending a country dance in *A Silent Waltz* (Write/Director).

Isaac currently teaches film production units at Deakin University and has a children's television series, *Maverix*, in development with Brindle films.



AMY DELLAR
Director of Photography

Amy Dellar is a Melbourne based cinematographer. She has experience working with various formats, from music videos and online content to shorts and feature films. Her strengths lay in her ability to mix creativity with technical craft, her eye for detail and her passion for storytelling.



MATTHEW A. BURNS
Director

Based in Melbourne, Australia, Matthew is a freelance filmmaker who has made a variety of short films that have screened nationally, as well as music videos for local bands such as 'We, Tigers.'

Matthew has spent the last few years working as a freelancer on a bunch of different film and documentary projects while teaching undergrad film classes at University.

Through his own projects, he has developed a passionate interest in trying to craft small, intimate stories about human connectedness and loneliness, and the beauty that comes with its relatability.

CREDITS

CAST

Emily O'Connor as **Emma**
Samuel Howard as **Nick**
Jack Adams as **Travis**
Madeline Lewin as **motel guest**
Carl Walker as **motel guest**

Writer/Director/Editor

Matthew A. Burns

Producer

Isaac Elliott

Director of Photography

Amy Dellar

First Assistant Director

Ciandra Moore

Production Design

Irany Turrall

Production Design Assistant

Mia Papp

Make Up Artist

Aine O'Neill
Catherine Karney-Jeffrey

Script Supervisor

Emma Collins

Catering

Maryanne Burns
Sandra Willis

Unit Manager

Megan Cheng

Original Song

'Sway'

Written, performed, and recorded by
Chris Axiaq

Additional Footage

'Hot Teacher Seduces Student'
Provided by and starring Mia Bandini
All Rights Belonging to Mia Bandini

Special Thanks

Lucy Knox -Bill Bleakley - Will Surr
Shayna Hall-Gordon - Charlie Wolstenholme
Nick Enright - Michael Dungan
Benjamin Francischelli - Madeline Lewin
Sam Brown - Brooke Carson
Liz Mitchinson - Nicolas Barker
Kyle Robison
Maryanne Burns - Michael Burns
Nathan Burns - Jessica Burns
Ethan Grahek - Chris Axiaq
Mia Bandini
Kyle and Stan at Motel Moroondah
Metro Trains Melbourne

***This film is supported by Creative Partnerships
Australia through the Australian Cultural Fund.***

Sound Recordist

David Ross

Gaffer

Hannah Palmer

Best Boy

Ethan Grahek

First Assistant Camera

Liv Bunting

Second Assistant Camera

Samuel Kyaw

Catering

Maryanne Burns
Sandra Willis

Unit Manager

Megan Cheng

BTS/Set Photographer

Adam Hartshorn

Colourist

Abe Wynen

Post Audio Facility

FINAL SOUND

Sound Designer

Gemma Stack

Post Sound Producer

Pip Wright

Re-Recording Mixer

Paul Shanahan



Technical Details

Country: Australia

Language: English

Subtitle: English

Date of Completion: January 2019

Filming Locations: Box Hill and Holmesglen,
Victoria, Australia

Genre: Drama

Runtime: 12 mins 00 secs

Sound Mix: Dolby 5.1 OR Stereo

Colour: Colour

Aspect Ratio: 1.85:1

Capture Format: Blackmagic Ursa Mini 4.6K

Exhibition Format: 4K DCP or HD file

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