

A man wearing a white space helmet and an orange flight suit is seated inside a spacecraft cabin. The cabin features various panels, a red emergency light, and a circular hatch. The lighting is warm and focused on the man.

SPIRAL

Press Kit

Specifications

Date of Completion: September 2018

Shooting Format: Arri Alexa
Apple Pro-res
Full Colour

Aspect Ratio: 2:39:1
Digital Sound

Language: English

Run Time: 10.30min

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Distributor: WA Screen Academy Edith Cowan
University 2 Bradford St, Mount
Lawley Western Australia



SPIRAL



Logline

Following WW3, a young woman working in an Australian outpost confronts prejudice as she attempts to save a Soviet cosmonaut marooned in space.

Short Synopsis

September 30, 1983 – The nuclear holocaust is a reality and only remnants of civilization remain. In a city isolated, Katrina is tasked with making radio contact with any potential surviving nations.

Inadvertently picking up the distress call of Dmitry – a Russian cosmonaut marooned in orbit after the doomsday – Katrina faces the difficult task of guiding this man home to Earth and must decide the lengths she will go to in order to save a life.

One Page Synopsis

“Spiral” is a story of two people on different sides putting aside enmity to save a cosmonaut stuck in space it’s a tale of hope and humanity.

Spiral takes a different direction to what happened in our own timeline.

It is set at a point in 20th century history where mankind came closest to annihilation and self-extinction.

September 1983 - A Soviet radar operator sees contact that he declares is a US missile launch as a first strike and the Kremlin orders a full nuclear retaliation on this in error. Most of the world’s major centres and militaries are vapourised. What’s left are some small pockets of advanced technology, trying to keep the fire of civilisation alive.

Launched just prior to the massive world ending nuclear exchange, marooned in orbit through all of this is a young man, Captain Dmitry Panov, trapped aboard his miniature one man shuttle, “Spiral”. For several weeks, he attempts to find some form of life on Earth. His only company is Misha, the stuffed bear given to him by his wife before launch.

Running low on air and food, he manages to break through the static. On the ground, in a part of Western Australia undamaged by nuclear warfare, a young woman, Katrina, on a radio is scanning cities over the world yielding only static and silence. She receives Dmitry’s cry for help and rushes to her superiors for assistance.

As Katrina tries to obtain coordinates for him to safely return to Earth, she must battle the bitter hatred by officials of a now enemy. Katrina must use her skills and knowledge and has to resort to desperate measures to bring Dmitry back to Earth.



Director's Statement

Steven Kerr



"Spiral" is an idea that I've been musing on over a few years, after a camping trip to Coral Bay took me past the now inactive Tracking station in Carnarvon. Looking into its' past revealed a connection to the early US space program. I daydreamed on how a place like this would be isolated in the event of a major global catastrophe. A last centre of advanced technology and outpost of civilization, alone. If the survivors here, listening for anyone else alive, picked up signals from people stranded in orbit, what would they do?

What could they do? Being a Cold War kid, I was all too aware in the 1990's about the story of "Doomsday". How during September 1983, a Soviet Rocket Forces radar station detected what looked to be US missile launches. Officer Lt. Col. Stanislav Petrov correctly ascertained these were an error picked up by Molniya satellites. Should less cool heads have prevailed, civilisation would have been vapourised and I would not be writing this.

My influences for "Spiral" come from stories of history and real objects and places, but re-imagining them. As for directors the works of Verhoeven, Lucas, Kubrick and Kurosawa rank highly in my influences. Alfonso Cuaron's "Gravity" has been a great inspiration as well.

"Spiral" is important because it shows humans both at their finest and worst. A timely reminder of the existential threat humankind poses itself if we can't get along and do not leave Earth.

The notion we are confined to this planet should be alarming. Perhaps we can see a vision of the better nature we are capable of, and act on it. To do something good. Hopefully, we can bridge our divides, right our wrongs and take our place amongst the stars. That is my hope and our birthright.

Producer's Statement

William Pacquiao



“Spiral” is the most ambitious film ever imagined at the WA Screen Academy. I have been so privileged to be a part of the production. Everyone on the crew were a hundred percent passionate about sci-fi and making the film. It truly was an inspiration, especially our grand concept developer and director Steven Kerr, which would not be possible without his creative vision and drive. We have created our own alternate universe, hopefully for the betterment of humankind.

It’s such a great story and I think it’s a necessary story that needs to be told in this era of Donald Trump vs Kim Jung-Un. With the social media obsession, people are disconnected with the serious reality we are setting our course on. The world currently stands on the brink of disaster and a heart warming story of international cooperation and hope is what we need right now.

We had such a great cast of WAAPA actors. Jarryd, Kian and Shannon have really outdone themselves with highly emotive performances.

