

It's been a while since I've posted (no fruit this time). The edit is coming along nicely as we slowly approach a first cut -- a very exciting time. This is the first time I've done a film longer than an hour, and it's a great opportunity to see longer story beats at work: not just the beginning, middle and ends of scenes but the rhythm of whole acts.

Meanwhile Christmas is fast approaching and we have three more days of filming awaiting us in Coventry and London. But what a great way to spend the festive season. Meeting up with old friends, making movies, and then desperately scrambling around to buy last minute presents, wrapping paper and stuffing. This time last year I strained my back running up and down corridors shooting coverage for the film. Or maybe it was the fact I walked to a pub carrying so many bags and boxes of kit they opened the door for us for sheer spectacle.

Anyway. With a first cut more or less complete (one or two scenes missing, a few temp VFX shots and slapcomp placeholders) I should be meeting up with our composer for comments and feedback, and so he can amuse himself at my choice of temp score, and to discuss our favourite composers over a cup of hot choc. I should also be locking one of the reels soon, which will allow our sound recordist/designer to get started weaving his magic.

These are interesting times. The film project starts insular and single-minded when you put your thoughts on a page, then grows and spreads working with actors as everyone brings ideas to the movie, and finally shrinks again in the edit. So when sound and music gets underway, not to mention VFX work, the movie once again grows out until it finally shrinks into something which fits inside a tin can. But I look forward to the moment when it really is no longer mine: when we have our first screenings for cast and crew, and at festivals and beyond, when everyone experiences a different story which is uniquely theirs.

Movie-making is simply fantastic.

More soon.