



Danny Williams

Gaffer - Lighting Director

Danny Williams has been involved in the Film Industry for over 18 years. Danny purchased his first lighting truck 14 years ago and The Lighting Up Company began. Danny's success has over the years enabled him to build the company up to what it is today. New Zealand's most experienced Directors, Producers and DOP's, consider Danny to be the countries most experienced and qualified gaffer/lighting director. He is now sought after for high profile international commercial assignments. For the right work he will travel and work anywhere within NZ and internationally. Danny's specific skills are his ability to read and act on any situation to produce the look his DOP has asked for with minimum fuss. His communication skills are excellent.

Work Philosophy

I like to put the work in up front so the cinematographer and Director can focus on shooting the film with absolute confidence that the lighting is being actioned to the look and feel that has been discussed.

Lighting Philosophy

Simple, strong systems. Presenting options and providing flexibility.

Brief Working History

- September 1981 - Registered Electrician
- 1984, First employed by Film Facilities as Electrician / Gaffer
- 1986, Spent 4 months working and running a lighting truck in Sydney
- 1987, I established the first lighting truck as a part of 'The Lightin Up Company'
- 1995, a second truck with on board 110KVA generator was established
- 1996, A stand alone super silenced 150KVA Generator was recommissioned
- 1997, purchase of a third fully equipped Truck, commissioning off a 20kw package including Distribution and dimming capabilities. Continued upgrading off equipment and services.
- 2000, Supply of all lighting equipment for Sony Pictures 'Vertical Limit'
- Design and installation of a Power-lock studio Distribution system for Sony Pictures 'Vertical Limit'
- 2000/01, commissioning of two Drama packages for local market
- 2001, planning, design and supply of equipment for Lord of the Rings 'Faghorn Forest Sets'-6 month contract.
- 2002, Continued commercial work mostly high profile international jobs.

I have gained over 15 years experience in all types of commercial and drama lighting. Both local and off shore productions. Including several stints overseas;

- April 1994 a three week TVC in Indonesia including the supply of all lighting equipment
- Acted as lighting production liaison for a world wide Qantas TVC August 1994
- September 1996 lighting coordinator TVC in Bali
- Supply of complete lighting package for Peter Jackson's "The Frighteners" 1996
- From late '96 to the present day working the commercial market, often International and of a larger scale with an emphasis on lighting and management skills.
- 2000/01 moving into Lighting Design with the help of, and for some of New Zealand's and Australia's Leading D.O.P.'S
- 2002/03 continued commercial work , bidding for up coming Drama productions where applicable.

He have had the opportunity to participate in the making of over 12 feature films. Including;

- Angel at my Table (1989) NZ/Australian Co-Production - Jane Campion Director
Stuart Dryburgh DOP
- African Journey (1989) NZ /Canadian Co-Production Shot in Zimbabwe
George Bloomfield Director - Graeme Cowely DOP
- Te Rua (1991) NZ/German Co-Production shot in NZ and Berlin
Barry Barclay Director - Warwick Attewell
- Absent without leave (1992) John Laing Director - Allan Guilford DOP
- Taking Liberties (1993) John Reid Director - John Blick DOP
- 'Far Side of the World '(2003) miniature/2nd unit (main unit dir Peter Wier)
Brian Van't Hul Director, Richard Bluck dp

Commercial work of note includes;

- 2000 Cherokee Films, Robbie Greenburg dp
- 2000 Hail Mary Productions, Brett Froomer dp/dir
- 2000 Sydney Film Co., Ross Emery dp James Holt dir 'Lotto'
- 2001 Shoot New Zealand, Andrezj Sekula dp
- 2001 Cherokee Films, Mauro Fiore dp David Jellison dir
- 2001 Flying Fish, Laslo Kadar Allianz dp/dir
- 2002 Andrew Lesnie dp 'Australian Milk tvc '
- 2002 Eight Com, Sal Taltino dp Mazda
- 2002 Cherokee Films, Michael Wood dp Jonathan Darby dir
- 2002 Toyota Lexus Spain Campaign, dir/dp Peter Smillie
- 2002 Alliance *Trust* Film Deluxe, dir Brent Harris, dp Jo Molitoris
- 2002 Air New Zealand Auckland Film Co dir Tony Williams dp Nick Mayo
- 2002 Scott tissues Cherokee dir David Jellison dp Mauro Fiore
- 2003 'Saab' Aero Sport campaign dir Mehdi Norowzian dp Zubin Mistry
- 2003 Toyota Prado tvc Cranbrook dir Roger Tompkins dp Keith Wagstaff
- 2003 Milka tvc Brian Dapp – dp
- 2003 'Fa Spec ' Silverscreen dir Terrance Stevens-Prior dp Paul Herley

- 2003 ' Far side of the world ' six week miniatures with Weta workshop for the Peter Wier Film .Large blue screen and key lighting setup shot at 96-120 fps.Dir, Brian Van't Hul . dp Richard Bluck .Designer Richard Taylor ._____

Interests include; Family,cinematography, and a Horse

Full truck and gear list available on www.lightin-up.com