



FLICKERLAB 2022

AN ONLINE JOURNEY FROM SHORTS TO FEATURES & LONG-FORM CONTENT

FRIDAY 28 JANUARY | 10am – 5.15pm

PRESENTED BY SAE CREATIVE MEDIA INSTITUTE



FlickerLab gives you the chance to 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 and wisdom with a range of panels designed to enhance and develop your creative ideas and get your film noticed in the marketplace. The entire scope of the film making experience is covered, from initial concept through to script, producing, marketing, distribution and the latest cross platform and alternative distribution methods.

Listen, share, network and engage as our panellists guide you through the joys and challenges of filmmaking. Absorb essential tips and knowledge and be inspired on your own creative journey.

Our panellists on the day will include: Penny Smallacombe (Bunya Productions), Katie Found (*My First Summer*), Nisrine Amine (*Here Out West*), Craig Boreham (Lonesome, Teenage Kicks), Dov Kornits (Pivot Pictures), Andrea Ulbrick (Screen NSW), Garry Maddox (SMH), Amanda Duthie (Stan), Danny Lachevre (Fan-Force), Drew Bailey (*Standing Up For Sunny, And Ellie And Abbie*), Melissa Lee Speyer (*Jadai: The Broome Brawler*), Leah Purcell (*The Drover's Wife: The Legend Of Molly Johnson*), Belinda Dean (*The Matrix Trilogy*) & Nash Edgerton (*Mr Inbetween, The Square*).

4 SESSIONS

FRIDAY 28 Jan 10am – 5.15pm

WRITER'S PANEL: FROM IDEA TO PAGE

10.00am – 11.30am

Everyone will tell you a good script is an essential ingredient for any good film. Our panel of experienced screenwriters will discuss turning a good idea into a good script, looking in detail at development, collaboration and script editing. They will share their insights about their own transitions from independent shorts to lauded feature films. Discussions will also include observations about writing for some of television's most successful and acclaimed dramas. This valuable session is a must for all budding screenwriters and filmmakers looking to develop and write scripts.

WRITER'S PANEL moderated by Melissa Lee Speyer

NISRINE AMINE



Nisrine is a Lebanese-Australian actress, writer, and director who has made appearances on both stage and screen. She has had supporting roles on well-known Australian TV including *Australian Gangster*, *Home and Away*, *Amazing Grace*, *Mr Inbetween*, *Frayed*, and *Here Come the Habibs* as well as lead roles in the short film *Maya* and the stage play *The Girl/The Woman*.

Her stage credits include *Shaz and Tina: Waiting for Uber* (Sydney Fringe Festival 2019), *Lady Tabouli* (Green Door/Apocalypse/Griffin Theatre Company, 2019), *The Girl/The Woman* (NTOP/Riverside Theatre 2018), *Alex and Eve: The Complete Story* (Factory Theatre, 2013) where she played the title role of Eve, *The Colour Blind Project* (Tap Gallery, 2011), and *Arabian Nights* (New Theatre, 2012) & has acted in countless playwriting development workshops.

Nisrine was nominated for an AWGIE for her writing on the feature film *Here Out West* which opened the Sydney Film Festival 2021 and will be released cinematically across Australia in 2022. Her short film *Apricot* (ABC, 2018) received funding by Screen NSW as part of their SEED: Regional Funding initiative and premiered at Flickerfest 2018, as well as various other national and international film festivals including the Citizen Jane Film Festival in Missouri USA. As a director, Nisrine directed alongside Warwick Thornton and Lucy Clements for the 2021 and 2019 *Martin Lysicrates Prize* at Riverside Theatres Parramatta.

Nisrine is also a curator and producer with her most recent project being the curation of the *Liverpool hub* of the Sydney Fringe Festival 2018 as well as the City of Parramatta Council's *Youth Week Comedy Night* at Riverside Theatres. In 2012, Nisrine produced and co-directed *The Young Creatives Festival of Shorts*, a short-play festival for young people from Western Sydney as well as *Ave Maria College Presents The Wiz* (Darebin Arts Centre, 2015).

In 2018, Nisrine became the Co-Founder & Creative Director of Parramatta Actors Centre.

CRAIG BOREHAM



Craig Boreham is an award-winning Sydney based writer & director.

Boreham's films have screened at over 200 international festivals: including the Berlin International Film Festival, Sydney Film Festival, Cannes, Palm Springs, Frameline and Outfest.

Craig's debut feature film *Teenage Kicks* premiered at the Sydney Film Festival in 2016 to critical acclaim.

Craig is currently in post-production of his new feature film *Lonesome*.

KATIE FOUND



Katie Found's AACTA nominated debut feature '*My First Summer*' received glowing reviews in *The Age*, *The New York Times*, *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar*.

