



THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF CINEMA AND TELEVISION ARTS ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE 3rd AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

**MEDIA RELEASE STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL:
LOS ANGELES: Friday 10, January 2014 8.00pm (PST)
SYDNEY: Saturday 11, January 2014 3.00pm (AEDT)**

The Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA) today announced the winners of the 3rd AACTA International Awards, recognizing screen excellence across seven categories including Best Film, Best Direction, Best Screenplay, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor and Best Supporting Actress.

Winners were announced at an intimate Awards Ceremony in Los Angeles hosted by multi-award winner and AACTA President Geoffrey Rush who shared the stage with fellow Australian industry presenters including Jacki Weaver, Stuart Beattie, Anthony LaPaglia and Yvonne Strahovski.

BLUE JASMINE'S Australian leading lady, Cate Blanchett was called to the stage by AACTA President Geoffrey Rush to accept the AACTA International Award for Best Actress.

Blanchett's acclaimed performance as Jasmine in the Woody Allen film has been tipped to win a raft of awards in the 2014 International Awards season including a possible second Oscar which, if occurs, would make her the first Australian actress in history to be awarded twice by AMPAS.

GRAVITY, the visual masterpiece directed by BAFTA winner and Oscar nominee Alfonso Cuarón, received the AACTA International Award for Best Film and the AACTA International Award for Best Direction.

The space odyssey, based on a story written by Alfonso Cuarón's son Jonás, pushed the known boundaries of cinematography and technologies to illustrate a tense story of skill and survival set in zero gravity. A team of world renowned VFX artists worked with Cuarón to realize his extraordinary vision including visual effects supervisor Tim Webber and Australian VFX House Rising Sun Pictures.

AMERICAN HUSTLE, the most nominated film in this year's AACTA International Awards also received two Awards. The AACTA International Award for Best Screenplay, (which went to Eric Warren Singer and the film's Director David O. Russell) and to actress Jennifer Lawrence who received her second AACTA International Award in a David O. Russell film; this time for her portrayal of Rosalyn, the explosively alluring and manic housewife to Christian Bale's Irving Rosenfeld.

12 YEARS A SLAVE saw wins in both actor categories with Chiwetel Ejiofor receiving the AACTA International Award for Best Actor and Michael Fassbender the AACTA International Award for Best Supporting Actor. Set in pre-Civil War America the film is based on the true story of Solomon Northup, a free black man from upstate New York who was abducted and sold into slavery. 12 YEARS A SLAVE is directed by UK director Steve McQueen.

AACTA President, Geoffrey Rush, said: "The AACTA International Awards are Australia's international stamp of screen success. They recognise our international counterparts, add an Australian voice to international Academy discussion, and celebrate our fellow Australians working internationally.



“I congratulate this year’s AACTA International Award nominees and winners on their compelling and inspiring work and as always I look forward with anticipation to see if our international peers have concurred with the AACTA International Chapter in this year’s Awards season selection.” Rush said.

The 3rd AACTA International Awards will be broadcast on Foxtel’s Arena in Australia on Sunday 12 January, 2014 at 7.30pm.

3rd AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARDS NOMINEES AND WINNERS

AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR BEST FILM

12 YEARS A SLAVE
AMERICAN HUSTLE
CAPTAIN PHILLIPS
GRAVITY - WINNER
RUSH

AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR BEST DIRECTION

12 YEARS A SLAVE – Steve McQueen
AMERICAN HUSTLE – David O. Russell
CAPTAIN PHILLIPS – Paul Greengrass
GRAVITY – Alfonso Cuarón - WINNER
THE GREAT GATSBY – Baz Luhrmann

AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR BEST SCREENPLAY

12 YEARS A SLAVE – John Ridley
AMERICAN HUSTLE – Eric Warren Singer, David O. Russell - WINNER
BLUE JASMINE – Woody Allen
INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS – Joel Coen, Ethan Coen
SAVING MR. BANKS – Kelly Marcel, Sue Smith

AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR BEST LEAD ACTOR

Christian Bale – AMERICAN HUSTLE
Leonardo DiCaprio – THE WOLF OF WALL STREET
Chiwetel Ejiofor - 12 YEARS A SLAVE - WINNER
Tom Hanks – CAPTAIN PHILLIPS
Matthew McConaughey – DALLAS BUYERS CLUB

AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR BEST LEAD ACTRESS

Amy Adams – AMERICAN HUSTLE
Cate Blanchett – BLUE JASMINE - WINNER
Sandra Bullock – GRAVITY
Judi Dench – PHILOMENA
Meryl Streep – AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY

AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Bradley Cooper – AMERICAN HUSTLE
Joel Edgerton – THE GREAT GATSBY
Michael Fassbender – 12 YEARS A SLAVE - WINNER
Jared Leto – DALLAS BUYERS CLUB
Geoffrey Rush – THE BOOK THIEF



AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Sally Hawkins – BLUE JASMINE

Jennifer Lawrence – AMERICAN HUSTLE - WINNER

Lupita Nyong'o - 12 YEARS A SLAVE

Julia Roberts – AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY

Octavia Spencer – FRUITVALE STATION

Notes to Editors

Photo Images from the 3rd AACTA International Awards Ceremony are available for media use:

Red Carpet: http://mm.gettyimages.com/mm/nicePath/gyipa_public?nav=pr204467909

Event Ceremony: http://mm.gettyimages.com/mm/nicePath/gyipa_public?nav=pr204467962

Selected images of nominated projects and performers can be downloaded via Dropbox link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ubklak0bgljt1t1/AeJlDBKSQs>

Information for Australian and US Broadcasters:

AACTA AWARDS ~ FIRST AUSTRALIAN FEED (ROUGH CUT)

Date: 11th January 2014

Time: 0445-0500 **GMT**

Pactv Ref: 318271

SOURCE: Pacific Television Center Los Angeles +1.310.287.3800

DESTINATION ONE: Hollywood Hub 700310 in NTSC SD (for Nine Network)

DESTINATION TWO: Seven Network Tie Seven

DESTINATION THREE: Network TEN SD Direct

AACTA AWARDS ~ AUSTRALIA & USA FEED (EDITED)

Date: 11th January 2014

Time: 0545-0600 **GMT** (0045-0100 USA ET)

Pactv Ref: 318269

SOURCE: Pacific Television Center Los Angeles +1.310.287.3800

DESTINATION ONE: Hollywood Hub 700310 in NTSC SD (for Nine Network)

DESTINATION TWO: Seven Network Tie Seven

DESTINATION THREE: Network TEN SD Direct

AACTA AWARDS ~ USA FEED (EDITED)

Date: 11th January 2014

Time: 0045-0100 **USA ET**

SOURCE: Pacific Television Center Los Angeles +1.310.287.3800

Satellite: AMC-1 @ 103W 15C C15C 9.00 MHz

Downlink Freq: 4,013.500 / Horizontal

Modulation: QPSK

Symbol: 6.1113

FEC: 3/4

Data: 8448 mbps

Format: SD NTSC

*** Also available at the Pactv Pool at the LA Switch



About the AACTA International Awards

The AACTA International Awards recognise film excellence regardless of geography, as determined by the AACTA International Chapter which comprises over 80 Australian screen practitioners working in the U.S. and Australia from a cross-section of crafts. Approximately half of the AACTA International Chapter are also members of The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (the Oscars), and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA), and include members from the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) and the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA). All chapter members are eligible to vote in the two round AACTA International Award voting process.

About the Australian Academy

This year marks the third Awards of the Australian Academy, which was established in August 2011 by the Australian Film Institute (AFI). The AFI has been recognising screen excellence in Australia since 1958; former AFI Award winners include: Nicole Kidman, Cate Blanchett (AFI/ AACTA Ambassador), Naomi Watts, Hugo Weaving, Eric Bana, Russell Crowe, Toni Collette, George Miller (AFI/AACTA Patron), Bruce Beresford and Geoffrey Rush (AACTA President).

The AACTA Awards are proudly supported by the NSW Government, through its tourism and major events agency, Destination New South Wales (Destination NSW).

Australians in Film is a Los Angeles based non-profit organization made up largely of Australians who work in the film and television industry. Australians in Film Ambassadors include Nicole Kidman, Russell Crowe, Naomi Watts and Mel Gibson. For more, visit: <http://australiansinfilm.org/>

3rd AACTA Awards – Sydney, Australia

The 3rd AACTA Awards will be held at two major events in Sydney, the home of the Australian screen industry, at The Star Event Centre in January 2014:

- 3rd AACTA Awards Luncheon presented by Deluxe – Tuesday 28th January, 2014
- 3rd AACTA Awards Ceremony – Thursday 30th January, 2014 – Broadcast on Network Ten

For further information about AFI | AACTA, visit: www.aacta.org

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