

DAVID LOWE

CV – AUGUST 2014

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

As a BA student at the Australian Film Television and Radio School, my two major projects were short dramas, which I wrote and directed. Both have enjoyed international success.

I graduated from AFTRS in 1997. Since then I've developed scripts for film, television and interactive media, and written history and fiction. I've been to Europe as a guest of major film festivals, and have travelled extensively within Australia.

Since returning to film/TV production and photography in 2012 (after several years devoted to writing) I've been working mainly on environmental activism projects, for organisations including Lock the Gate Alliance, The Sunrise Project and Land Water Future. I was a key member of the Gasfield Free Northern Rivers media team, producing material in support of the 2014 Bentley Blockade, in northern NSW (see **youtube.com/user/csgfreenr/videos**).

I've directed, co-produced (and edited/shot in most cases) numerous films including *Undermining Australia: Coal vs Communities* (Lock the Gate Alliance), *Protect Our Land and Water* (NSW Farmers), *Our Land Our Water Our Future* (promotions for NSW campaign), and the feature length music movie *Rock the Gate!* (Lock the Gate Northern Rivers).

I've done stills photography for numerous publications, and contributed camera work and extracts of my films to productions including *Australian Story* (ABC, 2014), *Ten Bucks a Litre* (Smith & Nasht/ABC, 2013) and *Fractured Country* (38 mins, Lock the Gate Alliance, 2013).

PRODUCTIONS

as director/producer/camera/editor, unless otherwise noted:

- *Queensland People's Bill* (3 mins, HD, Lock the Gate Alliance Queensland, co-producer Kate Dennehy, 2014): **queenslandpeoplesbill.org.au/**
- *Behind the Mask: Benny Zable Speaks About His Art* (23 mins, HD, Lismore Regional Gallery, co-producer Kezia Geddes, 2014): **vimeo.com/102865863**
- *Greedozer Meets Fossil Fool* (10 mins, HD, Lismore Regional Gallery, 2014): **vimeo.com/101660566**
- *Sing You Up*, Luke O'Shea music video (5 mins, HD, 2014, contributing camera)

- *Australian Story* ('Lock Me Away', ABC, 2014). Producer Kristine Taylor: **abc.net.au/austory/specials/lockmeaway/**
- *Follow the Sun: Xavier Rudd Live at Bentley* (17 mins, HD, 2014): **vimeo.com/93614786**
- *Bentley Blokes* (14 mins, HD, 2014): **vimeo.com/93068288**
- *The Reverend and the Mayor at Bentley Blockade - Two More Extremists?* (7 mins, HD, 2014): **vimeo.com/92912197**
- *Coal Seam Gas Science Forum at Parliament House* (5 hours, multi-cam coverage, HD, Sunrise Project, 2014) links including: **vimeo.com/91997050**
- *John Fenton: Warning From Wyoming* (8/20/78 minute versions, HD, Lock the Gate, 2014, with Brendan Shoebridge, camera only) links including **vimeo.com/88833499**
- *How Long?* (3 mins, HD, Luke Vassella music video, with Luke Vassella, 2014): **vimeo.com/88465847**
- *The Grey Goose* (5 mins, HD, Davey Bob Ramsey live music video, 2014): **vimeo.com/88424267**
- *Sons and Daughters* (12 mins, HD, The Protectors live music video, 2014): **vimeo.com/88263744**
- John Fenton Speaking at Pilliga Protectors Camp (4 mins, HD, 2014): **vimeo.com/88051590**
- *(Non Violent) Battle for Bentley* (2 mins, HD, first promotion for blockade, with Luke Vassella, 2014): **vimeo.com/87077302**
- *The Gold* (7 mins, HD, The Protectors live music video, 2014): **vimeo.com/86583450**
- *Ain't Gonna be Treated This Way* (5 mins, HD, The Protectors music video, 2014): **vimeo.com/85787393**
- *Drew Hutton Speaks at Pilliga Protectors' Concert* (6 mins, HD, 2014): **vimeo.com/85360068**
- *No Fracking Way Cabaret* (multicam concert coverage, HD, 2014) links including: **vimeo.com/82494862**
- *Our Land Our Water Our Future* (NSW promotional campaign, Sunrise Project, HD, 2014) link to 1 min version: **vimeo.com/81472658**
- *Call to Country* (3 mins, produced by Lock The Gate Alliance, contributing camera/director, shown by Bill McKibben throughout his 2013 Australian tour): **lockthegate.org.au/calltocountry**
- *Knitting Nannas* (22 mins, HD, Frogmouth Films, 2013, director Rani Brown, producer Sean O'Keefe, camera/stills)
- *Aquarius in Lovemore* (Paul Joseph/ Rohan Langford, 2013, camera only): **youtube.com/channel/UCXuTXmTmKpKeFwcEpU_rGvw**
- *Lock the Gate: Leard State Forest* (8 mins, HD, LTG Alliance, 2013): **vimeo.com/74586792**
- *Undermining Australia: Coal vs Communities* (35 mins, HD, LTG Alliance, co-producers Annie Kia, Carmel Flint, Boudicca Ceresse) webisodes start with: **vimeo.com/75368229**
- *Fractured Country: an Unconventional Invasion* (38 mins, HD, LTG Alliance, contributing camera/special thanks, director Brendan Shoebridge) links: **lockthegate.org.au/films**
- *Draining the Lifeblood: Galilee Basin at Risk* (5 mins, HD, LTG Alliance, producer Carmel Flint): **vimeo.com/75072474**
- *Protect Sydney's Water: Longwall Coal Mining Impacts* (2 mins, HD, Protect Sydney's Water, 2013): **vimeo.com/74162323**
- *Circle of Life* (5 mins, HD music video, 2013) **vimeo.com/61724375**
- *Coal Free Bremer Valley* (4 mins, HD, co-producer Carmel Flint, 2012. Also editor/camera): **vimeo.com/65122439**
- *Sweet Dream* (3 mins, HD multicam live music video for Luke Vassella, 2013): **vimeo.com/61328972**

