

# PRESS KIT



TALL STORY PRODUCTIONS & JOHN CONNOLLY present a 'WORKING GROUP ENTERTAINMENT' PRODUCTION VANESSA DOWNING ALAN FLOWER LUCY WIGMORE

**STATIONERY** 



## **DISTRIBUTION BY:**

Tall Story Productions Lucy Wigmore lucy@lucywigmore.com

#### **FESTIVALS / AWARDS**



World Premiere - Flickerfest Australia 2015 - Official Selection



Cannes Court Metrage – Cannes Film Festival 2015



Nominated for AFI Social Shorts Comedy 2016



Heart of Gold Short Film Festival 2016 – Official Selection

## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

cast VANESSA DOWNING ALAN FLOWER LUCY WIGMORE
costume and production design by BECKY DEE TREVENEN
edited by GORDON RUSSELL
cinematographer DAVID CAMERON
original score EMILY C. MAGUIRE
executive producers LUCY WIGMORE JOHN CONNOLLY
produced by JOSEPH COUCH KATE ARMSTRONG SMITH LUCY WIGMORE
written and directed by LUCY WIGMORE

Digital 2K Stereo Cinemascope / 2:35 9mins 55sec



# **LOG LINE**

It's never too late to change your life...

#### **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

Penny dreams about the old days when facsimile and white-out ruled the office. Bernard just dreams about Penny. When Penny falls foul of the domineering new boss, it's Bernard's chance to step up and save her. But will his old-school ingenuity and her drawer full of stationery be enough to save the day?

#### LONG SYNOPSIS

For 30 years Penny has dedicated her life to her job as an exemplary personal assistant. But when her domineering new boss, Celine, starts changing everything at the office, Penny struggles with the new world order. Meanwhile, Bernard has loved Penny from across the office divide for years but has never plucked up the courage to tell her. When Penny accidentally locks Celine in the meeting room, Bernard and Penny have to work together to save Penny from Celine's wrath. In the process, Penny realises that what she needs is right under her nose –the love and support of Bernard is the catalyst she needs to make her life a little less...well stationary...

#### **DIRECTORS NOTES**

The idea for *Stationery* dawned after a funny thing happened in an office block in North Sydney. My colleague got locked in the meeting room and we had to retrieve the key from another locked office using some old-school, stationery based contraptions and some extraordinary fishing skills.

It was such an exciting turn of events in an otherwise dull office that it brought everyone together. So...after telling the story of "what happened at work today" to a few mates and receiving regular laughs, I thought, why not write a film about it? So I did.



But as I began writing Stationery, I realised that this was not just a film about unlocking a door. It was about a great deal more. A recent study in Australia found that "almost 1 in 3 older employees are being let go, denied training and even verbally abused in the workplace". I also wrote Stationery to explore the difficulties we have in being vulnerable and connecting with each other; ageism and the prejudice our society has for the elderly and the struggles we have dealing with change. I believe that these themes are not only universal but also incredibly important issues to shine a light on.

And as a child who grew up on a steady diet of fairy tales, MacGyver and a fascination with all things French, I couldn't resist setting Stationery in a whimsical, 1960's influenced office that gets taken over by a soulless, technology-infested corporation - forcing the characters to use their old-fashioned ingenuity to survive.

While making Stationery, I was astounded by the commitment, talent, and insight of the cast and crew. Alan Flower and Vanessa Downing took the virtually dialogue free script and ran with it - bringing subtle, nuanced, warm, playful performances to set every day – making them a joy to direct on my first professional short film.

#### **DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY**

Lucy graduated as an actor from Toi Whakaari: New Zealand Drama School in 2002 and has been working extensively on stage and screen since. She is most familiar to audiences for her work on television including: Shortland Street, Underbelly: Razor and Love Child. She has also played leading roles on stage in: The Sweetest Thing, Cloud 9, Salon 71, Look Back in Anger, The Women, As You Like It and on screen in The Land, Tricky Business, The Last Magic Show, Eating Media Lunch, Orange Roughies and Spring Flames. She moved to London in 2008 where she continued her work on stage, and expanded her work as a filmmaker. She wrote and directed her first short film, Sign Language, while studying at the London Film Academy. She also worked as First Assistant Director and Casting Director on short film, Rapunzel and the award winning road safety advertisement, Embrace Life. Since relocating to Sydney in 2009, she has directed Cat and Mouse at La Mama Theatre, Assistant Directed Fefu and Her Friends at



NIDA and performed in The Sweetest Thing at Belvoir St Theatre, along with continuing her screen acting work. In 2015, she was the Programme Manager for the Big Screen Symposium (NZ), directed Gin Wigmore's new music video "Willing to Die" and a pilot for a new web series, JAFA. She is currently developing two new comedy TV series and her first feature film. She also holds a Bachelor of Business (Advertising/International Business) and BA (Hons) International Business.

