

JANUARY 28, 1992 \$3.95

# TIME

**OTTO  
BLOOM**  

---

**MAN OF  
OUR TIME**



# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

Written and Directed by Cris Jones

An Optimism Film Production

Produced by Melanie Coombs, Alicia Brown and Mish Armstrong

Australian Distributor Bonsai Films: Jonathan Page

Duration: 84 mins

Shot on Arri Alexa, Super 8, digital and analogue video, stills

Format - DCP Aspect ratio – 2.39:1

## Contents:

Synopses:	page 3
Director Bio and Filmography	page 4
Directors Statement	page 5
Producers Bio and Statement	page 6
Lead Cast Biographies	page 7
Supporting Cast Bios	page 8
ABOUT the production	page 9
Technical details	page 12
Full Credits	page 13

## CONTACTS:

### Producer

Melanie Coombs

+61 (0)412 304 212

[melanie@optimismfilm.com](mailto:melanie@optimismfilm.com)

### MIFF Publicity

Asha Holmes

+ 61 (0)403 274 299

[asha@ashaholmespublicity.com](mailto:asha@ashaholmespublicity.com)

### Australian Distributor

Jonathan Page

Bonsai Films

+61(0)404 004 994

[jpage@bonsaifilms.com.au](mailto:jpage@bonsaifilms.com.au)

### International Sales

[www.ottobloom.com](http://www.ottobloom.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/thedeathandlifeofottobloom/>

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

## SYNOPSIS

### TAG LINE

Who is Otto Bloom?

### SHORT SYNOPSIS

The chronicle of the life and great love of Otto Bloom, an extraordinary man who experiences time in reverse – passing backwards through the years while remembering the future.

### SYNOPSIS

*The Death & Life of Otto Bloom* chronicles the life and great love of an extraordinary man who experiences time in reverse – wandering blindly into the past, while remembering the future.

The film charts Bloom's rise from scientific oddity to international superstar as he searches for love and meaning in this strange, backwards world.

Over the years, he has a string of romances while challenging our preconceived notions about life, death and the nature of time. When the world proves to be not yet ready for Bloom's radical ideas, his fall from grace is as swift as it is tragic.

But for Bloom, the end is only the beginning...

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

**CRIS JONES, writer-director**

Cris Jones is an award-winning filmmaker based in Melbourne. His short films *The Funk*, *Excursion* and *The Heisenberg Principle* have screened at over a hundred international film festivals including Clermont-Ferrand, Rotterdam and South by Southwest, to name a few.

Cris has received the Emerging Filmmaker Awards of both the Melbourne International Film Festival and the Film Critics Circle of Australia. He was part of the Melbourne International Film Festival's inaugural Accelerator program and was invited to attend the Binger Director's Lab in 2013.

*The Death & Life of Otto Bloom* is Cris's first feature film.

## **FILMOGRAPHY AND SELECTED AWARDS**

THE DEATH AND LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM (2016, 84 mins)

MIFF Opening Night Film (2016)

THE FUNK (2008, 7 mins)

SBS Television Award, St Kilda Film Festival (2008)

1st Jury Prize, Short Cuts Cologne (2008)

Best Film, CortoDrome International Independent Film Festival (2009)

Best Animation, Montecatini Terme Short Film Festival (2009)

Best Experimental Film, SediciCorto International Film Festival (2009)

Nominated - Yoram Gross Animation Award, Sydney Film Festival (2009)

Nominated - IF Award for Rising Talent (2008)

EXCURSION (2003, 3 mins)

Emerging Australian Filmmaker, Melbourne International Film Festival (2003)

Emerging Talent Award, Film Critics Circle of Australia (2003)

BAFTA LA Award for Excellence, South by Southwest (2004)

Grand Prix, Tres Court Film Festival, Paris (2004)

Grand Prize, Hi Mom! Film Festival (2004)

Special Mention, Munich International Film School Festival (2003)

Nominated - Dendy Award for Best Short Fiction, Sydney Film Festival (2003)

THE HEISENBERG PRINCIPLE (2001, 8 mins)

1st Jury Prize, Hi Mom! Film Festival (2002)

3rd Jury Prize, Interfilm Berlin (2002)

Best Short Film, Short Trips (2004)

Nominated - Best Short Film, ATOM Awards (2001)

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

## THE DEATH AND LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM: DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The germ of the idea for the *THE DEATH AND LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM* came to me a number of years ago when I stumbled across a letter that Albert Einstein had written to the grieving family of a recently departed friend. This was the letter in which he famously described time as “merely a stubbornly persistent illusion.”

I'd heard this quote before, of course, and found the notion fascinating. But reading it in the context of a letter of consolation gave it a whole new resonance for me. We are all mortal. We live and then we die. We love and we lose the ones we love. So, this idea that time is an illusion, that every moment in time is - and will forever be - unfolding simultaneously seemed like such a beautiful gift; a shining beacon of hope in all the chaos of the universe.

