

FILM TITLE: "Waiting Outside..."

25 WORD SYNOPSIS:

A single father strives to give his son a perfect life full of happy memories, while a stranger's observations reveal the challenges that face him.

BACKGROUND

Finding the Material

Through my role at the NLAC I look after the events and publicity around the BMO Winterset Award. In the process of preparing for the award in 2013, I read *Escape Velocity* by Carmelita McGrath, which was one of the finalists. A poem in the book struck a chord with me called *Waiting Outside Clinic 2B* which describes a woman's observations of a man in a waiting room who finds a mail-in return card in a magazine for information about a premium car. He fills it out, selecting all kinds of options asked on the card that you can read more into (or not) as a viewer. At the end, you realize the clinic waiting room is that of a cancer care facility – changing perception on everything.

It turns out that she was inspired to write the poem after spending time in a cancer care clinic, which makes the observation all the more interesting, heartbreaking, and curious - provoking all kinds of thoughts. These seemingly insignificant moments are often touching or vulnerable, and reveal important and fundamentally defining characteristics about the people they involve.

TREATMENT

The short film will encompass three days in the man's life, starting on a Sunday. The phrases from another poem, *Monday's Child*, might be used as relevant subtitles under a text on screen frame indicating the day of the week (Sunday, Monday, or Wednesday). In an effort to emphasize the severity of the audience's discovery at the end of the short film, scenes showing the man's personal and family life will be shown in the lead up.

Those lead up scenes have been storyboarded, and for Sunday, include an afternoon of feeding birds in the park, the father and son playfully washing of dishes together (showing that the dad takes strides to turn chores in to memory making times with his son), and the two of them curled up on a couch for a late night Sunday movie.

The following day shown will be Monday, and the audience will see the father dropping his son off to a friend's house after school. He has to return to work, but this scene shows how the father has increased responsibility as a single parent, but he is still so invested in being there for his son that he takes time from work to get him from school himself. A creative transition will be employed on a fixed frame of the house to move the timeline forward from 3:30pm to about 7:00pm when the father returns to pick him up. Dialogue between the other parent in the house as the son returns to his father will be the audience's first indication that things might not be as perfect as they've seen, when the other parent references the father 'feeling better'.

The final day in the short film will be Wednesday, starting off with the father taking a few extra moments to make his son's lunch and school day extra special. He draws a face on the bottom of the brown paper bag, so it can become a puppet for his son to discover later. In the next scene, the son is being dropped off to his elementary school and the fully invested, but asking-at-the-last-minute, overtaxed father runs down through everything he knows his son needs for the day.

After dropping his son off at school, the father does not go to work. Instead, on this day, the audience will see him pull into the parking lot of a clearly public building, but not know where they are. The camera will follow his feet down the walkway, and into the building, then down the hallway to the waiting room. All the while soft visual cues and sounds will slowly give the audience clues as where he might be. They will then see the father approach the registration desk and check in with the receptionist before taking a seat and thumbing through the magazines.

The observant woman will enter the waiting room as he chooses a magazine, and take her seat. Through a series of medium shots of the man, wider shots showing them both in the space across from one another, and over the shoulder shots to show the mail-in card, the stanzas of the poem will be brought to life almost verbatim (see script or shot list breakdown on the poem page). Additional creative techniques will be used in this part of the film, such as an on screen rotoscope animation to illustrate a thought cloud, and the 'order your life' mail-in card the father imagines.

After completing the card, the father attempts to discreetly return it into the magazine, as his name is called which startles him because of his fixated determination to put it back unnoticed. He'll go in through the doors to his appointment and the next, and final, scene of the film will show him getting into his car to leave, driving towards the camera/mouth of the parking lot. As this happens, a slow zoom out will occur, expanding the frame to gradually reveal the building and sign, indicating it was a cancer care facility.

TARGET AUDIENCES

The short film will primarily be aimed towards film festivals once it is completed. We'll also explore broadcast possibilities through a contact Joshua Jamieson has with a major studio. Potential broadcasters would include CBC, Bravo, etc. During the St. John's Women's International Film Festival Joshua, along with co-producer Ruth Lawrence, were selected to have the opportunity to make face to face pitches to a number of potential broadcasters. Both the Bell Media Fund representative encouraged future applications to BravoFact, and the CBC Senior Manager for Arts – Documentary and Performance Programming in Atlantic Canada expressed interest with a possible \$1,000 production contribution and an eventual screening in the Short Film Face Off.

Additionally, a distribution company based in St. John's, NL has expressed interest in partnering with the project and a letter of intention has been received.

