



A journey into the stories and spectacular landscapes of the
Daly River region in the north-west of the Northern Territory.

Tales from the Daly

NAUIYU NAMBIYU



SYNOPSIS

ONE PARAGRAPH SYNOPSIS

A cinematic journey into the stories and landscape of the Daly River Region. The viewer is given a vision of the power and beauty the Monsoons bring to the country. The people are one with country and are also aware of the dangers that lurk. Wungung, a young boy out hunting with his grandparents does not listen to their advice, his fate is sealed when he disturbs a little grey spirit.



ONE PAGE SYNOPSIS

TALES FROM THE DALY is a cinematic journey into the lives and country of the traditional owners who call this region home.

The stories told by their old people still thrive and are told to children today.

During the months of October to May the area is lashed with Monsoonal storms which bring the landscape and rivers to life. Legend says it is the Sugar Glider travelling across the sky mischievously moving the clouds around, which brings the rains. The beauty and power of these storms take the audience to the heart of the landscape.

But amongst this beauty lies danger. This is told to children in the form of stories from long ago. They are told to the children to teach them respect for the bush and to be wary of its dangers.

The Wabuymem is one of these stories. The Wabuymem is a little grey spirit that lives in the Banyan Tree. It lays in wait for curious children. It stalks them and lures them away from their families into the Banyan Tree to never be seen again.



CREDITS

DirectorSTEVEN McGREGOR
Photography.....ALLAN COLLINS ACS
EditorHAIG STEWART
ComposerGEORGE PAPANICOLAOU
Sound Designer.....OZEDIT
Sound RecordistSTEVEN McGREGOR
NarratorMIRIAM-ROSE UNGUNMERR BAUMANN
TranslatorMARTINA PARRY
Aboriginal Interpreter Service
Additional SoundCOLIN RICHARDS
Additional CameraMURRAY LUI
Production Assistant.....AMY McGREGOR
Community Liaison.....PATRICIA MARRFURA McTAGGART
Post FacilitiesCAAMA PRODUCTIONS
GradeTHE LAB SYDNEY
Series Producer.....TANYA FRASER
Executive Producer.....RAY LILLIS

Featuring **ADAM SAMBANO** (as Wungung), **PATRICIA MARRFURA McTAGGART**,
CHRISTINA YAMBEING and **PETER MARTIN**

ISAN 0000-0002-8690-0002-2-0000-0000-V (Nganampa Version)
ISAN 0000-0002-8690-0002-2-0000-0001-T (International Version)

2010 | 20 mins | Colour | Ngen'giwumirri [English subtitles] | DigiBeta 16:9

A CAAMA Production for Imparja TV, in the Nganampa Anwernekenhe series. Principal investor: Screen Australia.





THE FILMMAKERS

Director - STEVEN MCGREGOR

Steven McGregor is a highly experienced and awarded producer, writer and director of documentaries and short films. In addition to the many documentaries that he has directed as part of the Nganampa Series (**Apetheka, Willaberta Jack** and others), he has directed the award-winning documentary **My Brother Vinnie** plus the recent 3 part series for the ABC **In a League of their Own** about the Tiwi Island Bombers.

I have been making films in the Daly River Region of the Northern Territory for 15 years. I have a long association with the region through my wife, who comes from the area. The people are very strong and proud of their culture and country, this is evident in their willingness to engage with the filmmaking process.

This film looks at the power of the wet season and a Dreamtime story. The wet season of the Top End brings great changes to the landscape and I wanted to capture the power and beauty of these storms. To capture these Monsoonal storms required us to build shelters and “rain coats” for the camera. I would like to say these were elaborate constructions but they weren’t. Our shelter was a KD frame that we moved around with us, to the great amusement of the community who thought we were mad shuffling about in the middle of a thunderstorm. Our raincoat for the camera consisted of a towel and tarpaulin secured with alligator clips, not the most sophisticated apparel but effective. This allowed us to get amongst the storms, which is evident in what we captured. The storms are both power and beauty yet there is a serene gentleness when the country absorbs the life they bring.

Our Dreamtime story is one I had heard many times during my visits. It is the story of the Wabuymem, a little grey spirit that lives in the Banyan Tree. The old people say that it calls out to children, follows them and captures them, hiding them in the Banyan Tree forever. It is a story told to children to stay close when out bush and not to wander off. This is a dramatic telling of the story. The actors are all from Daly River and have never acted before. Although a little bit shame at first to their credit they embraced the opportunity to be a part of this story. As you watch the film I think you will agree they give excellent performances, even surprising themselves.

I feel privileged to be given permission to tell these stories and I hope to continue to tell stories from this region in the future.

Executive Producer - Ray Lillis

Ray Lillis is a highly experienced television producer and writer.

When this story was first mooted we imagined a campfire on a warm night as the setting but it was not to be. Circumstances contrived to put director, Steven McGregor, and cinematographer Allan Collins into the middle of the wet season - a blessing in disguise. Allan’s beautiful photography captures the essence of the monsoon season in a remote community and Steven’s retelling of the Waybumem story gains wonderful power from the vibrant landscape. The three performers are due a special congratulations as they skillfully embody the dreamtime story only ever passed on in words previously.



PHOTOS



THE DALY RIVER, NT



ON THE BANKS OF THE DALY RIVER, NT



GRANDFATHER POINTS AT THE BANYAN TREE



WUNGUNG, ADAM SAMBANO



THE DALY RIVER, NT



WUNGUNG, ADAM SAMBANO



WUNGUNG & THE BANYAN TREE



THE DALY RIVER, NT



CAAMA PRODUCTIONS

CAAMA Productions is located in Alice Springs, Central Australia, is part of the CAAMA media group and is the largest Indigenous production house in the country. Our primary purpose is to represent Indigenous people, culture and language in film and television.



Established by the CAAMA Group in 1988, **CAAMA Productions** is now 22 years old. Over the years the company has established a vast knowledge and understanding of the Indigenous film making industry.

CAAMA Productions continues to focus on the important role of maintaining, documenting and preserving Indigenous culture, language and histories and our unique slate of productions reflects this ongoing commitment.

CAAMA Productions was the recipient of the 2005 Film Australia Stanley Hawes Award for Outstanding Contribution to Australian Documentary.

NGANAMPA ANWERNEKENHE

Nganampa Anwernekenhe is a combination of a Pitjantjatjara/Warlpiri word (Nganampa) and Arrernte word (Anwernekenhe) both meaning 'ours': our language, our culture and our stories.

Produced by **CAAMA Productions** since 1988 the Nganampa Anwernekenhe series is one of Australia's longest running documentary series, and is produced to provide remote communities and urban language based speakers with television programming in touch with their own cultural and language identity.

