

# Press Kit

# HABITAT

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY

**BRETT  
COUSINS**

Updated: 21 July 2022

Short film dramedy

Written and Directed by Brett Cousins  
Produced by Teisha Lowry, Amelia Ford and Brett Cousins



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Boonwurrung Country  
Top floor, 106 Barkly St, St Kilda, 3182 Australia

# Key Production Information

Title:	Habitat
Duration	11m:51s
Type	Short film drama / comedy
Specs	Widescreen 23.98fps Stereo
Aspect Ratio	1920 x 804 DCI Scope 2:39
Available Masters	DCP 2K Widescreen 24fps Stereo. No subtitles AppleProRes Widescreen 23.98fps. Stereo H264 1920x1080 Letterboxed 24fps Stereo.
Genre / Themes	Relationship drama, couples, comedy
Colour / B&W	Colour
Screening Masters	DCP, Apple ProRes444.mov, H264 MP4
Subtitles Available	English, German, please request if you need another language
Country of production:	Australia
Language	English
Subtitles available	English
Completion date	June 2022
Funding	Independent / Private
Audience	Unclassified. Recommend 15+
Cast	Teisha Lowry, Brett Cousins
Producers	Teisha Lowry, Amelia Ford, Brett Cousins
Director	Brett Cousins ( <i>first time director</i> )
Writer	Brett Cousins
DOP	Warwick Field ACS
Editor	Amelia Ford
Production Designer	Sophie Woodward
Sound Designer	Stevo Williams
Composer	Dmitri Golovko
EPK/Festivals Liaison	Cherry Hands Media

## Links

Vimeo Preview	<a href="https://vimeo.com/cherryhands/habitat">vimeo.com/cherryhands/habitat</a>
Password	HabitatPassword <i>*not for public release</i>
Facebook:	<a href="https://facebook.com/HabitatTheFilm">facebook.com/HabitatTheFilm</a>
IMDB:	<a href="https://imdb.com/title/tt8037536">imdb.com/title/tt8037536</a>
FilmFreeway:	<a href="https://filmfreeway.com/HabitatTheFilm">filmfreeway.com/HabitatTheFilm</a>
Trailer:	<a href="https://vimeo.com/cherryhands/habitattrailer">vimeo.com/cherryhands/habitattrailer</a>
Trailer for download:	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/mvuyvdby">tinyurl.com/mvuyvdby</a>
Tags:	#Habitat #HabitatTheFilm

Dropbox EPK: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/okecf4pe2u5msf3b4lryf/h?dl=0&rlkey=9k9a3njxmw8wt828avk9it3ib>  
 DCP: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/51tvjuol5mvtqtougdyk4/h?dl=0&rlkey=8puf6ihsoolybv15sc5v4djj0>

## Tag line

Where your home is their castle.

## Synopsis - One line

A beautiful couple with everything to lose. A tornado of love, fear, and uncertainty.

## Synopsis - Short

A beautiful couple with everything to lose. Bub and Rabbit enjoy a dynamic and spontaneous relationship full of intense love, travel, earth-shattering sex, fiery arguments, and profound connection. But when Rabbit wants to move in, Bub has to rethink his habitat. The lovers come out swinging in a tornado of love, fear and uncertainty.

## Synopsis - Extended

A beautiful couple with everything to lose. Bub (Brett Cousins), and Rabbit (Teisha Lowry), enjoy a dynamic and spontaneous relationship full of intense love, travel, earth-shattering sex, fiery arguments, and profound connection. So, what happens when Rabbit turns up late one night with all her worldly belongings and insists on 'ripping off the bandaid', and moving in? Is this the essential evolution a pair must take together lest the relationship stagnate and die? Or will this drastic move begin this beautiful couple's decent into turgid domestic drudgery? Both lovers retreat to their corners and then come out swinging as a tornado of love, fear, and uncertainty levels their home.



# Director's Statement

How do we best nurture a beautiful relationship?

Habitat is a Comedy/Drama about a beautiful couple with everything to lose. Together ten months, Bub and Rabbit enjoy a dynamic and spontaneous relationship full of intense love, adventurous travel, earth shattering sex, fiery arguments, and profound connection.

