

Screen Australia announces over \$2 million of Enterprise funding

Wednesday 31 March 2021: Screen Australia has announced funding for four Business & Ideas projects and 11 Enterprise People talent opportunities which will share in over \$2 million.

Among the recipients are Doc Society launching **Global Story and Impact Labs** which will enable Australian documentary makers to elevate the social impact of their work; and A2K Media which will create an online disability equity and inclusion training program for the screen industry called **Disability Justice Lens**.

Screen Australia's CEO **Graeme Mason** said, "The past year has inspired incredible innovation and adaptability across the screen sector, and this is evident in these bold proposals that are set to improve the industry whether it's White Spark Pictures developing innovative virtual reality technology, A2K Media improving participation for people with disability, or Typecast Entertainment expanding their ability to support storytelling from First Nations people and people of colour. We're also excited to support Doc Society's new labs which will provide opportunities for a new generation of filmmakers to tap into a global network of resources."

"The Enterprise People stream continues to support a wide range of professional development opportunities and we look forward to seeing these creatives utilise these placements to build their skills in the industry and advance their careers."

The Enterprise Business & Ideas fund is currently on hiatus and is being reviewed. The Enterprise People fund remains open for applications.

ENTERPRISE BUSINESS & IDEAS:

- **A2K Media** will launch **Disability Justice Lens**, an online disability equity and inclusion training program focusing on solutions to the intersectional experience of disability within the screen industry. Developed and delivered by disabled screen practitioners and their non-disabled allies, the program will provide participants with an understanding of the marginalisation faced by people with disability in the screen industry, and help them develop practical skills to embed access and inclusion in the sector.
- **Doc Society** will launch two **Global Story and Impact Labs** in Australia to support 10 to 12 social impact documentary projects over two years. These film teams will join over 400 global creative teams who have been mentored by Doc Society alongside programs such as Good Pitch, which have introduced filmmakers to social change partners and funders, and included award-winning Australian projects such as [2040](#) and [In My Blood It Runs](#). The new labs aim to strengthen participants' storytelling skills, support them to build audience and distribution strategies and new pathways to finance. Led by Global Director of Good Pitch at Doc Society, Malinda Wink, the program will comprise of two intensive workshops as well as mentoring from industry experts from Australia and overseas, including Doc Society's Global Head of Film, Shanida Scotland formerly of BBC Storyville and The Guardian. Applications will open in the coming months and more information is available via the [Doc Society newsletter](#). Alongside the labs, Doc Society will offer industry seminars around social impact and fundraising. The funding will also support a position for a Producer/Impact Producer as Doc Society's Program Manager Australia.
- Indigenous-owned Victorian-based production company **Typecast Entertainment** led by director/writer Tony Briggs ([The Sapphires](#)) and producer Damien Pradier ([Elders](#)) will build on their strategic and innovative mixed business model. The model at its core focuses on improving outcomes for people of colour and Indigenous screen practitioners. The funding will also support the company to employ a Director of Content & Business Operations and an Indigenous Production trainee.



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- **White Spark Pictures**, the team behind the award-winning documentary [The Antarctica Experience](#) and upcoming project *Beyond the Stars*, will develop a new distribution model for virtual reality (VR) content called Surround Sync. The innovative venture will provide a pathway for theatrical VR distribution, and is designed to synchronize hundreds of VR headsets at once to create a cinematic experience for VR projects, increasing accessibility for VR content, building on their recent success of *The Antarctica Experience* in museums across Australia and overseas. The funding will also support the company to employ Benn Ellard as Business Development and Project Manager, working across the company's slate of projects.

ENTERPRISE PEOPLE - CAREER PLACEMENTS:

- **Alice Burgin**, former CEO/Conference Director of the Australian International Documentary Conference, is developing her documentary production practice in a two-year placement as Documentary/Factual Executive at Sweetshop & Green ([Vesna](#)), working under Co-Managing Director Gal Greenspan.
- Director **Hattie Dalton** ([Summer's Day](#)) worked as shadow director on series 5 of [Doctor Doctor](#) under the guidance of Daniel Nettheim, through the Australian Director's Guild Direct One program. Hattie directed one episode of *Doctor Doctor*.
- Filmmaker **Ashley Gibb** will undertake a placement with Wild Pacific Media ([Australia's Ocean Odyssey](#)) for up to 16 months to expand his skills in natural history documentary making with a focus on writing, directing and cinematography.
- Writer **Sarinah Masukor** ([Maverix](#)) will undertake a two-year placement at Jungle Entertainment ([Wakefield](#)), working as staff writer under Head of Drama, Shay Spencer.
- Producer **Molly O'Connor** ([Running 62](#)) will undertake a two-year placement at Film Camp under the mentorship of company founder Philippa Campey ([Brazen Hussies](#)) and producer Samantha Dinning ([No Time For Quiet](#)).
- Writer, comedian and actor **Matt Okine** ([The Other Guy](#)) has commenced a two-year placement at independent production company, Wooden Horse where he will be mentored by film and television executives and joint CEO's, Jude Troy and Richard Finlayson to drive development and production under the Wooden Horse banner on a slate of projects focusing on diverse and under-represented stories and talent. Okine has two television series in funded development with Wooden Horse and is also working with the Wooden Horse team alongside Aquarius Films on a feature adaptation of his novel, *Being Black N Chicken & Chips*.
- Documentary producer **Casey Ventura** will undertake a one-year placement as a development and impact producer at FINCH ([Machine](#)), working across documentary development and production, and innovative impact strategies. Ventura will be mentored by Camilla Mazzaferro and Michael Hilliard.
- Producer **Stephanie Westwood** ([Triple Swear](#)) will take on a one-year Content Executive placement with Orange Entertainment Co ([Retrograde](#)) where she will work under Head of Content, Dan Lake.
- Emerging creative and specialist in data analytics, **Georgia Woodward**, will join Southern Pictures ([Miriam Margolyes Almost Australian](#)) for a two-year placement as Junior Development Producer.

ENTERPRISE PEOPLE - PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- Filmmaker and multimedia artist **Emma Rozanski** (*Papagajka*) was funded to participate in Torino Film Lab's online script development workshop in September 2020 to develop her second feature film and build international relationships.

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- Producer Alice Willison ([The Other Guy](#)) will be mentored by Amal Baggar (Vice President, Original Movies & Limited Series at ViacomCBS) for six months.

ABOUT ENTERPRISE FUNDING:

Funding through Screen Australia's Enterprise program has been available in two paths:

- [Enterprise People](#) allows both emerging and experienced creatives to apply for funding for a domestic or international career placement, and/or other professional development opportunities. Applications for this program are open year-round.
- [Enterprise Business & Ideas](#) has allowed Australian entities to apply for funding to develop and deliver an innovative screen business proposal, hire a company placement and/or access business-building services. This program is closed for applications while it is under review.

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