The production has been as dramatic as the film but with a talented passionate crew we set ourselves a big target and we’ve landed amongst the stars, hopefully “Spiral” will leave an impact in the film world.



Actor Profiles

Jarryd Dobson - Dmitry

Jarryd Dobson is a graduating (BA) actor of WAAPA class 2018. He grew up in Rockingham, Western Australia where he always managed to find his way in front of a camera, behind a cinema projector or on a stage. Jarryd's final year at WAAPA has seen him perform as George W. Bush in David Hare's *Stuff Happens*, Jack Worthing in Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* and Deputy Governor Danforth in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. Additional to his WAAPA training, Jarryd studied a (BA) double major in Performance Studies and Screen Arts at Curtin University. He is especially inspired by works of satire and comedy.



Shannon Ryan - Katrina

Shannon Ryan grew up in Orange, NSW, and worked professionally as a commercial/contemporary dancer before discovering acting. At WAAPA, she has performed roles such as, 'Alice' in *The Emancipation of Alice Paws* (by Perth playwright Chris Isaacs), 'Rosalind' in *As You Like It* (William Shakespeare), 'Lady Bracknell' in *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Oscar Wilde), and 'Tony Blair' in *Stuff Happens* (David Hare). She is thrilled to be involved with the short film, 'Spiral'.



Kian Pitman - Rachel

Kian is the epitome of a third culture kid, from being born in Australia, to growing up in the multicultural nation of Malaysia. Whilst in Malaysia, Kian began exploring her love of acting through various mediums; from a chorus member in the Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre's Cantonese Musical "Paper Crane", to Amanda in "Solace", an original short film created for the 48 hour Film Festival. Now in her graduating year at WAAPA, Kian has had the opportunity to explore a variety of roles including the Writer in August Strindberg's "A Dream Play", Helena in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and Cecily Cardew in Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest". She was also the recipient of the 2018 Shakespeare Award, in which she played Romeo in "Romeo and Juliet". Kian is keen to further her exploration of humanity through various roles in the future.



Crew Biographies



Corey Booth - Writer

Corey is a directing and screenwriting student at WA Screen Academy. Prior to his studies, Corey completed a Bachelor of Creative Industries (majoring in film and video) at Edith Cowan University and graduated with First Class Honours. At the Screen Academy, he directed the short drama *When Harri Met Salma*, the documentary *Someone Cares*, and wrote the screenplay for the short film *Spiral*. When he graduates with a Masters Degree, Corey hopes to further develop his writing and directing craft and become more proficient in writing short bios about himself.

Steven Kerr - Director

Steven is a Masters student at WA Screen Academy, majoring in directing and producing. Prior to his studies, Steven was a screen acting coach, drama and media studies teacher, actor and ghost tour guide! During his time at the Screen Academy, he pitched and directed the Screen Academy's first ever space film *Spiral*, and a documentary *Bright Sparks*. After graduation, Steven hopes (within the next five years) to direct his first sci-fi feature film or work on *Star Wars*.



William Pacquiao - Producer

William is a graduate of Broadcast Television at North Metropolitan TAFE and has worked on television productions throughout Australia over the past 5 years, including AFL, Australian Open Tennis and Telethon. He has always wanted to take his education to the next level and was accepted into the Screen Academy as a producer to pursue his love of documentary and storytelling. He wants to make inspirational, positive content and enjoys the logistics of bringing a crew together to make magic happen. William produced the short film *Spiral*, the most ambitious film ever imagined at the WA Screen Academy, and the documentary *Somebody Cares*. With his degree under his belt, William plans to work in the screen industries while producing/ editing his own content.

Brendan Joel - Director of Photography

Brendan is a cinematographer passionate about sharing stories on screen. He has a background in freelance filmmaking working on a variety of projects including promotional / music videos, films and an award winning audio / visual show with vocal loop artist Sam Perry. Upon graduating from the WA Screen Academy he plans to continue working on ambitious projects and exploring new ways to immerse audiences in story.



Kat Goddard - Editor

Kat is studying her Masters in Screen, specialising in editing and cinematography. Her passion started with an advanced diploma in video production at FTI in 2004 and has worked on many projects, live performance and events. Kat has just finished directing her first feature film 'Black Ghost' and enjoys working with local creators to help bring their visions to life. Having a passion for space and sci-fi, Kat hopes to take 'Spiral' to a new level in filmmaking with the fantastic team on board for this ambitious project.



