when
a family
secret
comes out
to play

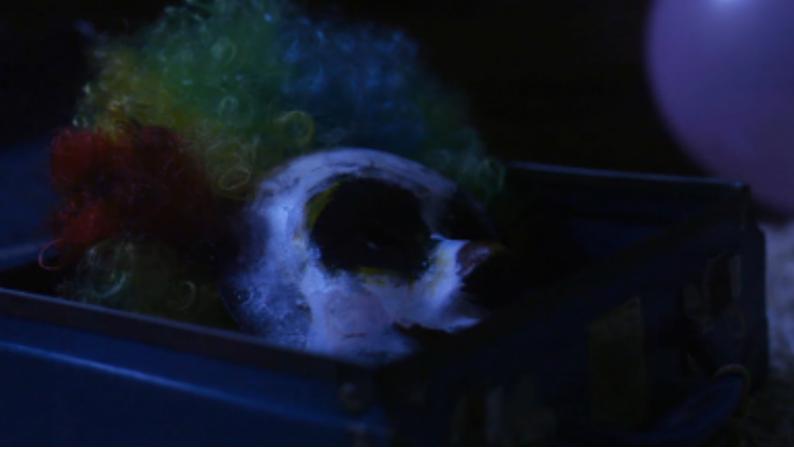
ALEX McTAVISH

**BRONSON BROWN** 

# the legacy

WISE GOAT PRODUCTIONS PRESENT A EVA ACHARYA FILM "THE LEGACY"
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DANIEL LYONS FIRST AD KENT FRY COMPOSER MICHAEL (LUBERTANZ EDITOR JAKE BRAY
SOUND RECORDIST LEW MCDONNELL PRODUCED BY TSU SHAN CHAMBERS & EVA ACHARYA WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY EVA ACHARYA

WISEGOATPRODUCTIONS.COM



# **SYNOPSIS**

# when a family secret comes out to play

One extraordinary gift. One haunting family secret.

Young Jake is turning seven. A special year for the family for many reasons....Reasons that have little to do with the birthday itself and more to do with a dark family secret. A secret which starts unravelling with the arrival of a most unlikely gift.

New short paranormal thriller, **The Legacy,** is written and directed by the only female Nepalese Director and Writer in Australia, **Eva Acharya.** 

# **KEY CREW**

DIRECTOR & WRITER PRODUCER CINEMATOGRAPHER COMPOSER

Eva Acharya Tsu Shan Chambers Dan Lyons Michael Klubertanz



# **EVA ACHARYA**

#### **DIRECTOR & WRITER**

As a young Nepali woman who found herself looking for projects worthy enough to make, Eva Acharya, ventured on her own as a first-time indie filmmaker with her much loved short, **The Circle** in early 2014, and since then, she has chosen to make films that explore human nature in the everyday and what sets them apart.

Eva is very interested in bringing human drama to the fore through comedies such as **The Usual Hunt** which explores modern day webs of relationships; or through horrors and thrillers that explore the belief systems in cultures she inhabits, such as **Dhago**, a short Nepali film, that has been shortlisted in multiple international film festivals recently, winning a Best Cinematography and Actors Award for the Charles

Darwin International Film Festival. It has also been selected for screening at the Toronto Nepali Film Festival April 2017.

Eva also has a paranormal thriller, **The Legacy**, exploring the intertwining of supernatural with the mortal realm, the script for which made the semi-finalist at the Screen Craft's Funding Quarterly competition in 2015. Eva is currently developing a feature called Drift which is another step towards exploring the relationships in myriad of different lives we live in the modern world.



# **TSU SHAN CHAMBERS**

#### **PRODUCER**

Tsu Shan is producer and founder of Wise Goat Productions that chooses to make stories that provoke thought and create awareness about issues that matter. Tsu Shan produced Yiwen Liu's, **Tragic Enough** that creates awareness about domestic violence. She won the Golden World Award for *Best Producer* and World Awards of Merit for *Best Ensemble of Cas*t at the 2016 World Film Awards. Tsu Shan also produced paranormal short film thriller **The Legacy**, written and directed by the only female Nepalese film maker in Australia, Eva Acharya. She is the producer of Ally Burnham's feature about disabilities and LGBTQI **Unsound**, Chris Godfrey's action comedy feature **Gundagai** and new 6 part TV mini-series by award winning writer,

Paul Rybak, **Jack Down Under**. Also a qualified Optometrist, Tsu Shan is passionate about women's issues and has worked in many third world countries, receiving Young Territorian of the Year and semi-Finalist for Young Australian of Year in Community Service. She was awarded 2013 Sunshine Coast's Outstanding Business Woman of the Year and 2014 QLD Telstra Business Award Finalist. She is also a professional actress and works from a place of inspiration, wanting to make a positive difference, one life at a time.



# **DAN LYONS**

#### **CINEMATOGRAPHER**

After graduating film school in 2014, Dan Lyons threw himself into a slew of different productions.

