

Michelle Turner

PRODUCER

Michelle has worked in the film and television industry for the last twenty years. She has produced two feature films, short films, television and a feature documentary. Her first feature film *Stickmen* (2001) was produced in New Zealand and directed by Hamish Rothwell. It went on to box office success in New Zealand and has sold worldwide. *Bollywood Queen* was her second feature as Producer, shot in London's East End it was in official selection at Sundance (2003).

She has produced two short films in Europe. The first short *The Unicyclist* was shot in Spain. The second short *Paris Brixton* was shot in London and her third short *Shadow Over the Sun* was completed in New Zealand in 2006. All three shorts have had various successes with festivals around the world including New Zealand, San Tropez, Palm Beach, Telluride and Shanghai.

In New Zealand during the 90's she worked as crew in locations and production on various TV dramas, features and documentaries. These included being Line Producer on the short film *Valley of the Stereos*, Executive Produced by Peter Jackson, Production Co-ordinator on the feature film *Ruby & Rata* and the TV series *Bread & Roses*, plus Production Co-ordinator on Peter Jackson's cult classic film *Braindead* of which she also had a small cameo role. She was the Production Co-ordinator for the Fiji unit of Dreamworks film *Castaway* starring Tom Hanks.

In 2004 she produced the feature length documentary *Children of the Migration*. This was in the NZ Film Festival and then screened on TVNZ. It then screened at the Real Life Film Festival in Melbourne, the Tahiti Film Festival and the DocNZ Festival where it won a Special Merit Award.

In 2005/2006 she was Co-Producer on a period drama TV series *The Lost Children*. In 2007 she was Production Manager at Weta Workshop for James Cameron's film *Avatar*. She then went on to Production Manage the feature films *Show of Hands* in 2008 and then *Home By Christmas*. In 2009 she was Unit Production Manager on the feature film *Predicament*.

She worked for several years during the 90's as Sales Assistant for the NZ Film Commission at the Cannes Film Festival. She served for two years on the AFTA board (Academy of Film & Television Awards) and then completed a two year term as President of WIFT (Women in Film & Television) Wellington. She is currently a trustee for the NZ Film & Television School.

She is currently in development on several feature films and a documentary. One of the features *Little Dragon*, was the first NZ script to be selected for the Pitch & Catch Competition at the Shanghai Film Festival and other features have been invited to the IFF at Toronto, No Borders in New York and 37 South in Melbourne.