

THE FISHERMEN

A drama for the times



based on the Award Winning
BBC radio play "the Fisherman"

Janet Morrison 2018

Why?

LATOYA • 17

CHAD • 14

MARIE • 20

TANYA • 18

ALETHIA • 16

TRICIA • 18

SHANTI • 20

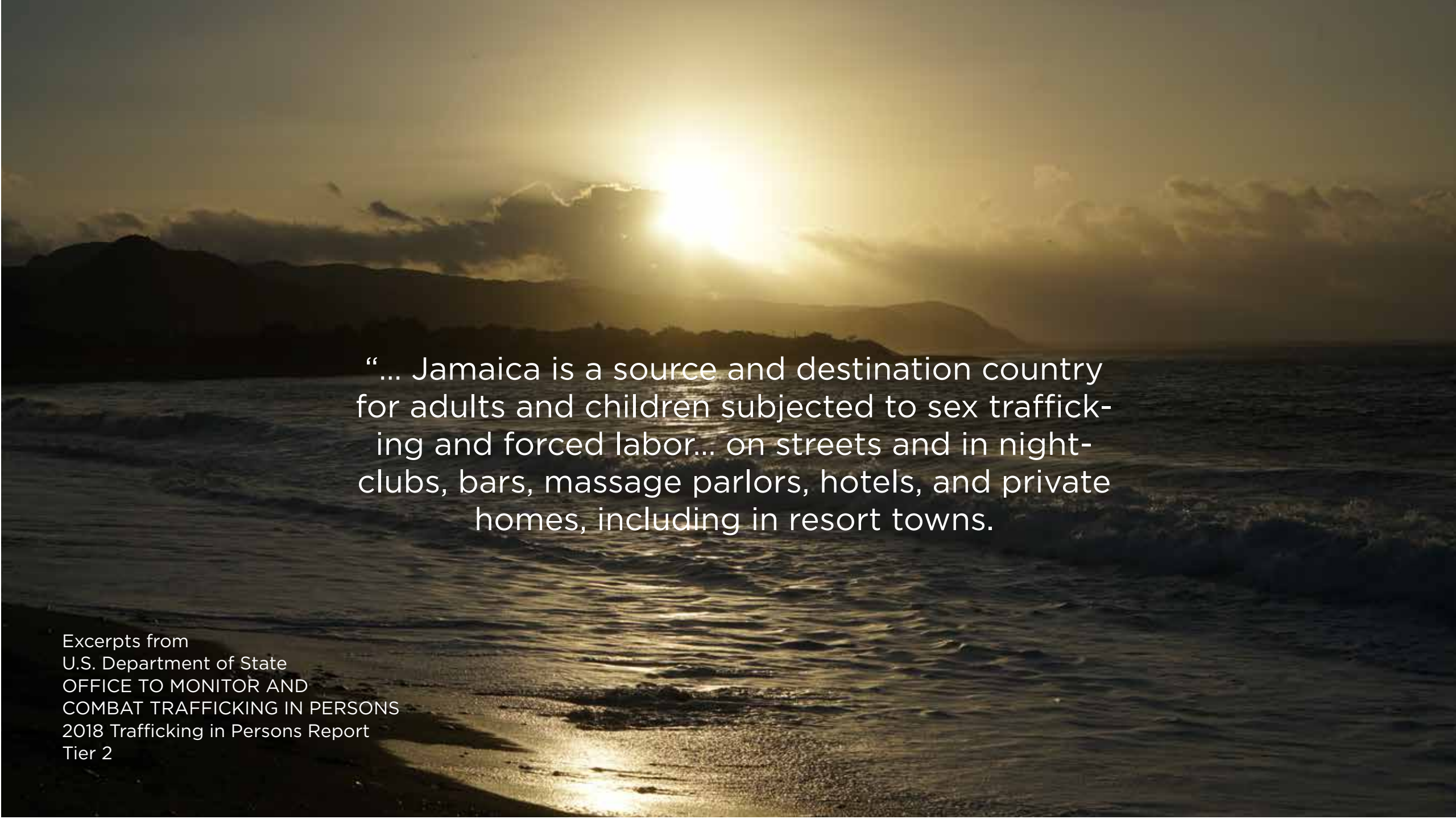
TONI • 17

Missing



8 confirmed victims of human trafficking in Jamaica in 2018.

