

FAST HORSE

LINK TO FILM: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3gssNjmEz5M>

FAST HORSE

One jockey. Three laps. 400 years of skill.

LOGLINE

FAST HORSE follows the return of the Blackfoot bareback horseracing tradition in a new form: the Indian Relay. Siksika horseman **Allison RedCrow** struggles to build a team with second-hand races and a new jockey, **Cody BigTobacco** to take on the best riders in the Blackfoot Confederacy at the Calgary Stampede.

SYNOPSIS

FAST HORSE is an intimate *verité* visit to a fascinating and little-known world: the dangerous and high-stakes game of Indian Relay.

In Blackfoot country, they call the Indian Relay “North America’s original extreme sport”. Jockeys bareback gallop their horses around a track, jumping off one and on to another in a chaotic melee of horses and handlers at “the exchange”. Accidents happen. Just finishing a race demands masterful skill. And courage.

Siksika horseman Allison RedCrow dreams of bringing a team to the “greatest outdoor show on Earth” – the Calgary Stampede. This is how he and his people can show the world that their unparalleled skill on horseback remains intact.

Our cameras follow Allison and his new jockey, Cody BigTobacco, over the course of a year, as they assemble a team of horses, train them for the relay race, and finally make their debut at the Calgary Stampede. Their team, Old Sun, will face the best riders in the Confederacy, many of them veteran competitors from Montana.

FAST HORSE puts the audience on the back of a galloping horse, an exhilarating POV experience that captures the thrill and risk of this white-knuckle sport. But our cameras also capture in observational style the touching bond Cody and Allison have with their horses. We witness with intimate proximity the committed effort these majestic animals demand from their riders and handlers. We see the horses accept their role, and learn the complex movements of the race. And through this process, we come to understand and respect the skills of horsemanship still intact and passed down.

With a heart-pumping climax, we experience the final race at the Calgary Stampede from Cody’s own perspective. And just as promised, we learn just how unpredictable and dangerous the Indian Relay can be.

FAST HORSE

Key Cast • Crew Bios

ALLISON REDCROW

CODY BIGTOBACCO

Director **ALEXANDRA LAZAROWICH** is a Cree filmmaker whose work has screened at film festivals around the world. Originally from Slave Lake, Alberta Canada - Alexandra has a passion for telling stories from Alberta.

Producer **NIOBE THOMPSON** is well known in Canada and abroad for his visually arresting and playfully intelligent science and nature, human-interest, and environmental documentaries. Raised in the northern Alberta Cree community of Wabasca, Niobe is the founder of Edmonton production company Handful of Films.

Editor **SARAH TAYLOR** is an award winning Editor with 16 years of experience. Her recent credits include the sketch comedy series Caution: May Contain Nuts and the series Delmer & Marta airing on APTN, Cowboy Urbain airing on UNIStv, the comedy series Tiny Plastic airing on Super Channel and UpRooted - The Oyster Harvest airing on The Cooking Channel US and Gusto. Her documentary credits include The Harder I Fight II and Rare Mettle airing on TELUS Optik Local, The Match a short documentary for bravoFACTUAL, Ms. Scientist, Employment Matters and Employment Matters Too airing on CBC and the documentary series Star Trails, Costal Revival and Dino Trails airing on TELUS Optik Local. Sarah has also collaborated with filmmakers in the Arts sector to create a number of short films: Voila!, Maude Mary and the Titanic, Night Walk, The Suburbanight, Pay to Stay, and the documentary feature, Brothers in the Buddha.

Sarah is a Directors Guild of Canada (DGC) member, on the board of directors for the Canadian Cinema Editors (CCE) and is the host of the CCE podcast The Editor's Cut.

