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A FILM BY SEAN MEEHAN



LOST FACE



SYNOPSIS

Lost Face is a classic story by legendary writer Jack London about a man out of place and out of time. Subienkow is a Polack, who in mid-1800's Russian America finds himself the second-to-last survivor of a group of Russian fur-thieves who have just been defeated by liberators from the local tribe they have enslaved as forced labour. Now Subienkow faces a long, protracted and painful death unless he can come up with a plan for escape.

Subienkow calls over the tribe's chief, Makamuk and he begins to barter. What follows is a power play between the two men, and Yakuga, a recently freed slave, who doubts the legitimacy of Subienkow's offer even as he begins to question the wisdom of his tribe's chief.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I first read Jack London's short story, *Lost Face*, as a teenager and even back then it made quite an impression on me. Then, many years later, when I was looking for an idea I could adapt into a short film, a friend of mine reminded me of London's wonderful short story. I re-read it and was immediately drawn in again by the powerful layering of the storytelling, the vivid characters and the inherent drama of the situation. I love films that take me to times and places I wouldn't ordinarily have the chance to experience and *Lost Face* took me right into the middle of a tense and frightening moment a long time ago at the edge of the known (Western) world. The story was cold. It was grim. The stakes were high. The story was perfect.

But what attracted me most were the characters. A man facing death who acts with the kind of cool-headed trickery very few of us would think to employ under such duress, and two men, both eager to do the right thing for their people but in conflict about how to do that. The subtle manoeuvring that takes place between these three men makes up the heart of London's story and it felt like the right framework around which to build the film. At the end of the day *Lost Face* is a story about making the most of a less than desirable situation and that's something we can all easily relate to.

I did however have one hesitation about Jack London's story, and that was how best to approach the indigenous element. Natives tricked by invaders. It's a touchy subject and one I was keen not to trivialise or sensationalise. But it happened time and again. And I was lucky that the wonderful indigenous cast agreed with me that *Lost Face* was a story worth telling. It was always my intention not to pass judgement on the actions of any of the characters and to portray the indigenous side of the story with dignity and nuance. I hope I have succeeded there. And if we're lucky, perhaps the short film will ignite a conversation about current indigenous issues...

Sean Meehan.

PRODUCER'S STATEMENT

It's rare that a great story, which has the perfect elements to make a powerful, worthy and entertaining short film, comes your way. Lost Face, based on the Jack London classic short story and adapted by highly awarded director cameraman Sean Meehan, is one of those projects.

In a time where it seems almost mandatory that characters in film must possess super powers and the fate of the entire world hangs in the balance, it's refreshing to tell a simple human story where the personal stakes are high enough to have us hanging on every word, look and gesture. The wonderful thing about Jack London's story is that the world beyond the events we see playing out is entirely tangible. This story feels like part of a feature film, yet it remains self-contained enough that it doesn't feel lacking in the end. The story is visceral and honest. It feels like we've dropped in on a real time and place, at a moment of high tension, where characters have everything to lose or gain and the seat of power shifts from moment to moment.

But although this is a film based in reality, it transports us to a place and time long gone, and just like real life it is at times confronting, thought provoking, funny and unexpected, which makes it a perfect story for a modern audience. I sincerely enjoyed spending some time with the indigenous people and fur thieves of the mid 1800's and I'm proud to be a part of this short film.

Sam McGarry.

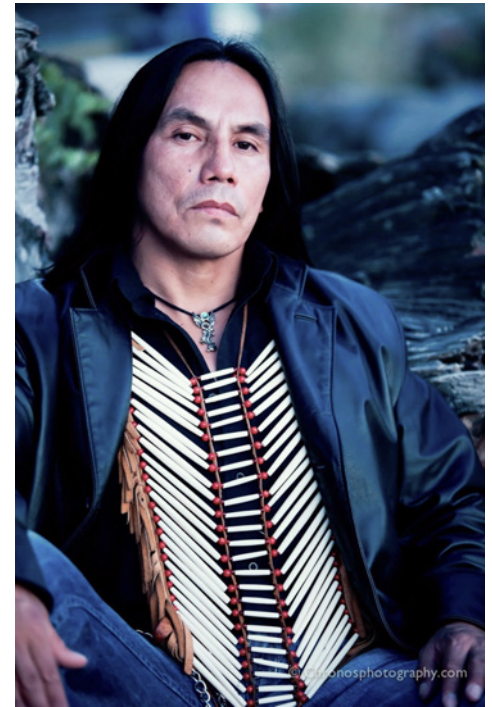
GERALD AUGER - MAKAMUK

Gerald Auger is a Canadian Director/Producer/ Writer/Actor, National Native Role Model, Entrepreneur and Motivational Speaker of Woodland Cree descent.