- To some, the individual numbers seem too small to matter. But the numbers don't tell the whole story.
- Many children are reported missing in Jamaica; some subjected to forced labor or sex trafficking.
- Foreign nationals are subjected to forced labor in Jamaica and aboard foreign-flagged fishing vessels operating in Jamaican waters.
- NGOs and other local observers report child sex tourism is a problem in Jamaica's resort areas.

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the water. The beach is in the foreground, and mountains are visible in the background under a cloudy sky.

“... Jamaica is a source and destination country for adults and children subjected to sex trafficking and forced labor... on streets and in nightclubs, bars, massage parlors, hotels, and private homes, including in resort towns.

Excerpts from
U.S. Department of State
OFFICE TO MONITOR AND
COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS
2018 Trafficking in Persons Report
Tier 2

Telling the Story

Logline:

A feisty teenager from a Jamaican fishing village is kidnapped and sold into sex slavery by a nexus of local and international traffickers from whom she escapes and mobilises her community to rediscover its soul.

Genre:

Current Drama with a powerful message



Theme

This is a hard story, one that will challenge the viewer because all of us, have chosen to remain silent at one time or the other, for whatever reason, to protect ourselves or someone else. But to choose silence irrespective of the cost, often betrays the best in us.

The story is based on several true events taken from a world, severely flawed, where young women , some going willingly for a better life, are traded and used as sex slaves .

Human trafficking is not a Jamaican story it is an international story. In the Fishermen we add our strong, Jamaican/Caribbean perspective to break the silence around this horrible crime

Synopsis

NEILA, a feisty, talented 16 year old lives with her brother **JEVAUGHN**, 18, and her grandparents, in Little End, a tightly knit fishing village on the picturesque north coast of Jamaica.

Raised in the city, Neila chafes at country life and longs for the love of her absentee mother, who resides in a US jail but who the children have been told is ostensibly seeking a better life for them overseas. Neila feels the void left by her mother and rebels at every turn, finding solace in her singing.

She steals out to go to an audition at a hotel and is kidnapped on her way home by traffickers under orders from their wily Dominican boss **NICO**, who sends her into high end prostitution on a heavily guarded island, where other girls like herself are held.

A failed attempt to rescue her results in her grandfather's death which she learns of by chance a month later. The trauma is too much for her and she decides to end her life, somersaulting into the dark waters from one of her clients boats.

But Neila feels the presence of her beloved grandfather and decides to swim for her life, eventually being rescued by fishermen.

Once on land, Neila's courage infuses the community with a new determination to combat the horrific stain which they have pretended didn't exist. In particular, her grandfather's protégé **TALL MAN**, who has been involved peripherally in transporting prostitutes to the fishermen cays, is racked with guilt and spurned by his lover **DAHLIA**, the community shopkeeper. As Neila recreates the images of her kidnappers and the location of the island with the help of

her brother's artistic skills, the community join in the hunt for Nico and his crew. The silence is finally broken.

Formerly complicit, the fishermen rise to the occasion with Tall Man at the helm. Their cunning and skills at sea result in a successful dramatic assault on the island to free the girls and capture the cruel Nico.

For Neila, it brings closure, as the real reason why she had to overcome her trauma and be brave was the girls, girls just like her, now at last also free.

continued

Characters



Neila
the School Girl



Grammy
Neila's
Grandmother



Grampy
Neila's
Grandfather
The Fisherman



Dahlia
Tall Man's
Girlfriend &
Community
Mouthpiece



Tall Man
Grampy's
Proteg 



NICO
The Dominican
Trafficker

the locale

from the pastoral...



...to the pristine.



.....the gritty life on the cays to the seedy subculture of sex tourism.

With the veneer of beauty hiding the underside of horrific crimes “The Fishermen” locations in Jamaica are a filmmakers dream making it diverse, real and visually enthralling for audiences.



Tone



Audiences

In the Me Too environment, we see the Fishermen as having worldwide appeal with our primary audience being “cause driven” women who can relate to and understand the developing world in Africa, Asia and South America.

College students of both sexes will also find the theme and youthful protagonist appealing.

We envision a Festival release, North and South followed by Theatrical or Streaming as per the advice of our sales agent.



What are our Objectives?

