

INTO THE FAIRY WORLD



THE MAKING OF "GLEN ROCK FAE: THE SPOUTWOOD FAIRIE FESTIVAL"

A PLACE WHERE MAGIC BECOMES REALITY AND REALITY BECOMES MAGIC.



You don't need to look for fairies ~ they will find you (which is what happened to me).

This is the story of how I spent two years in the world of the fairies, as told through images from the movie "Glen Rock Fae". Unexpected things are sometimes the best part of life. You may find yourself in places you never thought you'd be, doing things you had never thought of doing, which makes life's journey exciting. Here begins a journey into the fairy world...

IT WAS 2008...

My wife is a musician and was playing her [Hang](#) for a small event when someone told her that her music would be perfect for a fairy festival. That spring she was hired to perform at the [Spoutwood May Day Fairie Festival](#). I went along and took my video camera. We loved the festival and had never experienced anything like it. Afterwards, I used some of my video footage and a song Janet had written about fairies to create a music video. We put it on YouTube and the response was quite surprising. We were told the video recreates the feeling one gets when they attend the festival.



[Watch the "Spoutwood Fairie Song by Janet Spahr" on YouTube.com](#)

I began to think someone should make a movie about this festival. Early in the spring of 2009, I brought up the idea of a movie to Rob and Lucy Wood, the owners of Spoutwood Farm. They loved the idea and the project was launched at the final planning meeting before the festival. I began shooting that week. The weather was perfect, the sun was bright and new flowers were blooming every day. In those first days of shooting I got the sense that there is something special about Spoutwood Farm. I am not the only person to get that feeling, and this was one of the ideas that seemed to continually surface as people were interviewed for the movie. The grounds were transformed into a magical place where the cares of the outside world disappear. Chrissy Hudgins put it best in the movie when she says: "There aren't too many things now-a-days that just touch your heart and make you feel like you're a kid again."



Everyone who attends a planning meeting shares the joy and expectation that the festival creates. It can be seen in the faces of everyone at the meeting.



Lucy Wood listening to the many ideas at the final planning meeting.

THE FOLLOWING IS FROM THE MOVIE BLOG OF 2009...



From the movie blog, April 24, 2009:

The Fairy Habitat

The woodland fairy habitat is a favorite spot for the young festival goers. It gives them a chance to make discoveries by exploring these miniature residences.

I just completed two days of filming on site. This allows time to shoot some images around the site before things really start getting busy. There are a good number of people working on projects already. Some of the stages have been rebuilt along with a few of the children's areas.



From the movie blog, April 27, 2009:

The Bridge

It doesn't matter if the distance is large or small, building bridges will help people on both banks.

Spending time by yourself in a quiet and peaceful place allows you time to think about all kinds of things. You see things you haven't seen before and make connections that may have eluded you before. You begin to slip through the veil into a new magical world.



From the movie blog, April 28, 2009:

The Maze

The entrance to the maze awaits the guests. There are sights and sounds to discover within these brightly colored walls. This is a place where you can find your special "rhythm of joy" if you search for it.

Inside the maze there is an area where "instruments for making music" hang in the air and people are encouraged to celebrate their individuality. In fact the entire festival is a celebration of individuality. A costume emphasizes each person's uniqueness and in a way, amplifies that uniqueness for everyone else to enjoy.



Continued from the movie blog, April 28, 2009:

Another Beautiful Day

Today was another beautiful day at Spoutwood. There has been much accomplished since I was here last. Color is everywhere from the newly hung decorations, to the blooming flowers that have been decorating the land for eons. Everywhere I look there is another lovely image to capture. When the sun embraces the growing green earth you can almost hear the plants singing.

We need to thank the many hard working people that make this festival possible. There have been many hours of sweat poured out upon this land, especially over this last very hot weekend.



From the movie blog, April 30, 2009:

The Bonfire

Drumming, dancing, and merry making continue into the night around the bonfire. This is a private event for the many volunteers and participants to celebrate all that has been accomplished.



Continued from the movie blog, April 30, 2009:

Bonfire Dancing

Tomorrow the festival opens to the public, but the celebration is already under way!

A bonfire is always a memorable experience. This bonfire was lit using traditional native american methods by Michael Bull, who afterwards conducted a Medicine Wheel ceremony by the quiet embers of the bonfire. All of this was overseen by a sky full of twinkling stars.