- *Fall Into Feeling* – online album launch (90 secs, HD, 2012. Also editor/camera): **vimeo.com/53900087**
- *Rock the Gate!* (87 mins, HD, 5.1 surround – co-produced with Heather McDiarmid, 2012) with Xavier Rudd, Drew Hutton, OKA, Jeremy Buckingham MLC, Dubmarine, Brian Monk, Luke Vassella, Steady Eddy, Renee Simone, Mandy Nolan, and many others. Cinema premiere August 2012 (complete film viewable on request via bluray/dvd/online). Trailer: **vimeo.com/43886948**
- *Protect Our Land and Water Rally* (15 mins – HD, 2012) with Drew Hutton, Fiona Simson, Tony Windsor, Rob Oakeshott, Dirtgirl and others: **youtube.com/watch?v=sRFYKupTVY8**
- *The People vs CSG: the Birth of CSG-Free Communities* (5 mins - HD, producer/stills, directed by Brendan Shoebridge): **youtube.com/watch?v=o7C4ousqB4E**

AFTRS drama productions as writer/director (DVD available) include:

- *The Two-Wheeled Time Machine* (21 mins – produced by Miriam Stein, 1997) with Matt Day, Essie Davis, Jacki Weaver and Steve Rosanove: **vimeo.com/14472657**
- *Freestyle* (12 mins – produced by Matt Morgan, 1996) with Mary-Lou Stewart, Roy Billing, Monique Spanbrook and Greg Blandy: **vimeo.com/15206503**

Before coming to the AFTRS, I wrote, produced and directed a number of community service advertisements for clients including the Red Cross (screened nationally), Pedal Power (ACT), Canberra Youth Theatre, AIDS Bus and the ACT Rape Crisis Centre (screened NSW).

I also created numerous short dramas, music videos and documentaries using non-broadcast equipment.

WRITING FOR FILM, TELEVISION, RADIO & INTERACTIVE

Original projects include:

- *Wild River Blockade*, formerly *River Man* (research and development of a television mini-series, with Matchbox Pictures, Screen NSW and Screen Tasmania, 2009-11)
- *Cagetrader* (outline and character development for a TV series, 2011)
- *Towies* (outline and character development for a TV series, 2011)
- *Human Race*, formerly *Velocity* (development of a feature screenplay with Matchbox Pictures and Screen NSW, multiple drafts, 2005-11)
- *Too Easy* (proposal for a low budget comedy feature, 2008)
- *One in a Million* (a feature screenplay, with Panckhurst Productions, 2007)
- *The Hourglass Conspiracy* (proposal for a feature film, 2007)
- *Ash Wednesday* (proposal for a TV mini-series, with Wonderland Productions, 2006-07)
- *Battler's Prayer* (proposal for a TV mini-series, 2005-06)
- *Cloudcatcher* (a feature screenplay, Panckhurst Productions and Screen Australia, multiple drafts)
- *Wounded Dog* (screenplay for a short feature film)
- *Playing the Fool* (proposal for a feature film)
- *Daniel* (proposal for a feature film)
- *The Underworld Identity* (script for a short TV drama)
- *Ping Pong* (script for a short TV drama)
- *Mer* (proposal for a massively multiplayer game for teens and up, with Jane Foggon)

