

MEDIA RELEASE

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Screen Australia's short film support gives aspiring filmmakers a boost

Tuesday 4 May 2010: Screen Australia today announced investment in 11 short films through its Springboard, Short Animation Production and Short Film Completion Fund programs.

"We are thrilled to support these 22 talented filmmakers to produce short films which will act as their calling cards," said **Martha Coleman**, Screen Australia's Head of Development. "A team's short films are of vital importance in raising their profile in the industry and provide an essential stepping-stone in a professional filmmaking career path. Our Springboard, Short Animation Production and Shorts Completion Fund programs are about career building for the long term."

The four teams selected for the Springboard program will commence production following a unique development process. The creative teams devised and developed their short film over the course of two workshops, hosted in December 2009 and February 2010. The short film complements their existing feature proposal and provides a strategic tool in getting their first feature off the ground. The four selected projects are:

- sci-fi thriller *Cryo* (in support of the feature film *Cargo*) from w: **Matthew Dabner**, d: **Luke Doolan** and p: **Drew Bailey**
- apocalyptic drama *Transmission* (in support of the feature film *These Final Hours*) from w/d: **Zak Hilditch** and p: **Liz Kearney**
- conspiracy thriller *Mercury* (in support of feature film *Hound*) from w/d: **Paul Oliver** and p: **Phillipa Campey**
- sci-fi thriller *Rarer Monsters* (in support of the feature film *Tremula*) from w/d: **Shayne Armstrong**, w: **Shane Krause** and p: **Charles Mitchell**

Screen Australia's Short Animation Production will support three new short animations. Animal Logic's **Zareh Nalbandian** (Co-Founder & CEO) and **Bruce Carter** (Creative Director) worked with Screen Australia to select the successful teams.

- *The Orchestra* from w/d: **Michael Hill** and p: **Melanie Brunt**
- *Butterflies* from w/d: **Isabel Peppard** and p: **Warwick Burton**
- *Grace Under Water* from d/p: **Anthony Lawrence** and w: **Chrissie McMahon**

Four films have been supported through the Short Film Completion Fund which provides finance for distinctive shorts that show outstanding potential but lack the funds to finish. These are:

- *Voyeurnet* from w/d/p: **Stuart Parkyn** and p: **Jana Jones**
- *Eli the Avenger* from w/d: **Miranda Nation** and p: **Dominic Allen**
- *Huge* from w/d: **Shane Krause**, w: **Shayne Armstrong** and p: **Charles Mitchell**
- *Punch Drunk* from w/d: **Sam Wark** and p: **Leah Hallis**

Screen Australia's support of the Raw Nerve initiative provides opportunities to new filmmakers to create short films in collaboration with the Screen Development Australia (SDA) network.

Springboard 2010/11 is now open for applications with a closing deadline of **Monday 2 August**. Springboard is targeted at filmmaking teams who have a final draft script ready for the marketplace and are one step away from making their first professional feature film. The Springboard workshops will again be run by **Simon van der Borgh** and **Jonathan Rawlinson**, screenwriting teachers and script consultants with extensive international experience. Further information and application forms are available from www.screenaustralia.gov.au/springboard. The Short Animation Production Program and the Short Film Completion Fund will run again in the 2010/11 financial year.