

The Lion and The Mouse

the Story of America and Bermuda
A FILM BY LUCINDA SPURLING



Narrated by

Michael Douglas



“The moral of the story is little friends can make great friends.”



a film by AFFLARE FILMS LTD. produced and directed by LUCINDA SPURLING, narrated by MICHAEL DOUGLAS,
writer LUCINDA SPURLING, cinematography JAMES LEIGH, editor CONNIE RINEHART with
LANA YOUNG, ALAN SMITH, ROBBIE GODFREY and RICHARD FELL © 2009 AFFLARE FILMS LTD.



The Lion and The Mouse

the Story of America and Bermuda

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CONTACT:

LUCINDA SPURLING

9 SPEAKERS DRIVE

P.O. BOX GE 60 ST. GEORGES

BERMUDA GEBX

441-297-5451

441-799-7770

afflarefilms@mac.com

thelionandthemousefilm.org

The moral of the story is "Little Friends can make great friends"



SYNOPSIS

The Lion and the Mouse looks back at the birth of America and the deciding conflicts and characters that have shaped the last four centuries as the intriguing relationship between Bermuda and America has evolved. Caught up in a succession of wars between the continents Bermuda found itself on both sides of the mid Atlantic gauntlet. Isolated by location, the island embodied the necessary reinvention and adaptability, to prosper in a changing Atlantic world, from saving the colonialists of Jamestown, robbing the British armory on the island and smuggling all of the gunpowder to George Washington's revolutionary army, to launching the fleet that burned Washington in the War of 1812, running the Union blockade in the Civil War, or on the other side, as soldiers fighting for "Glory." Right or wrong Bermuda has played an instrumental role in the history of the American States, continuing through two World Wars and the Cold War, where Bermuda evolved from a hotbed of counter espionage, into the frontline of US coastal defense. As a nexus in the Atlantic, Bermuda provided the United States with the strategic lynch pin in defense of its interests. Mercurial, treasonous, and unprincipled possessing all the wiles of a small dependent nation, Bermuda was able to adapt its mid-Atlantic location to both military and trade pursuits and to overcome insignificance in size, and vulnerability to become the place, that U.S. President William Howard Taft was to immortalize in his now famous words; "Never in global history has such a small country played such a large role in International Affairs." The moral of the story is that " Little friends can make great friends". (275 words)

The moral of the story is "Little Friends can make great friends"

DESCRIPTION

The Lion and the Mouse is a three part, (three broadcast hours) historical documentary mini series. Narrated by Michael Douglas (American and Bermudian) the film commemorates the 400 year birthday of Bermuda in 2009. On July 28th 1609 the Sea Venture flagship of the third supply, bound for Jamestown shipwrecked on the island beginning English settlement, only two years after the settlement of Jamestown in 1607. This early colonial event began a significant relationship between the two countries, which were bound by the early struggles to survive in colonial times through slavery, trade, and all of the wars that marked the last four centuries of American and British history. The film is constructed in Seven Acts, each act is represented by a period dramatization, the main actors, repeat as different characters in every era as a creative device to give the film continuity and explore the idea of history as a continuum. The film is a mix of interviews with historians, descendents of historical figures and witnesses to history, extensive period dramatizations, battle recreations of the revolutionary war, the war of 1812, and the civil war, archival footage of the 20th century, animations, and contemporary footage. This dynamic mix of content, and pacing tells an epic story of a little known relationship between the tiny British Island, Bermuda, the mouse, and the continent of America, the Lion.



REVIEWS

“ A rare perfect craft.”

Emmanuel Itier, Buzzine Review of the Bermuda International Film Festival

“The Lion and the Mouse demonstrated Ms. Spurling’s talent for filmmaking.”

Jessie Moniz, The Royal Gazette

“It is easy to imagine watching The Lion and the Mouse on the History Channel.”

Jessie Moniz, The Royal Gazette

“The largest historical documentary ever to be made about Bermuda.”

Helen Jardine, Bermuda Sun

“ Bermuda’s 400-year history brought vividly to life.”

Sarah Lagan, Bermuda Sun

“Film maker Lucinda Spurling does our fascinating 400 year history complete justice.”

Sarah Lagan, Bermuda Sun

“Meticiously researched!”

Sarah Lagan, Bermuda Sun

“Ms. Spurling does not hold back ... contributions are cleverly weaved together to make an engaging story.”