Currently streaming on STAN, it screened at Adelaide Film Festival, BFI Flare, Santa Barbara International Film Festival, Inside Out, MQFF and Queer Screen's Mardi Gras Film Festival.

Katie completed her Masters of Screenwriting at VCA in 2020 and received development funding from Film Victoria for her psychological horror '*Down Came the Rain*'.

Most recently, Katie was selected as part of the Film Victoria, Arenamedia and SBS initiative 'Originate' along with co-writer Markella Kavenagh to develop her next feature, '*Into the Blue*'. She is represented by Zero Gravity Management.

MELISSA LEE SPEYER



MMelissa Lee Speyer is a playwright and screenwriter. TV screenwriting credits include "*The Heights*", "*The Wonder Gang*", "*Born to Spy*", Season 2 of "*Random and Whacky*" and "*For Real!*".

Short film credits include: "*Bala*" (Flickerfest 2020); and co-writing "*Jadai: The Broome Brawler*" (2018 Lexus Fellowship, Sydney Film Festival 2019).

Melissa currently works as a Development Executive at Screen Australia across a slate of TV and feature projects.

DIRECTORS PANEL: THE DIRECTOR'S JOURNEY

11.45am – 1.15pm

Intimately follow the career path of an esteemed Australian director from 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.

DIRECTOR'S PANEL moderated by Garry Maddox

LEAH PURCELL



Leah Purcell is one of Australia's most respected and admired Actors, Writers, Producers and Directors. She is an AACTA, Helpmann, Deadly's, ADG, AWGIE, IF, Logie award winning and nominated artist for her outstanding work on iconic feature film and TV such as *Lantana* and *Jindabyne*, *The Proposition* and *Last Cab to Darwin*, *Redfern Now* and *Cleverman*, *The Secret Daughter* and *Janet King*. Leah's actor, writer, director theatre credits include *Box the Pony*, *Bran Nue Dae*, *Low*, *Black Chicks Talking*, *The Story of the Miracles at Cookie's Table*, *Stuff Happens*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *The Dark Room*, *Brothers Wreck* and *Radiance*. Leah's current actor role is playing opposite Sigourney

Weaver in *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart*.

Her latest work is the award winning *The Drover's Wife*. This play written and starring Purcell swept all before it in 2017 winning the VIC and NSW Premiers Literary, Helpmann and AWGIE Awards for Best Play, Best Book, Prize for Literature. On the back of the plays success she launched *The Drover's Wife The Legend of Molly Johnson* novel in late 2019 and it has gone on to become a best-seller. The film of the same title World Premiered at the South By South West Film Festival in the USA in March 2021 and also opened the Brisbane International Film Festival, In-Competition at the Sydney Film Festival and screened at the New Zealand International Film Festival in 2021.

Leah became the first Australian to win the prestigious Asia Pacific Screen Awards Jury Grand Prize for her multi-faceted work across her debut feature in November 2021. The film opens across Australia in May 2022. Leah is a proud Goa-Gunggari-Wakka Wakka Murri woman from QLD.

NASH EDGERTON



Nash Edgerton is a writer, director, producer, actor, editor and stuntman. The multi-hyphenate has directed two feature films—Australian film noir *The Square* (a New York Times Critic's Pick) and Mexico-set action caper *Gringo*, starring David Oyelowo, Charlize Theron & Joel Edgerton - as well as music videos for various artists including Bob Dylan & several acclaimed short films including *Spider*, *Bear* and *Shark*.

Nash is also one of the founders of Blue-Tongue Films, a film collective responsible for features such as *Judy & Punch*, a dark fairy-tale which he produced, & *The King*, a medieval epic on which he worked as second-unit director.

Most recently he directed and executive produced all three seasons of the acclaimed FX series *Mr Inbetween*, described by The Hollywood Reporter as a “brilliantly taut drama” and by The New York Times as one of the best shows of 2021.

GARRY MADDOX



Long-time film writer for The Sydney Morning Herald, Garry Maddox is a regular host of film industry Q&A sessions.

He has been policy manager for the Film Finance Corporation, author of a series of industry reports, editor of the magazines *Encore* and *Total Sport*, board member of Sydney Film Festival, researcher-writer for the TV series *Police Rescue*, a playwright whose work has been produced by the Australian People's Theatre, judge for the Walkley, NSW Premier's Literary and Byron Kennedy awards and patron of the first Alliance Francaise Classic French Film Festival.

He has also represented Australia at the last four world age group triathlon championships - in Canada, the US, Mexico and the Netherlands.

LUNCH BREAK

PRODUCERS PANEL: MAKING IT HAPPEN

2.00pm – 3.30pm

The Producer oversees the entire film from the initial idea, right through to production and distribution. They are key in *making it happen*. Our panelists discuss the role of the producer, from budgeting and financing to marketing and distribution and everything in between. All producers are different and this diverse and hard-working panel will share their differing approaches to the very important task of getting the film made.

