

# FRANCES "FRANKI" KROON

2nd Year MFA in Cinematography  
Funding Proposal

American Film Institute Conservatory  
Class of 2018





## WHO AM I?

I am a 28-year-old female South African Cinematographer currently studying at the American Film Institute (AFI) in Los Angeles.

I was born in the rural areas of South Africa, the Transkei, which was then considered an independent country - as my father was avoiding military conscription under the Apartheid regime. We later moved to London, England, in order to further avoid conscription. And we eventually returned to the newly-democratic South Africa in 1995.

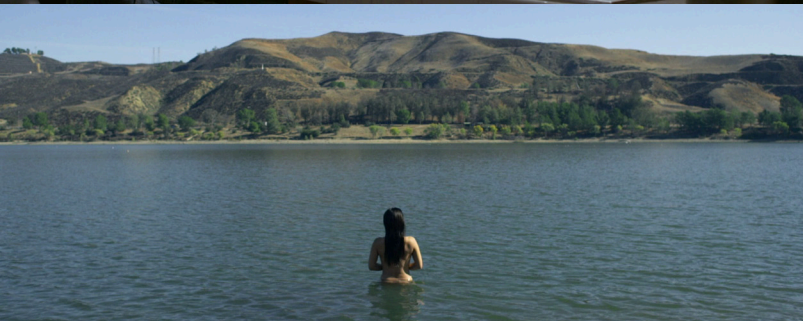
Through the multi-cultural experiences of my childhood, I formed a natural interest in people and a flare for languages. As an exchange student in Honduras, I learned to speak Spanish fluently. I have continued to explore places "off the beaten track" thus immersing myself in distinctive cultures and in here finding my inspiration.

## WHY CINEMATOGRAPHY ?

I began taking photographs as a teenager, and later went on to study at The South African School of Motion Picture Medium and Live Performance (AFDA). Majoring in Cinematography, I fell in love with the ability of images to communicate the human experience without the need for words.

Framegrabs from my visual MOS on 35mm MBOMVU selected to screen at the visual showcase at AFI 2016 alongside second year work.





## WHAT HAVE I DONE?

After graduating from AFDA in 2010, I worked as a camera assistant and Digital Imaging Technician (DIT) on a range of projects from feature films including *SAFE HOUSE* (2012) and *MAD MAX FURY ROAD* (2015) to documentaries such as the award winning *MANDELA: THE MYTH AND ME* (2013). This time as a technician was invaluable as I was given the chance to learn from a variety of local and international camera crews and cinematographers.

View my previous work here: [www.franceskroon.com](http://www.franceskroon.com)

View my IMDB here: <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm7170225>

## WHAT DO I WANT TO ACCOMPLISH?

My goal is shoot narrative features that generate a larger understanding of the human experience. Through bringing my own feminine perspective, and my own philosophies to my work, I hope to benefit cinematography, filmmaking, and society as a whole.

Eventually, I would like to return to take part in the new wave of South African filmmaking and tell the stories from my country. I am especially excited to contribute to the growth of our new democracy.

LEFT: Framegabs from my first short film at AFI MIZUTAMARI (*BODY OF WATER* in japanese)





## HOW STUDYING FURTHER ALLOWS ME TO REACH MY GOALS?

My work experience exposed me to the opportunities that may lie beyond the scope of knowledge and technology available to me in South Africa. This yearning to hone my craft and open myself up to a larger network motivated me to apply for a Masters Degree in Cinematography at The American Film Institute.

## WHY AFI?

AFI is home to many filmmaking legends such as David Lynch, Terrence Malick, Darren Aronofsky, and Matthew Libatique, to name but a few. Through intensive study and practical schooling, my first year allowed me to improve my technical and creative skills. However, and most surprisingly, AFI focuses on developing leadership skills. I am learning the benefits of a collaborative approach to the set, whereas the team is motivated to reach the common goal.

After being accepted to the Class of 2018, I am very fortunate to have achieved the funding through my own savings and with some help from others. And I am very happy with my investment so far.

LEFT: Frame grabs from my second AFI short film LINE, telling the father-Son story of an disenfranchised fishing community.



# STATEMENT OF NEED

At the moment I am embarking on my second year of AFI and am in need of help to make this a possibility!

## Program Fee

Program	MFA Cinematography Second Year
Thesis & Regular Tuition	\$ 57,096.00
Education & Production	
Materials Fee	\$ 3158.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 60,254.00</u>

## Scholarships

Applied & pending	\$ 10,000.00
<u>Total received</u>	<u>TBC</u>

## Financial Aid\*

Unable to access financial aid or loans as a foreign student in the US.

## Payment Schedule

1. First Payment Due (7/28/17)	\$ 30127.00
2. Second Payment Due (12/15/17)	\$ 30127.00

# WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

Apart from supporting young emerging talent and general good karma, The American Film Institute is a registered 5013C non-profit organization, so this means there are the tax benefits associated!

LEFT: Framegrabs from my third AFI short film, an adaptation of the Milan Kunera short story  
THE HITCHHIKING GAME.



I would love for you to be part of my journey!



#### CONTACT DETAILS

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#### REFERENCES

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