Sarah Lagan, Bermuda Sun

DIRECTORS BIO

Lucinda has been working on *The Lion and the Mouse* since 2006, but her career began after graduating with a degree in Communications from Tulane University, when she worked as a journalist before attending Bristol University (Bristol, UK) where she obtained her Masters in Film and Television with distinction. In 2000, Lucinda worked as a film editor in the UK, and in a variety of roles on independent films. In 2002 she left her editing career in the UK and returned to Bermuda where she started her own independent film production company: Afflare Films. Lucinda is a young, but seasoned director, producer and editor, whose other works have been broadcast and shown at international film festivals. Her first feature length documentary, "Rare Bird" (2006) was awarded the Special Jury Remi award at the Worldfest Film Festival in Houston Texas, and several commendations at other festivals. Rare Bird's international rights are held by Mindseye International and the US rights are held by PBS International. Lucinda is drawn to inspiring tales of human commitment, and *The Lion and the Mouse* tells the story of a small country's survival in a challenging history of conflict and reinvention.

AWARDS

The Lion and the Mouse: Audience Choice Award Winner, *Bermuda International Film Festival 2009*

Rare Bird: Special Jury Remi Award, *Houston Worldfest Film Festival 2007*

Rare Bird: Honourable Mention, *International WildLife Film Festival Montana 2007*

Rare Bird: Honourable Mention, *Bermuda International Film Festival 2006*



DIRECTORS COMMENTARY

The moral of the Aesop's fable, The Lion and the Mouse is "Little friends may make great friends." It is a story of survival, conflict and reinvention. Documentaries should work on many different levels and here, you have the fable of the lion, America and the mouse, Bermuda, but you also have two "character narrators" who reappear throughout the film in different eras in the dramatizations. This approach is a structural and creative device, to popularize history and give it immediacy while exploring the idea of history as a continuum. The female character narrator, plays a white woman who starts in 1609 as a sea venture castaway, Mrs. Rolfe. The male character narrator, plays a black man who starts in 1616 as Bermuda's first slave. They begin in separate eras and through time their lives become more entwined. This approach gives a voice and face to two underrepresented historical groups, women and blacks, and to weave a thread of continuity through the film. The repetition of characters collapses time, to show that the past and present are bound together, and we are only a mere handful of lifetimes from our ancestors. Each era embodies similar tensions between freedom and authority, private and public purpose, duty and self-preservation, and many of these same tensions remain today. I believe that conceiving of history on one hand as a series of global events over hundreds of years, and at the same time see history as a series of daily events with all the small details in the lives of individuals instead of countries is a powerful way to retell and relate to history. In the Lion and the Mouse we have representations of people who were part of, and lived through major historical events, told within the context of the wide breadth of global politics and with the hindsight of the centuries that have past. Many people question the veracity of historical dramatizations, to that point I would like to include the following excerpt from a New York Times article, "Fade from TinType, Cue General Grant" by David Everitt. Documentary filmmakers may be discovering what historians have known for a long time.

"Historians blur the lines," said Robert Tignor, chairman of Princeton University's history department. "I think we're all in the business of re-creating. That's what history is. It's a reconstruction of the past as viewed by specific individuals".

I believe by imagining history in dramatizations, we can reach a greater truth, not an empirical truth but the truth of impact and relation, by creating a vision of history that is attached to our reality, a truth somewhere between fact and fiction. I include all of this in the film with the hope that The Lion and the Mouse, can possibly provide a glimpse into history and its causes and effects for a present day audience who must wonder at some point what motivated history and how our present lives were created by the people and times that came before.



CREDITS

Director and Producer Lucinda Spurling
Narrator Michael Douglas
Cinematography James Leigh
Editor Connie Rinehart

Composer Lenny Williams, Chris Biondo & Robert Squire
Animations Heather Crank
Costume Designer Liz Campbell
Assistant Editor Andrew Kirkpatrick
Sound Recordist Dennis Eldridge

Additional Camera ... Andrew Kirkpatrick, Bayard Outerbridge, Robert Zuill & Lucinda Spurling
Post Production Supervisor Laura Bresler
Online Editor Larry Duke & Joe Bridgers
Sound Design Mary Casey & Andrew Bozza
Sound Mix David Hurley
Colour Correction Dave Markun
Post Production done at Henninger Media Services

Voice of William Strachey Michael Spurling
Voice of Civil War reporter Tripp West
Civil War soldier (voice one) Stephen West
Civil War Soldier (voice two) Eugene Derosa
Graphic Design Kevin Whitecross (Indigo Design)
Design & Printing Roland Meadows (Island Press Ltd.)