- *Fay* (proposal for a massively multiplayer game for children, with Jane Foggon)
- *Stranger Than Fiction* (proposal for a radio series about history, for young people)
- *Song* (script for a short film)
- *Inflatable Man* (script for a short film)
- *Whirligig Man* (proposal for a feature film)
- *Quiver* (a feature screenplay – multiple drafts)
- *Triplicity* (proposal for a music theatre extravaganza, with Greg White)
- *Thunderbolt's Lady* (feature screenplay)
- *Burning Moon: an EXEC Adventure* (proposal for an interactive drama, with Jason Wheatley)
- *Rank Strangers* (script for a short drama)
- *Heron* (proposal for a telemovie and series)

Commissioned scripts include:

- *History Bytes* (an educational interactive CD ROM, with Greg White – Shopfront Theatre)
- *Blue Silence* (proposal for a feature film based on a true story – Tourist Films/Prodigy)
- *Rapid Response* (storylining for a TV drama series – Southern Star Xanadu)
- *Love Cuts* (script for a broadband interactive drama – NIDA/AFTRS, dir: Denny Lawrence)
- *Triple 0* (storylining and character creation for a TV series – Southern Star Xanadu)
- *First Person* (script outlines for a series of broadband interactive experiences, with Jason Wheatley – NIDA/AFTRS)
- *Big Sky* episode 47: 'Friends in High Places' (one hour script for an Australian TV drama series, with Bill Searle – West Street Productions/Southern Star Xanadu)
- *Earthsearch* episode 5: 'Afterworld' (one hour script for a US/Australian TV drama mini-series – Pro Television/ Becker Group)

FESTIVAL APPEARANCES, TELEVISION SALES & AWARDS

The Two-Wheeled Time Machine was released theatrically in Australia in November/ December 1997 in a program of shorts called *Fistful of Shorts*, put together by the AFI. In 1999 it was one of five short films selected by FNAC for the *Best of Oceania* video compilation tape, (sold widely in France and Europe).

The Two-Wheeled Time Machine was selected to support *Cosi* in its 2004 DVD release (the first of 30+ AFTRS films to be honoured in this way by Village Roadshow). The film was also chosen by Cinema des Antipodes, in France, to appear as a bonus in a major Peter Weir Collector's Edition DVD box set, released in Europe in 2004.

The Two-Wheeled Time Machine represented Australia in eleven international and Australian competitions and festivals in 1998, including Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival (France – which I attended), Tampere International Short Film Festival (Finland), St Kilda Film Festival (Melbourne – joint winner Best Post-Production Sound), Forum Cannes Festival (France), San Diego Film Festival (USA) and Short Film Festival of Drama (Greece).

Television sales of *The Two-Wheeled Time Machine* to date include Spain (Canal+), Poland (Canal+) and Italy (Telepiu).

My previous film, *Freestyle*, represented AFTRS in May 1997 at the Forum Cannes Festival (France), and was screened at an AFC/AFI Industry Night in March 1997. The film was released theatrically in 1997 as part of the AFI's *Fistful of Shorts* compilation.

Freestyle has won the following prizes: The Golden Eve Award for Best Editing at the 1998 Festival dei Festival (Italy), The Patrons' Award for Best Short Film at the 1997 San Diego Film Festival (USA), Most Popular Short Film at the 1997 Australian International Film Festival (Canberra) and Best Short Thriller at the 1998 Noir in Festival (Italy).

Freestyle has sold to television in the following countries: France and Germany (Arte), Spain and Poland (Canal+), Australia (SBS), USA (KQED-TV), Italy (Telepiu), Denmark (DR1 & 2), Finland (YLE), United Kingdom (Channel 4). *Freestyle* festival appearances in 1997 include: Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival (France - which I attended), Tampere International Short Film Festival (Finland), Brussels International Festival of Fantasy and Action Films (Belgium), Cinema Jove Festival Valencia (Spain), Hamburg International Film Festival (Germany), Vila do Conde (Portugal), Cork Film Festival (Ireland), LA International Short Film Festival (USA), Donne In Corto International Women's Film Festival (Spain/Italy/Denmark), London Film Festival (UK).

1998 *Freestyle* festival appearances: The Second Australian Film Festival in Dublin (Ireland - which I attended), Images Toronto (Canada), Solothurner Filmtage (Switzerland), Mediawave 1998 (Hungary), New York City's Seventh Annual Australian Short Film Event (USA), and Bristol Short Film Festival (UK).