PRODUCER'S PANEL moderated by Andrea Ulbrick

PENNY SMALLACOMBE



Penny Smallacombe (Australian Jury & FlickerLab Producer) Penny is a Member of the Maramanindji people, from the Northern Territory in Australia. She has completed a cadetship with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and has a Masters of Arts (Documentary Producing) from the Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS) in Sydney.

Between 2004 and 2005 Penny worked in the Indigenous Programs Unit at the ABC. She was selected for Screen Australia's Indigenous Department's Producers Initiative in 2011, and also worked as a Senior Programmer for NITV, National Indigenous Television, a division of SBS. Most recently Head of the First Nations Department at Screen Australia, Penny managed the department for 6 years overseeing a large slate of successful film and television including *Total Control*, *Spear*, *She Who Must Be Loved*, *Sweet Country*, *We Don't Need A Map*, *Grace Beside Me* and *Little J And Big Cuz*.

She also created numerous special initiatives which have provided development opportunities for some of Australia's newest rising writing, directing and producing talents. In June she began her new role as a Producer at Bunya Productions, and has been a producer on the SBS Mini Series, *True Colours*, along with Greer Simpkin and David Jowsey.

DREW BAILEY



Drew started in the Australian film industry in 1994, working as an assistant editor on Tom Zubrycki's observational documentary *Billal*. This was followed by another hugely successful documentary, Bob Connelly and Robin Anderson's *Rat's In The Ranks*.

Moving out of post, Drew worked on a range of documentary series as a camera assistant and occasionally as a sound recordist. In 1997 he took a job at MTV Australia as a sound recordist and second camera operator. The same year he started working as an Assistant Director. In 1998 Drew worked at the BBC in London, before returning to Australia to work as an additional Assistant Director on *MI:2*.

Since then Drew has worked on a large number of films as an Assistant Director including: *Alien: Covenant*, *God's Of Egypt*, *The Blood Diamond*, *Scooby Doo*, *Matrix II and III*, *The Last Samurai*, *Mask II*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Superman Returns*, *Fools Gold*, *Wolverine*, *Sweet Tooth* and *Mr Inbetween*.

He has produced numerous Short and Feature Films and in 2010 was nominated for an Academy Award for producing the short film *Miracle Fish*. He won the SPA Emerging Producer of the Year in 2011. He won the AACTA Award for Best Indie Film in 2019 for *Standing Up For Sunny*, and *Ellie And Abbie (And Ellie's Dead Aunt)* won the same award in 2020.

BELINDA DEAN



Belinda is a creative producer with over two decades experience producing and contributing to screen stories across multiple formats and genres. Her early career was forged working on several big budget American films including *The Matrix Trilogy*, followed by a five-year stint in London working for US/UK commercial production company Moxie Pictures, home at the time to Wes Anderson, Todd Phillips, Ang Lee, Cameron Crow, Jarod Hess and more.

On her return to Australia in 2010, Belinda began producing top & TVCs with some of Australia's most exciting commercial talents. But eventually, the call to long-form & greater impact storytelling was impossible to ignore.

Over the past four years, Belinda has produced several award-winning short films and online series through independent production company, *unko*. Including new adult drama, *Cloudy River*, that premiered at the 2020 Queer Screen Mardi Gras Film Festival and is now available on SBS On Demand in their Rainbow Pride collection; uplifting doco *The Funny Ones* for ABC ME, and several award winning short films, including the multi-award-winning *Create NSW*, SBS

short film *Joy Boy* and retro-futurist sci-fi *Weather Girl* for the Epic Games Unreal Engine Short Film Competition. Belinda is a foundation member of the Screen Vixens and in 2019 was named a Screen Producers 'Ones to Watch'.

ANDREA ULBRICK



Andrea Ulbrick is an award-winning director and producer with an award-winning domestic and international career spanning 32 years. Since 2016, Andrea has been a Screen Investment Manager at Screen NSW and has managed more than 300 film and TV productions across a range of genres including TV drama such as the award-winning MYSTERY ROAD SERIES 2 (2019), dozens of award-winning Feature Documentaries including FIRESTARTER (2020) the Walkley winning documentary 3-part series REVELATION (2019) and the multi-award-winning BACKTRACK BOYS (2018), as well as VR content including the Emmy-award winning film AWAVENA(2019).

Previously, Andrea was a commissioning editor at ABC Factual (2014-2016) following a successful career in the independent sector with companies including Heiress Films, Serendipity Productions /Artemis International, Essential Media, Shine Australia, Screenworld, and Fremantle Media. She has produced and directed a range of international science and history co-productions for ABC TV, SBS, CBC, Arte France, BBC, Channel 4, WNET, National Geographic, and Discovery.

