



A light-hearted, sharp, fascinating and cynical self-portrait in which film maker Nienke Eijsink goes searching in Australia for her great title, Dr Chris from the popular TV series The Flying Doctors.

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FAN

Quest for a Childhood Idol

In the life of teenager Nienke Eijsink from Hengelo, everything revolves around the Australian medical soap *The Flying Doctors*, that was broadcast very successfully throughout the world in the mid-80s. Her idol was Chris Randall, played by the actress Liz Burch, who had to prove herself as a female doctor in male-dominated village life in the Australian outback. Nienke covered the walls of her teenage room with photos and posters of her idol, had her hair cut exactly like Dr Chris and wrote countless letters to her. One day she decided to go to Australia looking for the actress.

From her early childhood, Nienke felt akin to Dr Chris. While her contemporaries enthused about Patrick Swayze or *The New Kids on the Block*, Nienke's heart started beating faster when she saw this strong and independent woman who was both attractive and vulnerable. Her exciting fantasy TV life in the Australian outback contrasted starkly with her own life in the east of the Netherlands. Nienke wanted a mother like Chris Randall, she dreamt of intimate evenings in the local pub in the series. Her teenage adoration turned to infatuation and developed into a complete identification; she wanted to be like Dr Randall. In her fantasy world, she also first discovered her blossoming lesbian feelings.

In 2002, Nienke wanted to meet the actress Liz Burch in person. She travelled to Australia, where a lengthy quest took her to the woman who shaped her life. One morning she found herself standing shaking on her idol's doorstep. How would the actress react? Would Nienke be able to convince her of the importance of her visit?

FAN is a light-hearted, sharp, fascinating and cynical self-portrait. The film maker provides an intimate look at her life and does not back away from a very personal revelations. In this way she becomes very vulnerable yet strong. So, she may finally have become Chris Randall after all.

CREDITS

script & camera & director
editor

sound design & mix
assistant sound designer
sound facilities
music
grading
online and post production
animation

additional camera

director greenscreenscenes
voice over young Nienke
director & text adaptation voice over

text adaptation voice over

setdressing childhood room
production shooting
production
production NCRV

commissioning editor NCRV
producers

Nienke Eijsink
Chris Teerink
Nienke Eijsink
Mark Glynne
Arnoud Traa
Anthill Sound Design
Leo Anemaet
Jef Grosfeld
Loods, Lux & Lumen
il Luster Productions, Udo Prinsen
Nienke Eijsink
Salvatore Panatteri
Jane Shadbolt
Ben en Anke Eijsink
Harma Staal
Tessa Carati
Esther Kool
Chris Teerink
Susanne Helmer
Titia Bouwmeester
Marlies Grobbe
Edo Berger
Jasper Smit
Martine Nijhoff
Ine Poppe
Nicole Schuil
Nienke Eijsink
Eline van Wees
Yolande van der Blij
Ellen Imhof
Jelle Peter de Ruiter
Cécile van Eijk
Sherman de Jesus

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Liz Burch

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Anne en Frans van de Logt - Eijsink
Marieke en Rik Vaartjes - Eijsink

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The Flying Doctors footage, Crawford Productions

The Flying Doctors

Garry McDonald (APRA) & Lawrence Stone (APRA)
The Music Department (APRA)

I Kissed a Girl

Jill Sobule & Robin Eaton
Bug Music Limited, Warner Music Benelux

Superstar

Tegan Quin & Sara Quin
Bug Music Limited, Warner Music Benelux

Good Work

RosaLinde Koolstra

Rewind this Song, The Road is Calling

Lynette Frances

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