



# KINDRED

FAMILY  
FRIENDSHIP  
HOME

Feature Documentary

Written & Directed by Adrian Russell Wills and Gillian Moody

Produced by Gillian Moody & Tom Zubrycki



## LOGLINE

A journey into the emotional landscape of family, love and loss of two close friends, both Aboriginal, who were adopted by white families and have connected back with their bloodline families.

## SYNOPSIS

When Gillian Moody and Adrian Russell Wills met making their first short film together, little did they know that 25 years later they would be bestfriends. The pair turned to each other in navigating the emotional rollercoaster of being adopted into white families and, when connecting back with their bloodlines. Kindred explores the importance of discovering your place in the world, and realising that home and love truly can be found in the people and places your heart connects to.



# TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Country of production:  
AUSTRALIA

Year of production: 2019

Aspect ratio: 16:9

Run time: 133mins at 25fps

Sound: 5.1 and stereo

Format: HD

Language: ENGLISH



## DIRECTORS STATEMENT

### ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS & GILLIAN MOODY

How do you connect to the world around you when you are an Aboriginal adopted child? Knowing there is this whole other family out there, and in particular a mother who brought you into this world is hard to explain or talk about when you are that child living within an adopted family.

For every adopted person this journey and curiosity is different and we are no exception. We knew that one day we would tell our story, the fact we were both Aboriginal growing up in a white affluent world, that we both got to meet our natural families, we met each other's adopted and birth families and importantly we both got to meet our birth mothers. For some adopted people this can throw your world upside down. It did for both of us, the worlds can be complex and conflicted, the outcome from seeking answers meant; for Gill her family simply grew but for Adrian it saw loss and sacrifice.

KINDRED promises a moving feature documentary as we invite you into our story of friendship and the bond that brought us together, being adopted. The film explores what it really feels like living in two worlds, one black and one white. When we first met we realised we grew up only streets apart from each other, but our paths didn't cross until we made a short film together, Angel.



This creative connection was the beginning of a wonderful friendship of 25 years and still going strong! In 2019, we decided to do the thing that most filmmakers never do, we turned the cameras onto ourselves to show the deeply effecting journey it is to be an Aboriginal person adopted into a white family and what reconnecting with our bloodline families has added to our lives.

As two individual voices telling our stories, we have used different visual elements woven together giving strong personal narratives that not only hold space for each other and for our families but show our deep connection as we explore themes of family, identity, culture, belonging, racism, trauma, friendship, courage, loss and love.

KINDRED comes from our hearts and the generous hearts of many in our family.

**"We have lived in both worlds, black and white.  
We understand the divide between the two in a really unique  
way, we have seen it from both sides"**







## ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS CO WRITER & DIRECTOR

Adrian is a Wonnarua man originally from Bourke NSW who is committed to explore the outsider, the fringe dweller, the rebel. His point of distinction is that he explores stories that take an audience beyond what they would naturally seek out, confronting and challenging them to go beyond their own experience. Adrian has explored the documentary form throughout his career; he directed **OUR BUSH WEDDING**; co-wrote and directed **WHEN THE NATIVES GET RESTLESS**; **BOXING FOR PALM ISLAND** and **88** looking at the Bicentennial celebrations of the British colonisation of Australia; his last documentary **BLACK DIVAZ** premiered at Queer Screen as part of the Sydney Mardi Gras 2018 Film Festival and screened on NITV – SBS. Adrian is a sort after writer/director of Drama, having worked on Blackfella Films' drama series **REDFERN NOW**, with Endomol Shine on series 1 & upcoming series 2 of **RFDS**. Adrian's other television directing credits include; **RUSH**; **WONDERLAND**; **THE GODS OF WHEAT STREET**; **8MMM**; Emmy-nominated **READY FOR THIS**; **WENTWORTH**; **THE WARRIORS**. He is currently financing his original debut feature drama film and collaborating on several television projects.





**GILLIAN MOODY**  
**CO WRITER & DIRECTOR**  
**CO PRODUCER**

Gillian Moody has worked in production roles at SBS and as an Investment and Development Manager in Screen Australia's Indigenous Department before stepping into the freelance world and starting her production company Kalori Productions. Her documentary filmmaking includes Series Producer of the 6 x 30 min Documentary TV Series FAMILY RULES for NITV, collaborating with Director Adrian Russell Wills when she co-produced BLACK DIVAZ which premiered at the Sydney Queer Screen Mardi Gras Film Festival receiving the Audience Award for Best Documentary, before screening on NITV and SBS. Gillian then stepped into the director shoes on a project for the NSW Teachers Federation NAA MURU GURUNG - 'to see a path for children' a documentary that tells the inspiring story of Aboriginal Teachers and the work of the union in Indigenous education. Gillian is currently the Senior Manager of Indigenous Connections at the Nations Film & Sound Archive.