So, what happens when Rabbit turns up late one night with all her belongings and insists on 'ripping off the bandaid', and moving in? Is this the essential evolution a pair must take together lest the relationship stagnate and die? Or will this drastic move begin this beautiful couple's decent into turgid domestic drudgery? Both lovers retreat to their corners and then come out swinging as a tornado of love, fear, and uncertainty levels their home

I have been greatly inspired by the films of Ruben Ostlund... particularly Force Majeure and The Square. His storytelling, and the way he uses the camera to create spellbinding frames while simultaneously leaving the actors to find their chemistry, largely unhindered by the editor, seemed to me to be a fascinating way to tell what is, after all... a two hander in a small house. I wanted to experiment with framing... faming within framing. I collaborated with DOP Warwick Field, configuring lenses and shot shapes to create what we believe is an inconspicuous, stylish, yet voyeuristic style of film making that supports the narrative.

I passionately believe this subject matter is something that needs talking about. Our crew and the mentors and confidants that read our script were all struck by how close to home this subject matter was to them and their personal relationships. Why do relationships that were once magical descend into drudgery before we can even realise it? Why are once strong relationships breaking down? Does familiarity breed contempt for some people? Are we doing things the right way in our western Anglo-Christian culture? As a person who has been divorced... and as a writer, I wanted to examine these questions to try to gain some insights from my mistakes. This is a lively and insightful film that will carry with it a universal message, and I hope it will spark debate and discussion wherever it is shown.

*Brett Cousins*

## Principal Biographies



**Brett Cousins**  
 Writer / Director / Producer / Actor

IMDb: [imdb.com/name/nm0184079](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0184079)  
 Twitter: [twitter.com/brettwcousins](https://twitter.com/brettwcousins)  
 Contact: [lmcm.com.au/artists/brett-cousins](https://www.lmcm.com.au/artists/brett-cousins)

Brett wrote, directed, acts in and co-produced the short film "Habitat", which has just had its premiere at the largest short film festival in the world, the Academy Award (R) and BAFTA Qualifying, LA Shorts.

As an actor, Brett recently wrapped on the feature films 'Darklands'; 'Surrogate'; and international films 'The Whistleblower' and 'The Menkoff Method'.

Brett sits on the Victorian sub-committee of the Australian Writer's Guild. The screenplay for his feature 'Menace' received development support from Vic Screen, and his near-future sci-fi series 'Refuge City' is currently financing.

Brett's credits as a director include the Red Stitch Theatre production of 'Ulster American', by David Ireland, which was nominated for a Green Room Award. In 2015, Brett directed the Australian theatre premiere of 'Wet House': and in 2016, 'You Got Older'; he co-directed Nick Payne's 'Incognito' in 2017 as well as 'Fury' in 2018. As a founding ensemble member of Red Stitch Actor's Theatre, over the last decade Brett has worked in writers' rooms, to develop dozens of new Australian plays as part of Red Stitch's 'INK' development program.

In 2005, Brett received a Green Room Award for 'Best Actor in Independent Theatre' and was nominated again in 2007. Brett performed in 'The Waiting Room' and 'Glengarry Glen Ross' for the MTC as well as seasons with Bell Shakespeare and the Australian Shakespeare Company. He has a host of other international theatre and TV credits.

"Habitat" is his first film as a screen director.

## Director Filmography

<i>Year</i>	<i>Film Title</i>	<i>Genre</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Role</i>
2022	Habitat	Drama, Digital	12 mins	Writer/Director/Producer/Actor



**Teisha Lowry**  
Producer / Actor

IMDb: [imdb.com/name/nm2539141](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm2539141)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/teishamglowry](https://www.facebook.com/teishamglowry)  
Instagram: [instagram.com/teishalowry](https://www.instagram.com/teishalowry)  
URL: [teishalowry.com](https://teishalowry.com)

Teisha has trained with some of the finest drama schools and coaches in the world including Jeff Seymour, 16th Street, Melbourne Actor's Lab and Perdekamp Method (PEM). Her lead role in the short film "Adrift" enabled global recognition.

