18 April, 2013 5:28PM AEST

Sam Worthington comes home for surf flick

By Elizabeth Pratt

When Sam Worthington and Myles Pollard met aged 19 at NIDA, one had long blonde hair and the other had dreadlocks down his back. "We were these guys coming from WA to this prestigious school and we didn't fit the mould and for our year we were lucky, they were looking for guys who were willing to do anything," Worthington said.

Twenty years later and the pair are back together again, starring in surf film Drift, in theatres May 2.

The film follows the journey of the Kelly brothers who start up a surf wear business in their small WA town in the '60s and '70s.

For well known Hollywood star Sam Worthington, shooting in his native WA with one of his oldest friends was a dream come true.

"Me and Myles surfed down there when we were young and to do a project with your best friend...it was a no brainer for me," he said.

Pollard, who also produces the film, said he was pleased the film explored an area of Australia not previously made public on the big screen.

"It's wild down there. I don't think it's been showcased cinematically before so we're really proud of what we've created down there. I think it will show case the region for sure," he said.
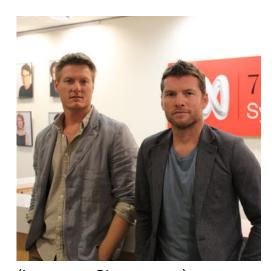
Shooting off the coast of Western Australia, part of the challenge of the film was shooting in between sets of killer waves.

"When you're in that kind of environment and in that kind of epic swell we had a safety guy and a stunt guy to balance us and we got as close as we can...because I've never surfed a 20 foot wave, there's no way," Worthington said.

But Pollard emphasises that the film will also appeal to audiences outside the surfing community.

"We managed to create a stand-alone drama about two brothers that made good, that battle...it just happens to have surfing in it," he said.

"If you can balance all that action with a family oriented movie...which I believe this is, you've got a nice movie," Worthington said.

(Lawrence Champness)