



**SHORT FILM WORKSHOP FOR DIRECTORS**  
***Defining and refining your short film project***

*6-Session Workshop*  
*22 August to 26 September 2018*

This 6-session course is designed to support short film Directors get their films made. It will give you a chance to explore your film before you've shot it - to workshop your script with actors, discuss pre-visualising your film, and explore how you want to run the shoot and get the most out of post-production.

At the end of the course you will have draft documents that you need for future funding applications such as synopsis, logline and 'visual treatments'. Screen Director Kathy McRae will be taking the course and will be bringing in guest advisors such as a Cinematographer, a 1st AD and Producer.

*Directors will need to have a **script already written** when they apply – written either by yourselves, or another writer. The course is not suitable for documentary films.*

**About Katherine McRae**

After Katherine graduated from Toi Whakaari she worked as an actor in theatre, television, film and radio. In the late 1990s she began to direct theatre. She won many accolades for her work, for example, her production of Henrik Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*, set in 1880s New Zealand, won six Chapman Tripp theatre awards including director and production of the year in 2003.

In 2005 Katherine took a role on *Shortland Street* and later she became a Director of the show. She has also directed for television shows *Nothing Trivial*, *Go Girls* and *Filthy Rich*. Her short film *Abandon Ship* has screened at various international film festivals including Toronto's TIFF Kids Film Festival 2016 and the Los Angeles Women's International Film Festival. She stars in the Television New Zealand telefeature *Catching the Black Widow*. She is also a writer and teacher.

**Schedule and Outline**

**Wednesday 22 August**

**1) THE SCRIPT**

In this class we will be concentrating on your scripts with an experienced guest screenwriter. Discussion will be focused on genre, and guide the writing of loglines and a short synopsis.

**Wednesday 29 August**

**2) WORKSHOPPING YOUR SCRIPT**

Working with an invited group of actors, the Directors work with actors to workshop their scripts. This will give you an opportunity to have your script read aloud and to get feedback from performers.

**Wednesday 5 September****3) VISUALISING YOUR FILM**

Working alongside an experienced DoP, this session will concentrate on visualising the film and how to communicate your vision to others, including funding bodies. We will discuss the use of storyboards, mood boards and creating a 'visual treatment'. We will discuss the Director/DoP relationship on and off the set.

**Wednesday 12 September****4) WORKING WITH ACTORS**

In this session we will discuss your concerns about working with actors. We will then bring in a group of actors, and the focus will be on how to communicate with them to bring out their best performances.

**Wednesday 19 September****5) THE SHOOT & POST-PRODUCTION**

In the first half of this session we will discuss the shooting of the film with an experienced guest 1st AD – covering things such as how it is scheduled, location scouting, what the responsibilities of the Director are and how an effective Director/1<sup>st</sup> AD relationship works and why it is essential.

In the second hour we will talk with a guest editor and a composer about the post-production period and how their creative skills enhance the story.

**Wednesday 26 September****6) FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

In the final session we will discuss how to combine the documents the Directors have created during the course, and the knowledge they have gained about their project and work up a draft funding document. With an experienced guest producer, we will discuss budgets, identify who the audience is, discuss ideas about marketing, festival strategies etc.

**VENUE**

Upper Chamber  
Toi Poneke Arts Centre  
61 Abel Smith St, Te Aro

**TIME**

Thursdays 6:30pm-8:30pm

**COST**

\$120 for the full six sessions (payable in advance)

**REGISTER**

To apply, please send

- the script
- your CV
- a photograph of yourself
- a paragraph explaining how you think the course might benefit you and what aspect of your craft you would like to work on

to [kmcrae0401@gmail.com](mailto:kmcrae0401@gmail.com)

Applications close midnight Tuesday 7th August 2018.