I knew immediately that I wanted to tell a story that could somehow express this philosophy, and eventually I stumbled upon the idea that got the ball rolling... If this perception that we are moving forward through time is merely an illusion - a product of human consciousness, say - then what if we had a character who had the opposite illusion, that they were moving backwards through time?

This simple thought immediately set off a chain reaction that resulted in several legal pads of hastily scribbled notes... If someone were experiencing time in reverse, then they would remember the future but have no knowledge of the past... They would seem like an amnesiac, but also a like a prophet... The way to tell this story would be as a biographical documentary, Errol Morris-style, looking back on their life from the present day... and it's GOT to be a love story, right?

And thus, Otto Bloom was born...

In making this, my first feature film, I have had the privilege of working with the most remarkably talented, generous and supportive cast and crew imaginable. It was a joy to make and I look forward to sharing everyone's wonderful work with audiences and lovers of cinema.

The great Kurt Vonnegut (no small influence on this film) used to give his writing students one simple piece of advice: “Show me I am not alone.” That's what Einstein's letter did for me, and I can only hope that *The Death and Life of Otto Bloom* might do this for others. This is, after all, why we still pay money to sit in dark rooms with a bunch of strangers while visions of light and colour dance before our eyes...

Cris Jones, June 2016

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

**OPTIMISM FILM - PRODUCERS, Melanie Coombs, Alicia Brown and Mish Armstrong**

As Optimism Film Melanie, Alicia and Mish have produced the feature films GRACEFUL GIRLS and THE DEATH AND LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM. Previously Melanie Coombs produced award winning shorts, animation, documentaries and features under her Melodrama Pictures banner. HARVIE KRUMPET won 2003 Academy Award® for Best Short Animation. MARY AND MAX, opened 2009 Sundance, won Grand Cristal at Annecy and the Asia Pacific Screen Award APSA Best Animated Film 2009 and released worldwide. Melanie was awarded Screen Producers Association of Australia SPAA Feature Film Producer of 2009 Award. She is a member of SPA, AACTA and an Ambassador for Screenrights.

Alicia Brown started in media as a journalist and producer on documentary and music programmes for Radio National and triple j in Sydney and the BBC in London. Alicia produced her first feature film HONEYMOONER in 2010, which premiered at the 2010 Edinburgh International Film Festival and was released in the UK through Soda Pictures in January 2011. In 2015 was awarded a Screen Australia Fellowship with Ted Hope at the San Francisco Film Society.

Mish Armstrong has produced short films, documentaries and factual/reality television series. Her documentaries include OUT OF OUR MINDS (SBS), THE KOKODA TRAIL (SBS), and THE FITZROY STARS (Message Sticks, ABC). Mish also works as a Series/Senior Producer on factual television series - most recently MasterChef, The Recruit and Long Lost Family.

## **THE DEATH AND LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM: PRODUCERS STATEMENT**

Melanie first met Cris when he was a first year Film School student at VCA Melbourne back in 2001 assessing the end of year productions. She watched films about childhood trauma, teenage angst, 'gangstas and guns' and then in amongst so much (arguably necessary) cliché, there was a small treasure: The Heisenberg Principle. Cris Jones made a compelling short about the Uncertainty Principle. And she wasn't the only one hooked – the film went on to have a great international festival life.

Cris and Melanie then successfully collaborated on the short film THE FUNK in 2003 which has screened at over 60 international film festivals, won significant awards and is distributed by shorts distributor Interfilm Berlin.

Cris' storytelling is smart, funny and moving; his interest in philosophy and science isn't a pretentious trick to show how much cleverer or better read he is, but is a genuine engagement with these ideas to better explore the truth of who we are, what we are doing here and why anyone should care.

This feature, Cris's first, is also the first feature drama film produced by Optimism. We are enormously proud to bring Otto Bloom to life.

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

## THE CAST

### Xavier Samuel is OTTO BLOOM

Xavier Samuel graduated from Adelaide's Flinders University Drama Centre in 2005. Xavier's theatre credits include *The Seagull* (STCSA); *Mercury Fur* (Theatreworks Co. Initiative/Griffin); *Osama The Hero* (La Mama/The Old Fitzroy); *Two Weeks With The Queen* (Windmill Performing Arts); *Hamlet*, *Psycho Beach Party*, *Dreaming*, *Mud*, *The Share*, *Talk Radio* (Flinders University Drama Centre). Most recently he performed in *The Dog/The Cat* written by Brendan Cowell and Lally Katz for Belvoir St. Theatre.

Xavier's film credits include *Henry Joseph Church*, *Love and Friendship*, *Frankenstein*, *Fury* with Brad Pitt, *Healing* opposite Hugo Weaving, *Push*, *Adore* with Robin Wright and Naomi Watts, *Drift*, *A Few Best Men*, *Bait*, *Anonymous*, *The Twilight Sage: Eclipse*, *The Loved Ones* with Robyn McLeavy, *September* alongside Mia Wasikowska, *Newcastle* and *2:37*.