## TOM ZUBRYCKI CO PRODUCER

Tom Zubrycki is an Australian documentary filmmaker. His personal films are renowned for their distinctive observational story-telling style and closeness to the subjects. His documentaries include **THE DIPLOMAT** about East Timorese independence leader Jose Ramos Horta, and **MOLLY & MOBARAK** a story exploring the friendship between an Afghan asylum-seeker and a young woman in a country town, **THE HUNGRY TIDE** about climate change in the Pacific nation of Kiribati, and **HOPE ROAD** the story of a former South Sudanese refugee who sets out to build a school back in his village with a group of dedicated Aussie supporters. Tom has produced and/or directed more than 36 documentaries, several of which have received awards including AACTA's for Best Documentary (**KEMIRA - DIARY OF A STRIKE**, and **THE DIPLOMAT**) and an International Emmy for **EXILE IN SARAJEVO**. His most recent collaborations as producer have included **ABLAZE**, **THE CARNIVAL** and **KINDRED**.







Written and Directed by

**GILLIAN MOODY & ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS**

Producers

**GILLIAN MOODY  
TOM ZUBRYCKI**

Editor

**LINDI HARRISON ASE**



Cinematographers

**KATHRYN MILLISS ACS**  
**MEG WHITE**  
**SIMON MORRIS**  
**JUSTINE KERRIGAN ACS**

Sound Design

**ANDREW BELLETTY**

Music

**CAITLIN YEO**  
**DAMIEN LANE**



Sound Recording    ANDREW BELLETTY  
                                 LEO SULLIVAN  
                                 PHILIP MYERS  
                                 RAFAL DABROWSKI

Drone Photography    JONATHAN MAY  
                                 MURRAY VANDERVEER

Additional Cinematography    HUGH MILLER ACS  
                                 PHILIP MYERS  
                                 TOM ZUBRYCKI  
                                 JOSHUA WINGER

Camera Assistants    MURRAY VANDERVEER  
                                 HANNAH KLASSEK  
                                 MOLLY SUTHERLAND  
                                 MATTHEW BEDFORD



## Main Talent Interviews

Director of Photography	KATHRYN MILLISS ACS
Sound	ANDREW BELLETTY
Hair & Make Up	DIAMOND MAHONI
Production Designer	SAM HOBBS
Set Dresser	ELENA AIKASHEVA
Art Dept Assistant	JULIUS HOBBS
Lighting	NICK THOMSEN
Best Boy	KYLE STEPHENS
Location	NEP STUDIOS WILLOUGHBY



## Dramatisations

Director of Photography	MEG WHITE
Production Designer	ELENA AIKASHEVA
Art Dept Assistant	JULIUS HOBBS
Wardrobe	ALOMA BARNES
Hair & Makeup	SOPHIE LEE
Lighting	NICK THOMSEN
Casting	ANOUSHA ZARKESH
Location Managers	BIG HOUSE

## Cast

Mum Ruth 'Rooster'	JOYANNE WILLIAMS
Young Adrian	KAI MCCAUSLAND
Teen Adrian	ANTON TOGO
	LATRELL FING
Dad	LEWIS FITZ-GERALD
Mum	GABRIELLA MASELLI-McGRAIL
Man at Park	MARK FOX



## Dance Floor & Club Patrons

JOHNNY SEYMOUR  
TOBIAS TSONIS  
GARETH ERNST  
SARAH JESSICA CARPARK

AARON MANHATTAN  
RIO BERRY  
JOE POL  
BEAU JAMES

YOLANDA FROST  
DICK SAVVY  
STEVE HATCH  
VRNDA LALITA CONQUEST

AUNTY ROWENA TUI  
ALITA MORGAN

## Locations

TONY MUNDINE HOSTEL  
SACRED HEART CHURCH, MOSMAN  
GINGER'S, THE OXFORD HOTEL  
SYDNEY CITY COUNCIL  
NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL  
WILCANNIA COMMUNITY



## Post Production

Online & Grade ROEN DAVIS  
Sound Design & Mix BELLETTY SOUND  
Title Design MURRAY VANDERVEER  
Trailer Editor SAM ZUBRYCKI

Violin & Viola JESSICA ARLO IRISH  
Guitars DAMIEN LANE  
Vocals NICOLE SMEDE  
Flute & Accordion CAITLIN YEO  
Published by LILLIPILLI IP

