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## SAE student wins at Munich Music Video Awards

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SAE Creative Media Institute's David Ciura has taken the world by storm with his film, *Who is Nate Nixon?*

The short won Best Musical Film at the Munich Music Video Awards earlier this year, and featured as part of David's major project for his Master of Creative Industries (MCI) degree.

The film was written and directed by David, and features him as the title character, with his own original music.

#### Metaphor for creatives

He says the film is a metaphor for creatives everywhere, 'that you should never give up on your hopes and dreams'.

'The 12 minute film centres around singer Nate Nixon who's from 1987, and following an incident ends up

in the year 2020', David said.

'During the story, Nate connects with old friends he hasn't seen for over 30 years, and collaborates with a woman called Leigh in a new band – and it ends up being this interesting concoction of eighties and present-day music, which I composed'.

During the course of writing the film, David realised he had to be the one to play Nate Nixon.

He says the cinematography for the film was inspired by Hollywood films like *La La Land* and *Only God Forgives* and was born out of music David was working on separately.

'I had a few instrumental songs that had a distinct eighties vibe to them, and then I had the idea for a time travelling character for my major project.

'As I started to work on the

lyrics for the songs more, I realised that the music and

the film were intertwined and complemented each other.'

The SAE graduate said the short was filmed over the course of three days.

'We were on a tight schedule, so we worked long days and got it all done within the three days. We used a lot of equipment from SAE for the film and some other students helped out on it also.

'I was really lucky to get the support of my supervisor, Toby Wren. Toby has a film and music industry background, which meant he gave me some excellent feedback on how to improve certain elements – he really was a great match'.



David Ciura. Photo supplied