He quickly established a name as a Cinematographer of dark and stylish films, with short films such as **The Circle, The Spider** and **Knock, Knock**, as well as features **Other World, Memories Of Michael** and the award winning **Ravenswood.** 

**The Legacy**, is his second collaboration with Writer/Director Eva Archya, and they wanted to infuse the film with an old fashioned hollywood horror feel, graceful camera movements, colorful contrasting lighting, and a feeling of realness to make the audience

believe this could happen to them... Dan approaches every project with boundless enthusiasm and energy, knowing the rules inside and out so he can break them properly, and make the most incredible possible product.



# **MICHAEL KLUBERTANZ**

#### COMPOSER

Specializing in acoustic and orchestral music, Michael Klubertanz is a composer with a great stylistic versatility which enables him to find just the right tone for each project he devotes himself to.

His strong conceptual approach is sure to deliver practical solutions for all possible tasks, thus making him a reliable and trusted creative partner.

Classically trained, the german musician is working professionally as composer, conductor, arranger and pianist in a great variety of genres, perfoming opera, symphonic music and chamber music as well as works from the rock, pop and jazz genres.

The swedish sample instrument company <u>Precisionsound</u> relies on his <u>demos</u> regularly as well as the Indian manufacturer <u>Crypto Cipher</u>. He is currently teaching at the Stuttgart University of Music and Performing Arts. His trailer scores for the features **Madness, Redtail, S 4 Superman** and **Unavailable** were awarded at the **Indie Gathering** Film Festival in the US.

He has been finalist of the 2015 Oticons Faculty Competition. Having always been fascinated with film, it was only natural for him to express himself sonically in this medium. The ever-increasing number of scores he produces documents his range of formats, from small, animated shorts, to feature length films.



### Interview with writer/director...

# **EVA ACHARYA**

**THE LEGACY** started out as a curious little story in my head, wondering if it were ever possible for sins of older generations to haunt the present.

The first draft of **THE LEGACY**, then named, The Gift, was about a streak of events where seven-year old boys go missing after their seventh birthday. In the original story, the idea was that there was a clown suit that was haunted, and every seven years or so, its curse rose, hunting down any seven year olds in its area for the week of its death anniversary, then nothing for another seven years.

When I first wrote this script, the idea was that this mysterious parcel arrives at the birthday boys' homes, their names already on it. Inside this parcel is an old, tattered clown suit, which is where the entity resides, and slowly it begins to take over the boy, possession of sort, first in mind, then in body, and eventually, the boy walks off, having become the thing that haunted it, never to be seen again.

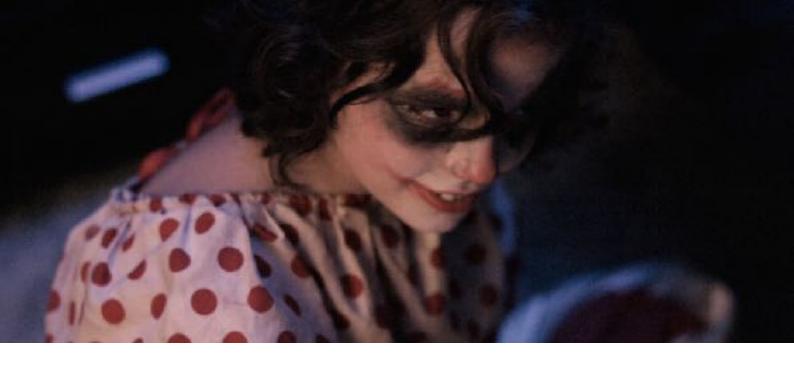
The original story morphed when I entered it to the Screenwise Short film funding competition, and it became a semi-finalist in one of the rounds in 2015.

In order to suit A limited budget, the original story's multiple disappearances and an entwined plot was stripped down to be what **THE LEGACY** is now.

A more focused story hinged on a curse that haunts a family, targeting their sons once they reach the age, seven. The idea behind the current script and film is that this family has a shady past, a dark past where a young boy lost his life under their care, and his death hushed.

Now, the boy's spirit seeks vengeance, taking what the family loves the most-their sons.

I wanted to portray **THE LEGACY** as a more subtle take on the horror genre, more devious and unspoken. The vision was to make a film that spoke of an underlying horror, but didn't bluntly spill it onto the screen.



I guess my fascination with this story is the fact that clowns and stories about kids with clowns

have their own way of narration, and I wanted to see if we could still make a horror, stepping away from the gore as it were, and more into the psyche of it all.

Here, you have this young man, Jake, who goes from the sweetest kid looking forward to his dad coming back home, to a young man obsessed with an old clown suit, some dreams he's been having, and seeing the insides of his friend's pet.

I've always had a fascination for horror films, but I feel that some lose audiences who may consider the horror genre, except for their profligate gore. That was part of the reason for injecting more of a drama element to tell the story.

When I first wrote the film, I never really thought I'd make it. I didn't have any experience in the genre. The earlier script was fairly complicated, and it had seemed impossible to make it with the resources at my disposal.

However, with the new direction in the script, and the fact that it did well in an international competition, I couldn't escape my own curiosity, especially when my latest horror film, **DHAGO**, a short film based on a Nepalese folklore, started getting shortlisted for film festivals.

