



'FOREST OF FOOLS' Fool's gold music video

A **Megalodon Studios** production. Produced by **DB Morgan**. Directed by **Joseph Allison**. Starring **Chloe Clennon, Mike Rushforth, Christina Jane** and **Forest of fools**. SFX makeup by **Tequila Carter** and **Jodie Holman**. Crewed by the Underdog Crew.

www.megalodonstudios.co.uk/underdog

Written intern participant feedback.

Sofia Bellomo (Thomas Lord Audley student)

This was the first time that I have ever had an opportunity like this. Film acting is very different to the acting and skills that I learn at school, considering that its more physical and involving. I didn't realize all of the hard work and the stress and improvisation that is needed just to film a 6 minute music video. It was really interesting to see how everyone works together as a team and to watch and participate in some of the filming process. I helped with organizing the set, treating people with what they needed, but especially with the opportunity to be behind the camera and capture some of the most incredible moments with the acting crew. I didn't think I would enjoy it considering I've always wanted to be the person in front of the camera. However, I did quite enjoy focusing on those key details that made all the difference in the video. I didn't really realize how cool it was to film until now. I also really liked the sense of community and family that was built between the crew in a matter of days. On day 1, I was extremely nervous, I didn't know anybody's names, I was scared of doing anything wrong or I was scared of being in the way of everyone's process. But by day 2, I felt way more confident in handling not only the camera but being around a lot of people. I'm not a necessarily loud person, but this experience really got me to speak up and talk to others comfortably. I loved watching all the adults bond throughout the days as well. It just feels really good to be part of something and actually feel like you belong somewhere. If I were acting at school, it would be more difficult considering that not everyone is very interested. But to be with the underdogs just felt like home to me and I am extremely grateful. I've always imagined that if I were going to act, it would be in theatre because I like performing in front of a lot of people, although film acting is now a possible idea for me to maybe get into in the future. I also learnt about the power of light and what it can do to impact the perspective and details within the actor. For most of the scenes we used a smoke machine to create a

beautiful warm, musical but yet creepy aesthetic. It also made the scenes look more mysterious and interesting for the viewers. On the first day we all worked on the modern theme which is pirates and made it look very lively and fun. On the second day, the scenes were very slow and spooky, creating a zombie like effect. Watching the makeup artist do and create the special effects makeup was outstanding. The amount of detail and work put into the faces of the cast was insane. It looked so real which makes me so excited to see the final product. I'm also really excited to see the bits that I filmed, including behind the scenes. I love watching behind the scene of movies, and just to be able to be in them for a music video that people from everywhere will see is absolutely crazy and I am really truly grateful for it. I got interviewed for the first time ever which was a bit scary but also exhilarating. I even did a whole group interview with all the young members of the crew where we all talked about our own experiences working with the camera and the crew etc.

I've had so much fun these past few days and I'm really looking forward to more opportunities like this in the future. I do now think that there could be a place for me in the acting industry.

Ellie Turner (The Tuskar Trust)

Working on the set of the Forest of Fools music video was an incredible experience. We were very grateful to be given such an opportunity. Dom Morgan was incredibly helpful in offering advice of what is needed to succeed in the industry. He guided us to understand what was required on set The experience was daunting at first as I hadn't ever done anything like it. Working with the crew and band has made me want to work in the industry even more. There are so many people and equipment to be coordinated on set that it can initially seem chaotic. It was brilliant to see it all come together. Both days were educational as Noah and I were able to experience set design and even were able to do camera work within the first couple hours of the day. I really enjoyed using such incredible cameras. The possibility of the footage I had taken being involved in the final video is really rewarding. I am interested in the editing side, Joe Allison showed me what he had edited so far and the software he uses which was incredible learning about how he had created a scene in the pool of his back garden which looked so realistic. Joe was the inspiration behind the shoot and it was very interesting to see him putting the plan together. The experience helped me gain knowledge in all areas of film making. I also had fun being involved in making the costume of the main female character to look like she had risen from the dead. For this I had to chop her dress up to make it look like rags but also cover her from head to toe in mud. It showed me the glamorous side of being on set, not. Joe gave Noah and I the opportunity of designing the background of the shot for the spinning compass. This was so useful as it gave us the insight on how to manipulate the background to work out what looked best on camera.

