



EAT Writers Group: November 2016 – March 2017

WRITING SHORT FILMS facilitated by Steve Barr and Casey Whelan

OVERVIEW:

There are many ways emerging writers use short film scripts to further their careers. From writing fundable/shootable scripts, to understanding every element of competitive funding applications and film pitches, this course will equip writers with the tools needed to take their ideas from page to screen.

There are a variety of ways to fund a short film – self-funding, crowd-funding, sponsorship from stakeholders, charitable trusts and other funding organisations. The 2017 Emerging Artists Trust and NZFC Fresh Shorts funding rounds both close in June. This course is timed so that participants have time to build teams and develop applications if desired.

SCHEDULE:

1. **28th Nov 2016** – Understanding the life cycle/purpose of a short film and the common pitfalls that make short film scripts difficult to finance/shoot.
2. **12th Dec 2016** – Developing our short film premises. Writers will then write a first pass over the break (nearly a month), to deliver by 6th Jan at the latest so Steve and Casey have time to read and respond.
3. **9th Jan 2017** – Develop the next pass (with exercises for the group and parallel time for Steve and Casey to sit with each writer and talk through the next steps).*

**Some people may not be back for this session but notes also be given via e-mail. Please attend this session if possible to enable one-on-one time.*

4. **23rd Jan** – peer reviews, pitching, final round of notes on scripts so writers develop a polished script for the next session.

6th Feb Waitangi day – no session (next two sessions in concurrent weeks)

5. **13th Feb** – Writing supporting materials (audience, tone, synopsis, logline, etc).
6. **20th Feb** – Breaking down a budget and timeline for a short film (the uncreative but very important elements of a successful application).
7. **6th March** – Writing a killer bio and writer's notes.

8. **20th March** – Writing a director statement. While this may not be a role that you perform, understanding how a director will interact with your work is imperative - how to read/write about your work with a clear focus on visual storytelling and performance.

All writers will present to the group over the next two sessions (which are one week apart to avoid Easter).

9. **3rd April** – FINAL PRESENTATIONS/PITCHES OF COMPLETED APPLICATIONS #1

Speaking confidently about your work, and winning over prospective collaborators/funders.

10. **10th April** - FINAL PRESENTATIONS/PITCHES OF COMPLETED APPLICATIONS #2

Speaking confidently about your work, and winning over prospective collaborators/funders.

PLEASE NOTE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

COST

\$200 for all 10 sessions payable in advance (maximum of 15 writers)

The fee is non-refundable - it is a commitment, and an opportunity to be part of the best value writers group in the land!

Pay by **20th November** to secure your spot

Emerging Artists Trust:

06-0513-0276109-00

Reference: YourSurname_Writers_ShortFilm

TIME AND VENUE

All sessions are 6.30-8.30pm

Community Room

Toi Poneke Arts Centre

61 Abel Smith st, Wellington