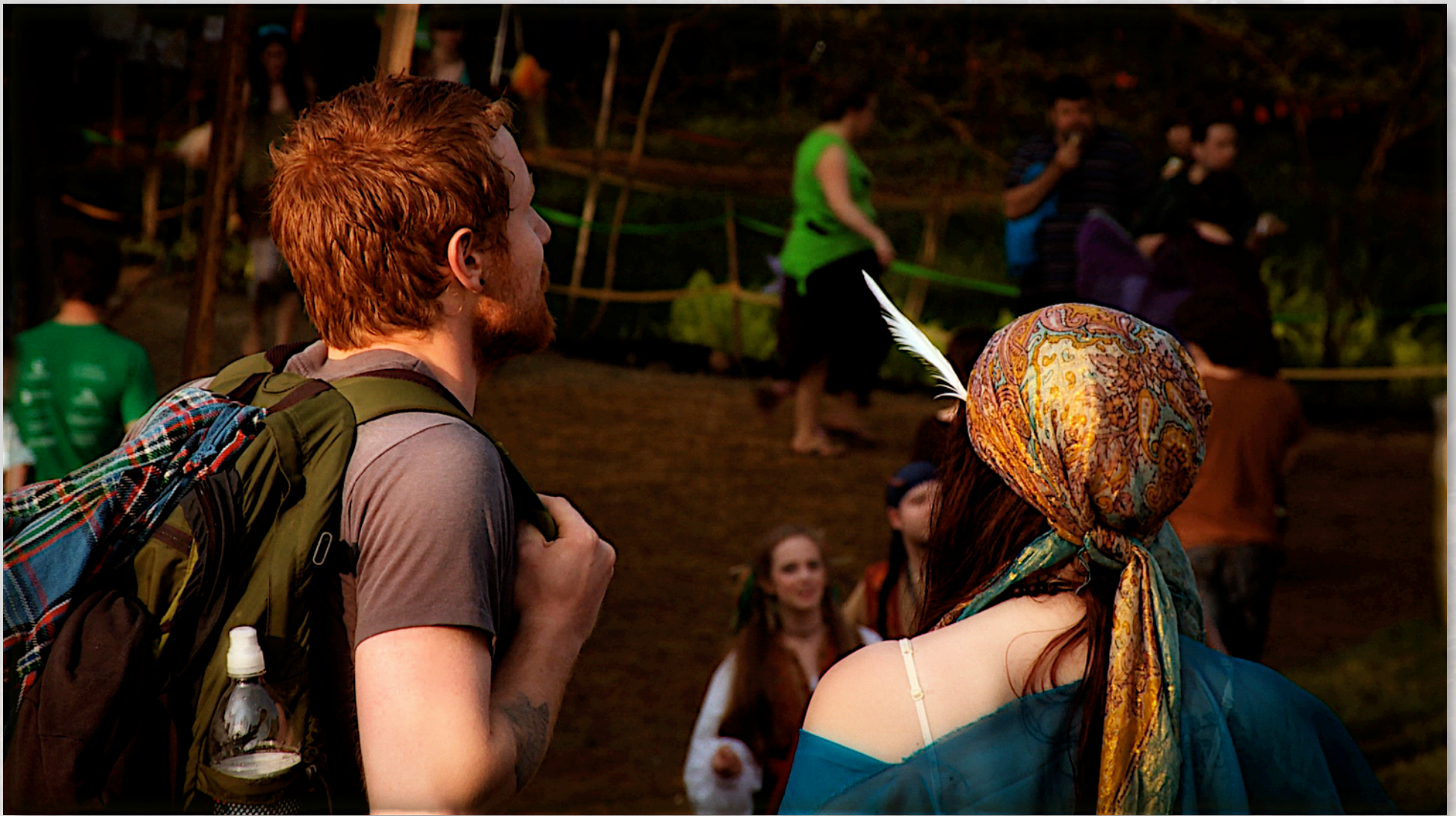


From the movie blog, May 1, 2009:

May Day Rain

...and the rains came down.

This was a huge disappointment for me and a couple thousand other people who waited all year for the festival to begin. The rain greatly limited my ability to shoot. Water and electronics don't get along, and the electronics always loose. Maybe tomorrow will be a dryer day...



Continued from the movie blog, May 1, 2009:

May Day

The rain could not keep the smiles away.

By evening the clouds parted and the sun lit the festival grounds. The light after the rain is always special. All the colors seem so new again. Although everyone got wet, no one seemed to mind that much. I think some of the children actually found more enjoyment playing in the rain. Whoever said "youth is wasted on the young" was not here today.



From the movie blog, May 2, 2009:

A Magic Wand

All it takes is a little magic to make the rain go away. I just happened to catch this moment.