Music Composer **JONATHAN KAWCHUK** is an award-winning composer from Alberta. He has scored the feature films, Memento Mori (National Film Board of Canada), for which he was nominated for a 2017 Alberta Film and Television Award in the category of Best Original Musical Score (Non-fiction Over 30 Minutes), and Clara (Serendipity Point Films), as well as the Norwegian documentary web series, Fra Ungdommen, and a video feature for Vogue Italia and Dior. Kawchuk has experience writing internationally for multiple short films, theatre projects and sound installations. As a technician, he worked on albums for Nico Muhly and Ben Frost, and as an assistant sound tech for the Philip Glass Ensemble on Music in 12 Parts, in London. He is an alumni of the Canadian Film Centre's Slight Family Music Residency.

DARON DONAHUE is one of Canada's most decorated documentary cinematographers, the recipient of both Gemini and Canadian Screen Awards for *The Great Human Odyssey* (2015) and *Code Breakers* (2011), as well as three Alberta Film Awards for *The Perfect Runner* (2012), *Code Breakers* (2011) and *Inuit Odyssey* (2009). Daron has over thirty years of experience as an expedition cinematographer, with past shoots in Afghanistan, Siberia, the Arabian Desert, the Kalahari, Papua New Guinea, Easter Island, Arctic Canada, and many other locations. He is currently the Director of

Press Kit
Contact: alex.lazarowich@gmail.com
Phone: 1-347-294-9187
Handful of Films

Photographer for the 3-part series *Equus – Story of the Horse*. Daron is a member of the Métis Nation of Alberta.

AARON MUNSON has travelled to 25 countries on five continents as one of our senior cinematographers, with Director of Cinematography credits for *The Great Human Odyssey*, *Equus – Story of the Horse*, *Boy Nomad*, *Fast Horse*, and *Vital Bonds*. One of Canada's most experienced expedition cinematographers, aAron is a multimedia artist, and is his personal installation *Isachsen* is currently in gallery exhibition. His work has taken him from his personal studio, to war zones, high-Arctic weather stations, reindeer nomad camps in Siberia, and the Arabian Desert. aAron's projects tackle extreme human experiences, in documentary and dramatic form.



Press Kit
Contact: alex.lazarowich@gmail.com
Phone: 1-347-294-9187
Handful of Films

FAST HORSE

CREDITS

In loving memory of Thomas Many Guns

Starring

OLD SUN INDIAN RELAY TEAM

Allison RedCrow
Cody Big Tobacco
Mark Big Tobacco
Racey RedCrow

Directed by

Alexandra Lazarowich

Produced by

Niobe Thompson

Edited by

Sarah Taylor

Cinematography by

aAron Munson
Daron Donahue
Sergio Olivares
Craigery Dennis

Production Manager

Sandra Tober

Assistant Editor

Krystal Moss

Original Music by

Jonathan Kawchuk

Guitar

Robert Grieve

Music Mix

Dennis Patterson

Stockfootage

Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Ltd.

Additional Music by

Blackfoot Crossing Singers

Radford Blackrider
James Blackrider
Herman Yellow Old Woman

Press Kit
Contact: alex.lazarowich@gmail.com
Phone: 1-347-294-9187
Handful of Films

Randy Doore
Layne Healy
Ardell Scout

Sound Recordists
Philip Dransfeld
Jamie Kidd
Alex Mitchell

Sound Design & Mix
Johnny Blerot

Color Correction
Zachary Cox

Translation by
Daphne Maistoina

Indian Relay Teams Also Featured
Team Carlson
Lone Wolf
Star School

Special Thanks
Alison RedCrow and Family
Jerry Holdbrook
Jim and Carol Mason
Steve McDonough
Maggie Scofield
Carol Murray
Thyrone Powderface
Tyrone Potts
Okan Warriors
Travis Mcguire
Tyler Leather
Calgary Stampede
Siksika Nation

Produced with the Assistance of the Government of Alberta, Alberta Media Fund

Produced with the Participation of the Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

Produced in Association with CBC
General Manger, Programming – Sally Catto
Executive Director Unscripted Content - Jennifer Dettman
Senior Director, Documentary - Sandra Kleinfeld
Director of Production, Unscripted Content - Alexandra Lane Executive in Charge of
Production,
CBC Docs - Lesley Birchard

A Handful of Films production