



Presenting Partner



SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S MEDIA RESOURCE CENTRE ANNOUNCES:
Producer, Fiona Eagger to give opening address
at Screen Makers Conference and Marketplace 2018

UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL FRIDAY 22 JUNE

The Screen Makers Conference and Marketplace announces the opening speaker and full program line-up for the two-day conference, which attracts emerging and regional delegates from across Australia, seeking to build their screen careers. The always sell-out conference will be held on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 July at Adelaide's iconic Mercury Cinema.

In 2018 with a key focus on the breadth of television opportunities across Australia, the opening address will be by Every Cloud Productions' Fiona Eagger, producer of some of Australia's most beloved and iconic television drama series including Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries, Newton's Law and Deadlock.

Fiona will give perspective in relation to significant issues facing the industry and how mentoring and showing gender and diversity have shaped her journey and experiences. Fiona will expand on the conference theme, *'The power of story, to connect, reflect and make sense of our world'*, reminding us that storytelling is timeless and belongs to us all.

The packed program's stand-out sessions include:

Webseries, a pathway for emerging and diverse talent. All the big questions on how to succeed in the format increasingly launching and re-positioning screen careers. Speakers include the award winning **Michelle Law** (co-writer and star of SBS On Demand's first commissioned web-series, *Homecoming Queens*), **Peter Ninos** (MWF nominee, *The Big Nothing*), **Enzo Tedeschi** (*Event Zero*) and **Kelli Cross** (*Aussie Rangers*, iview).

The Australian Directors' Guild presents: 'From F*!#king Adelaide to Hollywood', featuring directors **Scott Hicks** (*Shine, Snow Falling on Cedars, Hearts in Atlantis*) and **Sophie Hyde** (*Animals, F*!#king Adelaide, 52 Tuesdays*), who will share their insights, experiences and provide useful tips for aspiring screen directors.

Casting for Diversity: casting agent Kirsty McGregor (*Pacific Rim: Uprising, Top End Wedding, Lion*) and actor Natasha Wanganeen (*Cargo, Redfern Now, Rabbit Proof Fence*) explore what diversity looks like on our screens. Is it simply about casting, or does it go

deeper than this? Our panel members share their experiences and perspectives from behind and in front of the camera.

The conference also includes craft masterclasses, screen business and meet the market sessions, to give industry insights and up-to-date information to delegates across feature filmmaking, web-series, and television.

In addition, there is a range of roundtables, along with an exclusive opportunity for delegates to compete in the \$10,000 Pitch-o-rama ABC iview / MRC development pitching competition.

The Matchbox Pictures-sponsored pitching market provides a fantastic opportunity for content creators to pitch a project to an outstanding line-up of marketplace representatives including: **Brett Sleigh** from ABC Drama and Comedy, **Joseph Maxwell** from SBS Factual, Head Of Development at Ten Network, **Azar Marashian**, Founder and Managing Director of Madman Entertainment, **Paul Wiegard**, Commissioning Editor of ABC Factual, **Stephen Oliver**, and Acquisitions & Development Executive at XYZ Films, **Simon De Bruyn**.

Media Resource Centre Director **Gail Kovatseff** said, "It's wonderful to have so many accomplished women leading our program for this year's Screen Makers Conference. The conference delegates who come to Adelaide from all over Australia next month will enjoy outstanding opportunities to learn more about their craft and the industry, network with peers and mentors, and pitch their projects. It's been terrific to see previous delegates get projects up with broadcasters such as ABC iview through our growing market opportunities."

The conference is supported through a grant from the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, presenting partner the Australian Film, Television and Radio School, major sponsors University of South Australia and Matchbox Pictures, and sponsors Australian Directors' Guild, Kojo, Media Super, ABC iview, Screenrights, Wallis Cinemas, Woodside Cheese Wrights, Small Change Wines and Channel 44. The ongoing work of the Media Resource Centre is made possible by support of the South Australian Film Corporation and Arts South Australia.

The Media Resource Centre also acknowledges the support of Screenwest, Screen Tasmania and Screen Northern Territory for assisting the attendance of delegates from their states.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS EXTENDED UNTIL FRIDAY 29 JUNE:

<https://www.screenmakersconference.com.au/>

VIEW FULL CONFERENCE PROGRAM:

<https://www.screenmakersconference.com.au/programme/>

PITCHING MARKETPLACE SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN - DEADLINE FRIDAY 29 JUNE:

www.screenmakersconference.com.au/pitching/

For media enquiries please contact:

Leigh McGrane | 0438 399 795 | leigh@atgpublicity.com.au

Thomas Jackson | 0428 859 475 | Thomas@atgpublicity.com.au

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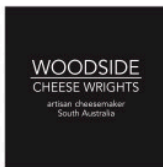
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