### Matilda Brown is YOUNG ADA

Matilda Brown is an Australian actress, writer and director, best known for her work in the short film series, *Lessons from the Grave*. Her first short film, *How God Works*, was a finalist in the 2010 Tropfest. Her television credits include guest spots in *Rake*, *Underbelly*, *My Place* and *Offspring*. Brown's 10 part series *Let's Talk About* which was made for Presto, which she wrote, directed & starred in has just been commissioned for a second series.

and

### Rachel Ward is ADA

Rachel Ward is one of Australia's most celebrated actresses, known for her role in the 1982 series *THE THORN BIRDS* (director Daryl Duke) for which she received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Actress. Rachel's performance in *SHARKY'S MACHINE* (director Burt Reynolds) also earned her a Golden Globe nomination for Best Newcomer in 1983. Rachel has starred in several successful Hollywood films including *DEAD MEN DON'T WEAR PLAID* with Steve Martin (director Carl Reiner) and *AGAINST ALL ODDS* alongside James Woods (director Taylor Hackford). In 1987, Rachel received the Best Actors Award at the Tokyo Film festival for *UMBRELLA WOMAN* (director Ken Cameron). Television credits include, leading roles in *ON THE BEACH* (1999) and *RAIN SHADOW* (2007).

Rachel is an accomplished film director and screenwriter with credits including *THE BIG HOUSE* (2000) and *MARTHA'S NEW COAT* (2003). Most notable is her critically acclaimed feature *BEAUTIFUL KATE*, which premiered at the Sydney Film Festival in 2009 and was adapted by Ward from the 1982 Newton Thornburg novel. Other directing credits include *MY PLACE*, *THE STRAITS*, *RAKE*, *AN ACCIDENTAL SOLDIER* and *DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND*. In 2005, Rachel was the recipient of the Member of the Order of Australia for her services to the Australian film industry.

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

## SUPPORTING CAST

### **Terry Camilleri is BOB SIMPKIN**

Terry Camilleri is an Australian actor who appeared in over thirty feature films. He is best recognized for portraying Emperor Napoleon I in the blockbuster comedy film *Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure* (1989). Camilleri was born in Malta and immigrated to Australia at the age of four. He made his feature film debut in a leading role in Peter Weir's 1974 film *The Cars That Ate Paris*. Terry appeared in the 1983 hit sequel film *Superman III*. He also made a cameo appearance in Weir's *The Truman Show* (1998) and the recent Australian hit *Oddball* (2015).

### **Suzy Cato Gashler is NELL ALLEN**

Suzy Cato-Gashler is an experienced actor who has appeared in a wide variety of TV drama, film and theatre including, *It's A Date*, *House Husbands*, *Stingers*, *Blue Heelers*, *Neighbours*, and *Halifax* amongst many others. She is also an accomplished voice-over artist.

### **Amber Clayton is NORA BARON**

Amber's feature film credits include the co-lead in the Australian thriller *Crawlspace*, the leading role of Tina in *Fatal Honeymoon* opposite Harvey Keitel and directed by Nadia Tass, *Border Protection Squad*, and *Sneezing Baby Panda: The Movie*. TV credits include the TNT pilot *Breed*, *CSI Miami*, *Rush*, *Mr & Mrs Murder*, *Race Relations* and main cast in *Three Rivers* for CBS.

### **Tyler Coppin is J.C. TIPPIT**

Tyler is an American-Australian actor, playwright, and American dialect coach for actors in film, television and theatre. His many stage appearances include *The Child Catcher* in the Australian national production of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (musical), *Robert Helpmann* in his one-man play *Lyrebird: Tales of Helpmann*, and *Puck* in the acclaimed Opera Australia production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Benjamin Britten) directed by Baz Luhrmann with set and costumes by Catherine Martin. In 1989, at the request of playwright Patrick White he played the role of the Young Man in the Sydney Theatre Company production of "The Ham Funeral", directed by Neil Armfield. His television appearances include *Nightmares and Dreamscapes: From the Stories of Stephen King*. His film appearances include the Spierig brothers *Predestination* starring Ethan Hawke, *One Night Stand*, *Lorca and the Outlaws*, and *Mad Max 2*.

### **John Gaden is PROF. CHARLES REINIER**

John Gaden is an award winning actor known particularly for his stage career, although he has made numerous film and television appearances. John was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 1986 Australia Day Honours for his services to the performing arts. He has won two Helpmann Awards: in 2001 for Best Male Actor in a Play for Yasmina Reza's *The Unexpected Man*, and in 2005 for Michael Frayn's *Democracy*. In 2007 he won a Sydney Critics Circle Award for *The Lost Echo*.

