

SHARP SHOOTERS

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Getting the local angle



Name: Rob Bygott

Where are you from and what do you do? I'm a film maker from Fremantle, Western Australia. I do quite a lot of music videos, which I really enjoy doing as they really allow me to trial different shooting styles and techniques. Many of them are done really cheap, but therein lies half of the challenge,

Rob Bygott shooting in a village in the Eastern Highlands of Papua New Guinea with a DVX100 camera on the Miller SOLO DV tripod.

making a really cool clip on a shoestring budget.

Most recent assignments: I've just shot a short drama on Rottnest Island, off the coast of Perth. The film was shot on Super 16, using Fuji 250D stock. It is an indigenous film that shares the history of Rottnest Island, otherwise known as Wadjemup (Death Island).

I've also been shooting a trailer/promo video for an independent feature film and in July I shot a documentary in the Gibson Desert directed by local indigenous filmmaker Glen Stasiuk. It involves shooting on Super 16 with interviews on the Panasonic DVX100. Another one, Broken Bonds was shot on a combination of Super 16 and the DVX100. Later in the year I hope to shoot a half hour drama.

What locations have you shot in? I've worked in many remote communities around Western Australia, in Singapore, the remote Eastern highlands of Papua New Guinea, Java, as well as brief trips to the UK and the USA on a documentary shoot.

Current equipment: The DVX100, with the anamorphic adapter, gives amazing 16:9 pictures as long as you don't use the extremity of the zoom. For its size, there is

no other DV camera that give pictures like it when shooting 25p with the cine-like gamma curve. If you're going to end up with SD then I much prefer the aesthetics of the DVX100.

I like to travel really light whenever possible. When we were in Papua New Guinea we had to try and carry everything ourselves so we kept it to an absolute minimum. The DVX100 and the DV SOLO tripod by Miller together meant that we could get great images without lugging large DV equipment. Everything had to be solar-powered as there was no electricity within days of walking. We used LED lights for throwing a bit more light into the dark huts but where possible made the best use of available daylight and bounced it.

Equipment 'wish list': I've discovered that Reel-Stream is developing a conversion for the DVX100, converting it to record 4:4:4 straight to hard drive. That's what I consider a fantastic low end solution to shooting high end images! I'd also love to get my hands on the ViperCam, but I would settle for the Varicam if Thompson doesn't come to the party. I did a shoot with it last year and the variable frame rate was fantastic.

First ever shooting job: My first ever shooting job was a music video for a friend. I shot it on Super 8 film and telecined it

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SOLO DV Superior HDV Support

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TRUE FLUID

5lbs Max

LIGHT

DS10

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LOW

DS20

AS LOW AS 9"

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