

NEW ZEALAND FILM COMMISSION SHORT FILM FUND 2005/2006

The NZFC has appointed Whenua Films to manage the development and production of short films for the 2005/2006 financial year.

WHENUA FILMS LTD (Ainsley Gardiner & Cliff Curtis)

Our challenge to applicants is to bring a story that describes, whether overtly, subtly, thematically, visually or blatantly in content, who you are and how you fit into this place, this world or this time.

We are interested in helping writers/directors/producers/crews to develop sustainable careers. We don't expect people to have all of the answers but we expect them to have some real goals for a career in filmmaking.

We will fund 3 films with budgets of around \$100,000. Script development assistance will be provided to short listed films requiring additional work.

Tender group aims:

- To challenge all New Zealanders to tell their own stories passionately and honestly;
- To identify emerging talent with long term potential for filmmaking;
- To build successful teams with long term potential;
- To aid in the development of more highly crafted scripts;
- To aid in the development of more highly skilled Maori producers; and
- To encourage industry wide talent development through all skills.

APPLICATION CRITERIA

We must ask our filmmakers: Who are you? Where are you from? What is the story that you most need to tell?

We will be looking for the following criteria:

- Narrative or character driven stories that are universally recognisable within a uniquely NZ context;
- Scripts with strong original ideas that know what they are about and what they want to achieve;
- Demonstration of aptitude and passion to move into features;
- Scripts submitted do not necessarily require a director or producer attached, a maximum of 2 scripts per writer may be submitted.
- Scripts should be a maximum of 15 minutes.
- If you submitted last year you only need to resubmit your script and any notes on changes since your last proposal. If your script has not changed, you do not need to resend. In both cases you should call or email to notify us that you want your script reconsidered.

DEADLINES

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| 1. Call for submissions | Mon 29 August 2005 |
| 2. Deadline for submissions | Fri 7 October 2005 |
| 3. Proposed Shortlist announced (up to 6 projects) | Fri 25 November 2005 |
| 4. Final selection of projects to green light | Fri 16 December 2005 |

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 1 x application form, available from www.whenuafilms.co.nz or on request from Whenua Films;
- 1 x copy of script (acceptable script format);

- 1 x copy of any additional information about the project you wish to include (i.e. director's notes, team attached etc).

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO: Whenua Films Ltd. – Short Film Submission
PO Box 6147, Marion Square, Wellington

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