

Toni Houston

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27 May 2014

Price's Café is a museum-style exhibition that honours the unusual role that a Moruya café played in 1950s and 60s Australia in the reconciliation process. Using video interviews, photographs, music and a recreated café setting, the exhibition brings to life an almost-forgotten moment in the social history of the region.

Toni Houston worked as a cinematographer, interviewer and editor for the Prices Café project in 2013. Toni filmed interviews with Aboriginal Elders in Moruya, Narooma and Eden. She edited these interviews into a series of short pieces that focused on the themes of the exhibition. From a technical point of view, Toni delivered high quality videos that were well framed, had clear audio and edited with skill and care.

On a personal level Toni showed great sensitivity and care for the interview subjects. She made the Elders feel at ease and comfortable in talking about their lives, which in many cases dealt with highly personal and emotional experiences. As an interviewer, Toni asked insightful questions that explored the lives of the subjects.

Additionally, Toni filmed and edited a short video using interviews with the Price sisters, filmed in the space where the café was located. This video captured the characters of the sisters and the entertaining stories they told of their lives working with their parents in the café.

I would highly recommend Toni's work in the social documentary genre, with her particular focus on privately commissioned films and a particular passion for documenting indigenous stories in our local area.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Gray'.

Andrew Gray
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November 2013

Toni Houston worked for Lindblad/National Geographic for 5 years, traveling the globe in pursuit of great stories.

Toni is the epitome of 'calm under pressure', being absolutely unflappable in the toughest assignments on the shortest timelines. She consistently captured the essence of a place, the character of an expedition.

Perhaps what I valued most in working with Toni – aside from the fact that she is one of the most genuine, warm, caring people I've known – was her ability to listen and Deliver. She was able to turn the vaguest of vision, or the most detailed brief, into a piece that exceeded our expectations, and even imagination.

Trey Byus | Chief Expedition Officer (CXO)
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28 May 2009



To whom it may concern,

My name is Nate Scripture. I'm the principle owner and operating officer of Reigndrop Media, based in Washington, DC. Reigndrop Media is a non-fiction television production company specialising in Natural History, Wildlife and Anthropological films. Some of our clients include National Geographic Television, Discovery Channel and A&E TV Networks.

This letter is to verify that I engaged Toni Houston as a script writer, video editor and Antarctic researcher on two episodes of the six part series "Undersea Edens" commissioned by the Smithsonian Channel USA.

I was greatly impressed by Toni's work, and she will be highly recommended and considered for future American broadcast productions and/or independent films as they arise. We've been extremely fortunate to have Toni as part our team. Her expertise as a video editor and storyteller was 100% critical to our series, and we hope to submit her work on 'Undersea Edens' to the 2010 broadcast Emmy's.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions regarding Toni's employment with our company.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nate Scripture", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Nate Scripture
Principle / Owner
Reigndrop Media, LLC

WITNESS my hand and official seal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeong Soo Kim", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Notary Public in and for ~~Washington, DC~~

NOTARY SEAL

Jeong Soo Kim, Notary Public
Montgomery County, Bethesda, Maryland
My Commission Expires Jan. 8, 2012

Maryland

Reigndrop, LLC Company Seal



DAVID HANNAN
PRODUCTIONS

MARINE FILMMAKERS

19th May 2009

To Whom it may Concern,

My name is David Hannan, and I am the Director of David Hannan Productions. I am an Emmy award winning Australian cinematographer and producer, specialising in natural history documentaries. I have been producing films since the mid 1990s, in collaboration with the likes of National Geographic, Discovery Channel, ABC, and the BBC. I have various projects in development, and am one of the most established documentary film-makers in the country.

Toni Houston is a long term colleague, and we have collaborated on many documentaries over the years. I have provided her with employment on various projects over the past two years, including Script Writer and Editor on 2 episodes of *Underwater Edens* (Smithsonian Channel, US), and currently as Script Writer for *Coral Sea Dreaming 2*, still in production.

I have no hesitation in guaranteeing Toni consistent work over the coming 2 years, as she is an ongoing asset to my company, and brings to my company varied skills at a very high industry level.

Yours sincerely,

David Hannan
Producer/Cinematographer



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30 January 2003

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am happy to provide this reference for Toni Davis who was employed by the Nine Network during 1997.