### **Jacek Koman is MIROSLAW KOTOK**

Polish-born actor Jacek Koman has appeared in features such as *Children of Men*, *Defiance*, *Australia*, *Romulus*, *My Father* but is best known for his rendition of Roxanne as a narcoleptic Argentinian in *Moulin Rouge*. Jacek has also had a distinguished theatre career, enjoying roles with Australia's premier companies including Anthill, MTC, Sydney Theatre Company (STC) and Company B with directors such as Neil Armfield, Benedict Andrews, Michael Kantor and Barry Kosky. For his role as Roy Cohen in MTC's *Angels in America*, Jacek won a Green Room Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role as well as The Age Performing Arts Award for Best Dramatic Performance.

### **Rose Riley is SUZI NOON**

Rose Riley graduated from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) in 2013. On screen, Rose will soon be seen in the upcoming Foxtel series **SECRET CITY**, also starring Anna Torv and Jacqui Weaver. Rose will next be seen on stage for Sydney Theatre Company in their production of **A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM**, playing Hermia. To be directed by Kip Williams, it will open at the Sydney Opera House in September 2016.



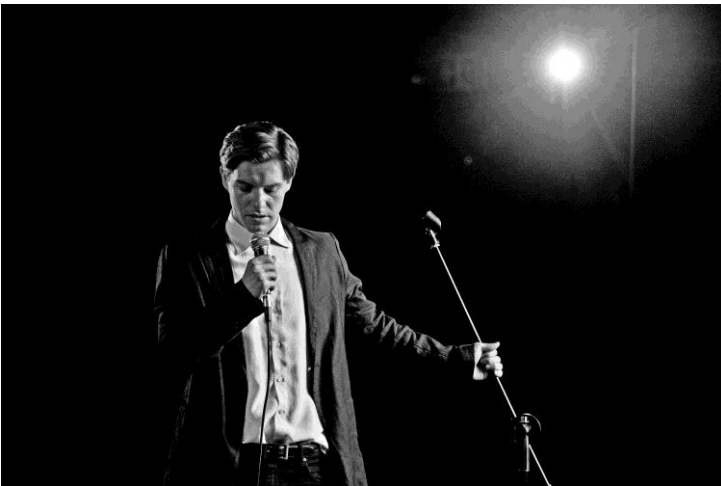
# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

## THE DEATH AND LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM – ABOUT

### MIFF goes for sparkler-startler to open 2016 festival

FIRST PUBLISHED ON MONDAY 16 MAY, 2016 David Tiley is the editor of Screen Hub.  
<http://screen.artshub.com.au/news-article/features/film/david-tiley/miff-goes-for-sparkler-startler-to-open-2016-festival-251289>

Time may never be the same for A-list Melburnians after the premiere of the Death and Life of Otto Bloom.



Xavier Samuel in *The Death and Life of Otto Bloom*: Picture by Suzy Wood.

The Melbourne International Film Festival has announced its opening night film and the energy from the MIFF hive mind says that this is one out of the box.

The picture is called *The Death and Life of Otto Bloom*, written and directed by Cris Jones. As producer Melanie Coombs says, 'I am excited and thrilled that MIFF in their infinite wisdom have selected it for the festival. It is a recognition that a low budget film from a first time director needs to cut through.'

MIFF is having fun with the synopsis: *The Death and Life of Otto Bloom* 'is a magnificently brain-twisting, moving and inventive tale of love in the time of retrochronology.'

'Otto Bloom is experiencing his life in reverse, passing through time backwards while remembering the future. Is he a psychic, a time traveller, a madman or living proof of Einstein's theory of relativity?'

The cast includes Xavier Samuel, Rachel Ward and her daughter Matilda Brown, who plays her real mother's younger self in the film.

Cris Jones has the classic background for an independent filmmaker. His mother and her twin sister took off to London from Western Australia to go on the stage, and did just that. She met a software engineer, fell in love, had kids and the family came back to Australia, leaving her sister to a successful career in England. Cris's brother Alexander Jonas is also acting in London.

The family acquired a Super 8 camera - boy, what a surprise! - and Cris was around nine when he and his brother started making films together on their holidays with their cousins. His favourite may be a clue to his way of dealing with stress on location. It was called *The Adventures of Ernest Gribbler*. 'Every time he got angry he turned into a chair,' Jones explains. 'I played Ernest Gribbler.'

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

He was still at school when he became a projectionist at the local cinema. Even at the Victorian College of the Arts he was leaving his four year undergraduate film studies during the day to work through the night in the cinemas in the Melbourne Casino.

His first film at the VCA, in 2001, was about Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle. Melanie Coombs, always eager to find new talent, decided there and then they would work together in some capacity.

Her slate, both in Melodrama Pictures and now in Optimism with Alicia Brown and Mish Armstrong, is very much built on backing talent rather than particular projects.

'I am interested in storytellers,' she says. 'It doesn't matter to me what story Cris Jones tells. It's very clear to me when I meet someone whether I want to produce their work. Whether or not I find them interesting, whether they are going to do something I will spend literally years advocating for.'

