



STAR

ONG

A FILM BY IAN BAWA

SON

STRONG SON

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IAN BAWA

2020 | DRAMA | SUPER 8 | 2K SCOPE | COLOUR | 4 MIN | 24 FPS



LOGLINE:

An endearing portrait of a father as he attempts to give life and marital advice to his bodybuilding and image-obsessed son.

SYNOPSIS:

Strong Son is a short dramatic film about a father who tells the story of his relationship with his bodybuilding son.

Set entirely in a gym, the film begins with a father as he watches his son perform a variety of bodybuilding exercises. As the father watches, he narrates his relationship with his son, and critiques aspects of his life, such as his body, his marital status, and his obsession with working out.

The father is also seen helping the son workout. For example, he sits on him providing him with extra weight with certain exercises. The film ends with both father and son leaving the gym together, as the father explains that he is old, and weak, and alone and his son has to be and stay strong in order to take care of him.

DIRECTOR STATEMENT:

Strong Son is a personal film about my insecurities in life, my struggle to uphold cultural traditions, and my relationship with my father. The film stars my actual father, Jagdeep Singh Bawa, and Mandeep Sodhi, a bodybuilder from India, who is essentially playing an extreme version of myself. As an overweight child, I was body shamed with passive comments from my father which, as I got older, caused me to become quite obsessed with exercise, health, and working out. In addition to this, as I have gotten older, my father's health has dwindled to the point that I have become his full time provider, enabling me to see a future of what could happen if I do not take care of myself. Finally, the film deals with the idea that as millennials our parents are getting older, and there will be a point where we need to take care of them, and how emotionally and physically hard that will be when or if that day comes. Such is why our lead character (the son) needs to be 'strong'.

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DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY:

In 2007, Ian Bawa, a born and raised Winnipegger, switched paths in becoming a lawyer to pursue career in filmmaking. As a graduate of the University of Winnipeg Film program, Ian's bachelor film *'Offline'* (a co-production between University of Winnipeg and multiple German Art Universities) was met with great success and toured around the world, winning at festivals such as Yorkton Film Festival and Fargo Film Festival.

Ian's film career started out interning with FilmTraining Manitoba in the lighting department and working in every department a set (both big and small) can offer from there. This allowed Ian to learn, appreciate, and understand every aspect of filmmaking and become a Swiss army knife of skills and knowledge when producing on and off set.

Since then, Ian has produced, directed, and worked on a number of features, short films, documentaries, music videos, and a variety of other projects. His past work has won him many accolades and recognition locally and around the world, and has been written about in publications such as Ain't it Cool News, The AV Club, and was awarded a Vimeo Staff Pick for his film *'The Champ'*.

His film, *'Imitations'*, premiered at the 2016 Toronto International Film Festival with great acclaim, and toured globally from there, playing at festivals such as Vancouver International Film Festival, Fantastic Fest, and many others. Ian's film, *'Tapeworm'*, premiered recently at this year's 2019 Vancouver International Film Festival and 2020 SlamDance Film Festival.

His latest film *'Strong Son'* will premiere at the 2020 Toronto International Film Festival.



