



SCREEN AUSTRALIA'S INDIGENOUS DEPARTMENT SUPPORTS 10 INDIGENOUS ATTACHMENTS ON THOR: RAGNAROK AND ALIEN: COVENANT

Monday 1 August 2016: Screen Australia's Indigenous Department has confirmed the eight attachments on Marvel's *Thor: Ragnarok* from director Taika Waititi at Village Roadshow Studios on the Gold Coast, as well as the further two attachments on Ridley Scott's latest film, *Alien: Covenant* at Fox Studios in Sydney.

The attachment scheme from Screen Australia's Indigenous Department gives unique and valuable production experience for Indigenous screenmakers who wish to break into the industry, extend their production experience or develop their career as crew and creatives.

Penny Smallacombe, Head of the Indigenous Department at Screen Australia said: 'We are enormously proud of the talent and ambition of this cohort. From an attachment comes practical and hands-on experience, invaluable networking and the opportunity to forge a sustainable career in the industry. We've just seen the incredible success of *Cleverman*, which creator Ryan Griffen began working on during his Indigenous Department attachment at Goalpost Pictures. Through his gained knowledge of the industry and hard work, *Cleverman* has its world premiere at Berlinale this year and has enjoyed critical acclaim both here and in the US. We know these opportunities work."

Thor: Ragnarok director Taika Waititi said: "Being Maori, it's extremely important to me to have native presence on any film. We're bringing a huge Hollywood production to this country and it's only right that we make an effort to include indigenous film makers on the journey."

The eight attachments on *Thor* will work across departments including directing, stunts, set design and production and grips. Hailing from around Australia, the group includes:

- Cornel Ozies (Director's Attachment)
 Cornel is from the Kimberly region of Western Australia and started his career and a video editor at his local TV station in Broome before directing a series of documentaries for ABC, SBS and NITV. He has previously been a camera attachment on films including The Sapphires and The Great Gatsby.
- Sharri Sebbens (Director's Attachment)
 Sharri was born and raised in Darwin. A graduate of the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) and the National Institute for Dramatic Arts (NIDA), she has acted in theatre and television productions including Redfern Now, The Sapphires and The Gods of Wheat Street.
- Kodie Bedford (Stunts)
 Kodie was born and raised in the Midwest of Western Australia with strong family ties to the East Kimberly region. She has worked as a journalist, presenter, documentary producer and online producer for ABC and SBS. She is currently working as a writer with a new collective called Cope-St, which aims to produce Indigenous storytelling and create work that relates to and reflects multi-cultural Australia.
- Perun Bosner (2nd Unit Production)
 Perun is from Broome, Western Australia and will be attached the 2nd unit. Perun joins the *Thor* team after writing and directing various documentaries through ScreenWest and Screen Australia. His work has been featured on ABC, NITV and international film festivals.

Joining this group are Mitchell Stanley (Set Decorating Department), Dena Curtis (Production Office), Ben Southwell (Grips/Gaffers) and Tracey Rigney (1st Assistant Director's Attachment).

Two screenmakers will be attached to the *Alien: Covenant* art department and will work across set design, graphic design and onset graphics, set dressing and manufacturing props. The two attachments are:

- Jonathan Saunders (Art Department)

 John is a Darwin-based digital artist who has been widely exhibited in solo and group shows. He currently works with the Association of Northern Kimberly and Arnhem Aboriginal Artists (ANKAA).
- Darryl Bellotti (Art Department)
 Daryl is a Perth-based graphic designer and illustrator, originally from Carnarvon in north-west Western Australia. He has also worked as lecturer and mentor, and is an Aboriginal Youth Outreach Worker for The City of Cockburn.

For further information regarding Screen Australia's Indigenous Department <u>click here</u>. For more on Indigenous internships on *Cleverman*, <u>click here</u>