Poster Design CARNIVAL STUDIO  
DEMI HOPKINS

Stills Photography SALLY FLEGG  
PHILIP MYERS  
GEORGE FETTING



Legals      STEPHEN BOYLE  
                 SOPHIE GODDARD SC

Accountants      CHRISTOPHER COOTE & ASSOC  
Insurance      GALVANIIZE INSURANCE

Catering      PHILLIP CHU

Camera Rentals      LEMAC

THE FRONT

Clearances      GARY SEEGER MUSIC

Head of Commissions NITV      MARISSA MCDOWELL

Head of First Nations Screen Australia      ANGELA BATES



## Films

### "THE FRINGE DWELLERS"

Written & Directed by BRUCE BERESFORD

Co-writer RHOISIN BERESFORD

Produced by SUE MILLIKEN & BRUCE BERESFORD

### "WHEN THE NATIVES GET RESTLESS"

Written & Directed by

ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS & ALBERT HARTNETT

Produced by MELISSA MUNDI

### "ANGEL"

Written & Directed by

ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS

Produced by GILLIAN MOODY

### "BOURKE BOY"

Written & Directed by

ADRIAN RUSSELL WILLS

Produced by KATH SHELPER

## Archive

MERV MOODY'S HOME MOVIES

supplied by

THE MOODY FAMILY

NAISDA DANCE COLLEGE



## "MADE OF STONE"

WRITTEN BY MATT CORBY

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## "RUSH ON"

BY NATHANIEL RATELIFF

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## "FEELS SO RIGHT"

BY GEORGE NAKAS

PUBLISHED BY AUDIO NETWORK



Our love and thanks to each member of our  
ARDLER, HARTNETT and MOODY Families  
for your continued love and support.

We thank the following members for sharing from their hearts

MUM GERALDINE ARDLER - BEVERLEY ARDLER - MANDY ARDLER  
RICHARD ARDLER - LEIGH ARDLER

MUM KATHLEEN MOODY - MARTIN MOODY - LUCY MOODY - DAVID MOODY  
CHRIS MOODY - KYM MOODY

ALBERT HARTNETT - EUNICE HARTNETT - JANEY HARTNETT - VERA HARTNETT  
KEITH HARTNETT - SHIRALEE LAWSON - ANNE BROWN  
AUNTY FAYE MCKELLAR - MILLIE MCKELLAR



LEE WILLIS-ARDLER - thank you for walking beside us in this life

Our love to

MUM RUTH HARTNETT - ROGER HARTNETT - AUNTY JUDY HARTNETT  
DAD MERVYN MOODY

Thank you to HUSBEAR from DIGIT

Thank you to the HATCH FAMILY



Special thanks to  
WRECK BAY ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL & RESIDENTS  
MUTAWINTJI MANAGEMENT BOARD

BOOMALLI ABORIGINAL ARTISTS CO-OPERATIVE  
WESTERN NSW LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT  
NATIONAL FILM & SOUND ARCHIVE  
BRAZEN LOT  
SALLY FLEGG STUDIO  
VINCENTIA CHINESE  
SUN STUDIOS  
UNCLE BOBBY MCLEOD'S FAMILY  
CHRISTINE BULLOCK  
THE COVE - JERVIS BAY  
RTBU HOLIDAY PARK - JERVIS BAY



CASEY BOURKE  
KIM WALKER  
ANDREA ULBRICK  
LAURRIE BRANNIGAN-ONATO  
TAMARA MARKUS  
KYAS HEPWORTH  
MARY-ELLEN MULLANE  
CEIRON CODY  
JULIA OVERTON

OUR BEAUTIFUL CHOSEN FAMILY MEMBERS  
OUR NIECES & NEPHEWS  
you all continue to be a light in our lives

Dedicated to UNCLE LESTER BOSTOCK



FILMED ON THE LANDS OF  
GADIGAL, WANGAL, DHARAWAL, DHURUG PEOPLE ACROSS WARRANE  
THE CAMMERAYGAL PEOPLE OF NORTHERN SYDNEY AND GARIGAL PEOPLE OF PITTWATER  
THE LANDS OF WIRADJURI, BARKINDJI, WONNARUA, GOMEROI AND NGUNNAWAL PEOPLE  
AND THE LAND AND SEA COUNTRY OF WRECK BAY ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY

ALWAYS WAS - ALWAYS WILL BE ABORIGINAL LAND

FILMED AND POST-PRODUCED IN  
NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA

**JOTZ**

**KALORI**

PRODUCTIONS



FINANCED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF



INDIGENOUS  
BUSINESS  
AUSTRALIA

FINANCED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF  
SCREEN NSW





DEVELOPED AND PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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## CONTACTS

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