Each project I've made has been different, not because I forced it, but I feel I learn a lot from

each, growing as a director and developing my own voice. I'm keen to keep developing, and trying out stories that challenge me, or roles that challenge me, force me to learn from them.

# **ABOUT ME**

My story is simple; I'm a daughter of Nepalese immigrants. My family had hopped around a couple of countries and cities by the time I made my first film.

My love of stories has been around ever since I can remember. My first memory of making up a story and play-acting was coaxing a cousin of mine to play a victim in a scenario I'd made up.

I can't remember the scenario, but I remember the scene where I was a character who stumbled upon her limp form. To this day, she says that was one of the things she most looked forward to when they came over were my stories. I guess my love of stories has grown bigger and deeper, with each film and novel.

Each one different, each one challenging, and each one making me fall in love with the process. For a girl who couldn't stop making up stories, other avenues were not an option, so here I am, with another tale, slightly twisted, slightly poignant, and ever with an underlying uneasiness.



# **CAST**

JAKE SYLVIA Bronson Brown Alex McTavish



#### **BRONSON BROWN**

**JAKE** 

Bronson started acting at the age of 8 and attends The National Acting School with a full scholarship under the tutelage of Bobby Farguhar.

Bronson is a keen athlete maintaining the position of school and district champion for his age, plays Rugby and competes as a boxer. Growing up on a farm, Bronson enjoys the outdoors and everything active, from motorbike riding, to riding horses and kicking his footy. Being the youngest of 4 kids Bronson has had to learn how to be heard and the joys of being the last on the pecking order but he loves his family. Bronson is always looking for the next exciting acting project to sink his teeth into.



**ALEX McTAVISH** 

SYLVIA

Alex McTavish is a writer, actor, artist and theatre producer best known for her roles in *Neighbours, House Husbands, Mako Mermaids* and the soon to be released, *Balboa Blvd*. She has a Bachelor of Journalism, Masters in Writing and attended acting school in London. She has an extensive list of theatre, film and television credits. She is director of *Pivot City* and also cofounder and creative producer of *Anywhere Theatre Festival Limited*, a festival dedicated to connecting people with place through performance, anywhere. Alex is driven to connect people to their communities by the stories they share.

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

# 'The Legacy' movie breaks usual white, male-dominated tradition

Eva Acharya was nine years old when her family moved from Nepal to Australia and writing became a way for her to learn and practice her English communication skills.

Eva is the only female Nepalese film maker in Australia and this passionate filmmaker feels the responsibility that comes with being in the minority in traditional film.

"The Legacy is my third film as writer/director and it's destined for film festivals around the world," says Eva.

"Only 32% of women in Australia are working as producers, 23% as writers and 16% as directors, so when I was writing **The Legacy**, I was conscious of wanting to maintain a high standard so as to serve as an inspiration for other young aspiring female writers and directors like myself."

Choosing to write and produce a paranormal thriller also breaks with Australia's longstanding tradition of male-led slasher flicks.

"I wanted to produce a paranormal thriller that didn't have a twenty-something starlet butchered in the corner but still had the traditional scares," she said.

Eva has partnered up with Tsu Shan Chambers, an Australian-born Chinese actress and emerging producer, demonstrating Screen Australia's Gender Matters program is working.

Last year, Screen Australia announced a five point, \$5 million plan over three years for Gender Matters – to encourage and support outstanding female talent in this country – both emerging and established.

Eva auditioned Tsu Shan for a role in the film knowing she was an advocate for women's issues and a producer.

"Once I saw Tsu Shan's audition and got to know her, I knew we'd make a formidable team."

Both Tsu Shan and Eva's talent demonstrates the necessity for cultural diversity on our screens and that stories told by women, from all nationalities, are of interest to audiences.

To find out more, high res images, synopsis and bios see <u>www.wisegoatproductions.com</u>

#### For more information contact:

Niki White - Nikstar PR Ph: +61 403 176 988 Email: niki@nikstar.com.au



# **LINKS & MEDIA**

#### **Wise Goat Productions**

www.wisegoatproductions.com

#### Nepali filmmakers makers making headway in Australia

SBS Television

http://www.sbs.com.au/

#### From Ingleburn to Hollywood

Daily Telegraph

http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/

# **SOCIAL MEDIA**

#### **Facebook**

Official Facebook Page for the film <a href="https://www.facebook.com/TheLegacyshortfilm">https://www.facebook.com/TheLegacyshortfilm</a>

#### LinkedIn

Follow the director, Eva Acharya <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/eva-acharya">https://www.linkedin.com/in/eva-acharya</a>

#### **Facebook**

Follow the producer, Tsu Shan Chambers
<a href="https://www.facebook.com/TsuShanChambersOfficial">https://www.facebook.com/TsuShanChambersOfficial</a>

#### **Twitter**

Stay in touch with the producer, Tsu Shan Chambers <a href="https://twitter.com/tsushanchambers">https://twitter.com/tsushanchambers</a>