

‘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 www.wisegoatproductions.com

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