Freestyle represented Australia at AntennaCinema 1999 in Padua, Italy, and was selected to screen at the Fete du Cinema screenings organised by Cinedie and the French National Cinema in June - August 1999, in Paris. *Freestyle* returned to the Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival in February 2004 as part of a retrospective program. Late in 2005 the film was released by Village Roadshow on DVD, together with the Jim Sharman/Tony Buckley/Patrick White classic from 1978, *The Night the Prowler*.

PHOTOGRAPHY (see flickr.com/photos/davidlowe1970/sets)

Work includes coverage of major events for organisations including Lock the Gate Alliance, Save The Reef and the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. Recently I've been doing lots of digital photography for the anti-invasive gasfields cause.

My photography has been published in *The Guardian*, *The Australian*, ABC News Online, ABC Rural, *The Byron Shire Echo*, *Echonet Daily*, *The Northern Rivers Echo*, *Nimbin GoodTimes* and *Eco*. My work has been exhibited and sold at shows including the 2014 Bentley Art Prize. In the past I've won awards for my B&W photography with Jane Foggon.

BOOKS

- *Triskaidekaphobia*, (a novel for young readers – completed 2010)
- *Out of the Box: the amazing story of war hero and quiz champion Frank Partridge VC* (an illustrated, oral history-based biography – completed 2008)
- *Forgotten Rebels: black Australians who fought back* (a history of some personalities from the 19th century Aboriginal resistance, Permanent Press, 1995)

ARTICLES, PAPERS & SHORT STORIES

I have written a number of articles on the subject of the nineteenth century Aboriginal resistance. In 1994 these were published as *Forgotten Rebels: Black Australians Who Fought Back*, by Permanent Press, of Melbourne. The book went to a second edition in 1995.

Major essays include *Emotion Pictures* (an examination of the ways in which history films emotionalise the past), *Stanley's Families* (an examination of physical and meta-families in the films of Stanley Kubrick), *An Outlaw Industry* (Bushrangers on the Big Screen 1906-1993), and *WOMADELAIDE 93: Adelaide throws its arms around the world*.

Commercial articles include a number written for publications such as *Australian Videography* and *Commercial Photography in Australia* (1990-1992). I wrote an article about Kim Batterham ACS which was published in *Australian Cinematographer* in 2011.

Prize-winning short stories include: *Piconcagua* (first prize, 1994 City of Springvale Short Story Awards, 21-26 years category, later to be adapted as *Cloudcatcher*), *Hunted*, *Two Suns*, *Dead Heat*, *Music of The Spheres*, *Freestyle* and *The Magician's Assistant*.

OTHER AWARDS & MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

In February 2004 I attended the Australian Film Commission's second residential intensive script workshop, Spark, in regional Victoria, with my feature film screenplay *Cloudcatcher*. Advisers included Geoff Stier, Greg Widen, Lynda House, Joan Sauers and John Collee.

In 2003 I was one of three judges at the inaugural South-East Film Festival. I worked as a script doctor with Greg White on the *Get Into the Arts* community advertising campaign, which screened in cinemas 2000/2001. Early in 2000 I was a visiting lecturer at AFTRS, contributing to the intensive short course *Writing the Short Film*.

In 1999 I became one of six emerging directors to be shortlisted for the Australian Screen Directors Association Attachment Scheme. In July 1999 a book, "Ecrire un court métrage" ("Writing a short movie"), by Jean-Marc Rudnicki, was published by DIXIT in Paris. The script for *Freestyle* was used as a major example of a successful short screenplay.

In May 1997 Brilliant Digital Entertainment/Sega-Ozisoft announced that *Burning Moon: an EXEC Adventure* was one of the winners of their national multipath movie competition.

In 1996 the Movielab Award for a third year film was awarded to *The Two-Wheeled Time Machine*. In 1995 the Atlab Award for a second year film was awarded to *Freestyle*.

Prior to attending AFTRS, I worked extensively for the NRS Group and Prime Time Video/Howe Electronics in roles including sound recordist, vision switcher and camera operator. I was a member of the Independent Video Inc. Board from 1989-1991 (ACT).

I have also been Social Media Secretary and Webmaster for Northern Rivers Greens (2010-2012).

I've written 188 song lyrics and poems.

CURRENT & PLANNED PROJECTS

- *Confusing Them With Our Joy* (development of a major three part documentary series, about the Northern Rivers NSW fight against invasive gasfields)
- *Human Race* (development of a feature film)
- *Mer* (a novel for younger readers)
- *Thunderbolt's Lady* (development of a feature film)
- *Shadow Country* (development of a series of historical guidebooks)
- *Alchemy* (development of a drama about Brett Whiteley)
- *Skinny & Alice* (development of a musical feature film)