Joanne Carwardine – Sound Mixer/ Designer

From an early age, Joanne has been curious about what goes on behind the scenes in filmmaking. She is interested in the technical craft behind the story and what we can do with technology to achieve something special on the screen. Joanne has studied at North Metropolitan TAFE and ECU, and worked at Channel 7 and 9 in multiple roles such as editing, camera, lighting, and sound. She has found that editing is her interest, but sound is her passion. Exploring the technical and creative parts of sound has led to work as a sound recordist, boom operator, post sound audio director and audio assistant. Her thirst for knowledge will continue to lead her down different paths in the future.





Credits

Writer Corey Booth
Director Steven Kerr
Producer William Pacquiao
Cinematographer Brendan Joel
Editors Kat Goddard
Brenton Cooney
Kate Parker

Production Designer Michelle Home
Sound Joanne Carwardine
Music Composer Maddie Ivy

Original Idea by Steven Kerr

CAST

Dmitry Jarryd Dobson
Katrina Shannon Ryan
Sloane Michael Muntz
Rachel Kian Pitman

EXTRAS

Virginia Cole Michael Abercromby - Ration Officer
Hamish White Hank James - Security Guard #1
Rebecca Collin Sean Conway - Security Guard #2
Mary Sullivan Hayden Mitton - Shirtless Guy
Max Dennis Jazmyn Ryan
Bruno Oliveira Maysun-Lei Yeo

CREW

1st Assistant Director Nigel Devenport
2nd Assistant Director Rachel Fitzgerald
3rd Assistant Director Ana Victoria Neves
Continuity Corey Booth

Steady Camera Operator Luke Corbett
1st AC Edwin Sitt
2nd AC David Duong
On Set Data Wrangler Kate Parker

Grip Brianna Trinidad
Assistant Grip Jacob Morgan-de laine

Gaffer Dion Borrett
Lighting Assistant Emma Beel
Tanya Greening
Kaifu Deng

Sound Recordist Joanne Carwardine
Boom Operator Lucy Nicol
Cable Runner/2nd Boom Sanja Katich
Boom Assistant James Brock
Set Designer/ Builder Benedict Chau
Art Director Maeli ChereI

Art Department Assistant	Tim Rice Amelia Morgan-de Laine Zac Holmes Kieran Barnett	VFX Artist Additional Artist	Tim Harris Jarrad Russell
		Colour Grader	Brendan Joel
Standby Props	Ben Harris	Sound Designer & Editor	Joanne Carwardine
Costume Designer	Jillian Philp	Safety Consultant	Peter West
Costume Supervisor	Saba Tsegay Gidey		MENTORS
Costume Standby	Hayley Edwards		David Vincent Smith
Make-Up Artist	Ruby Darge	Script Editor	Mahmudul Raz
		Cinematography	Jonathan Rowdon
		Editing	Denzil Heeger
Associate Producer	Jillian Tunbridge	Colorist	Chrissie O'Connell
Assistant Producer	Emma Beel	Script Supervisor	Lien See Leong
		Costume	Pip Waller
Unit Manager	Morgan Maclannan	Make-Up/Hair	Ben Morris
Catering/ Unit Assistant	Adrienne Cobbs	Sound	Alex Wilson
	Liam Collins		Tom Moore
Production Runner	Zac Holmes		
		ECU Technical Support Staff	Steve Gardiner
Stills Photographer	Hannah Evelyn		Barry Harvey
	Maximillian Strzelecki		
Behind the Scenes	Kate Parker	ECU Media Loans Staff	Karl Platel
			Louise Gan

**SPECIAL THANKS TO
Peter Wheeler at**



Jordan Prince-Wright

John Park - Aviation Heritage Museum - Bullcreek

Peter Kane - Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage

Kane Blackman - Classic Hire - Hamilton Hill

Michelle Home

Jillian Philp

Greg Farrugia

Marina Elliott

Rebecca & Peter Phillious

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Mahmudul Raz

HEAD OF PRODUCTION

Jaclyn Hewer

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

Cathy Henkel

Andrew Lewis

Stills



STILL 1 – Spiral inside Sunrise with Dmitry



STILL 2 – Katrina on microphone in Control room



STILL 3 – Katrina outside Command Centre with her car



STILL 4 – The Spiral spaceship orbiting Earth



STILL 5 – Katrina and Rachel stare off screen in control room



STILL 7 – Katrina gasps & cries in shock at Airfield



SPIRAL

Sci-fi Short
Film

Stills BTS



BTS 1 – Jarryd in suit, Brendan DOP and Lucy Boom Op



BTS 2 – Director and Camera Assistants with crew in background



BTS 3 – Actors Michael Muntz & Shannon Ryan share a moment



BTS 4 – DOP Brendan, Boom Op James with actors Michael & Kian Pitman



BTS 5 – Sunset all the crew waiting for actor to come out of bushes



BTS 6 – Jarryd Dobson with camera and set revealed