



DESPERATE BUYERS
DESPERATE SELLERS
AN UNTHINKABLE DEAL

NICE SHOOTIN' COWBOY

AN ARENA FILM PRODUCTION ANDRÉ DE VIKROY JASON STONE JACI HARRISON
REBECCA METREKINGTON DON BRIDGES KIM TROUSTOCK
WRITTEN BY JOHN CASH MUSIC BY TONY VICCHIERI COSTUME DESIGNER GABRIEL DOWNICK
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JOHN BRANLEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JOHN CASH AND JACI HARRISON PRODUCED BY ANDREW CAMERON
EDITED BY BEN PHILIPS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SARAH SHAW PRODUCED BY JOHN BARBARO DIRECTED BY BEN PHILIPS

arenafilm



www.niceshootincowboy.com

ONE LINE SYNOPSIS

A contemporary Western about desperate buyers, desperate sellers, and an unthinkable deal.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Nice Shootin' Cowboy is a Western/Drama that explores the complexity of a transaction between desperate buyers and sellers.

"I was immediately struck by the originality and depth of the characters," Ben observes after his first encounter with Anson Cameron's short story, *Nice Shootin', Cowboy*.

"Anson's story is a fictionalized account of dealings on the banks of the Goulbourn River, near Shepparton, Victoria. I was fascinated by a group of ordinary people who find an extraordinary way to get ahead in life."

Nice Shootin' Cowboy is built on the classic model of a Greek tragedy - every scene is a mini-tragedy that brings the characters closer and closer to their goal of making the sale. In this case, money won't bring them happiness.

"I felt that we should adapt this unconventional story within an unconventional genre – the Western," explains Ben.

This influence is clearly evident in John Brawley's cinematography. The film is punctuated with a combination of extreme long shots and profile close-ups that capture the sparseness of the riverbank and the anxiety of the protagonists. The imagery is complemented by John Gray's haunting score which blends the raw reverberations of an electric guitar with the mournful cry of the mouth organ.

Nice Shootin' Cowboy was funded with a grant from the Australian Film Commission (AFC).

FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Ben Phelps – Writer/ Director

Ben completed a Bachelor of Arts (Film Studies) at the Australian National University (ANU) and a Masters in film production (Directing) at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). Ben's previous short film, CHECKPOINT, has been selected for competition in over 65 international film festivals and won 12 international awards, including the prestigious Jury Prize at the Montreal World Film Festival 2006 and the Dendy CRC Award at the Sydney Film Festival 2007.

Ben currently has a feature screenplay in development. NICE SHOOTIN' COWBOY is Ben's first collaboration with Producer, John Maynard.

John Maynard – Producer

John is well known as a producer with an eye for talent, producing the debut feature films from directors Jane Campion (SWEETIE), Vincent Ward (VIGIL, THE NAVIGATOR), Rowan Woods (THE BOYS), Robert Connolly (THE BANK, THREE DOLLARS) and Richard Roxburgh (ROMULUS, MY FATHER). In 2007, John received the AFI Award for Best Film for ROMULUS, MY FATHER which he co-produced with Robert Connolly.

John has had three films In Competition in Cannes (an unrivalled Australian record) and with partner Bridget Ikin, he co-produced Jane Campion's AN ANGEL AT MY TABLE, the 1990 winner of the "Silver Lion" in Venice. THE BOYS, John's first collaboration with business partner Robert Connolly, debuted In Competition at Berlin in 1998.

In 2005 the Australian Director Guild awarded their highest honour to John, The Cecil Holmes Memorial Award for his support of directors and the ADG.

CREDITS

(Credits as they appear in the film)

Will	André de Vanny
Cormac	Simon Stone
Alf	Jack Wardana
Zara	Rebecca Hetherington
Male buyer	Don Bridges
Female buyer	Kym Troutbeck

Based on the short story, Nice Shootin', Cowboy, by Anson Cameron

Screenplay	Ben Phelps
Director	Ben Phelps
Producer	John Maynard
Co-Producer	Sarah Shaw

Director of Photography	John Brawley
Editor	Gabriel Dowrick
Sound Designer	Tony Vaccher
Composer	John Gray

Focus Puller	Geoff Skilbeck
Gaffer	Chris Dewhurst
Best Boy	Scott Zietara
Location Sound	Billy Maynard
	Ann Aucote
Steadicam Operator	Louis Puli

Casting Director	Jane Norris
	Mullinars Casting Consultants
Casting Assistant	Lara Signorino

Script Editor	Damien Power
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Sound Post Facilities	AudioLoc Sound Design
Sound Editor	Dan Johnston
Foley Recordist	Duncan McAllister
Foley Artist	Dan Johnston
Foley Editor	Leon Anderson
Sound Post Coordinator	John Dennison
Re-recording Mixer	Tony Vaccher
ADR Sydney	AudioLoc

ADR Melbourne	Brendan Croxon Music and Effects
Music recorded at	Stillpoint Music, Sydney
Guitar	Jon Pease
Harmonica	John Gray
Music mixed by	Geir Gunnarsson
Music mix facility	AFTRS, Sydney
Post Production Facility	FSM
Post Production Coordinator	Erica Ford
Northlight Scanning	Tom Meares
Digital Film Colourist	Heather Hay
Compositor	David Tindale
Laboratory Services	Cinevex
Lab Liason	Ian Anderson
Film stock supplied by	Kodak Australia Boris Mitchell
Camera Equipment	Arri Australia Geraldine Quinn Cameraquip
Production Accountant	Leah Hall
AFC Project Manager	Jackie McKimmie

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 Louis Corbett, Clayton McCartney, Jackson Gibbs

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 Terry Maynard, Robert Connolly

Filmed on location on the Goulburn River, Shepparton, Victoria.

Produced in association with
 the Australian Film Commission

An Arenafilm Production

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TECHNICAL SPECS

Title	Nice Shootin' Cowboy
Year of production	2008
Country of origin	Australia
Language spoken in the film	English
Genre	Western/ Drama
Duration	15 minutes
Shooting format	35 mm
Format for preselection	DVD (Region 0, PAL & NTSC)
Format for festival screenings	HDCAM SR (PAL) Digital Betacam (PAL & NTSC) Betacam SP (PAL & NTSC) DVD (Region 0, PAL & NTSC)
Aspect ratio	2.35: 1
Image	Colour
Audio	Digital Stereo (HDCAM SR, Digital Betacam) Stereo (Betacam SP) Digital 5.1 (DVD)
Company Name	Arenafilm Pty Ltd
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CONTACT

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