Make-believe keeps our world from becoming stale and boring. A small stick found on the ground becomes a gateway into a new fantastic world.

As Tom Harbold says in the movie: "I don't think that there can be any question that this is a place where the border, the boundary, between our ordinary reality and the world of the mythic imagination is indeed thin. Inspiration flows here at the Fairie Festival."



Continued from the movie blog, May 2, 2009:

The Clouds Break & The New King And Queen

It was a good day for a coronation. All the tribes came bearing lovely gifts, the kind of gifts money can't buy.

Music and magic is in the air. The stages are full of musicians, the vendors are busy, and all is well at the festival. An occasional dark cloud passes overhead, but no one notices.

The rain and the clouds have hampered my work. I have not captured the shots that I needed. The constant possibility of rain prevents me from setting up the equipment I need to capture the festival. Every problem has a solution - now if I can just find it..



From the movie blog, May 3, 2009:

The Sad Fairy

That's how I'm feeling sitting here watching the rain. But just think how screwed up our earth would be if we controlled the weather too.



Continued from the movie blog, May 3, 2009:

The Rain Is Back

I think it rained nearly all day. Everyone was wet around the edges, but the festival went on as usual. You just can't dampen the spirit of the Glen Rock Fae.

"People play drums in the rain. There are four thousand people here having a good time in a complete and utter downpour because they know what this place is and they know the magic of this place." - Mark Rosenwald, Creator of the Mossman



From the movie blog, May 5, 2009:

The Wave Good Bye

I know that many fond memories were created this past weekend. Spoutwood is a place that is so full of friends you just can't meet them all - that's why you have to go back every year!



Continued from the movie blog, May 5, 2009:

Back To The Real World

I now have the task to decide what to do with all the images I've gathered at the festival. Like drums in the distance, I'm still haunted by all of the images I didn't gather...

As I catalog the video from this year's festival, I will have a better idea what the next step should be.

2010 ROLLS AROUND & SOME MORE BLOG ENTRIES...



From the movie blog, March 20, 2010:

A Great Day To Plan

The many volunteers that put the festival together have already been hard at work preparing for a great 19th year! Having a beautiful day made attending the meeting pure joy.



Continued from the movie blog, March 20, 2010:

Getting Ready To Go!

If you want to meet a lot of great people and do something good (while having a great time), I suggest you get involved at Spoutwood Farm. They have lots of new ideas coming this year. There are many opportunities available for everyone to get involved. So go to www.spoutwood.com and be a part of something unique and wonderful.



From the movie blog, April 23, 2010:

Making A Place For The Fairies

Festival time is getting closer. It looks like there has been some activity in the fairy habitat too.

Before you go to the next page, did you see the fairy in the above photo? If not take a closer look!



Continued from the movie blog, April 23, 2010:

Almost Here

You can tell when the May Day Festival is almost here, the woodland fairy houses are getting a spring cleaning. Flowers are everywhere and the birds are singing.

Soon the birds will not be the only ones singing: there is a new stage on Frodo's Hill. It is clear to see that the crews have been working really hard. Spoutwood is buzzing with activity. This year I'll have some help with shooting for the documentary. Megan will be on location with another Sony HDCAM EX camera and Josh will be our sound engineer.



From the movie blog, April 28, 2010:

Nature prepares

Nature has begun the process of providing a harvest. Starting with leaves and flowers which will end with fruit to nourish us.



Continued from the movie blog, April 28, 2010:

Vendors Prepare

It is the day before the festival, and the vendors are preparing their booths. Tents are popping up like flowers on the land. Good weather is predicted for the festival. We hope that the festival will be fruitful for the vendors this year.

I am preparing for filming the festival, and if the weather stays this nice I should have all the festival coverage I will need to complete the documentary. My hope is to have it completed for the 20th Anniversary of the Spoutwood Festival in 2011.



From the movie blog, April 30, 2010:

After A Long Wait...

...the fairies begin to arrive at Spoutwood. A few are seen traveling through the wood. Later, the meadow will be filled with brightly colored wings and big smiles.



Continued from the movie blog, April 30, 2010:

The Fairies Arrive

Like coming home after a long, hard journey, the fae are glad to be home once again. For those who have not experienced it, Spoutwood feels like home to thousands of people during the festival. Many people wait all year for the event and spend every moment basking in the magic of the Fairie Festival.

Many people may think that the festival is only about make-believe or just a place to have a lot of fun. But there is another side to fantasy that we will explore in the documentary: Just think if we humans didn't have an imagination, if no one ever dreamed of flying like the birds...



