



## PRESS KIT

### TAGLINE

**Clement Meadmore** is about an Australian sculptor's search for his place in the international world of art, which thrust him into the exciting arts scene of 1960's New York.

### Short Info

Clement Meadmore is about an Australian sculptor's search for his place in the international world of art. He stood apart by introducing the curve into his sculpture, establishing himself in the New York art scene.

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### Short Synopsis(146 words)

Clement Meadmore is considered one of this Australia's and America's most significant modernist sculptors and public artists. He gravitated to the New York arts scene in the 1960's at a time when many Australian artists saw London as the creative international hub, but found the going was tough. His exclusion from a ground-breaking exhibition of 1966 was a hard pill to swallow. Riled by the experience he pushed his ideas beyond the conventions of Minimalist practice, predominant at the time. He stood apart by introducing the curve into his sculpture. His work is highly original, using heavy materials to create an unexpected and strangely organic feel; it does not fit easily into a prescribed definition of any particular art movement. Meadmore's professional life is juxtaposed with references to his personal life to give a more fully rounded and engaging representation of the artist and his work.

## Synopsis(250 words)

Clement Meadmore has been described as Australia's greatest modernist sculptor, yet he left Australia in 1963, at the age of 34 for New York, returning only twice in 45 years. Meadmore left behind a body of sculpture installed across the US and in Japan as well as a scarce number of outstanding public pieces in Australia.

The film's narrative is a search, which reflects Meadmore's own, through the contradictory atmosphere of 50's Melbourne – the provincialism of Melbourne's fine art world grating against the young creative energy of the Galley A team – of which he was a guiding influence. He had a brief spell in Sydney, but it was only the challenging and exciting arts scene of 1960's New York that really captured his attention.

Meadmore was searching for what was missing. A life Australia could not offer at the time. He left his first wife and son to pursue his career. His artistic affinities subscribed to the appeal of a singular, heroic artist.

When he arrived in New York the going was tough. His exclusion from a ground-breaking exhibition of 1966 was a hard pill to swallow. Riled by the experience he pushed his ideas beyond the conventions of Minimalist practice, predominant at the time. He stood apart by introducing the curve into his sculpture.

It was a break through which gave his sculpture uniqueness in a crowded field.

**Clement Meadmore** seeks to reclaim and reinstate Meadmore as one of Australia's most significant sculptors.

## Director's Statement Amanda King

During the production of our documentary, *A Thousand Different Angles* about the highly regarded Melbourne sculptor, Inge King, who is also my aunt, she told the intriguing story about the commission of a large sculpture in Melbourne. The tender was won by Clement Meadmore whose magnificent sculpture, *Awakening* became an iconic public work in his home city. The large Corten steel hard edged sculpture has a striking organic quality and it was this seeming contradiction which peaked my interest in his sculpture. That's how the journey began; it has taken us across three continents – Australia, Japan and the United States – where Meadmore's sculptures are located. Despite his belief that he wasn't embraced by the art establishment in New York his work is internationally acclaimed. We have produced the film to highlight reclaim and reinstate Meadmore as one of this Australia's most significant sculptors, as well as to provide an insight to the man who created them.

## Cast & Crew

**New York** - Eric Gibson, Lorie Segal, Felicitas Wetters, Peter Stroud, Peter Versteeg, Peter Rose, the late Horst Liepolt, Dan Levinson, Loren Schoenberg

**Australia** - Bruce Beresford, John Olsen, Morris Lurie, Virginia Spate, Rosalind Meadmore, the late Roger Meadmore, the late Ion Nicolades, Nanette Carter, Peter Atkins, Shirley Kral, David Muir, Annie Gillison, Charles Reddington, Nevill Sherburn, Shirley Shackleton, Anna Schwartz

**Japan** - Takaki Tanaka

## **Key Personnel**

Director/Editor: Amanda King  
Co-Producers: Fabio Cavadini  
Screenwriter: Amanda King  
Director of Photography: Fabio Cavadini  
Graphic Designer: Miriana Marusic  
Sound Designer: Anthony Marsh

## **Donors**

Australia Japan Foundation  
Besen Family Foundation  
Dame Elisabeth Murdoch  
And individual donors

Development funding assistance from Screen Australia

## **Budget**

AU 75000

## **Clement Meadmore TRAILER**

<https://vimeo.com/337648236>

## **World Premiere**

Fine Arts Fine Festival FAFF 2020, Venice LA USA

## **Technical Information**

Shot on various 16mm film and various digital cameras Canon200C  
Master: ProRes422  
Duration: 59 minutes

## **Contact Details**

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