TITLE SPONSORS

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INTERVIEWEES

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Cheryl Packwood
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Duncan McDowell
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James Horn
Edward Harris
William Zuill
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Ross Smith
Ann Gibbs
Clarence Maxwell
Jim Humphries
Leo Mills
US Consul General Slayton
Rose Jones
Brinky Tucker
Jim Smith
Clydia Davenport
David Ezekiel

RECREATIONS

Writer
Producer and Director
Director of Photography
Assistant Camera and gaffer
Sound recordist
Costume Designer
Editor

Lucinda Spurling
Lucinda Spurling
James Leigh
Bayard Outerbridge
Dennis Eldridge
Liz Campbell
Lucinda Spurling

CAST

1609

Mistress Rolfe Lana Young
Sir George Somers Richard Fell
Sir Thomas Gates Robbie Godfrey
John Rolfe Christopher Worsick
Bermuda Rolfe Trystan Hocking
Stephen Hopkins Jon Legere
Mrs. Hopkins Elena Strong
Hopkins children Kira Doran

John Christopher Doran
Piper Hamill
Lyon Hamill
Sophia Shanks
David Wallace
Andrew Wallace
Allan Pelvang
Jake Hocking

Henry Paine
Henry Paine's son
Christopher Carter
Man in Rigging

1616

First Slave Alan Smith
Male Slave 1 Nakia Wolffe
Male Slave 2 Devaune Rattery
Slave woman Khalilah Smith
Slave girl Makeda Simmons
Slave boy Zion Tuzo

1775

Francis Bruere Tucker Lana Young
House Slave Alan Smith
President Tucker Robbie Godfrey
Col. Henry Tucker Richard Fell
St. George Tucker Britten West
St. Geogre Tucker's Dogs Piccolo and Piglet
Spurling Worsick
Rafael Silveira
Bayard Outerbridge
Rafael Silveira
Devaune Rattery
Rick Spurling
David Wallace
Jamie Petty

1834/1835

Wealthy woman
Richard Tucker
Chief Justice Cox
Captain Elliot Smith
Mahaley Warfield
Ned Poston
Matilda Ridgely
Other Enterprise Slaves:

1864

Joseph Hayne Rainey
Mrs. Rainey
Georgiana Walker
Norman Walker
Luke Blackburn
Mrs. Blackburn
Charles Allen
Yellow Fever Victim
Sgt. Robert Simmons
Reporter

1941

Nadya Gardner
Solider
Censorette
Supervisor censor

2009

Business man
Business woman
Mahaley
St. George

Lana Young
Alan Smith
Robbie Godfrey
David Wallace
Makeda Simmons
Zion Tuzo
Khalilah Smith
Amber Wilson
India Wilson
Caitlin Barnard
Aalai Wolffe
Devaune Rattery
Malachi Simmons

Alan Smith
Michelle Wales
Lana Young
Robbie Godfrey
Richard Fell
Jane Spurling
Rick Spurling
Walker Zupp
Ken Peebles
Peter Luks

Lana Young
Alan Smith
Gayle Evans
Barbara Jones

Alan Smith
Lana Young
Makeda Simmons
Zion Tuzo

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP ON SET

Jamie Petty
Margaret Young
Rafael Silveira
Jennifer Adams
Food 4Thought

LOCATIONS

Ferry Reach Park
Sessions House, The Bermuda House of Assembly
The National Trust
Tucker House
Verdmont
The Globe Hotel
The Unfinished Church
St. Peter's Church
Pilot Darrel Square
The Perot Post Office
Bermuda Maritime Museum Rare Book room
Deliverance
St. Georges Historical Society
Mitchell House
The Busy Streets of St. Georges
Willis Re
The home of Michael Spurling and Michael Whittal

THANK YOU FOR LENDING YOUR PROPS

Sea Cadets
Mr. Richard Spurling
Mrs. Jane Spurling
Carter House Museum
Christopher Worsick
Jamie Petty
Ann Spurling
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Dill Jr
Tricia Thompson Browne
Ben Outerbridge
Deliverance
Giles Spurling
Drew Petit

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BMDS
Conchita Ming
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Andrew Bermingham
Kim Dismont Robinson
Marc Telemaque
Roddy McFall
Elena Strong
Christopher Worsick
My darling boys, Chris, Piccolo and Piglet
Jane and Rick Spurling
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Giles Spurling
Michael Spurling
Michael Whittal
Ann Spurling
Jeannie Olander
Laura Lyons
Alan Van Putten
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Lance Fubert
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The Parks Department
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Drew Petit
Natalia Linkova
Carmen Burgess
Paul Shapiro
The Bermuda Heritage Museum

BATTLE RE-ENACTMENTS

Kevin Hershberger

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Footage Farm
The US National Archives
Jack Chiappa
Bermuda Historical Society
Lucinda Spurling Collection
The Jamestown Yorktown Foundation

STILL PHOTOGRAPHS AND MAPS

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Hamilton Princess
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