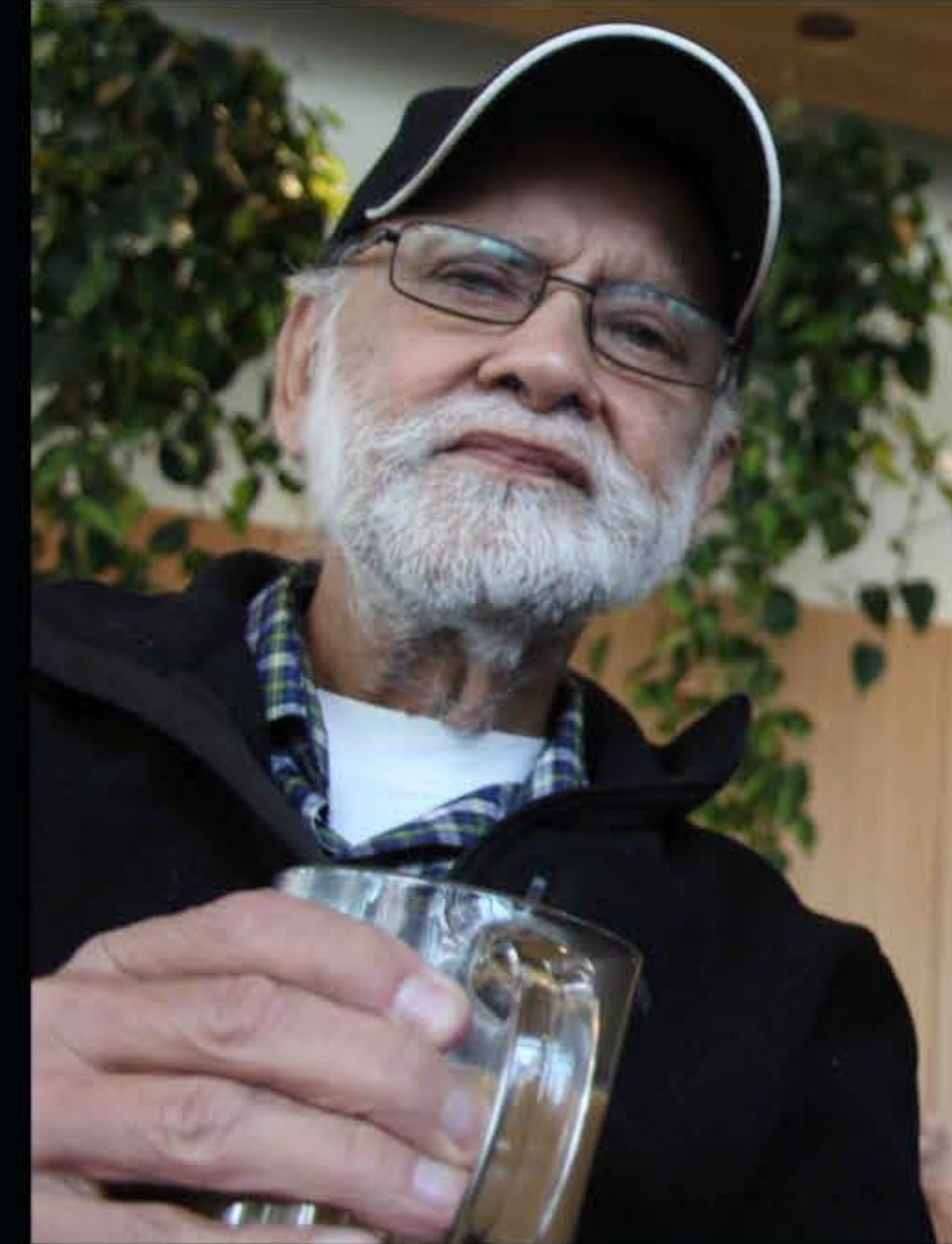
STRONG SON

CAST:

JAGDEEP SINGH BAWA | FATHER

Jagdeep Singh Bawa immigrated from India to Canada in the early 1970s. After a year of adapting and trying to find work in a new country, his wife and daughter joined him in settling in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Jagdeep eventually found a career with Canada Post, and later gave birth to another daughter and son. Jagdeep has been in a variety of films, TV shows, and commercials and enjoys acting as a hobby while retired in Winnipeg.



MANDEEP SODHI | SON

Mandeep Sodhi is a bodybuilder, filmmaker, and actor from India. He immigrated to Canada at a young age and continues to pursue all three passions while living in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

As a natural bodybuilder, Mandeep is dedicated in maintaining his physique in the healthiest ways possible, and continues to train, compete, and perform to this day.

As a filmmaker and actor, Mandeep draws his inspirations from works of David Fincher, Christopher Nolan, The Coen Brothers, James Cameron and Guy Ritchie. He was first enamored to make and be in films when he was 13 and saw Terminator 2.