Toni commenced working for Nine as a Researcher on *Good Medicine* in January 1997. In April she transferred to *Real TV* to work as a Writer and Segment Producer and in August, returned to *Good Medicine* as an Associate Producer, a position Toni retained until she left the Network in November 1997.

Toni was a hard worker and extremely reliable, quickly impressing me and her colleagues with her ability and enthusiasm.

Toni's duties as a researcher included finding and setting up stories, pre-interviewing potential interview subjects and writing briefs for producers. Working as a field producer she showed exceptional talent, using her imagination to tell a story in the most compelling way.

Her writing skills were exceptional. In fact, she earned a distinction in our first in-house writing course.

A team player, Toni was well liked by her colleagues.

Yours sincerely

Peter Meakin
Director of News and Current Affairs



21 November 2002

To whom it may concern

It is with considerable pleasure that I offer this reference for Toni Davis.

Toni worked for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Natural History Unit (NHU) throughout 1998. The ABC is Australia's public broadcasting network. The Natural History Unit produces natural history programs in co-production with international companies including National Geographic Television, Discovery and the UK's BBC. The NHU is Australia's most recognised producer of wildlife/natural history documentary programming, with only a small in-house team.

During her time with the NHU, Toni was Researcher and Second Unit Director for one episode of a four part series called "Australia: Eye of the Storm". Three years in the making it received acclaim both in Australia and internationally.

In close association with a Director/Writer, Toni's role was divided into two: 1) working from both the NHU's Melbourne and Sydney office in researching and documenting information relating to the scientific content of the program, interviewing scientists to make sure the information was up to date and finding filming locations and 2) accompanying natural history cinematographers into the field, helping to build sets and generally assisting the cameraman shoot the required sequences.

Toni is passionate about the natural history world, and creative and thorough in her work. With such varied training in independent documentary companies, commercial television and through her own pursuits, she proved herself an invaluable, multi-skilled team member.

I commend her to you without hesitation.

Yours sincerely

Dione Gilmour

Head, Natural History Unit

Australian Broadcasting Corporation



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Nov 20th 2002

REF: Toni Davis

To whom it may concern.

I first met Toni in March of 2000 when she was employed aboard the M.S. Caledonian star as an Assistant Expedition Leader. In June of 2001 I hired her to be the onboard Video Chronicler for the Caledonian Star. The duties she had to perform demanded a very comprehensive depth of skills in all phases of the video production process including camera, sound, editing, scripting, narration and duplication.

Toni is a very skilled documentary maker who brought to the job of Chronicler a very profound understanding of what an expedition encompasses. Her knowledge of expedition travel along with her consummate skills in the area of documentary making and her total dedication to creating the best possible program in the face of physical and mental hardships added a uniqueness to the onboard Video Chronicle program that has been unmatched to date.

To create a Video Chronicle of an expedition that both documents and entertains is a hard task to accomplish. The skillset required includes the operation of the Sony PD150 camera and its associated audio equipment, the Shure FP33 mixer, Samson wireless lavalier and Sennheiser ME66 microphones.

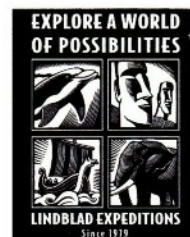
The most important ability, and with Toni her most valuable skill, for a Video Chronicler to have is the operation of the Canopus DV Storm Non Linear Edit system. This Windows based computer edit system is integral to delivering a quality program in such a short timeframe. The speed, reliability and tool set of this system is unmatched by any other Edit system on the market today and demands an accomplished editor to make the magic that I demand from the Video Chroniclers who work for me.

