

# ETERNAL

*a short film by S.F.Tusa*





# ETERNAL

Written & Directed by  
S.F. Tusa

Produced by  
Curtis Lambert  
Ewan Cutler  
S.F. Tusa  
Lalania Tusa

## Cast

Paris Welch	Saskia
James Sailor	James
Royston Rota	Royston
Mamaengaroa Pere	Anita (Royston's Mother)
Delphine Autier	Delphine (Saskia's Mother)

Featuring music from Jordan Ireland's (Former Middle East guitarist and songwriter) latest album: Jordan Ireland with Purple Orchestra.



## Log Line

During one night, 3 teenagers; James, Royston and Saskia seek to escape their troubled home lives, only to find that they may have brought the trouble with them.

## Synopsis

James, a 14 year old boy, faced with mounting issues at home, sneaks out into the night. Along the way he collects his two friends Royston (14) and Saskia (15). This small rag tag posse escape into the eternal night in search of some connection. As the night progresses it becomes clear that James isn't the only one experiencing challenges at home. Although intentions are innocent and childish; their unplanned evening of hanging out becomes an unexpected memory of connection and solace.

Eternal explores the complex and sometimes volatile relationships young people and their families. The film provides perspective from both sides of the story and highlights the innocence of a young persons need for connection and acceptance within their life.

## Directors Statement

As a parent of teenagers I often find many lessons in our day to day lives. 'Eternal' was inspired by an evening where my wife and I found ourselves waiting, worried and assuming the worst when our 3 teenage sons went off on a late night adventure without permission.

Despite our assumption of the worst- my boys were nonchalant upon their return and adamant that their adventure was simply sitting at a lookout with some mates and talking together.

This experience provoked me to create a film which explores the different emotions and experiences of both parents and their children in these situations.

Despite the many issues faced in the lives of our characters, I wanted to demonstrate, that sometimes all everyone craves is some form of connection; it inspires the reckless abandon which teenagers so easily live by.

I've always been a huge admirer of the cult band 'The Middle East' so when the opportunity to have Jordan Ireland's (former songwriter & guitarist from 'The Middle East') music in the film I jumped at the idea. Jordan's music from his latest album "Jordan Ireland with Purple Orchestra" proves to accentuate and highlight the sensitivity of the film.

When I wrote the role of Roston's Mother; Anita, I had jokingly stated that if we could cast someone who reminded us of Grace Heke from 'Once Were Warriors' then that would be near perfect. Turns out a crew member knew her! Upon meeting Maemaengaroa Pere I felt I was in film heaven. She confirmed that she would be more than happy to play the role and brought a striking and poignant performance on set. We couldn't be happier to have her apart of this film.

**S.F. Tusa**

## S.F. Tusa - Writer / Director



S.F. Tusa is a multi- award winning filmmaker based in Cairns Queensland Australia. His career highlights include the short film dramas 'Nia's Melancholy', 'A Samoan Tale' and the highly experimental 'Echo of Truth'. Each of his past works have gained much praise and accolades and won awards both nationally and internationally within the film industry.

S.F. Tusa brings a deep understanding of his own culture, beliefs and local knowledge to each of his productions and creates dramatic and intricate works which come together to create multifaceted and organic films.

'Eternal' is his latest foray into the short film genre and shot entirely on location in Cairns, Australia. Alongside this project S.F. Tusa has recently completed writing and directing a broadcast documentary; 'Water'. This project is shortly due for broadcast and was funded by France 5 Television and NITV. S.F.Tusa also has a further short film, feature film and television series in development.

## Ewan Cutler - Producer / Cinematographer



Ewan Cutler is a filmmaker based in Cairns, Queensland, Australia. Ewan has been apart of the local industry for 8 years, launching his own production company 'Hudson Films' in 2015.

Ewan has had extensive experiance working in the commercial and government sector over his career. Providing services for client such as: Panasonic, Tourism Australia, Empire Entertainment, Cancer Council Queensland and the Australian Government to name a few.

Ewan has a passion for seeing great stories come to life. He has completed 2 short film previously and Eternal is his latest feature into narrative work - coming on board as a producer and cinematographer.



## Curtis Lambert - Producer



Curtis Lambert is a Cairns based filmmaker working under his company Daydream Digital OZ. In 2016 Curtis begun his filmmaking career - working on many diverse feature film projects such as Landfall (2017) and Ruins Of Love (In Post Production).

Eternal is his first foray into producing. He is currently developing an anthology short film project called "The Last Spark" which is due to go into production in late 2018.

## Lalania Tusa - Producer



Lalania is an Australian film producer and manager of Cairns based production company Aspectlab. Lalania is of Aboriginal and German Australian descent and has a background in Indigenous art management/procurement.

'Eternal' is Lalania's most recent short film project. Lalania is also currently overseeing script editing on a new Aspectlab feature production.

## Maemaengaroa Pere (Kerr-Bell) - Actress (Anita)



Maemaengaroa's breakthrough role was the iconic Grace Heke in the Lee Tamahori film, Once Were Warriors, based on the book by Alan Duff.

Maemaengaroa's latest role hails a return to form for her, playing the role of 'Anita' mother of the teenage boy Royston. Maemaengaroa brings her character to life by juxtaposing the complexity of the conflicting emotions parents of teenagers are faced with, alongside balancing the intricate network of Indigenous Australian family obligations.

## Cast & Crew

**Writer / Director**  
**Producers**  
S.F. Tusa  
S.F. Tusa  
Curtis Lambert  
Ewan Cutler  
Lalania Tusa

**Casting Director**  
Anthony Ring

**1st Assistant Director**  
Maree Gray

**Director of Photography**  
**Gaffer**  
**1st AC**  
**Key Grip**  
**Grips**  
Ewan Cutler  
Norman Taia  
Caleb Thaiday  
Ricky Uele  
Kalani Tusa  
Kalepo Tusa  
Joe Tusa  
Tama Tusa  
Wesley Pena

**Stills Photographer**  
James Crisostomo

**Set Designer**  
**Costume Designer**  
**Makeup Artist**  
Sue Kim  
Sue Kim  
Sue Kim

**Sound Mixer**  
**Boom Operator**  
Terry Meehan  
Curtis Lambert

**Catering**  
Lalania Tusa

**Editor**  
Ewan Cutler

**Saskia**  
**James**  
**Royston**  
**Anita**  
**Delphine**  
**Policeman 1#**  
**Policeman 2#**  
**Extras**

Paris Welch  
James Sailor  
Royston Rota  
Mamaengaroa Pere  
Delphine Autier  
Anthony Ring  
Peter Merrill  
Peter Merrill  
Pheau Tamalee Healey  
Joseph Scott Toby  
Kalepo Tusa Faaefili  
Tama Tusa Faaefili  
Sharlene Stacey  
Malia Stacey  
Jahrace Stacey  
James Dow



ASPECTLAB

DAYDREAM  
DIGITAL

HUDSON  
FILMS

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Cairns Regional Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.



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