The two have worked together on various projects, while Coombs produced the Oscar-winning short Harvie Krumpet and the feature Mary and Max with Adam Elliot, and Jones went to Paris for love and learnt the ultimately soul-destroying craft of television commercials. Back in Australia, he describes the years of development with a simple, dry phrase: 'I lived frugally.'

He received the Emerging Filmmaker Award at MIFF in 2003, so the festival spotted him early. A year later, he was part of its inaugural Accelerator Program, a central part of the 37South development and market program.

Out of this came a remarkable first major short, called The Funk, made in black and white, told through narration, rummaging through all the computerised visual techniques with impeccable results.

THE FUNK from Cris Jones - <https://vimeo.com/128550693>

By now, he had assembled all the techniques he ultimately deployed on The Death and Life of Otto Bloom, which he took to the sympathetic environment of the Binger Development Lab in 2013.

'The germ of the idea was Albert Einstein's idea that the perception we are moving forwards through time is an illusion, that actually every single event is happening all at once and time is actually a dimension of the physical universe. What if someone had the same illusion of moving backwards through time?

Either way, he says, everything is forever, which is a comforting thought. 'It is an entertainment with a very hopeful message along with it. We tried to do all the work in telling the story. That was one of the challenges of the writing was to not rely on any prior knowledge but to explain the concept in as evocative and entertaining way as possible. There's a lot of romance in the film, a lot of humour in the film, and it's an entertaining film.'

Really, he admitted, it is actually an old-fashioned romance, which could be comforting for the MIFF first night audience, which wants a great emotional journey before earnest discussions in the three level foyer of the Arts Centre.

At the age of (almost) 36, Jones has his major break. 'I was terrified going into the shoot. It's my first feature film, and had been a long time in development, and I hadn't been using my skills as a director for quite some time. Miraculously it all went ridiculously smoothly and I had a wonderful time.'

The film is shot like an Errol Morris documentary, with a week of interviews using the Morris Interrotron in the studio, followed by a conventional three weeks on location, and another week of interviews.

The live action scenes are partly black and white, with archive sequences on analogue video and genuine Super 8 scenes of recreated home movies. 'It is so beautiful to see film again, and it's only Super 8 and it still looks beautiful. I am so glad we didn't fake it,' he says. 'There is also motion graphics and VFX and animation.'

The editor is Melbourne guru Bill Murphy, the first AD is Nerida Groth, who has been a second AD on large features like The Wolverine and San Andreas, while lawyer/musician Paul Gillett did the music.

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

The cinematographer is one of the key go-to motion picture artists for projects which rely on the texture and discipline of different formats - the Hungarian trained Laszlo Baranyai.

As Jones explains, 'A lot of the films that really inspire me were films from the Sixties, whether from Eastern Europe or some French cinema as well. They are still fresh and inventive, and they were playing with the possibilities not just of the storyline but of the medium, the form of cinema. That's what really does it for me.

'My great joy as an audience is watching a film and being blown away by what I am seeing but having this feeling that I have no idea what is going to happen next. Sometimes I embarrass myself by laughing when it happens because I am so happy.'

-----

The film will premiere on 28 July, and the festival runs until 14 August. While the full program comes out on Tuesday 5 July, with public tickets available on the next Friday, members can already buy their opening night tickets. As Michelle Carey wrote of the occasion, 'We knew as soon as we saw *The Death and Life of Otto Bloom* that it was the perfect way to launch our 65th edition of MIFF. Not only does it signal the arrival of an exciting new filmmaking talent in Cris Jones, it speaks to so many of the themes that will run throughout the entire program this year', said MIFF Artistic Director Michelle Carey.

-----

Cris Jones also directed music videos for Ang Fang Industries - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wg5uCJmd3h4>

FIRST PUBLISHED ON MONDAY 16 MAY, 2016

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David Tiley is the editor of Screen Hub.

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

## FILM TECHNICAL DETAILS

<b>Film Title (English)</b>	<b>The Death and Life of Otto Bloom</b>
<b>PRODUCTION COMPANY</b>	Optimism Film Pty Ltd, Suite 4a, 104 Johnston St, Fitzroy VIC 3065 Australia: <a href="mailto:info@optimismfilm.com">info@optimismfilm.com</a>
<b>Country/Countries of Origin</b>	Australia
<b>Dialogue Language/s</b>	English
<b>Subtitled</b>	no
<b>Year of Premiere</b>	2016
<b>Director/s</b>	Cris Jones
<b>Producers/s</b>	Melanie Coombs, Alicia Brown, Mish Armstrong
<b>Screenwriter/s</b>	Cris Jones
<b>DOP</b>	Laszlo Baranyai
<b>Sound recordist/s</b>	Gretchen Thornburn, Andy Ramage, John Wilkinson
<b>Editor</b>	Bill Murphy
<b>Composer</b>	Paul Gillett
<b>Picture Post House</b>	DDP Studios: Haley Gillies < <a href="mailto:haley.gillies@ddpstudios.com.au">haley.gillies@ddpstudios.com.au</a> >
<b>Sound Post House</b>	Soundwaves: Andrew McGrath < <a href="mailto:andrew@soundwaves.com.au">andrew@soundwaves.com.au</a> >

