



A scene from 'Camelthorns'.

'Camelthorns' bags Hollywood award

• Magreth Nunuhe

The 17 minute Namibian short film titled 'Camelthorns' received a merit award at the Los Angeles Cinema Festival of Hollywood (LACFH) that started in July and will continue this month. The LACFH is a non-traditional international online venue which provides independent filmmakers with the opportunity to have their work recognised, judged and awarded.

Categories for submission include narrative shorts, narrative features, animation, documentary shorts, documentary features, student films, experimental films, music videos and scripts.

'Camelthorns' was shot on location on a farm in Karibib by Namibian filmmaker Tanya Detering (writer, director and producer) and Nicole Davidow (actor and co-producer).

The adventure/drama film, which was inspired by the 1991 film 'Thelma

and Louise' about two girlfriends who were on the run after killing a would-be rapist. In the film, which is a teaser for a feature film, two girls Marie (Nicole Davidow) and Jessica (Klara Mudge) find themselves at a police road block carrying drugs in their vehicle. After seeing the car in front of them being searched by the police, they panic, accelerate and run away.

According to Detering, the LACFH merit award is a special acknowledgement of great films and also an opportunity for the films to get screened to a big audience. "We are excited," says Detering, who revealed that the film was also selected to be screened at a festival in Melbourne, Australia on August 26.

She said that they were planning to enter the film in more film festivals and that it would hopefully win more awards. In September they will fly to New York to meet the executive producer to raise funds for a feature film. "The future looks very bright," said an excited Detering.

Executive producer of the short film is Hollywood director and producer, Doug Liman who is well known for directing films such as 'Mr & Mrs Smith' and 'The Bourne Identity'. Locally, 'Camelthorns' was produced in association with Media Logistics Namibia, a film production company run by Michaela Bauer and Oshosheni Hiveluah.

Cast and crew were scouted locally and the movie features a line up of new faces, which include Klara Mudge and Ruan Greef as Andre in lead roles. It also casts well-known Namibian actor Armas Shivute, Samuel Kapepo, Johannes Kamati and Nghishy Muniaro in supporting roles.

This coming of age film was photographed by Horst Zaire and the sound design was done by Audioart's Wojtek Majewski, while credits for the art directing went to Nicci Wilson.

'Camelthorns' will be screened at the FNCC on September 2 at 16h00 to invited guest.