



ARROWS OF THE THUNDER DRAGON

OFFICIAL AUSTRALIAN ENTRY, FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM AWARD
88TH ACADEMY AWARDS®



I want to become an archer like grandfather.

Grandfather, how did you get that big scar on your arm?

Did you ever want to leave this place and go to the big city?

Brother and sister Kuenphen and Jamyang are raised in the traditional ways of Bhutanese life in a remote village in the 1970's by their mother and wise warrior grandfather Sangay. Both share a love of archery but it becomes increasingly apparent that strong willed Jamyang is expected to stay home, weave, cook, and get married. Their mother's sudden sickness gives Kuenphen the opportunity to explore the world outside the village while Jamyang must determine her own path and redefine her heritage.

PRODUCTION

Filmed entirely on location in the breathtaking Himalaya mountains, prior to completion only two international feature films had come out of Bhutan, both produced and crewed by Westerners. Some Bhutanese were left disgruntled that these crews came in, shot, and left without helping advance the skills of talented and enthusiastic locals. Greg Sneddon and Tshering Dorji became determined to use a 100% Bhutanese crew and cast so local film makers could for the first time participate in making a cinema quality film using modern technology. The production was as challenging as it was rewarding with many locals having gone on to embark on future projects. The result is a unique insight into this seldom documented, scarcely commercialised culture.

"In a country that has fought so hard to keep its independence, personally I have felt I had no independence or freedom to do what I want."



DIRECTOR

Film and television director, producer, writer, and composer **Greg Sneddon** has been a Fellow of the Australian Council for the Arts, an Honorary member of the Monash University Human Ethics Committee, and in 2001 was ordained as a Buddhist monk. He has worked on many major mini-series and television series as composer, as well as spending 20 years working regularly with one of Australia's most awarded stage companies; 'Somebody's Daughter Theatre'. Having lead classes in non-violence, anti-domestic violence, and Buddhist Philosophy, Greg's vision is culturally and ethically explorative while remaining intimately universal. Four trips to Bhutan between 2011-2012 empowered him to research, write, and shoot his debut cinema feature **Arrows of the Thunder Dragon**.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Shoot Format:	RED 4.5k Widescreen (2.40)
TRT:	1:30:49
Language:	Dzongka with English Subtitles & Narration
Grading & TCP:	Digital Pictures
Sound Post & 5.1 Mix:	Soundfirm

PRODUCER

Greg Sneddon & Tshering Dorji

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Leki Dorji

EDITOR

Jill Billcock