Andrea's films have won several awards including the Scinema Science Prize for Best Director, Best Sports Journalism, both in Sydney, and a nomination for Best Documentary at the Banff World Media Festival "Rockie" award in Canada in 2008.

Andrea's passion for non-fiction embraces a wide array of authentic and innovative storytelling forms, especially content that can become a tool for personal and policy change. She has an MA in Film and Television (Documentary) from AFTRS (2001).

DISTRIBUTION PANEL: 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? How do you launch your next project? This informative session puts the spotlight on current marketing and distribution trends to get your feature, web or TV series seen by the largest audiences possible. The panel will dissect traditional distribution models and offer up innovative cross platform alternatives. In the age of digital distribution find out how these new models can enhance the viewing potential of your film and build your filmmaking reputation.

DISTRIBUTOR'S PANEL moderated by Danny Lachevre

AMANDA DUTHIE



Amanda Duthie is Stan's Head of Scripted, working across Stan's Original scripted, entertainment and factual slate; and has over 20 years in the creative arts and television industry. Prior to her position at Stan, Amanda was Acting Head of Drama at SBS, plus also served as Executive Producer across many commissioned titles.

Before her time at SBS, Amanda was the Head of Production, Development and Studios at the South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC), where she oversaw the investment slate. She was also the Creative Director/CEO of the Adelaide Film Festival for seven years, leading both the festival and its investment fund; supporting 58 projects, which included award winning documentaries, VR, features.

Amanda Duthie held various roles at the ABC over her eight years with the public broadcaster, including Head of Arts and Entertainment, along with Executive Producer and Commissioning Editor Arts, Entertainment and Comedy. During her tenure at ABC, she commissioned numerous award-winning and popular programs.

DOV KORNIITS



Dov Kornits founded FilmInk Magazine in 1997. FilmInk is Australia's most popular prosumer movie website, and has been operating exclusively as a website magazine for the past 4 years, offering the latest industry news and reviews, as well as interviews with the people behind the movies and TV shows we love.

In 2017, Dov worked as Head of Theatrical for Umbrella Entertainment, releasing films such as *Jungle*, *You Were Never Really Here* among many others. In 2019, Dov founded distribution company FilmInk Presents, and soon joined forces with business partner Lou Balletti, changing the company name to Pivot Pictures, offering an end-to-end service for film distribution.

Since founding the distribution company, Dov has been responsible for releasing Australian films such as *The Legend of the Five*, *UNSOUND* and *Love You Like That*, along with acclaimed international films such as *Crock of Gold: A Few Rounds With Shane MacGowan*, *The Killing Of Two Lovers* and *Preparations To Be Together For An Unknown Period of Time*.

DANNY LACHEVRE



Danny is founder of the FanForce Group. A group of film businesses comprised of Fan-Force.com [Theatrical Distribution], FanForceTV [Streaming], The Pitcher House [Film Marketing] and FanForce Productions [Film Production]. He also established The Solid State Marketing agency in 2007.

Over the past 20 years Danny has worked across hundreds of award winning Film and TV campaigns for Filmmakers, Distributors, Sales Agents and Networks. This foundation in marketing and development led

to the launch of Distributor Fan-Force.com in 2015. Combining non-traditional 'crowd-sourced' techniques with traditional releasing, the company has since released hundreds of titles films across 40 countries including '*Embrace*', '*2040*', '*That Sugar Film*' and '*In My Blood It Runs*'. FanForce brings together a unique approach to distribution with access to thousands of cinema screens across the world.

Danny has helped develop and pitch projects to Universal Pictures, Netflix and Marvel Studios including Cate Shortland's '*Black Widow*'. In 2018 Danny established FanForce Productions which is currently in production on 5 feature documentaries aimed at the global market. The FanForce Group aims to provide an end to end pathway for independent filmmakers to pitch, fund, market and distribute their films to a global audience.

TODD ABBOTT



Todd Abbott leads the commissioning and creative execution of narrative and scripted comedy programs across the ABC's multiple platforms. He has previously produced landmark television programs including the iconic comedy series *The Dream with Roy & H.G.* and the globally-lauded ABC series *Please Like Me with Josh Thomas*.

Other career highlights include reimagining Geoffrey Robertson's *Hypotheticals* for Seven, rebooting *Rove* for Ten in 2007, and producing Judith Lucy's *Spiritual Journey* for the ABC and the short-lived but fondly remembered *Micallef Tonight* for Nine.

Abbott has produced not only comedy and entertainment, but also sport, current affairs and documentary content for the ABC, Seven, Nine, Ten, Foxtel, Stan, Amazon Prime and Pivot.