In 1996 and 1997 Auger was awarded the National Native Role Model by the Governor General of Canada. After being spotted at the opening ceremonies of the 1995 Canada Winter Games, Auger was given a supporting role in *Il mio West* (later dubbed *Gunslinger's Revenge*), also starring David Bowie and Harvey Keitel. Filmed in Italy for Pacific Pictures, it was the first spaghetti western to use First Nations actors in Indigenous roles. Auger had a lead role in the 2002 National Geographic IMAX-production *Lewis & Clark: Great Journey West*, and he played Crow Hunter in an episode of the four-part Hallmark Entertainment TV miniseries *Dreamkeeper*.

In 2005 Auger had the supporting lead of Soaring Eagle in the first episode of the Steven Spielberg's DreamWorks-produced six-part miniseries *Into the West*; in 2006 he completed the film *Klatsassin* with Stan Douglas; and in 2007 he was cast as Chief Ambrose McQuinna in the CTV-produced *Luna: Spirit of The Whale* with Adam Beach, Graham Greene, Tantoo Cardinal and Jason Priestley. In 2011 Auger had a cameo on primetime series *Blackstone* and landed the lead role of Pawnee Killer in AMC's *Hell on Wheels*. Auger produced, wrote and directed the 2007 short film *Walking Alone*, won Best Director, and the 2008 National Film Board of Canada documentary *Honour Thy Father* and won Best Film Representing Cultural Diversity at the Alberta Motion Picture Industry Awards in 2009.

In 2015, Gerald flew to Russia to film *St. Petersburg- A Selfie*, by director Natalia Kudryashova. Gerald was also cast in HBO's *Lewis and Clark* playing Chief Leborgne. He also starred in *Bohemian Blood*, an independent short film he produced and co-wrote for The Frightening 48 Hour Film Challenge.



MARTIN DUBREUIL – SUBIENKOW

An actor with a peculiar career path, Martin Dubreuil was first noticed in the many shorts in which he participated, including amongst others *Le rouge au sol* (Maxime Giroux) for which he won best actor at the Milano film Festival and at *Prends ça court*.

His next shootings were under the eyes of Pierre Falardeau (*15 février 1839*), Yves-Christian Fournier (*Tout est parfait*), Alain Chartrand (*La maison du pêcheur*), Podz (*Les 7 jours du talion, 10 et demi*) and Sophie Deraspe (*Les Loups*).

Recently, he defended the roles of Private Tremblay in *Bunker*, (Patrick Boivin and Olivier Roberge) and that of Tom in *Avant les rues* (Chloé Leriche).

His Characters, always screaming of realism, also stand out on small screen (*Toute la vérité, 19-2*, *Le Gentlemen II*, *Trauma II*, *Musée Éden*). He also has been lead by the director Maxime Giroux in their 7th collaboration for the film *Félix et Meïra*. He will defend a role in *Maudite Poutine* directed by Karl Lemieux.



MORRIS BIRDYELLOWHEAD - YAKAGA

Of the Sharphead Band in Alberta. Direct descendant of hereditary Chief David Bird Yellowhead. Grand Parents - Chief Enoch Bird and Sarah Bird. Parents - Peter Bird and Louisa Bird. Great Grand father was Chief David Bird Yellowhead. Morris was raised with traditional indigenous values by his grandmother Sarah Bird.

Morris' credits include - Into the West, Broken Trail, Apocalypto, Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee, Elijah, September Dawn, Hell on Wheels and Diablo.





ALSO FEATURING:

Interpreter	MICHELLE THRUSH
Big Ivan	SHELDON MAXWELL
Makamuk's daughter	SABRINA SADDLEBACK
Tall warrior	DAVID BURKE
Chatty warrior	CLIFFORD GADWA
Revenging woman	IMAJYN CARDINAL
Revenging woman	TRACY KNAUS
Revenging woman	ALANA WINSPEAR
Revenging woman	BARB SMITH
Warrior	CLAY GOODSTRIKER
Warrior	OWEN CROWSHOE
Warrior	DARYL BENSON
Warrior	HARLAN SMALLEYES
Warrior	MALAKAI SAM
Elder	WILMA PELLY
Elder	HELMER TWOYOUNGMEN
Child	INDICA CARDINAL
Dead Russian	DARYL FISHER
Dead Russian	ROBERT BOURNE
Freed Slave	RODNEY McLEOD
Weakened Slave	TRICIA MARCH
Injured Slave	ADELINE MARK
Sled Warrior	BRYCE LITTLECHILD
Sled Warrior	EAGLECHILD
Woman	VERONICA MARLOWE
Man	WALTER FRASER

