

95 Revolutions Budget

By director/writer Jack Kadoorie

In film production, budget is such a dirty word. It's aloof and mysterious and often is somewhat meaningless; I know I've seen million pound movies that look like they could have been made for fifty grand and vice versa. So rather than say budget, the question is how cheaply can we make this film without compromising vision, aesthetics and the gross income potential.

At university I studied in depth how to utilise a budget, and even attempted to make a zero-budget movie, which had small festival success. Since graduating I have been furthering my understanding of how a feature film can be made with a budget between £5000 and £50,000 and what can be cut from budget costs without hindering the potential of profits and the actual story and quality of the film. I wrote 95 Revolutions with the idea of a smaller budget in mind and I think that this is evident in the script. Cast is what I envision to be the highest cost of the film (which I will talk about in further detail shortly), but the majority of other factors involved in the production of this film suggest that this film can be made on a low budget: a 17 day shooting schedule (or less if feasible), minimal locations, small cast size, minimal use of VFX, smaller crew size, one costume per character throughout, etc.

So let's talk about cast. Cast is a huge factor in budget, but also a huge factor in a film's ability to turn a profit. My first choice for the role of Death is Nick Frost. Now, Nick Frost isn't an actor who you may associate with indie films but I don't feel he is a name out of reach for a project like this. Firstly, whilst Death is an integral part of both the film's narrative and comedy, of the 21 days I predict the production would take the actor who plays Death would only be required for 7 days. Having somebody of Nick Frost's stature and popularity involved in the project turns a film with the potential to gross between £0-£250,000 into a film with the potential to gross upwards of £1 million.

I think if we can have a star name attached for 95 Revolutions, selling equity in the film becomes a much easier prospect. If we were able to sell approximately 70% of equity in the film at £1000 per 1%, we'd have £70,000 to creatively produce this film - and I believe if used wisely and precisely 95 Revolutions can be a film that is not only critically popular, but commercially successful as well.

Thanks.