

THERESA  
HEALEY

BENJAMIN  
SAWYER

*Margie*



A KEELY MEECHAN FILM PRODUCED BY VIRGINIA WICKHAM & ISABELLA KOFOED  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH TE TUMU WHAKAATA TAONGA NEW ZEALAND FILM COMMISSION  
EDITED BY ISAIAH TOUR CINEMATOGRAPHY BY PEPE DE HOYOS ORIGINAL SCORE BY SAM TREVETHICK  
PRODUCTION DESIGN BY KEELY MEECHAN A NICE PEOPLE PRODUCTION

## Essential Information:

<b>Writer &amp; Director:</b>	Keely Meechan
<b>Producers:</b>	Virginia Wickham, Isabella Kofoed
<b>Production Company:</b>	Nice People Productions
<b>Technical Information:</b>	2:39.1, Scope, 5.1 Surround Sound
<b>Screening Format:</b>	DCP and ProRes available
<b>Running Time:</b>	16 minutes 48 seconds
<b>Country of Production:</b>	New Zealand
<b>Date of completion:</b>	2025
<b>Genre:</b>	Drama
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Sales Contact:</b>	Isabella Kofoed bellskofoed@gmail.com +61430709256

## Logline:

In 1970's New Zealand, a 60-year-old courtesan and a desperate teenager collide in an evening of desire, connection, and blurred lines.

## Short synopsis:

Over the course of one night, Margie, a 60-year-old courtesan, and Bryn, a lonely 17-year-old outcast, navigate an uneasy encounter. When Bryn fails to "perform," Margie reluctantly agrees to let him remain in her company. What begins as an awkward exchange transforms into an evening of shared vulnerabilities and fleeting intimacy. But when Margie confuses Bryn's innocence for familiarity, and Bryn misreads her warmth as desire, their fragile connection collapses, snapping them back to the stark reality of their transactional encounter.

## Writer/Director statement

In writing *Margie* I wanted to challenge the way older women are portrayed on screen by showcasing a 60-year-old woman who refuses to be defined by age or societal expectation. The film is a response to female actors over 50 constantly being cast as mothers or grandmothers, trapped in one dimensional roles that reinforce ageism and narrow beauty standards. Margie breaks that mold, showcasing a complex, confident woman in her 60's; which is something I feel passionate about expanding on in future projects.

I wanted to confront the stigma surrounding sex workers. Margie is presented first and foremost as a complex person, with her profession as just that; a job that does not define her or confine her to stereotypes. We collaborated closely with the Sex Workers Association of New Zealand to ensure the film portrays an authentic experience of sex workers in 1970's New Zealand.

Bryn's character is a lens on the sense of entitlement some young men feel toward women's bodies. He arrives expecting to control the encounter, believing that paying for sex gives him access to more than Margie is willing to offer. His final action reflects his confusion around his own desire and Margie's consent, and how societal messages can warp a young man's sense of boundaries and respect.

## Writer/Director

**Keely Meechan** (Whakatōhea) is a writer and director from Aotearoa, New Zealand. Her debut short *Nancy From Now On* won the Creative New Zealand Emerging Talent Award at Whānau Mārama NZ International Film Festival and the Audience Choice Award at imagineNATIVE, the world's leading indigenous film festival. She directed the personal short documentary *Fast Eddie*, about her father's battle with a terminal illness, multiple episodes of *Waiata Anthems*, celebrating Māori music and language, and received NZ On Air funding for *Allgoods*, a docu-series exploring indigenous health issues for TVNZ+. Her sophomore New Zealand Film Commission funded short film, *Margie*, is now entering the festival circuit.

## Producers

**Virginia Wickham** is a Producer currently living in Auckland. She has worked across in the film, television and commercial industry for 10 years both locally and overseas. She has produced shows for TVNZ, 3NOW, Youtube and produced the documentary, *Fast Eddie* through the Loading Docs initiative. She also created, wrote and produced the comedy web series, *Capital Culture*.

**Isabella Kofoed** has spent the past five years working across Film, TV, and Advertising, with a strong focus on production. Inspired early on by her father's love of cinema, she discovered her own passion for storytelling and the collaborative craft of filmmaking. As a producer, Isabella has brought numerous short films to life, driven by her meticulous approach and commitment to meaningful narratives. Her keen eye for detail and dedication to telling inspiring stories ensure that every project she undertakes carries a distinctive and resonant voice.



**Cast:**

Margie: Theresa Healey  
Bryn: Benjamin Sawyer  
Client 1: Anthony Crum  
Client 2: Bailey Poching  
Client 3: Jim Heapy

**Crew:**

Director of Photography: Pepe de Hoyos  
Editor: Isaiah Tour  
Original Music: Sam Trevethick  
1st Assistant Director: Sophie Black

1st AC/Focus Puller: Ainsley Calderwood  
1st AC/Focus Puller: Kelly Chen  
2nd AC: Sofi Issak-Zade

Gaffer/Key Grip: Julian Wagner  
LX/Grip Assist: Anne-Marie Groves  
LX/Grip Assist: Ethan Kalouniviti  
LX/Grip Assist Additional: Cody Len  
Sound Recordist: Sofiane Tib  
Boom Operator: Hannah Seuren

Production Design: Keely Meechan  
Art Director: Isabella Kofoed  
Onset Art Director: Ellen Jones-Poole  
Art Assistant: Madeleine Price  
Construction Lead: Luke Grubb  
Offset Set Builder: Jo Meechan

Hair and Makeup Artist: Anamaria Franco  
Hair and Makeup Artist: Sarah Gally  
Bryn's Hair Stylist: Laura Stables  
Wardrobe Stylist: Lucy Caccioppoli

Intimacy Coordinator  
& Movement Coach: Lara Fischel-Chisholm

Unit Manager: Toi Rankin

Stills Photographer: Sara Hewson  
Behind The Scenes  
Videographer: James Elliston

Colourist: David McLaren  
Sound Post: Envy Studios  
Sound Design & Mix: Vedat Kiyici  
VFX Composer: Talitha Marisa

