



A SHORT DOCUMENTARY BY YANNICK JAMEY

THE BIG WAIT

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TRAILER

LOGLINE

A remote desert town, with a population of two, is kept in pristine condition, waiting for visitors that never seem to arrive.

SYNOPSIS

THE BIG WAIT follows a small town called “Forrest”, isolated in a flat treeless desert, and its population of two people: Greg & Kate, who are there to maintain its emergency airstrip.

As they wait for an emergency landing, they keep Forrest’s one street and six vacant houses in pristine condition by tending the green front lawns, leaf blowing and vacuuming.

At the same time, they find themselves increasingly enjoying the inherent freedom of Forrest by indulging in more wild activities.

But in the face of the uncertainty and ever looming shadow of madness, how long can they keep up this fragile balance between play and routine before something finally cracks?



CAST & CREW

STARRING

GREG & KATE BARRINGTON

DIRECTED, PRODUCED & EDITED BY

YANNICK JAMEY

PRODUCED & SHOT BY

LUCY PIJNENBURG

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

ELIZA SCOTT

MUSIC COMPOSED BY

ERNST REIJSER

KEY INFORMATION

Completion Year	2023
Country of Origin	AUSTRALIA
Shooting Format	DIGITAL
Screening Format	DCP / PRORES
Running Time	14 MINUTES
Genre	DOCUMENTARY
Language	ENGLISH
Subtitles	ENGLISH, FRENCH
Sound	DOLBY 5.1
Ratio	16:9

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YANNICK JAMEY

WRITER • DIRECTOR • PRODUCER



Bio

Yannick is an emerging multi-cultural director currently based in Sydney, Australia. His latest short documentary **THE BIG WAIT** (SXSW, Hot Docs) is currently in its festival run. His previous titles include 2022 short documentary **MADE OF LIGHT** (DOC NYC, Antenna) and **CRUSOE OF TIN CITY** (Flickerfest).

With three more documentary shorts at various stages of production, **BORN UNDERGROUND** (Australia), **THE RUIN OF THE EARTH** (Ireland), and **DEATH OF A LANGUAGE** (Guatemala), he is quickly assembling a body of work that explores unique people and places, often drawn to the relationship between a person's worldview and the landscape they live in.

Filmography

2023 - **THE BIG WAIT** - 14 min (SXSW, Hot Docs)

2022 - **MADE OF LIGHT** - 14min (DOC NYC, Antenna)

2022 - **CRUSOE OF TIN CITY** - 14 min (Flickerfest, SF Shorts)

Director's Statement

How does one find a sense of purpose in a void of infinite horizons?

Australia's Nullarbor Plain (Latin for "no trees") is a dead flat and treeless desert 360° around, and as vast as the state of Nebraska. This landscape is what drew me initially into making a film. I was fascinated by how it would feel to live in a constant state of nothingness.

When Lucy and I ventured out there, we stumbled upon the very remote airport town of Forrest and its population of two people, Greg & Kate. They were there alone among its six vacant houses, living like desert lighthouse keepers waiting for an eventual emergency landing.

To remain busy they would keep this 'abandoned theatrical set' of a town in pristine condition by mowing the green front lawns, blowing the leaves, making the beds, vacuuming the red dust...

I was very drawn to how these daily chores became so visually absurd in the context of sheer emptiness and almost a little "crazy". But Greg and Kate were also very much in touch with

their less civilized, wilder side amid the immense sense of freedom Forrest had to offer. So their suburban routine in the end seemed to me more like a way to retain some normalcy in order to avoid slipping into madness.

I was interested in exploring the definition of sanity and the delicate balance between freedom and madness through this microcosm of Western society reduced to one street, six houses and two people surrounded by pure void.

What started out as a slice-of-life style documentary, had unexpectedly taken on a more metaphorical quality. A metaphor for what exactly? It's entirely up to you. I like to think of it as a modern mash-up of the existential classics: Adam and Eve in the desert, performing Sisyphean tasks while waiting for Godot.







FORREST



LAWNMOWER
GALLERY





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