A meeting was also arranged with the Marketing and Communications team at the Canadian Cancer Society – Newfoundland and Labrador division to talk to them about the project. They, along with the Executive Director, felt the film's intended treatment and drafted script accurately and realistically depicted the life and challenges faced by an individual fighting cancer. They offered steadfast support of the project in light of the fact that it would achieve that goal, and inspire and encourage public conversation about a disease that is both highly prevalent in the province and is often difficult to discuss.

PRODUCTION & TALENT

The 15 minute length short film will be shot over a two day period, in St. John's, NL. A professional musician (Rosalind McPhail) has committed to scoring the film, Ruth Lawrence has agreed to being involved with the production as a co-producer, and the original author of the poem is on board as a creative consultant, and has provided an option agreement.

The producer/director/writer is Joshua Jamieson, and Brad Gover is also involved in the project as an assistant director and camera operator.

BIOGRAPHY – JOSHUA JAMIESON

Combining creativity and intuition with strategic thinking, Joshua has developed marketing campaigns to promote various initiatives undertaken by businesses and non-profit organizations, including the Department of Education, NLAN, the AIDS Committee of Newfoundland and Labrador and Choices for Youth. He is also a published author (*The Teenage Years... Mapped* and *Queer Monologues*) and former columnist / editor of the St. John's metro-trend newspaper Current.

Joshua gained media experience in radio and television before moving to print. Initially, at CBC Radio (NL), Joshua worked with youth on a show called *New Voices*, before hosting a National CBC special called *First Call*. That was followed by six months with CBC-TV, rounding out four and a half years before he jumped to private broadcaster Steele Communications. There Joshua was the producer, music director, and host of a number one Saturday afternoon program called *Fresh Focus* on Radio Newfoundland (CJYQ, 930am). He was also the operations producer for the HitsFM (CKIX, 99.1FM) live broadcast from Benders on George every Saturday night. In June 2006 after doing the shows for almost five years, they had their final broadcasts.

Joshua is the Artistic Director of a theatre and film production company, m0xY Productions, which he founded. With two professional stage productions to its credit (*Poor Super Man* and *Rope*) as well as a few short films, the company focused on a feature length documentary project – Just Himself: the story of Don Jamieson – in association with Odd Sock Films, in August 2008 through to 2011. That documentary was picked up by national distributors VisualEd, was broadcast on NTV in 2012, and was an official selection of the St. John's International Women's Film Festival.

Joshua is a news junkie, and enjoys a number of roles that engage him with the community including his work with non-profit groups, helping them with traditional and digital marketing. He is particularly proud of the work he's done for Choices for Youth, the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing and Homelessness Network, and his current work as Communications Officer for the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council. Joshua has also been actively involved as a St. John's Board of Trade Ambassador for two consecutive terms.

He holds a B.A. with a double major in English and Political Science, as well as a Diploma in Communications and Performance Media and a Certificate in Public Administrative Discipline from Memorial University. In 2012 he returned to complete a Certificate in Social Media Marketing.

Joshua Jamieson

Artistic Résumé

Producer / Director / Author

Selected Film

Waiting Outside...	Co-Producer/Director/Writer	m0xY Productions
Winters' Second Chance (in development)	Producer/Director/Writer	m0xY Productions
20 th Anniversary Choices for Youth	Producer/Director/Writer	Wavelight
Just Himself: the story of Don Jamieson*	Producer/Director/Writer	m0xY Productions
Fate (short)	Producer/Director	Fluffy Bunnies Productions

Selected Publishing

Queer Monologues	Author/Contributor	Breakwater Books
The Teenage Years ... Mapped	Author	Jespersion Publishing

Additional Publishing

Journalistic contributions to *The Telegram*, Columnist for *Current* (4 years), Editor of *Current* (2 years)

Selected Theatre

2007 Canada Winter Games	First AD, National Artists Program	Opening/Closing Ceremonies
Hardcore	Producer/Director	m0xY Productions
Rope	Producer/Director	m0xY Productions
Red Noses	Stage Manager	Reid Theatre
Poor Super Man	Producer/Director	m0xY Productions
Mad Forest	Sound	Reid Theatre
The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?	Director	Reid Theatre
Poor Super Man (scene)	"David"	Reid Theatre
Angels In America (scene)	"Joe Pitt"	Reid Theatre
All I Really Need To Know I Learned...	Producer/Director	m0xY Productions
A Midsummer Nights Dream	"Lysander"	

Selected Radio

Fresh Focus (5 years)	Producer/Host	Steele Communications
Live From Benders on George	Producer	Steele Communications
First Call	Host	CBC National
New Voices (4 years)	Host/Reporter	CBC Radio One

