



A PRN Film

Behind the Mask

On the Front Line against Coronavirus

- Press Kit -

Release Date: TBA

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One Liner

On the Front Line against Coronavirus

Short Synopsis

During the Coronavirus pandemic Dr Paul Trotman was put off work because he is immune compromised. In March 2020 frustrated and looking for some way to contribute, he started documenting the experiences of his colleagues around the world. Between March 2020 and August 2021 he completed almost 150 interviews. Paul was the only person to be interviewing healthcare workers so early in the piece - when events are new and raw and emotions are high. Because they were talking to a colleague who knew their language, Paul's subjects were incredibly open about their experiences.

This remarkable film is the result.

Long Synopsis

Behind the red lines and the closed doors of our hospitals, facing massive workloads, lack of equipment, and even their own mortality, healthcare workers around the world continued to turn up for work and look after Covid patients. They worked under disaster conditions facing an illness that once it took hold killed a frightening number of people. They looked after the young and the old, they looked after dying neighbours, friends and colleagues. In the end it was their dedication to the job and their patients that kept them – and our healthcare systems going.

This is their story, told by them as it happened, and from their unique point of view.

It's an intense, confronting and emotional story of a system overwhelmed, of teams of healthcare workers who put their own physical and emotional wellbeing to one side, overcame their fear and continued put their patients first despite the odds. As a result of this heroism, over three thousand doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers paid the ultimate price.

It's a story that needs to be told. It's a story that has to be told.

The only way to do these intimate interviews in the middle of a worldwide pandemic was via Zoom.

Link (piclock): <https://vimeo.com/568801271> Password: PRNbtmFC

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Interviewees

Chez Claire Valenta	Paramedic	New York
Dr Bex Jordache	Junior Doctor	United Kingdom
Mike Schultz, RN	Nurse	San Francisco
Dr Paula Arauzo	Anaesthetist	Spain
Dr Akua Agyeman	General Practitioner	San Francisco
Mo Sleem, RN	Intensive Care Nurse	New York
Dr Kiri Mackersey	Anaesthetist	New York
Dr Mark Rickenbach	General Practitioner	United Kingdom
Dr Luc Morris	ENT Surgeon	New York
Dr Roberto Cosentini	Emergency Physician	Italy
Nicky Bennett, NP	Hospice Nurse	Rockford, Illinois
Gavin Bennett, RN	Home Infusion Nurse	Rockford, Illinois
Dr Alex Swann	Anaesthetist	Perth, Australia
Dr Gregor McNeill	Intensivist	Edinburgh
Dr Frances Wedgwood	General Practitioner	London
Dr Robin Taylor	Respiratory Physician	Edinburgh
Dr Mark Tan	Intensivist	Manchester
Glenda Maxwell, RN	Nurse Manager	Gore, New Zealand
Dr Lucy O'Hagan	General Practitioner	Dunedin, New Zealand
Dr Eva Ferreres	Anaesthetist	Spain
Dr Terrie Inder	Neonatologist	Boston
Dr James Rathmell	Anaesthetist	Boston
Dr Sanjeet Narang	Anaesthetist	Boston
Simone Hannah Clark, RN	Intensive Care Nurse	New York
Dr Sarah Bennett	Junior Doctor	Auckland, New Zealand
Nick Nielson		Auckland, New Zealand
Dr Michael van Rooyen	Emergency Physician	Boston
Dr Nicole Ng	Respiratory Specialist	New York
Dr Ethan Weiss	Cardiologist	San Francisco
Kristen Sturgis, RN	Intensive Care Nurse	Detroit, Michigan
Dr Imogen Whyte	Junior Doctor	London
Camille Roux, RN	Palliative Care Nurse	Paris
Parth Thakkar	Junior Doctor	New York
Dr Erik Blutinger	Emergency Physician	New York
Veronica Shivachi, NP	Psychiatric Nurse	Detroit, Michigan
Dr Mark Taubert	Palliative Care Specialist	Wales

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Quotes

“Compelling”

“So moving and almost like a horror film in how captivated... [I was]”

“I love your film... I watched it transfixed last night.”

“Gave me goosebumps.”

“Amazing film. Huge congratulations.”

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Tell me Covid isn't real. Go on, I dare you.



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Key Personnel

Director	Paul Trotman
Produced by	Paul Trotman & Clive Copeman
Cinematographer	Clive Copeman
Editor	Stuart Waterhouse
Composer	The Sound Room, Alistair Galbraith, Marillion
Sound Design	Mike Bloemandal

Fact Sheet

Production Company	PRN Films
Technical	Colour; 16 :9 Digital 5.1 89 minutes
NZ Rating	Exempt
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/PRNfilms/
Trailer:	https://vimeo.com/591890627
Website:	www.prnfilms.co.nz

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About the Film Makers

Paul Trotman (Producer/ Director)

Paul is a doctor, writer and film maker, although not necessarily in that order. Over the years he has developed, produced, researched or presented over 40 hours of television that have been broadcast around the world including Discovery, BBC4, Channel 4 (UK), Discovery Health, TVNZ, TV3, National Geographic. He has won an Atom Award (Australia) and Best Director Documentary Edge (NZ) for Donated to Science. And a Bronze medal at the New York Film Festival for The Curse of the Elephant Man.