CREW:

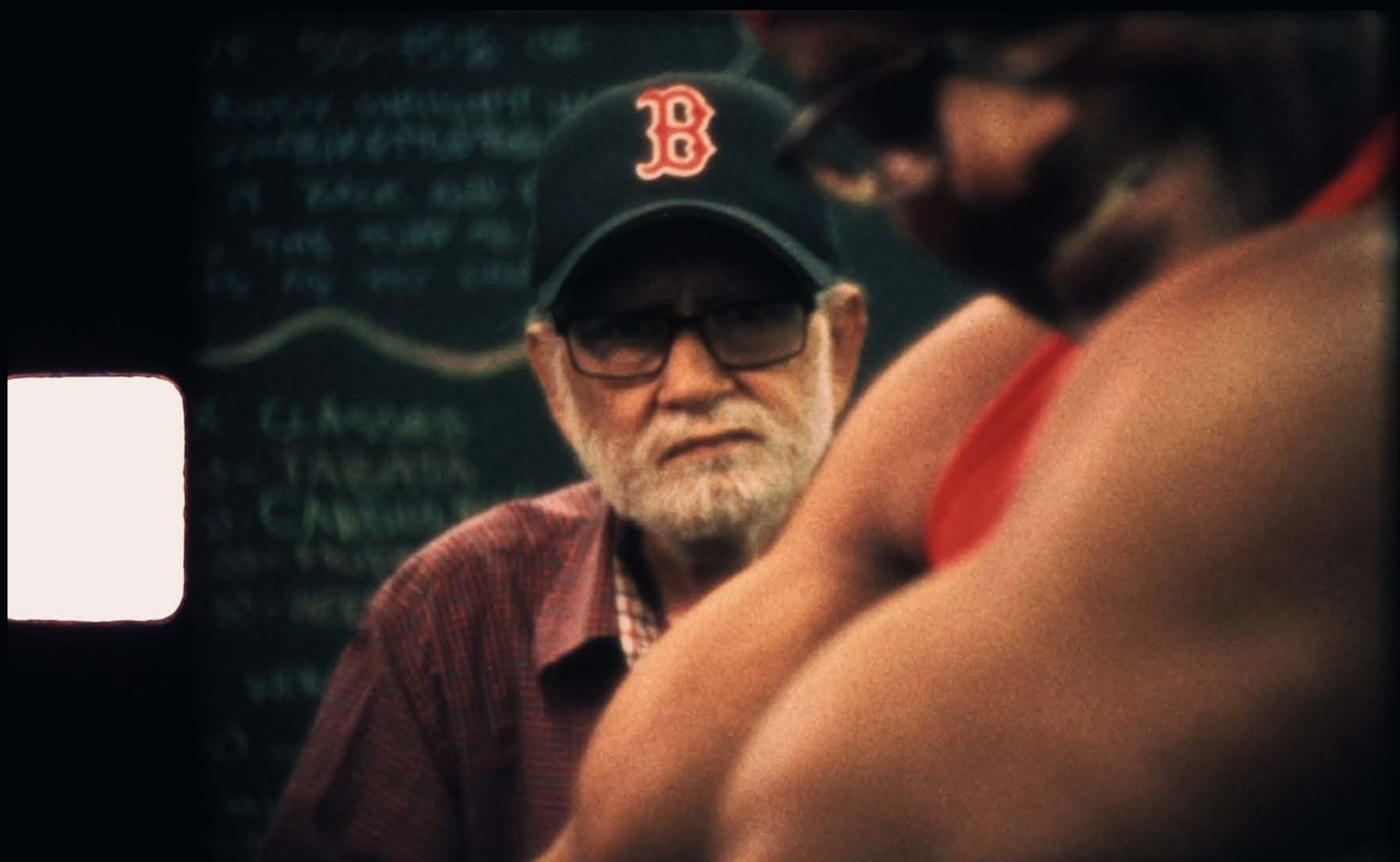
PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/WRITER: IAN BAWA
CINEMATOGRAPHER: MARKUS HENKEL
EDITING/SOUND DESIGN: IAN BAWA
SOUND MIX: MAX WALTER
MUSIC: MILOS MITROVIC
CAMERA ASSISTANT: QUAN LUONG

