



FLICKERLAB 2016

Friday 15 January 2016, Bondi Pavilion – 10.00am

FlickerLab gives you the chance immerse yourself in the latest filmmaking trends as you spend the day with some of the industry's leading film experts offering up their expertise, wisdom and talking intimately about their own filmmaking careers. Across the day panels will cover the gamut of the filmmaking experience including concept, script, producing, marketing, distribution and the latest cross platform and alternative distribution methods. Listen, share, ask questions, network and engage in this exploration of all things filmmaking. Absorb essential tips and knowledge, as our panellists guide you through, the joys and challenges of filmmaking and inspire you on your own creative journey.

Our panellists on the day will include Australian director Kieran Darcy-Smith (*By the Way of Helena, Wish You Were Here*) and USA director Alfonso Gomez-Rejon, (*Me And Earl and the Dying Girl, American Horror Story*), streaming live to our session from the US.

The FlickerLab panels will also feature writer/director Michael Petroni (*Backtrack, The Book Thief* [w], *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* [w]), and Louise Gough (Development Executive Screen Australia). As well as a trio of Australia's best film producers: Nicole O'Donohue (Producer – *The Daughter, The Last Impresario*) David Jowsey (Producer - *Jasper Jones, Mystery Road*) and Jamie Hilton (*The Waiting City, The Little Death, Backtrack*). Plus Lucy Hill (Head of Acquisitions – Entertainment One Australia), Danny Lachevre (Managing Director of FanForce and co-founder of The Solid State) and Richard Harris (Head of Business & Audience – Screen Australia).

The Sessions and Guest Panelists

SESSION ONE: WRITING AND DEVELOPMENT

10.00AM – 11.30AM

Everyone will tell you a good script is essential ingredient for any good film. Our panel of experienced scriptwriters and development experts will discuss how to turn a good idea into a good script, looking in detail in at development, collaboration and script editing.

MICHAEL PETRONI

Writer / Director / Actor



Michael Petroni is a writer, director and actor, known for *Backtrack* (2015), His career began as a writer and performer on Australian television shows. From there he moved to Los Angeles to study screenwriting at the AFI Conservatory, from which he graduated in 1996. During his time at the AFI, he wrote his first feature film script, *Till Human Voices Wake Us* which he subsequently directed as a feature film starring Guy Pearce and Helena Bonham Carter, winning several awards for the script. Since then, Michael has written and directed a number of award nominated and award winning films among them *The Book Thief* (2013), *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (2010) and *The Rite* (2011).



LOUISE GOUGH

Development Officer, Screen Australia



Louise has 20 years' experience in development, beginning in theatre as a dramaturg and extending into screen story development 15 years ago. Previously, Louise was Editorial Manager at ABC TV Drama and Narrative Comedy, Script Manager at Film Victoria and most recently she worked in Madman Production Company's development team. Louise's past theatre positions include Literary Manager at Playbox (now Malthouse) in Melbourne, Resident Dramaturg at Queensland Theatre Company and Literary Fellow at Vineyard Theatre (NYC) developing over 45 new produced plays. For the last eight years, Louise was a script advisor with Sources2 in Europe, leading residential feature film development labs and working on features as a script editor or dramatic advisor in Australia and Europe.

SUE McCREADIE

Development and Production Executive, Screen NSW



Sue is a Development and Production Executive with Screen NSW, which involves managing and evaluating applications for project development, production finance, talent development and travel assistance.

She has previously managed substantial funding programs including the NSW Film and Television Industry Attraction Fund, providing incentives to attract international production, and the NSW Interactive Media Fund, which she initiated and developed.

Over the past two decades she has held a range of other executive roles in the Australian screen industry including Director of Actors' Equity, Executive Director of the Australian Writers' Guild and Policy Manager for the NSW Film & Television Office (now Screen NSW) and the Film Finance Corporation.

SESSION TWO - THE DIRECTORS JOURNEY

11.45pm – 1.15pm

Intimately follow the career of an esteemed director from the independent short filmmaker to feature film director. Areas of discussion will include script development, working collaboratively, casting, directing actors, where ideas come from and how to make the leap from shorts to features.

KIERAN DARCY-SMITH

Director/ Writer



In 1996 Kieran co-founded the successful Australian film collective Blue-Tongue Films. The group's awards and nominations over recent years have included two Oscar nominations, for *Animal Kingdom* and *Miracle Fish*, a Sundance jury prize for *Animal Kingdom* and a Sundance Jury Award Nomination for *Wish you were here*. Produced feature films include *By Way of Helena*, *Animal Kingdom*, *The Rover*, *The Gift*, *The Square*, *Hesher*, *Felony* and *Wish You Were Here*.