SEAN MEEHAN - DIRECTOR/WRITER/DOP

Sean graduated film school in Western Australia, then spent a decade in the camera department, working his way from 2nd AC to cinematographer on commercials, television series and feature films (he still shoots most of his own TVC work).

Sean has been directing commercials for fourteen years and has shot and directed high profile, big budget campaigns for international clients including Volkswagen, McDonald's, Vodafone, Nissan, Buick, Audi, PepsiCo, the Transport Accident Commission, Anti-Smoking and Tourism Australia. He is co-owner of Soma Films, a TVC production company in Australia. Sean is also represented for commercials in Canada, the US, England and Germany.

Sean has won numerous awards for his commercial work - including:

2 Cannes Lions, 2 One Show Pencils, 7 AWARD Awards, 6 Canadian Bessies (Including Best in Show), 4 NYF International Advertising Awards, 4 MADC Awards, 3 Australian Director's Guild Best Commercial Director Awards (plus another 3 nominations), 3 Asia Pacific Advertising Festival Trophies, 3 In Book D&AD Global Awards, 3 Advertising Design Club of Canada Awards, 1 London International Gold Award, 1 Gold Phoenix Award, 1 Gold Cassie Award, 1 Gold Clio Award, 1 Gold Epica Award, The Mumbrella Award for Best Australian Commercial of 2012, And an Andy from The Advertising Club of New York.

Lost Face is Sean's first short film.





SAM MCGARRY - PRODUCER

Sam McGarry is committed to producing work at the highest level. She has been in the film industry for almost 30 years, starting out at Great Southern Films and transitioning from Production Assistant to Producer, Sam cut her teeth on television series, feature films and TV commercials.

Sam has shot all over the world for high end TVC clients like McDonald's, QANTAS, Coca Cola, Volkswagen, Tourism Australia, Telstra, Buick, Audi, Nissan, Vodafone, Securite Routiere, Antonveneta, and Vodafone to name but a few.

Commercials Sam has produced have won every TV commercial award worth winning, from Cannes Lions to LIA trophies to One Show pencils.

Sam currently resides in Los Angeles where she continues to produce for partner of 14 years, Director Cameraman Sean Meehan. She is co-owner of Soma Films.





DREW THOMPSON ASE - EDITOR

Drew Thompson ASE is an Australian editor with over 20 years experience. He commenced his editing career at US boutique editing house Red Car. Based in Hollywood the company's client list contained such noted directors as Terry Gilliam, Ridley Scott and Spike Lee. Drew graduated to being an editor working on high profile commercials.

In 1996 Drew based himself out of Sydney and commuted between Winning Post Productions - Sydney and Red Car - Hollywood. In 2000 as Partner/Owner he opened Mustard Post Production and has since gone on to be the most awarded Australian Commercial Editor nationally and internationally. His work was recognised in 2007 by the Australian Screen Editors Guild when Drew became an accredited member. He has edited a number of short films including "After the Credits" for Josh Lawson, which won best comedy at the LA ShortFest in 2011.

In 2009 he edited his first feature film, Passengers for writer/director Michael Bond. In 2011 he moved from Guillotine to Method Studios and edited Ronny Yu's Chinese Epic "Saving General Yang".

In 2014 Drew edited NZTA "Mistakes" for Director Derin Seale, the commercial had over 11 million YouTube hits and became one of the most awarded commercials of that year.

Drew has just completed his latest feature film for Director Abe Forsythe and Producer Jodi Matterson. The film, titled "Down Under," is a black comedy set in the aftermath of the Australian Cronulla race riots. It is set for a 2016 release with Studio Canal as Australian distributors and Embankment as global sales agents.

Drew's working relationship with Director/DP Sean Meehan extends back at least a decade. Together, they have won numerous awards.



ELLIOTT WHEELER - COMPOSER

Elliott Wheeler is the director of Turning Studios. Classically trained, he studied composition and brass studies at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, and Philosophy at Sydney University. Since then, he has worked continuously as a screen composer, providing hundreds of scores for film, documentary, drama, theatre, and commercials. He is currently working on the upcoming Netflix series "The Get Down" in New York.