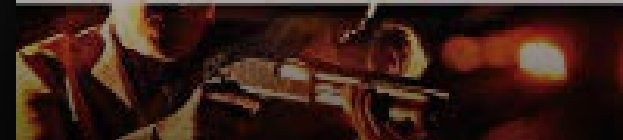
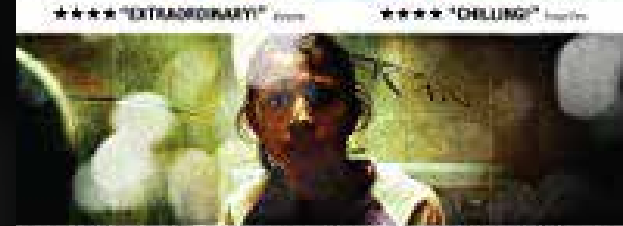
- ✓ CO-PRODUCTION
- ✓ FINANCING

- ✓ **Link with a Producing partner who can** attract attachments of Director, DOP, Cast and Execs who, along with the Producers understand the importance of authenticity needed that will make it unique to the genre.
- ✓ Attract the attention of Grant Financiers as the Fisherman has a message that will appeal to them even, more so, as it is set outside of the Developed World. The subject matter will engage celebrities for whom Human Trafficking is an issue. We will use this leverage to attract further financing.

Although an Artistic film, this is a commercially viable 'piece because it makes such a strong global call



Comps



	TRAFFIK	PRICELESS	LONDON TO BRIGHTON
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Budget

\$4,000,000

£500,000

Opening W/end

\$3,941,338

\$707,021

\$6,700

Gross US & Canada

\$9,186,156

\$1,499,605

\$6,700

Gross (World)

\$9,515,914

\$1,499,605

\$499,681

Screenwriter



Janet Morrison is a BBC Award winning radio playwright (The Fisherman, 2012) JAFTA Propella filmmaker, (Silent Hearts, 2016 and Lignum Vitae Award winner for children’s literature 2016 (A Different Me, A Better You). A former Advertising Executive, she lives in Jamaica where she has worked as a Writer, Film, Video, and Radio Producer, and Behaviour Change Communication Specialist over the past 40 years.

Janet holds a Masters Degree in Communication for Social and Behaviour Change, 2005 (with Distinction) from the University of the West Indies and was one of the first cohort of Radio and TV graduates of the Degree programme (1974) at Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada.

She has also worked as a Casting Director on several films including “COOL RUNNINGS” (1993) directed by Jon Turteltaub; Producer Dawn Steel for Disney Productions, The Lunatic (1991), independent film, directed by Lol Crème, Island Films and DANCEHALL QUEEN (1997) Directed by Rick Elgood and Don Letts.

Currently she is focused on developing “The Fishermen”, as well as two TV dramatic series “Don’t Stop the Music and “Johnny Kingston” for Reel Jamaica.

Producer



Natalie Thompson is a Jamaican born Filmmaker and development and production specialist. She studied Drama at the professional Theatre at Edgecliff College in Cincinnati, Ohio before graduating with a Degree in Drama and Communication Arts(Film and Television) from the University of Windsor in Canada.

Natalie returned to Jamaica and after 2 years as a director at Noble Film Productions, she formed Cinecom Productions Limited in 1975. She quickly established herself as an award -winning commercial, documentary and industrial film producer, director and editor but wanted to move on to working with narrative projects

Since 1980, Natalie has worked as a Production Manager and Line Producer on various feature films and TV productions shot on location in Jamaica. These include **Cocktail, Cool Runnings and Instinct for Disney, Prelude to a Kiss, How Stella Got Her Groove Back and Knight and Day** for Twentieth CenturyFox. In Television she has Managed **Small Island** for Ruby Films/BBC, **Luke Cage** (Jamaica Episode) - Marvel Films and **Top Boy** (Jamaica Episode) for BBC.

She has managed several Independent Feature productions including Popcorn, Milk and Honey, Almost Heaven, **Treasure Island and Marley** and local Jamaican productions Third World Cop , Ghetta Life and Sprinter A past member of the International Board of Women in Film and Television , Natalie has been developing Jamaican and Caribbean content along with Tony Hendriks , he partner in T.H.E. Picture Company Ltd.

Come in with Us!

**Independent film matters.
Human trafficking must matter.
The Fishermen will matter.**