Kieran's debut feature film as a director and co-writer, *Wish You Were Here* was selected to open the 2012 Sundance Film Festival, where it was nominated for a Grand Jury Prize. Awards and nominations for *WYWH* include a Best Original Screenplay Award and Best Supporting Actor Award at the Australian Academy Awards 2013 and additional nominations for Best Film, Best Director, Best Actress, Best Editing and Best Cinematography. The film took out Best Film at the Australian Critics Circle Awards 2013. In 2015 Kieran completed post-production on his second feature film. *By Way of Helena*, starring Woody Harrelson, Liam Hemsworth and Alice Bragga. The movie will be released by Lionsgate in 2016.



ALFONSO GOMEZ-REJON

Director (via live stream)



Alfonso was born and raised in Laredo, Texas on the US/Mexico border. He received his BFA from NYU and his MFA from AFI. He began his career as personal assistant to Martin Scorsese, Nora Ephron, Robert De Niro and Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu.

He has gone on to direct second unit for Ms. Ephron, Inarritu, Scorsese, Kevin Macdonald, Ryan Murphy and Ben Affleck (on the Academy Award-winning *Argo*). He has directed acclaimed episodes of *Glee* and *American Horror Story*, as well as numerous national commercials for the likes of T-Mobile and Chevrolet (Super Bowl).

He was nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Directing For a Miniseries for *American Horror Story: Coven*, as well as for Outstanding Miniseries as the show's Co-Executive Producer. He also directed the pilot for Fox's *Red Band Society*, which was picked up for series. He recently finished work on his second feature, *Me & Earl & the Dying Girl* for Indian Paintbrush, which won both the Grand Jury Prize and the Audience Award in the US Dramatic Competition at Sundance Film Festival 2015 and screened at the Sydney Film Festival in competition in 2015.

SESSION THREE: MAKING IT HAPPEN

2.00PM – 3.30PM

The producer oversees the whole film from the initial idea, right through to production and distribution. Our panelists will discuss the role of producer, from budgeting and financing to marketing and distribution.

DAVID JOWSEY

Producer



In 2009 David Jowsey formed BUNYA Productions with award winning filmmaker Ivan Sen (*Beneath Clouds*). BUNYA Productions is a boutique independent feature film production company focused on digital production based out of Sydney and Brisbane.

BUNYA Productions first film was Ivan Sen's ultra low budget digital Sci-Fi feature *Dreamland*, which premiered in competition at the 2010 Busan Film Festival. Ivan's next film *Toomelah*, debuted at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival in "Un Certain Regard". Both films were produced by David Jowsey.

David also produced the feature *Mad Bastards* by Brendan Fletcher, which premiered in the "World Cinema" competition of the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. David produced *Satellite Boy* by Catriona McKenzie. *Satellite Boy* had its world premiere at the 2012 Toronto Film Festival in the "Discovery" section. Its European Premiere was at the 2013 Berlin Film Festival in the "Generation" program and it received two "Special Mentions"

In 2013 David produced Ivan Sen's feature *Mystery Road* starring Aaron Pedersen, Hugo Weaving, Ryan Kwanten, Tasma Walton and Jack Thompson. *Mystery Road* launched internationally with a "special presentation" at the 2013 Toronto Film Festival and was Opening Night film at the 2013 Sydney Film Festival.

In 2015 David Jowsey has produced two new feature films. *Goldstone* by Ivan Sen, starring Aaron Pedersen, Jacki Weaver, Alex Russell, David Wenham, David Gulpilil and Cheng Pei-Pei. As well as *Jasper Jones* based on the best selling Australian novel, starring Hugo Weaving, Toni Collette, Matt Nable and Levi Miller.



NICOLE O'DONOHUE

Producer



Nicole O'Donohue is a Sydney based independent film producer. Most recently Nicole produced acclaimed theatre director Simon Stone's debut feature film *The Daughter* alongside Jan Chapman (*The Piano, Lantana*). In 2015 *The Daughter* screened at the Venice, Toronto and London Film Festivals. Previous credits include *Griff The Invisible*, written & directed by Leon Ford and starring Ryan Kwanten, which screened at the Toronto Film Festival in 2010 and opened the Generation section at the Berlin Film Festival in 2011, *Griff* also won the 2011 AACTA award for Best Original Screenplay. Nicole produced the feature documentary *The Last Impresario* directed by Gracie Otto, which was nominated for an AACTA Award for Best Feature Length Documentary in 2015. Nicole has produced many short films including the acclaimed short film *Spider* written by David Michôd & Nash Edgerton and directed by Nash, which won an honorable mention at the Sundance Film Festival in 2008, and is playing at Flickerfest this year in the 25th Anniversary Retrospective screening.

JAMIE HILTON

Producer



Jamie Hilton heads See Pictures. His theatrical debut was Claire McCarthy's *The Waiting City* (Joel Edgerton, Radha Mitchell). Recent credits include supernatural thriller *BackTrack* (Adrien Brody, Sam Neill) for writer/director Michael Petroni (*The Book Thief, Narnia: Dawn Treader*) and hit comedy *The Little Death* for writer/director/actor Josh Lawson. *The Little Death* won the SxSW Audience Award in 2015, played TIFF and sold in all major territories.

