



STATIC NOISES

PRESS KIT

A woman with dark hair tied back, wearing a light blue hoodie, is sitting in a dark room, illuminated by the glow of a laptop screen. She is looking intently at the screen, with her hands on the keyboard. The background is dark and indistinct, suggesting a bedroom or a private workspace at night.

LOGLINE

A Filipina living peacefully in New Zealand has her life disrupted when she learns that her ex-lover, a journalist covering the drug war in the Philippines, has been murdered by her own father, a retiring policeman.

SYNOPSIS

Charlie, a Filipino IT specialist living overseas, has carefully distanced herself from her powerful family and the political turmoil back home. Estranged from her authoritarian police-chief father and pressured by relatives to return for his retirement celebration, she tries to ignore the past, until she receives devastating news: Jette, her former lover and an investigative photojournalist documenting state violence, has been killed while on assignment.

Haunted by grief and guilt, Charlie searches through her father's old laptop and recovers deleted files that expose his direct involvement in a network of extrajudicial killings during the Philippine drug war. As evidence mounts, the distance between her personal trauma and the political reality collapses.

With her father's retirement party — attended by powerful officials — looming, Charlie must confront the cost of silence. Returning home could mean exposing the truth and risking her life, her family, and everything she has tried to build. Staying silent would mean betraying the memory of the woman she loved.

Static Noises is a tense political drama about complicity, diaspora identity, queer love, and the devastating price of justice.

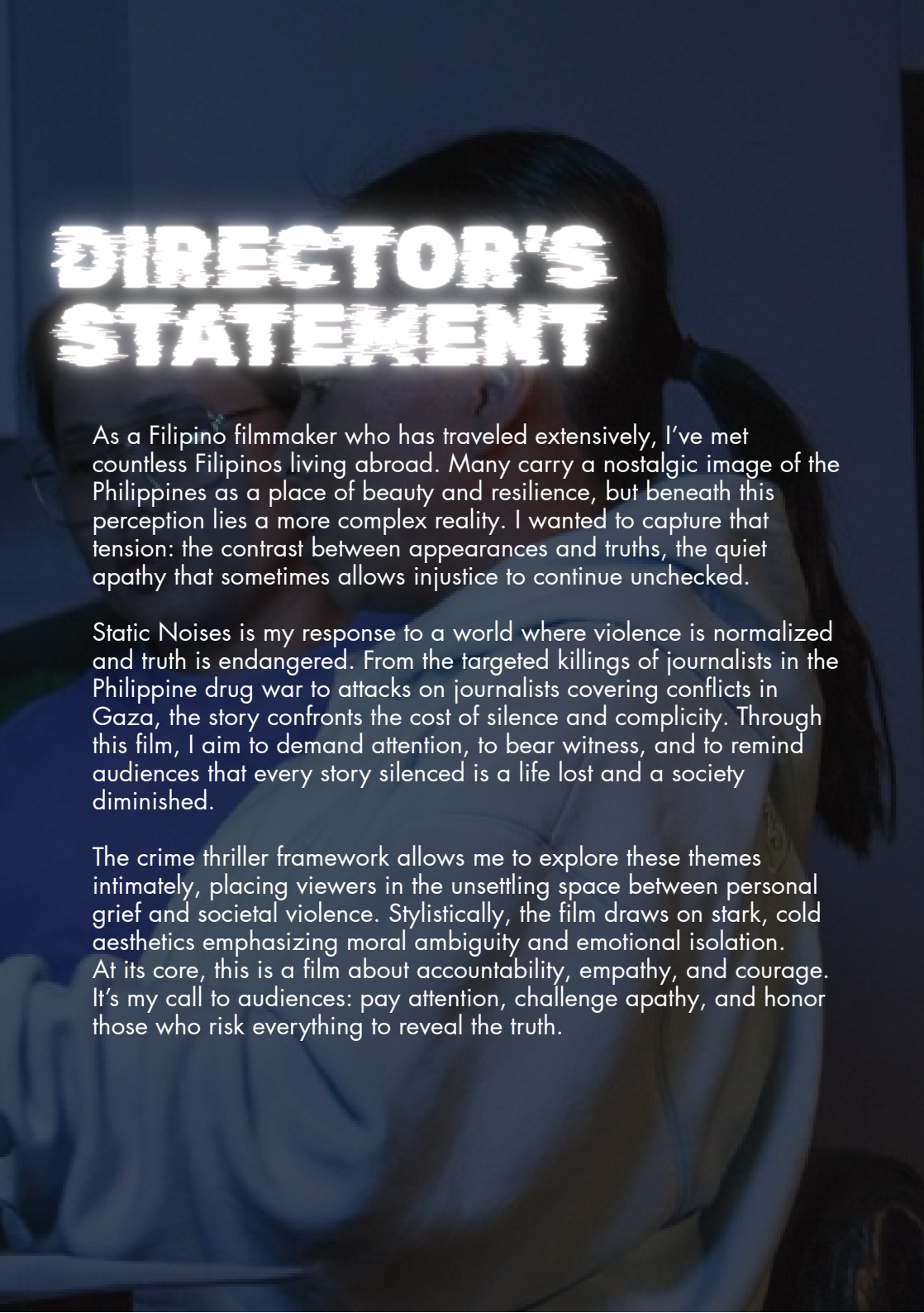


DIRECTED & WRITTEN BY JOMZ ALIP LAILO

Jomz Alip Lailo (also known as Jomz Ramirez) is a queer Filipino screenwriter and director based in Aotearoa New Zealand. She trained at the Mowelfund Film Institute and the International Academy of Film & Television in the Philippines before completing a BA in Film Studies at Victoria University of Wellington. Working across the Philippines and the diaspora, her filmmaking is shaped by transnational experience and a commitment to telling stories that centre marginalized voices.



