

CLAP TRAP

Title: Claptrap

Runtime: 90 mins

Genre: Music Documentary/ Observational Documentary

Logline: A single camera ob-doc about the longest music tour in Australian history.

Short Synopsis (225 characters):

A videographer observes a rock band during a continent spanning regional bus tour. The dichotomy of the forever touring musician is slowly deconstructed, then reassembled through frontmen and lifelong friends, Alex & Fergus

Director's Statement:

Imagine embarking on a rock & roll odyssey across a continent-sized country in a bus— the highs, the lows, and the utterly surreal experiences of life on the road with a perpetually touring band. Venturing on Australia's longest tour as an inexperienced videographer was a leap of faith that I took without any contemplation. However, what transpired during the six months of filming was nothing short of sheer madness, and I'm thrilled to say *Claptrap* captures every bit of it. Many moments defied expectation, yet many bore a curious resemblance to sedentary lifestyle. *Claptrap* aims to offer a glimpse into the extraordinary world of touring musicians. I sincerely hope you find it as captivating as I found the journey itself.

Director's Biography:

Darcy Newton is a 24-year-old filmmaker, he completed a Bachelor of Film & Television with Honours from the Swinburne Institute of Technology in 2022. Newton has always had a passion for documentary, directing & producing *Icebergers* (Winning Best Documentary at the Melbourne Indie Film Festival 2020, Nominated Best Emerging Filmmaker at Setting Sun Film Festival 2020), as well as working on Mushroom Studios' *Ego: The Michael Gudinski Story*. It was predictable that when the opportunity arose to document the longest tour in Australian history while living on a bus, the answer was a resounding but simple 'Yes'.

Claptrap is Newton's debut feature as Director & Cinematographer, it was made on a shoestring budget, and independently funded, made possible only by the very highly motivated crew. Outside his passion for filmmaking, Newton's interests range from history & physics to grand strategy video games - so if nothing else, *Claptrap* was an excellent reason to get out of the house.

Producer's Statement:

The production of *Claptrap* is a demonstration of resourceless storytelling, juvenile perseverance and failing upwards. We set out to document the longest tour in Australian history with the hearts (and lack of money and blind ambition) of musicians, with the sole objective to complete a feature film to the best of our ability. *Claptrap* captures the brutality of musicianship that we set out to observe - but in this observance so much more was documented than we ever bargained for. Blowing in and out of Australia's lesser known municipalities capturing their hearts and souls, following a unit of distinct personal journeys, the vagabond camera watches the relationships they build and music they perform from town to town with juvenile excitement.

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