Overall, I had an amazing weekend and an experience of a lifetime thank you to everyone who made it possible.

Esme Appleyard (Thomas Lord Audley student)

I absolutely loved going to St Osyth, to the set of a large barge, to take part in the filming of an exciting new music video for 'Forest of Fools' . I was expecting to be fetching tea and coffee for the crew and then watching the entire time, but in fact, it was a very immersive experience, where if you asked to do something, you'd be allowed to do it. This is a great change to I guess what would normally happen in the industry and allowed us all to learn and benefit so much! I got to set some props up too – I really enjoyed getting to be creative about where to put some of the gold doubloons and candelabras, plus drinks and

plates, as if we were setting up for a real pirate dinner party. I also had the opportunity to learn about what to do with the camera and film some of the scenes, which I was very excited about, as they will be going into the music video. I like it very much that the director talked me through how to use all the cameras and the lenses, which allowed me to learn about several parts of the camera and how to use it, so I can utilise that in the future. I am very grateful to him for being so kind in letting me do that. Working behind the scenes has really helped to clarify my positive views about the film industry because I wasn't really sure what to expect on a video shoot. Yesterday I filmed scenes for the actual video. I liked how today, on the second day, I still got to do some filming work, but it was a bit different because it was with a really big camera and it was for the behind-the-scenes video. Today I also very much enjoyed learning a lot about how prosthetics are painted and how they are put on people. I got to mix the solutions that create brilliant cuts and wounds. I was surprised how quickly it dried so they had to use it really fast. I do take a lot of interest in SFX make-up all the time anyway, as I find it amazing how they can make something so fake look so real. I have some stuff at home to practice with and I've created scars with it before too, but it's so much harder than how the amazing make-up artists made it look. It was so kind of the team to clearly explain what they were doing to help us fully understand it all. I learned a lot from the make-up artist and now know the trick of how to remove the special make-up from my brushes! I really like that I get to see the inner workings of how things are done and this will help me a great deal in the future with my own filmmaking. The atmosphere was also really nice on set. It wasn't tense, but instead it felt very free. Everybody could express themselves if they wanted to express themselves. It seemed like the crew really cared for everyone too and didn't want people to do too much. They allowed for breaks so that people could relax for a bit because we were working on really hot days. The live band music was really cool too. Going forward I will always remember to be respectful to crew members when I make my own films - they work really hard and are very skilled in what they do. I have so much respect for them. I would really like to do some more camera filming - I really enjoyed using the camera - I make films on my phone or iPad at home and that was so much fancier and could do so much more!

Thank you so much for this experience. I will really treasure it for the rest of my life and will remember all the new things I have learned throughout my time on set in the future.

Eve Painter (The Tuskar Trust)

On the 21st of August 2022, I had the pleasure of being able to attend one of the dates for the shooting of a Forest of Fools music video. The experience, as a whole, was extremely positive for me, as everyone was not only very friendly, but also very eager to allow myself and my fellow underdog crew members a chance to experiment with various parts of the shooting process. Through this generosity, I was able to realise that my interest lies specifically with the filming aspect of the shoot, after being invited to use one of the larger, more advanced cameras. Whilst I was in charge of the video cameras, I had a cameraman with me the whole time, who was reassuring and mentoring me to ensure that I remained calm and captured some suitable footage. To my surprise, we were also told that the filming done by the underdog crew was to actually be used in the final music video, which obviously was very exciting for all of us.

All of the underdog crew also took it in turns to interview each other, as well as a few of the other people who were present at the shoot, like some of the musicians. Admittedly, interviewing is not my forte, so I am pleased that I was able to exercise this skill, and coming away from it, I felt more confident with being interviewed and conducting an interview.