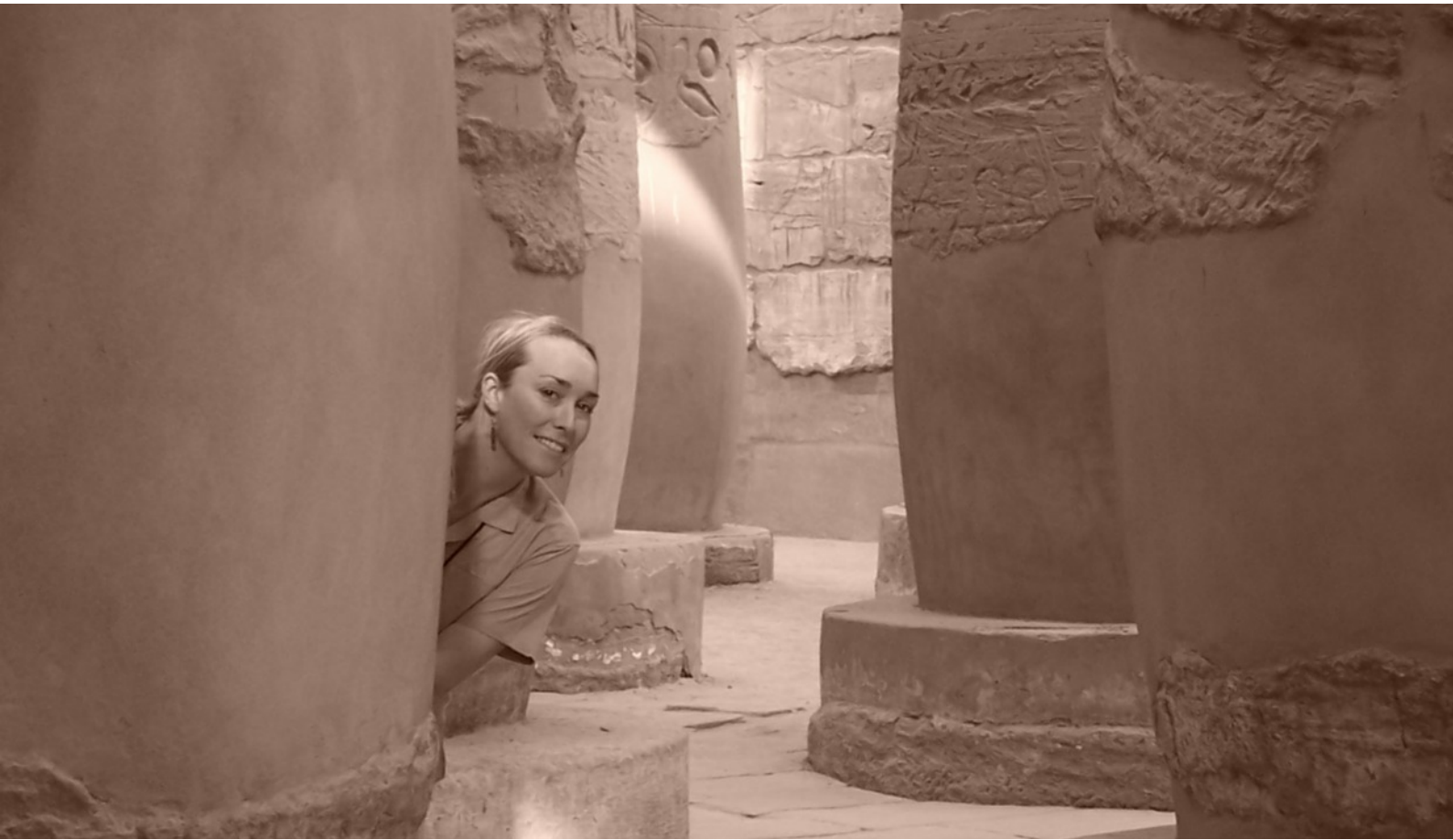
As a "one person production team" the Video Chronicler must wear many hats including Producer, Director and Technician. They must have the technical expertise to maintain the computer system and to handle the duplication of VHS tapes and the MPEG compression and mastering to DVD of the program ready to replicate aboard the ship in time for our guests to take home the video chronicle when they disembark.

The pressures to create a finished program both on time and with the highest level of creative skill is something that very few people can achieve. Add to that the pressures of performing the job on a floating platform that crosses some of the roughest seas on earth from the Antarctic to the Arctic, working 14 hours a day 7 days a week for 5 straight weeks and you have a very unique individual.

Toni Davis is just that, a unique individual who's skills at story telling are matched by her technical prowess. I can recommend Toni for any role in a production team whether it be as Director, Producer, Scriptwriter, Cameraman, or Editor.

Kelvin Hughes
Manager, Lindblad Video Production Department





Toni Houston

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