#### PRODUCER'S BIOGRAPHIES

#### KATE ARMSTRONG-SMITH

Kate works as a Producer specializing in developing and marketing work with a particular focus on young adult audiences. She has worked for Good Vibrations Festival, The Adelaide Fringe, Adelaide Arts Festival, Indigenous Festivals of Australia and currently works as a Business Development Manager for Sydney Festival. Kate designed the award-winning audience development scheme Fringe Benefits for the Adelaide Fringe and was awarded A Churchill Fellowship to investigate strategies to further engage new generations of audiences for Australian entertainment. She holds a Graduate Diploma in Producing and Screen Business from AFTRS and recently completed an AFTRS' Masters of Screen Business and Arts.

#### JOSEPH COUCH

Specializing in script development and new writing, Joseph Couch studied Directing at NIDA, and has produced and directed multiple theatre productions for his own company, as well as working for the major houses STC, Belvoir St, Opera Australia and Playbox. In parallel, he works as a Management Consultant in the Media and Entertainment, Telecommunications, Financial Services and Resources industries, where he has a history of delivering decisive and valuable improvements to a range of ASX 200 companies.



#### PRODUCTION COMPANY CONTACTS

**Tall Story Productions** 

Lucy Wigmore lucy@lucywigmore.com

Working Group Entertainment

karmstrongsmith@gmail.com

#### **FULL CAST AND CREW**

#### **CAST**

Penny Wilkins VANESSA DOWNING

Bernard Cook ALAN FLOWER
Celine van Gelder LUCY WIGMORE

Dave Sturtley BENEDICT WALL

Office Worker 1 CHRISTINE GREENOUGH

Office Worker 2 SEAN BRANDTMAN
Office Worker 3 JOANNA BRIANT
Office Worker 4 SUSAN BUTLER
Office Worker 5 JULIAN BUTLER

Fired Office Worker EMILY ROSE BRENNAN

CEO BRETT GALVIN

Senior Manager 1 CALLUM FINLAYSON

Senior Manager 2 LYLY LIM

Senior Manager 3 STUART BAILLIE

Maintenance Guy 1 STEPHEN TAN

Maintenance Guy 2 BEN DUGARD

Barry Craig SEAN FLOOD

Writer and Director LUCY WIGMORE

Producer KATE ARMSTRONG SMITH

Producer JOSEPH COUCH

Producer/Executive Producer LUCY WIGMORE

**Executive Producer JOHN CONNOLLY** 

Cinematographer DAVID CAMERON

Production and Costume Designer BECKY-DEE TREVENEN

**Editor GORDON RUSSELL** 



Original Score EMILY C. MAGUIRE

Gaffer BEN DUGARD

Best Boy FRANCESCO CHIARI

Grip KRISTIAN BRUNETEAU

Grip ADAM COOPER

Camera Assistant LUKE SYMES

Camera Assistant DIMITRI ZAUNDERS

2nd Camera Assistant CLARE THURKET

Hair & Make Up CAITLIN PEAKE

Hair & Make Up COURTNEY HUDSON

Continuity/Director's Assistant CAROLINE CRAIG

Location Manager CALLUM FINLAYSON

Production and Design Assistant SASHA PERRI

Props Assist GRACIE DAVIDSON-LYNCH

Producer's Assistant KELLIE SMITH

Stunt Advisor BRIAN GROGAN

Unit CARLA THEUNISSAN

Unit JO ARMSTRONG

Unit JOSEPH COUCH

**DEPARTMENT OF POST** 

Post Production Advisor JAMES BROOKES

Colourist JAMES GARDNER

Sound Editor ISABELLA TROPIANO

Sound Mixer GLENN HUMPHRIES

Music Advisor GIN WIGMORE

Title Designer GORDON RUSSELL

Legal Advisor DANIELLE LE BRETON

Poster Designer CARL DIXON