

The Journey

A short film has been created by a Jersey company, Green Eye Productions, working with young people at La Passerelle School. They are entering it for film festivals worldwide

A short film has been made by a team headed by producer Julie Daly-Wallman. It has been written by young people at La Passerelle School as part of a production team led by Julie. It will be entered at film festivals internationally, including a special screening at BAFTA, where students will be invited to come and view the film.

“Creating films with students creates opportunity and hope and builds confidence for everyone, and we want to continue creating

‘We have put together a beautiful story, a script, a budget and a schedule,’ Julie said. ‘It has received funding shared 50-50 from the Jersey Government’s Arts, Culture and Heritage pot and from the Education school pot. The local team, including talented director Rebecca Coley, who made it with the students, are hugely experienced. We are all hugely delighted with it. The music was also produced by a La Passerelle student.’

The film is called *The Journey* and Julie said it is a very beautiful and charming story about a young girl who is being bullied in class, but her peace and hope is the relationship she has with her pony.

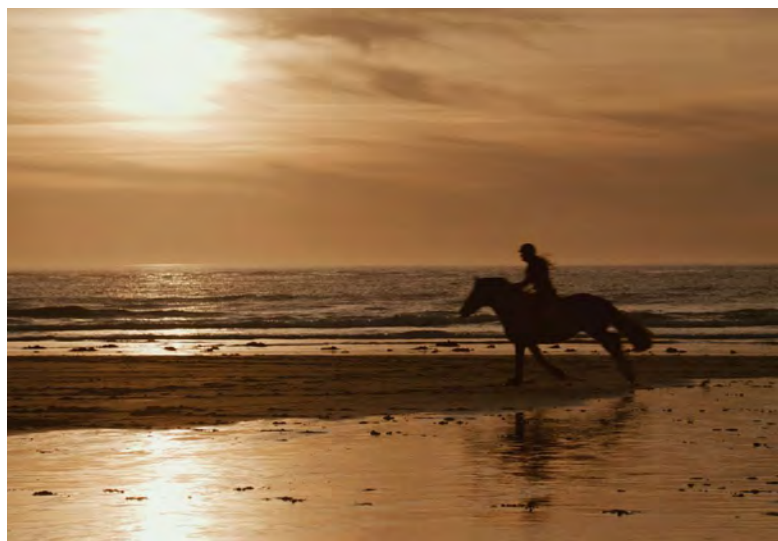
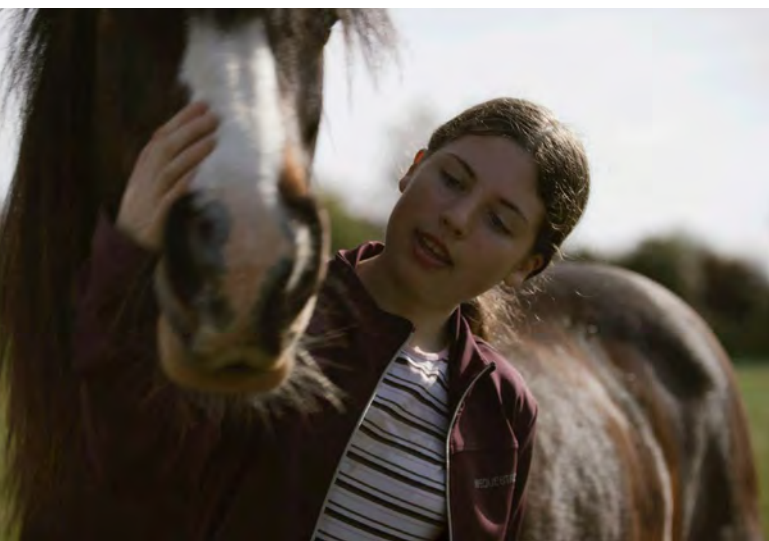
‘I think what is wonderful about the film is that it is about the relationship that most of us have with animals. It’s a very special one, and it resonates a lot with this story.’

She added that it was totally coincidental that at the time the project got underway, last autumn, she happened to notice and pick a copy of *RURAL* magazine at Waitrose supermarket. The cover picture was a picture of Poppy, a teenager living in Jersey, with her white horse, Pampero. When she read the article, written by photographer Rachel Hughes, the story was very similar to the plot of the film.

When she showed the magazine to her film school team at La Passerelle, they all said... ‘But that’s our film!’ Poppy is now involved with the film.

‘Pure coincidence and serendipity,’ Julie said. ‘What we just loved about the article is that it resonated with the team that had written the film script.’

The script has been written by two students, Cameron Crocker and Meghan McKenna, at La Passerelle.





It is not the first film that Julie has produced in Jersey. She produced a film titled *The Crooked Mile* in 2001, which won a Tribeca Award at the New York annual festival, and *Living with the Enemy*, an historical documentary about the Occupation.

As for her team at La Passerelle: “They say to me it’s the first time they have ever felt the ownership of anything. That’s quite touching. La Passerelle students should be very proud of what they have achieved, and we are bringing in a range of experienced people, including talented director Rebecca Coley, to make that dream happen.

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“To me, as a film producer, that is the most exciting bit, to see a film work well and for the students to be part of its making, for them to see something which they created as part of a team. Possibly for the first time in their lives they can see what can be achieved.

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We are seeking sponsorship not only to build and create a slate of great short films as we have done with *The Journey*, that can lead to great opportunities for these students, but also to create full feature films, such as *Living with the Enemy*.’

Julie Daly-Wallman can be contacted at julie@greeneyeproductions.com