## TECHNICAL DETAILS

<b>Formats:</b>	DCP with Masterkey	Apple Pro Res HQ HD 4.2.2 with 12 track sound	HDCAM SR Frame Rate: 25 fps
<b>Aspect Ratio</b>	2.39:1	<b>Sound</b>	5.1 and stereo mixes
<b>Access</b>	<b>AUDIO DESCRIPTION</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Available	<b>CAPTIONS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed Caption available	
<b>Runtime (minutes)</b>	83m45sec	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colour <b>and</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Black and white

## PRODUCTION PATH

PICTURE: The 'Interviews' and 'Dramatisations' were shot on Alexa in color, recorded on Odyssey SSD drives in arri raw format, framed for 2.39:1 ratio, recorded 24 frames/second, or different slow motion rates. DDP created B&W rushes for the Dramatisations.

For the 'Archival' - The news announcers, news archives and hospital archives were shot on a Sony analogue standard definition camera in 4:3 ratio and recorded on mini DV format tape at 25fps, then transferred from the mini DV tapes to SSD drives in Apple pro res format. The home movie/super 8 footage was shot on super 8 at 24 fps at 4:3 ratio. The processed negative will be scanned in Apple Pro res 422 format 24 fps.

SOUND: recorded onto digital card and delivered to sound post house, Soundwaves.

## POST PRODUCTION PATH

Rushes in the formats above were delivered to DDP where they were processed and archived.

Off line Edit was 13 weeks and during this time all of the VFX and Motion Graphic (MGX) were created and the stock footage was sourced and licenced.

- 45 shots were created by Senjai Yonez,
- 27 by Closer Production's Raynor Pettge,
- 15 by Chroma Media's Scott Zero and
- 12 by Nassiem Valamanesh.

The original score was composed and recorded and delivered to Soundwaves at this time.

After the edit conformed according to the EDL provided by Editorial and VFX providers, DDP created Conform. Then the image was Graded in consultation with Director and DOP. Titles and end credits were created. Then the project was Mastered and QA checked for all delivery formats.

Sound post edit was underway at the same time and the mix was finalised in the last week of picture post.

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

CREDITS AS THEY APPEAR ON SCREEN.

---

SCREEN AUSTRALIA  
and  
OPTIMISM FILM  
present

---

in association with  
THE MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL PREMIERE FUND

---

in association with  
FILM VICTORIA

---

an Optimism Film  
production

---

THE DEATH AND LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

---

<< MAIN CREDITS CONTINUE AT END OF MOVIE >>

---

Xavier Samuel

---

Matilda Brown

---

And Rachel Ward

---

THE DEATH AND LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

---

Terry Camilleri

Suzy Cato-Gashler

Amber Clayton

---

Tyler Coppin

John Gaden

Jacek Koman

Rose Riley

---

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

Director of Photography  
László Baranyai HSC ACS

---

Production Designer  
Ben Morieson

---

Editor  
Bill Murphy, A.S.E

---

Music by  
Paul Gillett

---

Costume Designer  
Shauna Lovisetto

---

Makeup and Hair Designer  
Christine Miller

---

Stills Photographer  
Suzy Wood

---

Sound Post Production  
Soundwaves

---

Executive Producers  
Shaun Miller  
Jonathan Page

---

Produced by  
Melanie Coombs

---

Produced by  
Alicia Brown

---

Produced by  
Mish Armstrong

---

Written and Directed by  
Cris Jones

---

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOM

<<BEGIN ROLL>>

Thank you.

By watching this film legally you are supporting the artists and professionals listed below.

## CAST (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Sergeant	Steve Adams
Young Simkin	Jason Agius
Young Ada	Matilda Brown
Bob Simkin	Terry Camilleri
Arts Correspondent	Milijana Cancar
Nell Allen	Suzy Cato-Gashler
Duane Renaud	Richard Cawthorne
Nora Baron	Amber Clayton
J.C. Tippit	Tyler Coppin
Journalist	Ash Cottrell
Tea Lady	Susie Dee
Presenter	Paul English
Prof. Charles Reinier	John Gaden
Nolon Emery	Steven Gates
Bob the Journalist	Damian Hill
Female Newsreader Interviewer	Trudy Hellier
Albert Einstein BBC Journalist	Alexander Jonas
Miroslaw Kotok	Jacek Koman