From the movie blog, May 1, 2010:

The new King and Queen

Today is the day for the coronation of the new king and queen - and a very regal looking princess too.



Continued from the movie blog, May 1, 2010:

It Is May Day

The four fae tribes of Spoutwood attend the coronation and fill the air with cheers and sounds of merry-making. Everyone is encouraged to join a tribe and get involved in the fun. Which tribe are you? Mountain, Meadow, Woodland, or River?

This Celtic type of ceremony is based on ancient traditions but without all the fighting and mayhem of that time. The only weapon allowed at the festival is celebrated because it is wrapped and put away so that peace and love can flourish.



From the movie blog, May 2, 2010:

The Last Day of the Festival

Magic of all types can be seen at the festival. The fantastic is not a stranger here.



Continued from the movie blog, May 2, 2010:

The Magic Continues

You don't have to look for fun at the festival, it will come and find you. It may be the Buggler, or maybe Otter The River God, leader of the River Tribe, or you may get to see the golden wings of a dragon as it flies past, or the beloved Mossman that you just can't help but hug!



Now A Year In Post Production

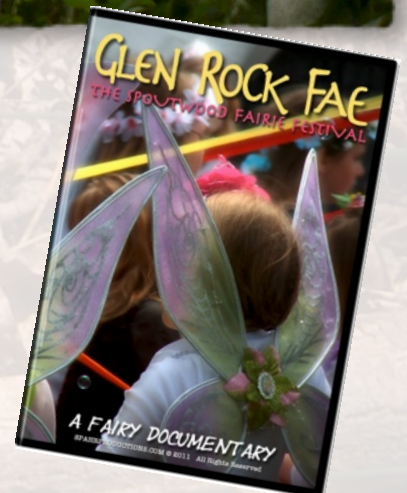
With nearly thirty hours of raw footage, the next job begins - creating a movie. This is a long process beginning with the storyline, then illustrating the story with video. All the recorded audio needs to be cleaned up and balanced. Then every shot needs to be color corrected and a "look" is applied. This film contains over 500 shots, so this process alone takes weeks to finish. Next, the music is added. It has to be modified to fit each scene. The audio track also contains a sound effects track that is added to complete the reality. Throughout this movie you will find tiny fairies hidden here and there. Some are obvious like the image above, while others are harder to see. Each of these special effects shots take a considerable amount of time to set up, compose, and fit into the movie. Next is artwork for packaging, promotion, and the web site. The goal is to create an experience that captures the feeling of the festival.



And Now It Is Done

The film is now available on DVD, ready to take you INTO THE FAIRY WORLD!

It is just a click away at <http://glenrockfae.com>



CREDITS

Written By:

Kevin Spahr

Narrated By:

Linda Gareh-Applegate

Original Score Written & Performed By:

Janet Spahr

Cast In Order of Appearance:

Special Effects Fairy 1:

Sydney Hudgins

Special Effects Fairy 2:

Katherine Hudgins

Dennis Sullivan

Deb Hackley

Eliza Graney

Rona Doyle

Hayley Jane

Tom Hopkins

Rob Wood

Lucy Wood

Dana Stout

Christine Hudgins

Robert G. Hayes

Marc Hudgins

Mark Rosenwald

Sean O'Scanlon

Thomas Harbold

John Michael Greer

Andrew Steed

Dr. Zachary Maichuk

Cinematography, Editing, & Effects:

Kevin Spahr

Additional Camera:

Megan Ramsey

Boom Operator:

Josh Sgarlata

A "Fairy" Special Thanks to:

Photo of J. M. Barrie

George Grantham Bain Collection,

Library of Congress,

Prints & Photographs Division,

LC-USZ62-89798

Map of County Kildare, Ireland

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Still photographs:

The Spoutwood Photo Archive and their
contributors

Kathleen Baltus

Marc Hudgins

Andrew Steed

And thanks to all the
volunteers and attendees
of the Spoutwood Fairie Festival

Music:

"Sirens of the Woodland Fae"

"Gnomadic Fanfare"

"Sprites Delight"

"The Spoutwood Fairie Song"

"Hang Loose"

"Sanguine In Six"

"Stride"

"Oh Why"

"Buoyant"

"Wiribel"

"Shruti Offering"

"Swing It Slow"

"Suspended"

"Notes Intertwine"

"Swing It"

"Adrift"

"Elixir"

"Song Of Passage"

"Fairie Reprise"

All Songs by

[Janet Spahr](#) © 2008-2010