

SCREEN AUSTRALIA and CLARE YOUNG FILMS present
In association with ACT GOVERNMENT and SCREEN ACT
and CROSS CITY SALES

FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE

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"What I don't feel is fear, and that is huge freedom."
Jane Campion

ONE LINE SYNOPSIS

A portrait of Jane Campion and her collaborators at work; a personal and insightful exploration of how, often against all odds, the creative spirit can sing.

ONE PARAGRAPH SYNOPSIS

"If you want to cover up or be safe, you don't allow the audience in"

An intimate portrait of writer/director Jane Campion and her collaborators at work: a personal and revealing exploration of how the creative spirit can sing. Filmed and directed over three years, this documentary follows Jane through the writing, rehearsals, shooting, and premier of television drama "Top of the Lake". The film examines how artists create an original and unique vision and bring it to the world for all to see. What unfolds is a surprising, inspiring and often humorous insight into the creative process.

ONE PAGE SYNOPSIS

"If you want to cover up, to be safe, then you don't allow the audience in."

An intimate portrait of Jane Campion and her collaborators at work: a personal and insightful exploration of how the creative spirit can sing. The film shows how artists can create an original vision and bring it into the world.

The film begins in 2010, watching Jane at work during the development and writing of the crime-mystery mini-series "Top of the Lake". Sharing this process is her long-time collaborator, sparring partner, and co-writer Gerard Lee. *"You create a space where ideas just arrive"*. Together Jane and Gerard nap, argue, get depressed and celebrate. We see the struggle between plot and inspiration, authenticity and cliché, deadlines and perfection. *"You're always working to that bottom line, what can be fixed, what can be improved, what can be moved."*

We jump to rehearsals at the fictional "Women's Camp" in New Zealand, where Jane and her actors improvise to discover the characters and relationships. *"Inspiration is always a visitor to a relaxed space inside you, it comes when you're not trying."* We see Jane at work with her leading ladies, Holly Hunter and Elisabeth Moss.

Across the diverse landscapes of New Zealand we see the intensities and challenges of the shooting of the show: an army of crew members, actors throwing each other on tables, stunt men jumping off ropes from trees. *"I'm protecting the story, I'm protecting the actors work..."*

Finally, in 2013 we ride in the car with Jane and Gerard to the premier of Top of the Lake at Sundance Film Festival. *"People become directors because they find strength and courage in the idea, to bring it into the world..."*

This documentary, filmed by Jane's assistant and mentee Clare Young, has privileged access to one of the world's most admired and critically acclaimed filmmakers. What unfolds is a surprising, inspiring, and often humorous insight into the creative process.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The creative process has been described as elusive and mystifying. Inspiration reveals itself in surprising ways, as glimpses on the surface of our imagination. As a young filmmaker, my ambition was to understand how creativity worked, to take notes, to study, to really KNOW the process – how someone could create exceptional original drama, which had the capacity to deeply move its audience, told by characters we would fall in love with.

Writer/Director Jane Campion asked me to be her assistant on “Top of the Lake”, a six - hour crime mystery story for television. In a world of show-biz so full of fake and formula, watching Jane and her collaborators at work, stumbling and sailing along, in their poetic unusual way, was inspiring and exciting.

Jane generously and at times reluctantly agreed I could document the process: from the development and writing, through pre-production and the shoot, and finally, back to Sydney where the process began.

FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE is a story for filmmakers and film-watchers to illuminate the process of creation. It is a story for future generations of storytellers and artists who battle down that road to create meaningful and honest work that touches your heart.

Creativity is unpredictable, bold, fragile, tough, and at times heart-achingly beautiful. FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE LAKE is an honest portrayal of an artistic process, its pains and of course its delights. It is a triumphant tale of our capacity as humans to look to the bottom of the lake, deep into our imaginations, to tell stories which enchant us and haunt us – stories which celebrate the ceremony of innocence, our endless search for truth and meaning in our lives.

CLARE YOUNG

CLARE YOUNG BIOGRAPHY – Director/Producer

Clare Young's passion for documentary began when she made her first film at 22 years old: "Firing on all Pins" a heart-wrenching tale of her family's survival of the Canberra bushfires which was awarded first prize in the Canberra Short Film Festival.