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

Male Newsreader Lee Mason

Journalist Kim Ozalp

Police Dispatcher Ron Perrett

Suzi Noon Rose Riley

Journalist Nicholas Rhodes

Journalist Kim Ross

Otto Bloom Xavier Samuel

Entertainment Reporter Ivy Sayers

American Newscaster Carolyn Shakespeare-Allen

Dancer 1 Lilian Steiner

Fan Marina Stoeckli

TV Reporter Andy Wall

Ada Rachel Ward

Dancer 2 Geoffrey Watson

Anchorman Chris Waters

## CREW

Story Consultant Stephen Cleary

Production Manager Kate Breen

Production Coordinator Serena Gattuso  
Extras Casting

Production Secretary Selena Tan

Assistant to Producers Olivia A. Fay



# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

Production Runners Ash Cottrell  
Dan Higgins  
Hamish Kentwell

Production Accountant Jackie Fletcher

First Assistant Director Nerida Groth

Second Assistant Director Kristan Dowsing

Third Assistant Director Rory Pierce

Script Supervisor Alexandra Leary

Location Manager Andrew Perry

On-set Location Manager Nicci Dillon

First Assistant Camera Peter White

Second Assistant Camera Lisa Cushing

Additional Second Assistant Camera Mirek Aldridge

Gaffer Jared Fish

Best Boy Electric Ryan Fish

Key Grip Llew Higgins

Best Boy Grip Mark Parish

Sound Recordist Gretchen Thornburn

Additional Sound Recordists Andy Ramage  
John Wilkinson

Boom Operator Helen McGrath

Art Department Buyer/Dresser John McKenna

Standby Props Christie Butcher

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

Art Department Assistant Steve Murray

Action Vehicle Coordinator Rob Prusa

Art Department Casuals Brad Maddern  
Todd Gingell

Art Department Graphic Design Jason Parkinson  
Anna McEwan

Costume Supervisor Keely Ellis

Costume Standby Tami Holton

Costume Buyer Nadine Muller

Costume Assistant Roxanne Sino

Hair and Makeup - Rachel Ward Helen Magelaki

Hair and Makeup Artist Nik Dorning

Additional Hair and Makeup Artists Justin Teague  
Selena Pertzal

Hair and Makeup Assistant Heather Woll

Hair Colourist - Matilda Brown Nathan Gorman

Safety Supervisor/Stunt Coordinator Reg Roordink

Safety Report Lana Williams

Security and Traffic Management Prestige Traffic Pty Ltd

EPK Director Andrew Davies

EPK Camera & Editing Grant Eaden

Unit Manager Morgan Kingsley

Unit Assistant Graham Connolly

Additional Unit Assistants Tom Wright  
Victor Fukushima

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOM

Caterer Food for Film  
Keith Fish

Catering Assistant Helen O'Connor

Choreography Lilian Steiner

## POST-PRODUCTION

VFX and Motion Graphics Coordinator Patrick McCabe

Assistant Editors Patrick McCabe  
Nassiem Valamanesh

Post-Production Consultant Henry Karjalainen

Post-Production Script Rezy Miller Script Services

Associate Producer Kylie Bryant

**Post-Production Facility DDP STUDIOS**

General Manager Caroline Pitcher

Executive Producer Ian Anderson

Post Producer Haley Gillies

Colourist Ian Letcher

Conform Editor Laurie Meade

Mastering Editor John Kerron

Dailies Manager Leath Mattner

Dailies Operator Kevin Lynch

Digital Cinema Mastering Chris McHugh

Captioning & Subtitling Michelle Kwan

Quality Assurance Peter Peric

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

VFX and Motion Graphics CLOSER PRODUCTIONS

Closer VFX and Motion Graphics Artist Raynor Pettge

Closer Coordination Matthew Vesley  
Rebecca Summerton

VFX and Motion Graphics Artist Nassiem Valamanesh

VFX and Motion Graphics Artist Seijay Yonez

VFX and Motion Graphics Artist Scott Zero, CHROMA MEDIA

Archival Research LISA SAVAGE

## STOCK IMAGE SOURCES

**Amana Australia Pty Ltd**

**Getty Images**

CaiaimageJV/Getty Images

**Pond 5**

Vision008/Pond5.com

Philip Schneider/Pond5.com

Ralwel/Pond5.com

Cinejinn/Pond5.com

**Shutterstock**

Pavel L Photo and Video / Shutterstock.com

## ADDITIONAL & STOCK FOOTAGE SOURCES

**ITN Source**

ITN Source/Reuters

**Mitch Martinez**

MitchMartinez.com

**National Film and Sound Archive**

**Nature Clip**

NatureClip.co.nr

**Patrick Condon**

**Video Blocks**

Videoblocks.com

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

(Soundwaves logo)

Supervising Sound Editor Andrew McGrath

Sound Designer Frank Lipson

Dialogue / ADR Editor Petar Ristic

ADR Engineer Andrew McGrath

Foley Artist John Simpson

Foley Recordist Lisa Simpson

Foley Facility FeetnFrames

Sound Re-recording Mixer Andrew McGrath

## MUSIC

Score produced by Thomas Rouch

Music Production Assistant Leo Zarucky

Piano Luke Howard

Violins Cameron Jamieson & Natalia Harvey

Viola Matthew Laing

Cello Campbell Banks

Strings provided by Organic Quartet

Recorded at Ginger Studios, Melbourne, Australia by Jono Steer

'Forget the Future'

