

WAITING

Logline:

Two boys wait outside a shop for a phone-call.

Short synopsis:

Starsky has never met his father. So when he receives a letter from him that he wants to talk, he skips school with his best friend Kenny to wait at the payphone outside the local shop.

Director's statement:

Waiting is a simple story with a lot of heart. It is about the reality of two young boys who have grown up with no father and how they find solidarity in that. Set outside a shop in South Auckland, it is in these isolated places where you have the most honest and intimate conversations. The film opens a discussion and an awareness of the hunger for family connections experienced by youngsters within New Zealand communities.

Director's biography:

Amberley Jo Aumua is of Samoan and Maori descent from Manurewa, New Zealand. She is a writer/director who holds a Bachelor of Performing and Screen Arts. Her first short film Waiting (17) won the Jury Prize for Best Film at the New Zealand International Film Festival (17), Best Student Film at the Show Me Shorts International Film Festival (17) and was in competition at the Toronto International Film Festival (17). It has currently screened in over 20 film festivals, most recently at the BFI London Film Festival (18). Her recent short film Moa Ma Le Pinko (Chicken & Bingo, 18) made with two other indigenous key creatives, was created as part of the Native Slam film challenge for Maoriland Film Festival where it won the Audience Award and was selected to screen at ImagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival (18). She is currently in production as one of nine writer and directors for the vignette feature film Vai. It will connect eight stories about the journey of empowerment through culture, over the lifetime of one woman, Vai.

Tech Specs:

Country of Production: New Zealand

Date of Completion: July 2017

Shooting Format: Digital

Ratio: 16:9

Duration: 12 minutes

Genre: Short/Drama

Crew & Cast information:

Producer: Unitec Creative Industries
Director: Amberley Jo Aumua
Writer: Samuel Kamu
Director of Photography: Greer Lindsay
Editor: Huhana Ruri-Panapa
Starsky: Desmond Malakai
Kenny: Casta-Troy Cocker-Lemalie
Hem: Paul Soa

Film festival screenings and awards:

Indigenous Film & Arts Festival - Presented by the International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management
Colorado, United States
October, 2018

BFI London Film Festival
London, United Kingdom
October, 2018

Down Under Berlin Film Festival
Berlin, Germany
September, 2018

Pasifika Film Festival
Sydney, Australia
September, 2018

Melbourne International Film Festival
Melbourne, Australia
August, 2018

Presence Autochtone - Montreal First Peoples Festival
Montreal, Canada
August, 2018

Musee Du (Museum of) Quai Branly - Jacques Chirac
Paris, France
June, 2018

Palm Springs International ShortFest
Palm Springs, United States
June, 2018

Busan Short Film Festival
Busan, Republic of Korea
April, 2018

Maoriland Film Festival
Otaki, New Zealand
March, 2018

Tampere Film Festival
Tampere, Finland
March, 2018

Te Kuki Airani Film Festival
Cook Islands
February, 2018

Pollywood - Pasifika Film Festival
Auckland, New Zealand
November, 2017

Show Me Shorts International Film Festival
Auckland, New Zealand
October, 2017
Awarded Best Student Film

Nuku'alofa Film Festival
Nuku'alofa, Tonga
October, 2017

Toronto International Film Festival
Toronto, Canada
September, 2017

New Zealand International Film Festival

Auckland, New Zealand
July, 2017
Awarded Best Short Film

Wairoa Maori Film Festival
Wairoa, New Zealand
July, 2017

Link to film's website and/or social media profiles:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/waitingshortfilmnz