

David Stratton: A Cinematic Life* selected to screen at Cannes joining *Top of the Lake: China Girl

Thursday 4th May 2017: In an announcement overnight it has been confirmed that *David Stratton: A Cinematic Life* will screen at the 70th Festival de Cannes.

David Stratton: A Cinematic Life has been selected as part of the festival's 'Cannes Classics' program that celebrates global cinematic history. The documentary is a compelling personal journey with renowned film critic David Stratton, as he relates the fascinating development of Australia's cinema history.

David Stratton has a long association with the festival and was awarded the highly regarded 60th Anniversary Medal in 2007. He has also twice served as President of FIPRESCI (International Film Critics) Jury in Cannes. Stratton will be in attendance at the screening, alongside the film's director Sally Aitken and producer Joanne McGowan.

"It is testament to the genuine affection and respect for David Stratton within the screen industry globally that *A Cinematic Life* has been selected to screen at Cannes. Australia has a unique cinema history, credited with producing the first ever full-length feature film, so it is extremely rewarding that our screen heritage will be showcased through this fascinating documentary at one of the world's most prestigious film festivals," said Screen Australia's CEO Graeme Mason.

A Cinematic Life joins *Top of the Lake: China Girl*, which will also screen at the Festival de Cannes as part of a 70th Anniversary special event. Two television series will be showcased at this year's festival, including this highly anticipated second series from Palme d'Or recipient, writer/director Jane Campion, as well as the first two episodes of David Lynch's *Twin Peaks*.

"It is a landmark moment for Australian television that *Top of the Lake* will be one of the first series ever to be screened at the festival. Jane Campion has received acclaim at Cannes throughout her career and this is further recognition of her incredible talent. Together with co-director Ariel Kleiman they have brought a world-class production to our screens," said Screen Australia's CEO Graeme Mason.

Top of the Lake: China Girl was filmed in Sydney and stars Elisabeth Moss, Gwendoline Christie, Nicole Kidman, David Dencik, Alice Englert and Ewen Leslie. The series begins four years on from the explosive ending of season one.

This is a standout year for Nicole Kidman who not only stars in *Top of the Lake* but also three features premiering in Cannes, *The Beguiled* and *The Killing of a Sacred Deer* which have both been selected for competition, as well as *How to Talk to Girls at Parties*.

Jane Campion's 1986 short film *Peel* will also screen at the festival as part of a Cannes Classics program '1951-1999: A Short History of Short Films' curated by Christian Jeune and Jacques Kermabon.

The [Festival de Cannes](#) takes place from 17-28 May 2017