

Monsoon Tide

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Interview Transcript – Elsa Evripidou

Elsa Evripidou I think there was always a concern about raising enough money to shoot it properly but, with all the advances in cameras with high definition, not needing enormous crew it suddenly became possible and, he said one day to me “Right – I think we’re going to go for it, what do you say?” and I said “Alright then, this is, this is the time, this is what we’ve been waiting for” and, from that point it all happened very quickly once the decision had been made. And, then really, the last few months have been really full on, with filming in India and then an extra shoot in Spain sort of culminating in this final day of shooting... today!

It’s a film that works on so many different levels and I think maybe different audiences will find different things in it. I mean, there is, to a certain extent there, it’s a mystery film, a young woman going to India and she’s uncovering the mystery of what happened to her mother, her mother’s death, she’s trying to explain it, and there are elements of mystery and I don’t know, police investigations and so forth, but I think it’s much more about, discovering yourself but also there are, there’s a lot in it about how things live on through your... your own traits may live on through your children and, you know, certain – I think Nick has sort of drawn on the, motif of the wave of the sort of natural rhythm of life and things occurring again in the future and the sea for example bringing both terrible things in terms of the tsunami which is the starting point of the, of the film but then chakara – Nick may have explained – is actually a natural phenomenon in the sea that happens in southern India where the sea is incredibly calm and full of fish and it’s the time of plenty where you can practically put your hand into the sea and pull out a fish and so you have the almost the extremes so it’s, it’s about life, really, but in a very sort of beautiful exotic setting in India, I think a lot of people will be wowed by the look of the film as well.

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Interview Transcript – Elsa Evripidou (continued)

Elsa Evripidou One thing that I think that may be, um, in sort of the process of making the film, it has been very collaborative and a lot of the sort of actors have commented on the fact that they have been able to put suggestions in and, Nick has, has listened and sort of gone, you know, where they have said “This doesn’t feel natural for my character” or “How about playing it this way?”, um, they have sometimes, you know, not always, but they will sometimes make changes like that and so it feels like a very collective effort. It’s not just one... one person’s vision, and I think if you have a good screenplay and then you’ve got really good actors on board with that and then they can bring something extra, it can sort of elevate the whole thing as long as you have a sort of clear vision of what you want at the end but I think that that is really, um, helped. Also the director of photography has, has had very good ideas about how he sees it being filmed and using light and things, and sort of natural features to accentuate what’s already in the script and he’s really brought that in as well so it’s, it’s become more than the sum of its parts.

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