Clare was then commissioned by ABC Stateline to produce and direct a half hour special for the program "Eyes Down and Welcome to Hay", following Wilma Robb's journey back to the detention centre where she was locked as a child.

Clare has directed and produced a number of documentary commissions including "Questioning Minds" an entertaining and educational story about the trials and triumphs of teaching science to kids for the Australian Academy of Science.

Clare spent three years developing her creative skills as a director at Canberra's Bearcage Productions, where she directed over 100 programs for a variety of clients including Australian National Museum, Old Parliament House, National Portrait Gallery, and Foxtel's Biochannel.

Clare has also worked as assistant to Jan Chapman through the post-production of "Bright Star" (2009), and produced the NSW FTO YFF funded short film "The Mirage" which premiered at Montreal Film Festival.

In 2010 Clare was awarded a \$40,000 arts ACT grant for an intensive mentorship with Jane Campion. Clare was Jane's assistant throughout the development, writing, pre- production, and shoot of "Top of the Lake".

Clare is currently developing a slate of long-form projects supported by Arts ACT and Screen ACT.

CLARE YOUNG PRODUCTION LIST/CV

FEATURE FILM / TV SERIES

2010 - 2012 Top of the Lake 6 x 1 hr episodes
Role: Assistant to Jane Campion
Production Co: See-Saw Films
Description: Television series for BBC directed by Jane Campion and Garth Davis

2009 Bright Star 120 min, 35mm
Role: Assistant to Jan Chapman, Post Production
Production Co: Jan Chapman Films
Description: Feature film directed by Jane Campion

DOCUMENTARY

2012 From the Bottom of the Lake 52 min, HD
Role: Director/Producer
Description: Documentary about Jane Campion's creative process
Broadcast: BBC Knowledge

2011 Alliance for Forgotten Australians: Life stories 7 x 5 min, HD
Role: Producer/Director/Editor
Description: A series of short documentary vignettes for web

2010 Australian Academy of Science 30 min, SD
Role: Producer/Director/Editor
Description: A documentary about Primary Connections

2009 Questacon: Invention Convention 8 min, HD
Role: Director
Production Co: Bearcage Productions
Description: Promoting the annual Invention Convention

2009 Old Parliament House 15 x 2 min doc
Role: Director
Production Co: Bearcage Productions
Description: Developed stories for and directed 15 short docs playable on i-pods at the new Museum of Australian Democracy

2008 National Portrait Gallery 30 x 2 min doc
Role: Director
Production Co: Bearcage Productions
Description: Developed stories for and directed 30 short docs about portraits playable on i-pods for viewers attending the gallery

2008 Framed 52 min, SD
Role: Director
Production Co: Bearcage Productions
Broadcast: Foxtel Biochannel

2007 Eyes Down & Welcome to Hay 28 min, HD
Role: Director, Writer, Producer, DOP
Broadcast: ABC Stateline (ACT, 9/3/07)

2006	<u>When People Feel Terror</u>	8 min, DV
Role:	Director, Writer, Producer, DOP, Editor	
Broadcast:	ABC Stateline (ACT, 24/2/06)	
2005	<u>Three Degrees of Separation</u>	5 min, DV
Role:	Director, Producer, Writer, Editor	
Broadcast:	ABC Stateline (ACT, 15/4/05)	
2004	<u>Firing on all Pins</u>	9 min, DV
Role:	Director, Producer, DOP, Editor Music composer	
Broadcast:	ABC Stateline (ACT, 29/10/04)	
2004	<u>Flush Gordon: Space Age Toilets</u>	5 min, DV
Role:	Director, Producer, Writer, Editor, DOP	
Broadcast:	ABC Stateline (ACT, 12/11/04)	

SHORT FICTION FILM

2007	<u>The Mirage</u>	10 min, 35mm
Role:	Producer, 1 st Assistant Director	
Description:	Funded by NSW Film & Television Office YFF.	
2007	<u>The Lady Bug</u>	3 min, HD
Role:	2 nd Assistant Director, Production Manager	
Description:	For the 60 th Cannes International Film Festival.	
Director/Writer:	Jane Campion	
2005	<u>The Water Diary</u>	15 min, 35mm
Role:	Production runner, Casting assistant	
Description:	For Cannes 60 th anniversary, funding by United Nations	
Director/Writer:	Jane Campion	