Always expanding her mind and body, Teisha enjoys progressive fitness which requires anatomical awareness biomechanical coordination and trains professionally in Krav Maga, a military self-defence and fighting system developed for the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) and Israeli security forces.



**Amelia Ford**  
Producer / Editor

IMDb: [imdb.com/name/nm1472776](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1472776)

With drama based comedy and action her favourite genres, Ford has honed her skill set to proffer a strong dramatic style and embrace music-driven sequences.

Beginning in advertising, Amelia worked with many leading agencies - Clemenger / DDB / Wieden and Kennedy London developing campaign ideas and a skill set and fast paced work ethic.

Gaining story and VFX experience under Australia and New Zealand's leading editors on studio feature films – Charlotte's Web, The Bank Job, Killer Elite, Amelia moved into television as a senior editor on some of the highest rating broadcast and internationally acclaimed shows. Wentworth, Mustangs FC, Offspring, No Activity

Her personal editing style is driven by a fervent desire to deliver engaging narratives that appeal to a wide audience, and to work along other talented industry professionals who share her passion for story-telling in contemporary setting.

She enjoys working with directors with a story-focused aesthetic, and has a deep understanding of the complex relationship between network and production teams, bringing to her creative endeavours a diplomatic and passionate demeanour.

# Credit List

Written & Directed by  
BRETT COUSINS

Produced by  
TEISHA LOWRY  
AMELIA FORD  
BRETT COUSINS

## Cast

Rabbit  
TEISHA LOWRY

Bub  
BRETT COUSINS

Director of Photography  
WARWICK FIELD ACS

Editor  
AMELIA FORD

Sound Recordist  
First Assistant Camera  
Second Assistant Camera  
Gaffer  
Best Boy

ALEX CHRISTENSEN  
PIETRO CUSIMANO  
DARCY GOODING  
TREVOR RIPPER  
RIPPER FILM SERVICE  
JUSTIN YONG

Production Assistant  
Production Assistant  
Production Design  
Hair & Makeup  
Catering

MICHAEL MCKINLAY  
HUGO WRAN  
SOPHIE WOODWARD  
LISA RATHGEN  
SHEREEN COULSON

Sound Supervisor / Designer  
Music Composer  
Colourist  
Assistant Editor  
Online Editor  
EPK / Festivals

STEVO WILLIAMS  
DMITRI GOLOVKO  
NICHOLAS HOWER  
MICHAEL MCKINLAY  
DARIUS FAMILY  
CHERRY HANDS MEDIA

Special Thanks to  
CHRIS COLLINS  
LINGALA FOUNDATION

## Screenings:

21 July 2022 **LA Shorts International Film Festival** – WORLD PREMIERE

## Media History:

“It was great” Brett’s mum said.



# Production Stills

To download high res versions of these stills, headshots, or behind the scenes images:  
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wejcnv3rq4fbsd/AAAEHBGz6e9HtjW8FbCZRuAma?dl=0>



Habitat – Production Still 1.16.1  
Photographer: Warwick Field ACS  
Teisha Lowry (L) & Brett Cousins (R) in Habitat



Habitat – Production Still 1.22.1  
Photographer: Warwick Field ACS  
Teisha Lowry in Habitat



Habitat – Production Still 1.50.2  
Photographer: Warwick Field ACS  
Brett Cousins (L) & Teisha Lowry (R) in Habitat



Habitat – Production Still 1.51.6  
Photographer: Warwick Field ACS  
Brett Cousins (L) & Teisha Lowry (R) in Habitat

**BRETT  
COUSINS**

**TEISHA  
LOWRY**

HOW DO WE BEST NURTURE A BEAUTIFUL RELATIONSHIP?

# HABITAT

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY  
**BRETT  
COUSINS**

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **WARWICK FIELD ACS**  
COMPOSED BY **DMITRI GOLOVKO** EDITED BY **AMELIA FORD**  
PRODUCED BY **TEISHA LOWRY AMELIA FORD AND BRETT COUSINS**

[FACEBOOK.COM/HABITATTHEFILM](https://www.facebook.com/habitatthefilm)