Elliott was the principal composer and arranger for Baz Lurhmann's *Strictly Ballroom - the Musical*, along with his original compositions in the show, Elliott collaborated with Sia, Eddie Perfect and David Foster to create the score. Prior to *Strictly Ballroom the Musical*, Elliott worked with Baz Lurhmann on *The Great Gatsby*, collaborating on material from all of the film's artists, from Jay Z, Florence + the Machine, Lana Del Ray, Jack White, will.i.am, Bryan Ferry and his Jazz Orchestra, Emile Sande and Kid Koala, Fergie, QTip and Goon Rock, as well as providing original additional music for the film. In the same year he also worked on the score for "Mad Max - Fury Road.

Wheeler also composed music for the opening titles for Rob Conolly's AACTA winning adaption of Tim Winton's *The Turning* – a collection of eighteen short films directed by a diverse range of artists and directors including Cate Blanchett, David Wenham and Mia Wasikowska, among others. Additionally, Elliott has scored many successful short films including "Yardbird" which was in the official selection for Cannes 2012 as well as taking out best live action at the Sydney Film Festival and Best score at the St Kilda Film Festival. The sand animation "The Hunter" won Best animation at the 2013 AACTA awards, and "I'm the one" premiered at the Venice Film Festival. "Butterflies" a puppet animation will be screening at the Annecy festival this year .





AMY BREWSTER - PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Amy Anson Brewster has been designing and decorating professionally for over half her lifetime.

Amy works in Film and Television as a Feature Film buyer and dresser, and as a short format Production Designer and Art Director.

Her credits include: Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee, Heartland, Mutant World, Heritage Minutes, Forsaken and The Revenant.

Amy grew up on the family ranch North of Bozeman, Montana and resides with her boyfriend and step daughter outside of Black Diamond, Alberta, Canada.

LISA BELYEA - MAKEUP

Lisa has worked on countless feature films, television shows, music videos and television commercials as a key makeup artist, 1st and 2nd assistant. Her credits include (but are not limited to): The Northlander, Wynona Earp, Fargo (TV series), Klondike, Hell on Wheels, Jurassic Fight Club, Shanghai Knights, Shanghai Noon and Honey, I shrunk the Kids (1 & 2).

From 2012 - 15 Lisa was the special effects make up designer and coordinator for ST/OPS Tactical Training Canada and from 2012-14 she was a special effects makeup and production makeup instructor at NUMA International. From 2010-12 she was the head makeup instructor at the Zeneba academy.

In 2013 Lisa was an A.M.P.I.A award nominee for Best Makeup Artist for Corb Lund's *Dig Gravedigger Dig*. She is a senior member, I.A.T.S.E. Local 212.



TECHNICAL DETAILS

Title	ᐱᓄᓯᓱᓱᓄᓄ - LOST FACE
Duration	14 mins
Origination	Alexa
Ratio	2.66:1
Format	DCP, Mov.
Sound	5.1 Surround
Language	English, Cree
Year	2016





SOMA FILMS PRESENTS ᐱᓄᓴᓴᓴ LOST FACE

ADAPTED, SHOT AND DIRECTED BY SEAN MEEHAN BASED ON THE SHORT STORY BY JACK LONDON

STARRING MARTIN DUBREUIL, GERALD AUGER, MORRISBIRDYELLOWHEAD WITH MICHELLE THRUSH,
SHELDON MAXWELL, CLIFFORD GADWA, IMAGYN CARDINAL, DAVID BURKE AND SABRINA SADDLEBACK

PRODUCED BY SAM MCGARRY ASSOCIATE PRODUCER MATT GILLESPIE

PRODUCTION DESIGNER AMY BREWSTER EDITOR DREW THOMPSON

COSTUME DESIGNER DEITRA KALYN ORIGINAL SCORE BY ELLIOTT WHEELER CASTING DIRECTOR WENDY GREEN

SOUND DESIGNER SIMON KANE KEY HAIR AND MAKEUP BY LISA BELYEA SPECIAL EFFECTS MAKE UP BRANDON ALLEN

PRODUCED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA, ALBERTA MEDIA FUND, ALTER EGO POST, SONG
ZU, OUTCAST INTERNATIONAL, PANAVISION, WILLIAM F. WHITE, TURNING STUDIOS AND JOE MEDIA

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