



PUBLICITY RELEASE

FOR RELEASE MON JULY 17 TO SUNDAY JULY 23

CARLA'S SONG

An unlikely love story between a free-spirited Scottish bus driver and a beautiful Nicaraguan refugee screens this Sunday on Maori Television's feature film **CARLA'S SONG** (Sunday July 23 at 9.00 PM).

George Lennox (Robert Carlyle) is a bus driver struggling against the conventionality and bureaucracy of his blue collar life. His encounter with Carla (Oyanka Cabezas) sweeps him headlong into a journey of self-discovery and political awareness.

Carla's back is scarred, her boyfriend missing, her family dispersed and she's suicidal. When George impulsively takes her to Nicaragua to find answers, they are thrown into the thick of the US war against the Sandinistas.

CARLA'S SONG is set in 1987, the year of the Contra rebels' assault against the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

Moving from Glasgow to Nicaragua, **CARLA'S SONG** reflects the dazed bewilderment that George experiences in his first few days abroad.

The screenplay for **CARLA'S SONG** was written by Paul Laverty, a lawyer who had worked with human rights organisations in Nicaragua. The script was written in response to the people he had met there and the impact of the Contras, the US-backed guerrilla army whose aim was to overthrow Nicaragua's elected Sandinista government.

Disturbed by his experiences, Lavery wanted to "give human shape to just one of these thousands of statistics, by telling his or her story, set against the real backdrop of Nicaragua."

Delve into the controversial, cross cultural love story of **CARLA'S SONG** on Maori Television this Sunday July 23 at 9.00 PM.

Ends

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR CARLA'S SONG

Year

Censor Adults Only (AO)

Duration Two hour film

Language English and Nicaraguan

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