I was also permitted to use someone's photo camera and experimented with different shots of the other people who were also there. In particular, I took quite a lot of photos of the prosthetics being put on the band members, which was quite interesting as it was done on the top level of the barge, so I had to change some of the settings on the camera, so it better suited the light level, thus creating improved quality images.

Another part of the process was organising the set, which was located in a boatyard on a barge. We had to set up a long, wooden table so it matched what it looked like the day before in order to maintain

continuity throughout the music video. My favourite part of setting up was the props, as I appreciated the effort and detail that was put into creating them, like the bottles that had been decorated in sand and other sea related things, like a rubber octopus.

Overall, I am very grateful to have been able to have had this opportunity and would like to say a massive thank you to everyone involved in making this all possible. I had a spectacular time and came away from it with a much better understanding of what goes into the production of a shoot, and hopefully I'll be able to experience something like this again.

Thanks again, Dom!

Daniil Furzenko (Ukrainian refugee)

The filming of the music video for the band "Forest of fools" lasted two days of filming. When I saw the set for the first time, I was surprised by the huge amount of equipment that I personally was lucky enough to hold in my hands and even work a little with some of them. Rodney introduced us to an assistant director who gave me the interesting and responsible task of filming the backstage. Then the long process of making up the actors began. My main task was to capture on camera as many interesting moments of preparation and individual aspects of the work of each team member as possible. The set was a rented barge with a large hold, stylized as pirates and sailors. The film crew organized a space near the wall and set up musical equipment there, then the "Forest of Fools" boy band began to perform their song 3 times in a row so that the director and the second cameraman could film it from different angles. Then some trainees (including me) were given the opportunity to shoot a couple of shots for the video, which was a very useful and important experience for all the filmmaking students present there, and especially for me. In total, the first day of filming took about 7 hours of time, the musical part of the video and several secondary intermediate shots were filmed. The second day of filming began with the fact that all the members of the musical group "Forest of Fools" were made up in zombies. Especially, I would like to express my admiration for the work of makeup artists, two women almost non-stop wielded brushes so that all members of the group looked believable in their images. Then the shooting began at the same angles as on the first day, except that many details were changed to make the picture natural and match the images. For example, the lead singer of the group in the make-up of a dead man was given a live fish instead of a microphone. The second day of filming ended a little earlier, as all members of the group worked smoothly and quickly. Everyone sincerely rejoiced at the end of filming and the fact that together they produced a potentially high-quality and professional film product.

I think that I was very lucky to plunge into the atmosphere of professional filming, to be, albeit for a while, part of the film crew where I learned how to work with professional equipment, met the director, made many useful contacts, saw filmmaking from the inside. Thanks to everyone who participated in the filming for this wonderful opportunity.

Sophie Wright (The Tuskar Trust)

I recently was a part of the underdog crew with Megalodon Studios on set for the forest of fools' music video, Fools Gold. I found the entire experience to be very insightful and frankly a huge boost in confidence and my own capabilities of joining the industry. Leading up to the shoot I was nervous. I found myself wondering if I was good enough to be on set or if I would be in the way. However, when I got on set, I was met with the open arms of the crew and band. The overwhelming positivity and enthusiasm of the crew instantly put my anxieties to bed. I was extremely impressed with how organised and smoothly the shoot went, everything happened as if by clockwork thanks to the fantastic teamwork of the crew and band. Whilst on set I was trusted with high quality and expensive equipment. Something I found particularly useful was when I was given a camera to take BTS photos with. Before

this I had only used my own phone and an Olympus Trip 35, so using a more advanced piece of equipment was great as I got shown by an expert how to control light with the device meaning if I get to use anything like it again, I'll have my wits about me. I was also trusted to shoot parts of the music video and BTS video along with the interviews on an expensive industry standard cameras. It was slightly daunting but by the end of the day I felt more and more comfortable around such equipment and again my confidence in myself and making a future impact on the industry grew. Being on set taught me to use my intuition and I feel as though thanks to this experience, on future jobs I will be able to perform to the best of my capabilities.



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ALL CONTACT:

DB Morgan

db@megalodonstudios.co.uk

07950 593982