Performed by Floyd Thursby

Words and music by Paul Gillett

Cameras supplied by VA Digital Hire  
Will Sheridan

Legal Services Shaun Miller Lawyers

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOM

Auditor Sean Denham & Associates

Insurance Midland Insurance Brokers  
Tahnee Aitkin

Completion Guarantor Film Finances, Inc.  
Poppy Dowle, Paula Jensen, Anni Browning

Cashflow Lender Fulcrum Media Finance  
Sharon Menzies and Sara Gajic

World revenues collected and distributed by Screenrights  
[disbursements.screenrights.org](http://disbursements.screenrights.org)

Australian Distribution by Bonsai Films  
[www.bonsaifilms.com.au](http://www.bonsaifilms.com.au)

## VOICE ARTISTS

Jason Buckley  
Maggie Chretien  
Mandie Combe  
Joseph Green  
Christopher Kay  
Glenn Maynard  
Emily Mercuruio  
Deanna Ortuso  
Nicholas Rhodes  
Carolyn Shakespeare-Allen  
Adam Ward  
Jana Wilkes

## EXTRAS

Adam Baker  
Florence Barrett  
Troy Barrett  
Jacob Baseluse  
Romeo Benz  
Kate Breen  
Ash Cottrell  
James Crabtree  
Phoebe Craw  
Adam Danby  
Matthew Delloso  
Simone Delzoppo  
Sarah Desira  
Huon Dufty-Miller  
Robbie Elliot  
Katya Ellis  
Natalie Fontana  
Josh Galea  
Olivia Greco  
Ed Gurry  
Matthew Harvey  
Stuart Horner  
James Howlett

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

Malachi Keecher  
Hamish Kentwell  
Vinod Kumar  
Shane Leckenby  
Philip Morales  
Ben Morieson  
Michael Naim  
Allison Norris  
Toni Ossher  
Lynne Parker  
James Perry  
Rory Pierce  
Adrian Petrovich  
Lucy Rees  
Dusty Reid  
Edward Richards  
Kim Ross  
Damien Rullo  
Suhasini Seelin  
Andrea Sertori  
Kayla Tabag  
Aaron Van Ree  
Amanda Wasley  
Poppy Waterstreet  
Karina Watt

THE PRODUCERS WISH TO THANK THE FOLLOWING  
FOR THEIR INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE:

Ann Churchill-Brown and the team at Shanahan Management

Sarah Linsten and the team at Linsten Morris Management

Daniel Scharf, Profile Creative

Kim L Wilson, Anna Jeffries, Emily Westmore and Leslie Eastman,  
Nassiem Valamanesh and Selena Tan

ALL the gang at Suite 4a, 104 Johnston St, Fitzroy

Helen Pandos Management

Ross Allsop and Imogen Banks, Endemol

George Adams, December Media

Julianne Goss, ABC

Stephen Cleary

Patrick Condon

Monika Gehrt

Mark Robinson

E.G.Etal

# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

Jill Kaminsky, Chris Lansell, Graeme Moon, The University of Melbourne

Rachel Cummins, Royal Talbot Hospital

Don Rixon, Boroondara Council

Christopher Southavong, City of Port Phillip

Terese Schlaghecke, Genazzano FCJ Collect

Mark Huetson, Shortstop Jet Charter

Dave Botting, Deakin University

The Death and Life of Otto Bloom was filmed entirely in Melbourne, Australia.

<<Sixth last card>>

## SPECIAL THANKS

Karen Jones  
Alex Jones

Ivy Sayers  
Brian Leif Hansen  
Leigh Mackenzie

Barry Brown  
Beth Frey  
Sue Maslin and Charlotte Seymour  
Max Walker

and

Asher Coombs

<<Fifth last card>>

FINANCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH



super



<<Fourth last card>>



# THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM

PRODUCED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF FILM VICTORIA



---

<<Third last card>>

PRODUCED WITH THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF THE MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (MIFF) PREMIERE FUND, SUPPORTED BY THE STATE GOVERNMENT OF VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA



Executive Producer: Mark Woods

This Film was pitched at film co-financing event MIFF 37 SOUTH MARKET  
The film's director is a graduate of the MIFF Accelerator workshop

---

<<Second last card>>

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION INVESTOR



**SCREEN  
AUSTRALIA**

---

<<Last Card>>

© 2016 Optimism Film Pty Ltd, Filmfest Limited and Screen Australia  
ISAN 0000-0004-3672-0000-U-0000-0000-L

The events, characters and firms depicted in this motion picture are fictitious. Any similarity to actual persons, living or dead, or to actual events or firms is purely coincidental.

Ownership of this motion picture, including the sound recording is protected by copyright and other applicable laws, and any unauthorised duplication, distribution or exhibition of this motion picture could result in criminal prosecution as well as civil liability.

All rights reserved.