Clive Copeman (Producer/ DoP)

Clive has developed, scripted, produced or directed films for many international broadcasters including Animal Planet, Discovery, Discovery Health, National Geographic, TVNZ, ABC (Australia). Awards include Gold, Silver and Platinum awards at Worldfest for Shark Gordon, a Bronze Dragon (Beijing Science), a Prix Leonardo (IFF Italy) and a Bronze at the NYIFF for Microbe invasion.

Stuart Waterhouse (Editor)

Stuart has edited pretty much every genre of documentaries from kids shows through reality programs to blue chip natural history. He has edited films for pretty much every major documentary broadcaster around the world and has edited literally hundreds of shows and continues to be in high demand.

Contact: Paul Trotman; paul@prnfilms.co.nz +64 210 328 225

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Full Credits

Producers
Paul Trotman
Clive Copeman

Director
Paul Trotman

Director of Photography
Clive Copeman

Editor
Stu Waterhouse

Post Production
NHNZ

Online Editor
Angel McNamara

Colour Grade
Ulf Uchida

Data management
Brad Phipps
Stu Waterhouse

Sound Mix
Mike Bloemendal

Music
Alastair Galbraith
Marillion
The Sound Room

Production Assistants
Kes Harris-Handscomb
Rebecca Johansen

Researchers
Richard German
Malcolm Hall
Lemuel Lyes
Archana Sriraman

Technical Support
Ross Marshall-Seely

Wayne Poll
Debbie Robinson
Chris Smith

Legal
Chris Medicott

Additional Footage

Fang Bin, Loong, Luke Pilkington Smith, Pond5, Syndi Pillar, James Rathmell, Sky News

Rudy Adrian, Sarah Bennett, Staci Bittorf Hedke, Erik Blutinger, Alan Dove, Kiri Mackersey, Sebastien Moine, Paul Nielsen, Chris Proctor, Max Quinn, Umamaheshwar Reddy, Mark Rickenbach, Mike Schultz, Number 10 Downing St., The White House, New Zealand MoH

Ambulance Radio Audio Provided by Broadcastify
New York Ambulance Footage Provided By Joseph John Ramos

Stills

Saskia Baron, Staci Bittorf Hedke, Kate Bristow, Kyla Dawson, Jessica Etheridge, Terrie Inder, Lowri Kew, National Library of Medicine, Morgan Philbin, James Rathmell, Robert Reed

Thanks to

Vanessa Barratt, Prof. Michael Baker, Dr Kate Bristow, Dr Craig Carr, Dr Penny Ehrhardt, Moira Finn, Catherine Fitzgerald, Dr Jenny Grant, Kate Lilley, Karl Metzler, Dr Nigel Millar, Jessica Mills, Nicola Mutch, Prof. Helen Nicholson, Gayleen Parslow, Andrew Swanson-Dobbs, Nancy Sweeney, Victoria Turner, Rachael Wilkington, Jane Wilson, Shayne Wylie, Jonathan Zsofi

Recreation Cast

Ben Andrews, Orderly, Janet Andrews RN, Jesly Augustine RN, Max Becker, SN, Sophanna Blakie, SN, Shannin Bond, Janice Byrne, Receptionist, Chaim Cleavin, Funeral Director, Abbey Constable, SN, Steve Crosland, Dr Marie Bismark, Sue Chambers RN, Beth Doelman, Orderly, ED Staff – Dunedin, Gore & Oamaru Hospitals, Tara Ferguson RN, Chris Fleming, Danny Fountain, Dr Mac Gardner, Dr Pragati Gautama, Jean Gemmell, Dr Ruchi Ghai, Viv Gillan RN, Jo Hambleton RN, Kes Harris-Handscorn, Christine Hendry RN, Dr Lucy O'Hagan, ICU Staff – Dunedin Hospital, Toni Johnston RN, Nahshon O'Kane, Safety Advisor, Robyn Keno RN, Javier Langley, Cleaner, Cathy Lawrence EN, Rebecca McKenzie, Radiographer, Tracey McLeod, Fiona Marsh, Daniel Martin, Mr Graeme Millar, Dr Nina Molteno, Cameron Moore-Carter, Chris Myers RN, David Newstead, Connor Paul, Pharmacy Technician, Victoria Paul RN, Emily Peach RN, Dr Sally Peet, Emma Potton, Mortuary Manager, Kirsty Quertier RN, Erica Rae RN, Ella Ratcliff, Mortuary Assistant, Alison Sandle, Mourner, Southern Community Laboratories Staff, Phil Shuker, Danielle Sinclair, CSSD Technician, Signe Stanbridge RN, Dr Kate Stephens, Dr Rich Stephenson, Heather Stewart RN, Leilani Tovia, Clive Trotman, Jeanette Trotman, Zoë Trotman, WellSouth Swabbing Team, Lizzi Yates,

Keri Young RN, Nasima Zawari, Radiographer

Funding

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Fisher & Paykel Healthcare
Otago University Medical School Alumni Association
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Kickstarter, Molteno Family, Jan, Bronni McBain, Nicola Poplawski, DCC, MAS,
University of Otago, University of Melbourne

Thanks To

Staff & Patients, Dunedin Hospital
Gore Hospital
Gore Health General Practice
Oamaru Hospital
Te Kaika General Practice

Micobiology Department, University of Otago
Bates Pharmacy
Hope & Sons, Funeral Directors
CBAC
WellSouth Covid Screening Team
Mitre 10 Hardware, Dunedin
Southern Community Laboratories
Alliance Pukeuri

Made in lockdown in Dunedin, New Zealand & Melbourne Australia
2020 - 2021

Patient details have been changed

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