IOW SHORT FILM BOUND FOR INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL CIRCUIT

A short film made exclusively on the Isle of Wight during lockdown last year, is now headed for the international festival circuit. "Strange Waters" is a supernatural thriller, filmed on location at Spitbank Fort in the Solent, the tunnels under Ventnor Botanic Garden and Ventnor Arts Club.

"Strange Waters" is the debut film from Ventnor based Writer and Founder of 9 of Cups Productions, Rowena Amos, and the Directorial debut for Andy McLeod, who already had an established acting career (Eastenders, The Beast Must Die, The Outlaws). The collaboration was formed over lockdown when they worked on several projects at Director's Cut Theatre at Southwark Playhouse. Andy says: "Lockdown posed many challenges to the shoot, so we kept the crew and schedule tight over three days. The actors were fantastic, we had worked with them all previously so we knew they would deliver."

Rowena comments: "Getting access to film over on Spitbank fort was incredible. I understand we are the only film drama to ever shoot there. The local connection was really important, so most of the crew were Island based and it turned out four of the team went to Portsmouth University together!"

The film score was composed by renowned local musician JC Grimshaw (<u>www.jcgrimshaw.com</u>) and also features a naval sea shanty sung by American folk musician David Coffin. <u>David Coffin - David Coffin</u>

Filmwight, the Island's official film office, helped organise locations, arranged discounted ferry travel plus transportation during the shoot. Film Officer, Dave Russell says "the Island has so much to offer, with such a wealth of locations in such a small area." The Island also boasts a lot of TV and film expertise, for example the BBC's Silent Witness and ITV's The Larkins are both edited here.

There will be a private screening of Strange Waters at Ventnor Arts Club on 18th February and the film will be released later in the year, after the festival circuit has completed.

Watch the trailer for Strange Waters at <u>https://vimeo.com/669557328</u> Visit www.strangewaters.co.uk or email hello@9ofcups.co.uk / Contact: Rowena Amos – 07967 389931