

The Player and the Advocate – Electronic Press Kit

The Player and the Advocate is a digital feature film written by John Parker. It will be released in New Zealand in 2008.

The Pitch

Whale Rider meets *Shakespeare in Love*.

Synopsis

Wellington, 1601AD: Oscar, a young actor in the bustling Wellington theatre scene, is thrown out of his company for 'improvising' and vows revenge on the director by stealing a valuable playbook; at the same time, Oscar courts the director's daughter, Amy, who is pursuing her own defiance of her father – studying law at the exclusive, male-only, Thorndon Law Academy...

What if Wellington were the centre of the Elizabethan world, pioneering an explosion in theatre, fashion, new music and coffeehouses at the birth of the modern age?

The Player and the Advocate is a New Zealand digital feature film written by John Parker – a cleverer-than-thou comedy, which takes swipes at Shakespeare and New Zealand film heritage with equal glee. Joyfully misappropriating the conventions and language of Elizabethan drama, The Player and the Advocate posits an alternative universe in which Wellington is the heart of a vibrant and competitive theatre culture, characters order their lattes in blank verse, and the consequences of being an out-of-work actor may be a date with the gallows!

Creative Personnel

John Parker

John Parker is a creative professional who has worked on theatre and film projects around the world. He is an experienced sound and lighting designer for theatre, and graduated from Victoria University of Wellington in 2001 with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Film.

John's film background includes many credits in production and post-production. In 2003-04 he edited a feature-length documentary, *Heart of Steel*, which was selected for the Tribeca International Film Festival 2006.

He currently lives in Wellington, New Zealand.



Sponsors

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Production Stills

All photos included here are available from The Player and the Advocate website, www.playerandadvocate.co.nz.