Jamie is currently in post-production on sci-fi *Otherlife* for director Ben C Lucas and in production on Tim Winton's *Breath*, alongside Mark Johnson (*the Notebook, Breaking Bad*) and actor/director Simon Baker (*The Mentalist*). Jamie was executive producer on Julia Leigh's *Sleeping Beauty* (Cannes Official Competition) and *Wormwood* for the Roache-Turner brothers.

His company See Pictures received Screen Australia Enterprise funding in 2015/16 and has projects in development with Pierre Morel (*Taken*), Stephan Elliott (*Priscilla: Queen of the Desert*), Wayne Blair (*The Sapphires*), Marcus Nispal (*Friday the 13th, Texas Chainsaw Massacre*), Peter Cornwell (*Haunting*), Christopher Weekes (*Muppet Man*) and Steve Worland (*Paper Planes*).

Jamie has produced work for Michael Petroni, Keir McFarlane, Joseph Kahn, Claire McCarthy, Spencer Susser and Michael Spiccia as well as many emerging filmmakers. He has produced over 100 shorts, music videos and commercials. His films have screened and won awards at Cannes, Toronto, Sydney, New York, Rome, Paris and London. Jamie was voted top producer at the 2012 Melbourne 37 South Market by attending international financiers. In Cannes 2013 Jamie was featured in Screen International's 'Future Leaders' showcase, one of 30 producers around the world.

SESSION FOUR: MARKET TO MARKET – CONQUER THE WORLD ON ALL PLATFORMS: DISTRIBUTION, FESTIVALS AND MULTI – PLATFORM DISTRIBUTION

3.45PM – 5.15PM

Now your short film is finished. What next?

This illuminating session puts the spotlight on marketing and distribution to help your film be seen by the largest possible audiences. The panel will dissect traditional models and offer up some innovative cross platform alternatives.



DANNY LACHEVRE

Co-Founder *The Solid State and Fan-Force*



Danny is co-founder of Film Marketing Agency The Solid State and Cinema-On-Demand platform Fan-Force.com. Over the past 16 years he has worked across hundreds of film and tv campaigns for domestic and international clients including Filmmakers, Distributors, Sales Agents and Networks. The Solid State develops strategic planning and marketing materials for film & tv projects at all stages of production from script stage to sales, theatrical and home entertainment.

Producing concept reels, trailers, posters, websites and social media campaigns led the agency to develop the Fan-Force platform, which launched in early 2015. In 9 months the platform has had over 100,000 visitors, booked over 600 film screenings across Australia / NZ and helped to create the box office record for the documentary *That Sugar Film*.

LUCY HILL

Head of Acquisitions, *Entertainment One Australia*.



Starting at Hopscotch Films in 2007, Lucy moved entirely into acquisitions and production in 2009. In the role of Acquisitions Manager at the company, she was actively involved in the acquisition of such films as *The Kids are All Right*, *The Sapphires*, *Satellite Boy*, *The Butler*, *Philomena*, *The Broken Circle Breakdown*, *Pride*, *My Old Lady* and *'71*. When Hopscotch Films became Entertainment One Australia in 2011, Lucy continued to coordinate the acquisitions strategy for Australia, as well as working with the international sales teams, the worldwide acquisitions team, the production team and the other acquisitions teams across eOne to devise a cohesive worldwide

acquisitions and distribution model.

Lucy has also acted as Production Coordinator on several projects including acclaimed Australian artist Emma Magenta's *the gradual demise of phillipa finch* for the ABC, and as Development Manager within Hopscotch Features, a joint venture between Hopscotch principal Troy Lum, producer Andrew Mason and writer John Collee, working on such films as *Saving Mr Banks* and *The Water Diviner*.

RICHARD HARRIS

Head of Business and Audience, *Screen Australia*



Richard was previously CEO of the South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC). As SAFC CEO Richard introduced a suite of initiatives and programs that underpinned resurgence in local production levels and built the creative and production company base in South Australia. In particular, he created FilmLab, the development program to nurture a new generation of South Australian talent. He also oversaw the construction of Adelaide Studios. Prior to the SAFC Richard was the Executive Director of the Australian Directors Guild. His previous experience included policy positions at the Screen Producers Association of Australia and the Australian Film, Television and Radio School.

He has taught media policy at the University of Sydney and is the author of *Film in the Age of Digital Distribution*. In 2007, *Variety* labelled him one of 20 global film executives to watch and in 2010 he was listed as one of *Encore's* 'Power 50'

NETWORKING DRINKS | 5.15PM – 6.45PM

lickerLab is presented by SAE Creative Media Institute