*Film runs 47 minutes, is distributed by VisualEd and was screened at 2012 St. John's International Women's Film Festival, private screening at the Bruneau Centre (Memorial University), and broadcast on NTV

Please note: samples of film, writing, and theatre can be found at www.joshuajamieson.com

Ruth Lawrence's work as an actor, writer, and filmmaker has taken her to Ireland, France, the US, and across Canada. Her award-winning short *Talus & Scree* was a national semi-finalist in CBC's Short Film Face Off and was an official selection for the WIFT International Showcase. Her short films have screened across Canada and the US. Ruth won the 2011 Joan Orenstein Best Actress Award for *Clipper Gold* at the Atlantic Film Festival and the 2011 RBC Michelle Jackson Award for Emerging Filmmaker for *Two Square Feet*, starring Jeanne Beker. She was named the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council's 2011 Artist of the Year and in 2013 was honoured with the Queen's Jubilee Medal. In 2014, she produced two short films: MJ Award winning short, *Before the War*, and *Quelle Affaire* (a short she also wrote and directed). She was the co-creator and director of the 5-episode webseries *Buy the Boards*, released in March 2014. www.buy-the-boards.com

SHORT BIO



Brad Gover makes dramatic films, documentaries, and interactive media. As co-founder of *Mad Mummer Media*, his producing credits include Bubble Dancers (2014), an interactive documentary for the *National Film Board of Canada* that explores the lives of ten people who work in the dish pits of St. John's and reveals the human existence behind this so-called dead-end job, as well as The Needle and the Damage Undone (2012), a television documentary produced in association with *CBC-NL* that investigates the impact harm reduction has on the lives of people who use injection drugs in Newfoundland and Labrador. More recently, he directed a follow-up to that documentary, Sister Morphine (2014), which is about Newfoundland nurses who siphon drugs from the provincial healthcare system to feed their personal addictions. Brad is currently in pre-production on Away From Everywhere, a feature film based on Chad Pelley's novel, to be directed by Justin Simms. He also serves as Secretary on the Board of Directors for *NIFCO*, the Newfoundland Independent Filmmakers Co-Operative.

SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY



ROZALIND MACPHAIL

FILM COMPOSER | PERFORMER | MUSIC CLINICIAN



BIOGRAPHY

Classically trained flutist, film composer and multi-instrumental looping artist **Rozalind MacPhail** intoxicates audiences with her blend of organic instrumentation, electronics and silent film via Ableton Live and her laptop.

Based in St. John's, Newfoundland, this two-time MusicNL awards nominee is an active performer, film composer, producer, session player and music clinician.

In 2011 MacPhail invited emerging and established filmmakers to create silent films about St. John's

for which she composed and recorded the soundtracks. *PAINTED HOUSES* earned rave reviews from screenings at the St. John's International Women's Film Festival and at the Dawson City International Short Film Festival.

Her recent music and film project, *HEAD FIRST* premiered at the Banff Centre, was co-presented by the St. John's International Women's Film Festival at Newfoundland's LSPU Hall and was recently featured at TEDx St. John's. *HEAD FIRST* received its live American premiere at the 20th Cucalorus Film Festival in Wilmington, North Carolina where MacPhail was a long-term Artist in Residence.

SELECTED VIDEOS

TEDx St. John's - Selected films from *HEAD FIRST*, performed live by Rozalind MacPhail
<http://youtu.be/7P8slvHo4mA?list=FLWr8xsP5p0x112GiUJUg2jA>

"I'm a Filmmaker" - Film by Roger Maunder, Music by Rozalind MacPhail
http://youtu.be/fuPRiP4vuqE?list=PL2fGtQeN-Ew_CRCCZ6pWwJRu9Y897cFX2

"Dempster Highway" - Film by Dan Sokolowski, Music by Rozalind MacPhail
http://youtu.be/1Glao2gyDGU?list=PL2fGtQeN-Ew_CRCCZ6pWwJRu9Y897cFX2

IN THE PRESS

Encore Weekly (Wilmington, NC) - <http://www.encorepub.com/welcome/head-first-into-cucalorus-artist-in-residence-rozalind-macphail-debuts-visual-album/>

The Independent (St. John's, NL) - <http://theindependent.ca/2013/11/29/flouting-convention-new-release-explores-flutes-films-and-the-unknown/>

The Telegram (St. John's, NL) - <http://www.thetelegram.com/Living/Entertainment/2013-11-30/article-3524882/%26lsquo%3BA-totally-magical-medium%26rsquo%3B/1>