SPECIAL THANKS:
WINNIPEG FILM GROUP
WNDX FESTIVAL OF MOVING IMAGE
MORFIT TRAINING CENTRE
ACTRA MANITOBA



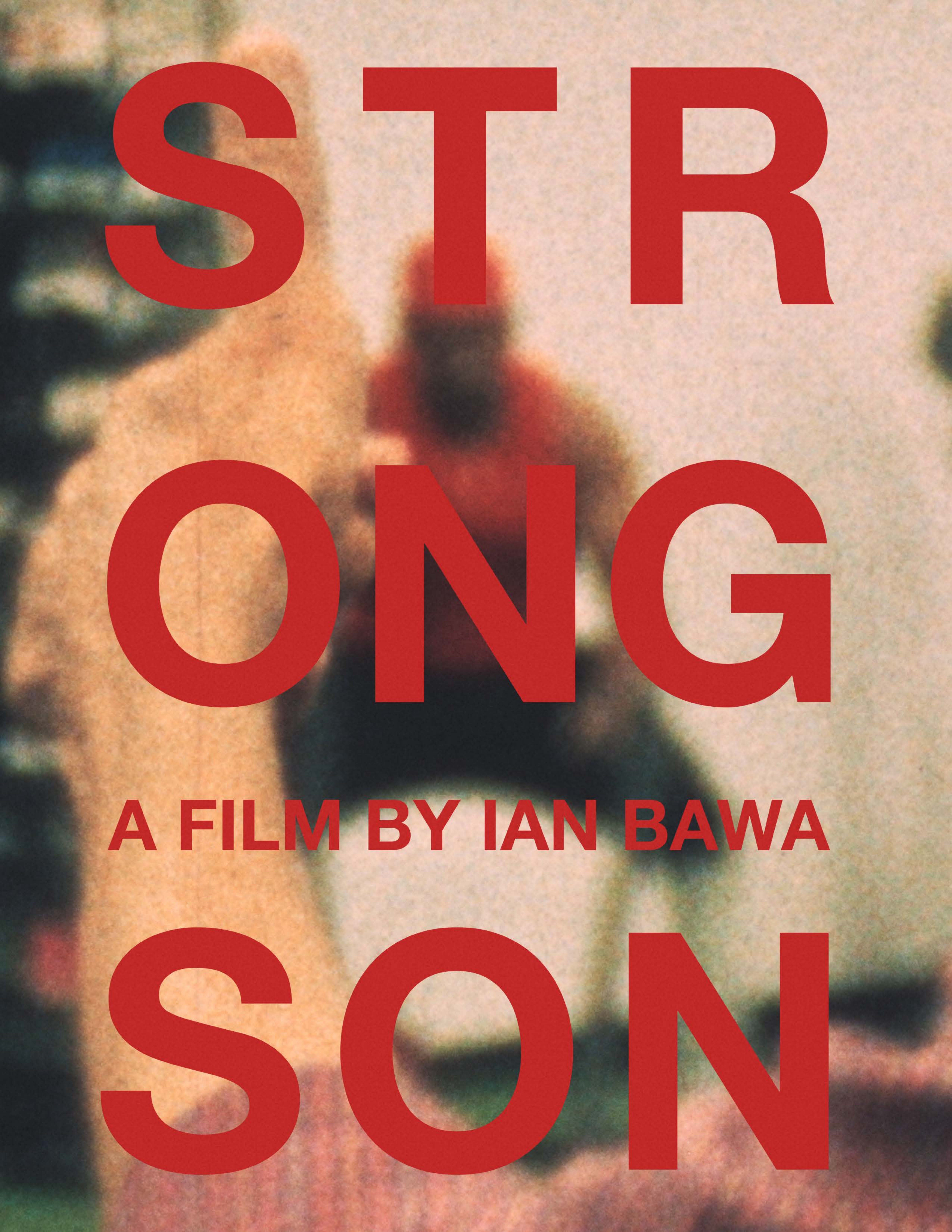
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT IANBAWA@GMAIL.COM

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