Her award-winning short films have screened internationally, earning recognition from festivals including the Sacramento International Film Festival, Canada Shorts Film Festival, and the Asia South East Short Film Festival. Alongside directing, she has worked across major Philippine media and film productions, including serving as a Digital Content Producer at ABS-CBN Global. Her character-driven work explores Filipino identity, memory, diaspora, and the lived realities of queer women within broader political and social contexts.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

As a Filipino filmmaker who has traveled extensively, I've met countless Filipinos living abroad. Many carry a nostalgic image of the Philippines as a place of beauty and resilience, but beneath this perception lies a more complex reality. I wanted to capture that tension: the contrast between appearances and truths, the quiet apathy that sometimes allows injustice to continue unchecked.

Static Noises is my response to a world where violence is normalized and truth is endangered. From the targeted killings of journalists in the Philippine drug war to attacks on journalists covering conflicts in Gaza, the story confronts the cost of silence and complicity. Through this film, I aim to demand attention, to bear witness, and to remind audiences that every story silenced is a life lost and a society diminished.

The crime thriller framework allows me to explore these themes intimately, placing viewers in the unsettling space between personal grief and societal violence. Stylistically, the film draws on stark, cold aesthetics emphasizing moral ambiguity and emotional isolation. At its core, this is a film about accountability, empathy, and courage. It's my call to audiences: pay attention, challenge apathy, and honor those who risk everything to reveal the truth.



PRODUCED BY DEAN HEWISON

Dean is a writer and director for film, theatre, television, and commercials. His film writing and directing includes the comedy feature "How to Meet Girls From a Distance", which was nominated for six New Zealand Film Awards including Best Director and Best Screenplay, and winner of the Grand Prix du Jury at the Festival de Antipodes in France. Dean's short film "Judgment Tavern" was selected by Lee Tamahori for NZ's Best in the New Zealand International Film Festival 2016, and in the same year he directed the comedy special "On the Conditions and Possibilities of Hilary Clinton Taking Me as Her Young Lover". He recently completed "One Long Black" – a short film with physical comedy performer Thomas Monckton.

Dean's 48HOURS team Traces of Nut have been the Grand National Champions twice, the first time in 2013 with "The Sleeping Plot" (with Dean winning the national award for Best Director) and the second time in 2021 with "Good Girl", which also won Best Director and Best Script. Dean's 2018 entry "Master" won the Wellington Final, and won national awards for Best Editing, Best Script, and Best Ultra Film. Dean spends a fair amount of time directing television commercials in Auckland for Fish & Clips, and is also a freelance television director, having directed two episodes of the New Zealand comedy hit "Wellington Paranormal".

5:46:36:09

SCENE
10
Noises
22
DATE

TAKE

THE CAST AND CREW



CHARLIE

PLAYED BY MARIANNE INFANTE

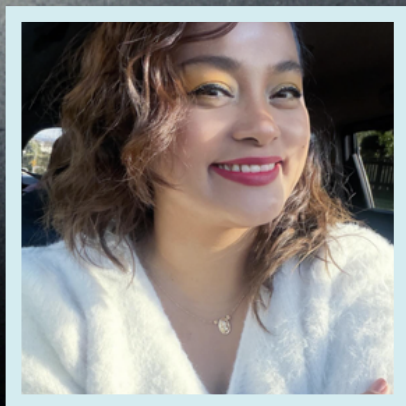
Charlie, an apathetic Filipino software engineer seeks revenge for a murdered journalist she once loved. Hindered by her overbearing mother and distance from home, her journey becomes a poignant exploration of awakening and resilience.



SUPPORTING CAST



Ariadne Baltazar



Leodel Joy Bantayan



Ric Roberigado



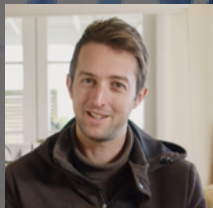
Jeline Baldovino

KEY CREW



DEAN HEWISON

Assistant Director



MIKE POTTON

Director of Photography



VJETA COVICH

Production Designer



HANNAH YATES

Editor



JELINE BALDOVINO

Music Composer



HAZEL PERIGO-BLACKBURN

Art Director



BERNARD BLACKBURN

Sound Supervisor



NAPAT KANGSOMBOOM

Sound Designer



ADAM BROWNE

Lighting Director

PRODUCTION CREW

Pelle Kulsvehagen

Jack Gosling

Ashley Pye

Alfie Hartshorne

Gina Labuschagne

Chelesea Shakespeare-Laing

Hamish O'Malley-King

Lawrence White

Vjeta Covich

Bernard Blackburn

Niamh West

Zara Millikin

Rachel Baker

Production Coordinator

Unit Manager

Lighting Assistants

1st and 2nd Assistant Camera

Grip

Boom Operator

Production sound

Set Decorator/ On-set props

Stills Photographer

Motion Graphics Editor

FILM SPECIFICATIONS

Produced by:

**Victoria University of
Wellington**

Production location

Wellington, New Zealand

Genre, subcategories

Crime, Drama, thriller

Running time

9 mins, 44 secs

Audio format

Digital Sound 5.1

Shooting format

4k, high resolution

Aspect ratio

2.39:1

Exhibition format

4k digital

Languages

English, Tagalog

Subtitles

English

Production year

2024-2025


CONTACT US


Email

jomzramirez@gmail.com

deanhewison@gmail.com

Social media

 [Static Noises - film](#)

 [staticnoises.filmnz](https://www.instagram.com/staticnoises.filmnz)