AWARDS

First Prize – Canberra Short Film Festival, 2007: Eyes Down & Welcome to Hay
First Prize – Canberra Short Film Festival, 2004: Firing on all Pins
First Prize – Australian Awards for Excellence in publishing: (as part of curriculum package) 2006: Questioning Minds
Best Film – Lights Canberra Action, 2005: Three Degrees of Separation
Best Director - Lights Canberra Action, 2005: Three Degrees of Separation
Best Use of Theme - Lights Canberra Action, 2005: Three Degrees of Separation
Second Prize (regional) – Snowyfest International Film Festival, 2007: Eyes Down & Welcome to Hay
Second Prize (regional) - Snowyfest International Film Festival, 2004: Eyes Down & Welcome to Hay
Second Prize – Art of Documentary Film Festival, 2004: Flush Gordon: Space Age Toilets
Top 60 – Tropfest, 2006: When People Feel Terror
Premier – Montreal World Film Festival, 2007: The Mirage

EDUCATION

2004, University of Canberra - BA of Media Communications majoring in Creative Writing (1st Class Honours)

SASHA BURROWS BIOGRAPHY – PRODUCER

Sasha Burrows joined See-Saw Films in the role of Business Affairs in May 2011. See-Saw Films, under the helm of Emile Sherman and Iain Canning, has produced Tom Hooper's "The King's Speech", starring Colin Firth, Geoffrey Rush and Helena Bonham Carter, Jim Loach's "Oranges and Sunshine" starring Emily Watson and Steve McQueen's "Shame".

Since joining in 2011, Sasha has been responsible for the financing and contracting of Jane Campion's "Top Of The Lake" and John Curran's "Tracks". "Top of the Lake" is a six-part television series for BBC2, UKTV Australia and New Zealand and the Sundance Channel, distributed by BBC Worldwide. Starring Elisabeth Moss ("Mad Men"), Holly Hunter ("The Piano"), Peter Mullan ("Tyrannosaur") and David Wenham ("The Lord Of The Rings") the series will air in early 2013. "Tracks" is the feature adaptation of Robyn Davidson's eponymous book and stars Mia Wasikowska ("Alice in Wonderland").

The Business Affairs role also includes responsibility for business and legal affairs in respect of projects in development.

Prior to joining See-Saw, Sasha was associate producer of Julia Leigh's feature film "Sleeping Beauty", starring Emily Browning, which was in official competition at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival. Sasha's role entailed working closely with the film's producer to finalise financial closing of the film, joining the production team during shoot to provide assistance where required and post-supervision of the film.

Sasha has previously held roles in the legal and business affairs teams of National Geographic Channel Europe and, before that, Fox Studios Australia. At National Geographic Channel Europe, the London-based entity which broadcasts a suite of National Geographic channels into the UK, Europe and Africa, Sasha was Head of Business and Legal Affairs and part of the senior management team. She was responsible for providing services across a broad range of areas including channel distribution via traditional and new media, programming and regulatory compliance with respect to local UK & EU regulatory codes.

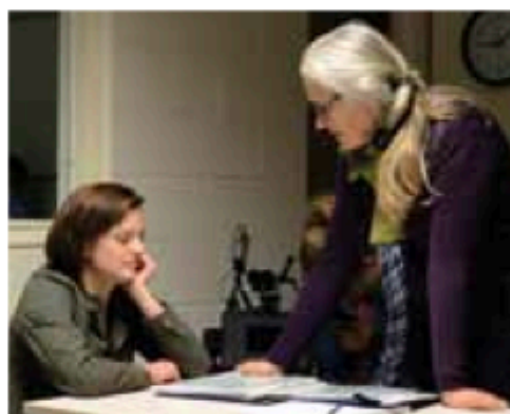
SASHA BURROWS PRODUCTION LIST

FEATURE FILM / TV SERIES

<u>2013</u>	<u>Tracks</u>	<u>115 minutes, 35mm</u>
Role:	Business Affairs	
Production Co:	See-Saw Films	
Description:	Feature film directed by John Curran	
<u>2012</u>	<u>Top of the Lake</u>	<u>6 x 1 hr episodes</u>
Role:	Business Affairs	
Production Co:	See-Saw Films	
Description:	Television series for BBC directed by Jane Campion and Garth Davis	
<u>2011</u>	<u>Sleeping Beauty</u>	<u>102 min, 35mm</u>
Role:	Associate Producer	
Production Co:	Magic Films	
Description:	Feature film directed by Julia Leigh	

From the Bottom of the Lake

Intimate, elegant and funny: these are not adjectives one usually applies to 'making of' documentaries, but Clare Young's portrait of Jane Campion at work on *Top of the Lake* carries an unusual distinction. Young's subject is also her mentor, a thoughtful, undogmatic explicator of what happens to be true for her when it comes to developing and realising a TV series. We begin in 2009 when Campion and her co-writer Gerard Lee, the writer of many of her earlier shorts and *Sweetie*, are sequestered in Devon working on the script. The process seems intuitive, tentative, and entrenched in glibbing mutual familiarity. From there, we jump to Sydney, then to the extraordinary lakeside setting where Campion is rehearsing, drawing on her actors to fill out the characters of the series' commune dwellers. Suddenly there's a full production crew, and we see the director's empathetic, collaborative style embrace a small army. When a title tells us that 'we' are invited to Sundance with the series, it's as if our entree into the circle were complete.



Australia 2013

Director/Photography: Clare Young

Producers: Clare Young, Sasha Burrows

Editor: Mat Evans

Music: Mark Bradshaw

52 minutes/Blu-ray



- CG Friday 26 July, 12.15 pm
- CG Friday 26 July, 1.30 pm
- CG Monday 5 August, 12.15 pm
- FA Saturday 10 August, 1.00 pm

Excerpt from Sydney Morning Herald September 12, 2013:

The Sydney Morning Herald
Entertainment

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Pay TV show of the week: From the Bottom of the Lake

September 12, 2013

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Jane Campion and Elisabeth Moss in *From the Bottom of the Lake*.

Wednesday, BBC Knowledge, 9.30pm

If you haven't seen *Top of the Lake*, the stunning six-part drama series created by Jane Campion and Gerard Lee that aired on UKTV earlier this year, do yourself a favour and seek it out. But you don't need to have seen it to find this behind-the-scenes documentary fascinating and revealing in many ways.

It begins in early 2010, when filmmaker Clare Young began documenting Campion's and Lee's creative process. At the time, Campion and Lee were ensconced in a cottage in Devon and facing a deadline for an initial draft of the script. What Young's camera captured will be reassuringly familiar to anyone engaged in any creative endeavour - the laboriousness of the process, the diffidence and frustration, the wait for ideas to jell. But there are novel things, too, not least the constructive way in which Lee makes use of his criticism of his own writing.

When the documentary moves to the set in New Zealand, a whole new vista opens up. There's candid footage of Holly Hunter breaking down during rehearsal, of Campion and Elisabeth Moss discussing the different natures of *Mad Men* and *Top of the Lake*, and of Peter Mullan horsing around with Robyn Malcolm. But it's not just observational; Campion explains her philosophy and intentions throughout. What shines through is her thoughtfulness, application and indefatigability in every aspect of the project.

There's the writing, which she does longhand, and the storyboards that she draws for every scene, as well as the close work that she does with the actors, even before she begins calling the shots on-set. If it were easy to do, everyone would be doing it.

KEY CREDITS

DIRECTOR
Clare Young

PRODUCERS
Sasha Burrows
Clare Young

CONSULTANT PRODUCER
Julia Overton

PRODUCTION CONSULTANT
Andrew Pike

EDITOR
Mat Evans

COMPOSER
Mark Bradshaw

SOUND DESIGNER
Nick Munnings, Bearcage

TITLES DESIGNER
Leonie Savvides

COLOURIST
Michael Easter, Silversun Pictures

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Matt Wigg

CAMERA OPERATOR
Clare Young

POST PRODUCTION SERVICES
Matt Nightingale, Bearcage
Kate Betts, Bearcage

MASTERING
Daniel Llewelyn, Bearcage

LEGALS
Jenny Lalor

PRODUCTION ACCOUNTING SERVICES
Moneypenny

INSURANCE BROKER
Dave McEwan, HW Wood

A CLARE YOUNG FILMS PRODUCTION



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