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## AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF CINEMA AND TELEVISION ARTS ANNOUNCES HOST FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> AACTA AWARDS

Today the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts announced AFI Award winning actor and comedian SHANE BOURNE as the host of the 3<sup>rd</sup> AACTA Awards Ceremony in Sydney, to be broadcast Thursday January 30<sup>th</sup> on Network Ten at 8.30pm.

An Australian household name, Shane has garnered fans for his dramatic work in *MDA* and *Kokoda*, as well as for his comedic talents in *Thank God You're Here*.

AFI | AACTA CEO, Damian Trehwella, said *"We are delighted Shane will host the 3<sup>rd</sup> AACTA Awards Ceremony. Shane is an AFI Award winner and audience favourite, and a well loved and respected member of the screen industry. We look forward to have having him host the event."*

Shane Bourne said of the announcement, *"I am really looking forward to being involved in the 3rd AACTA Awards and providing the social lubricant to help ensure a great night for all as we celebrate the year's achievements in television and film. And if the Official After Party is just a fraction as good as the scenes from The Great Gatsby then we're in for a night to remember!"*

The AACTA Awards are now in their third season and are held in Sydney over two Awards events in the last week of January. Over 1,000 Australian film and television performers and practitioners come together to recognise and celebrate Australian screen excellence at the biggest event on the Australian screen industry's calendar.

Many of Australia's favourites stars of the big and small screen have confirmed their attendance including AACTA President Geoffrey Rush and current awards season sensation Cate Blanchett.

Ita Buttrose, Jack Thompson, Jacki Weaver, John Waters, and Rove McManus with his (nominated) wife Tasma Walton will be there, as will Kat Stewart and Claudia Karvan - just to name a few.

The AACTA Raymond Longford Award, the highest honour that the Australian Academy can bestow upon an individual, recognising a person who has made a truly outstanding contribution to the enrichment of Australia's screen culture, will also be presented on the night.

Patrick Brammall, star of *Upper Middle Bogan* and *A Moody Christmas* will host the industry's 3<sup>rd</sup> AACTA Awards Luncheon presented by Deluxe on Tuesday 28 January. This event presents 22 awards focusing predominately on the talents of those who work behind the camera, including Best Costume Design and Cinematography.

**Minister for Tourism, Major Events and the Arts, George Souris**, said *"The AACTA Awards is a key creative industries event on the Sydney and NSW Events Calendar, playing a leading role in*



*reinforcing Sydney's position as the creative services capital of Australia and the creative hub of the Asia Pacific Region.*

*"NSW is the hub of film and television production in Australia, with more than half of national screen businesses, nearly 60 per cent of all Australians employed in the screen production industry, and 40 per cent of Australia's creative industries workforce based here."*

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

This year marks the third Awards season of the Australian Academy, which was established in August 2011 by the Australian Film Institute (AFI).

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

The 3rd AACTA Awards will be held over two major separate events in Sydney, the home of the Australian screen industry, at The Star Event Centre in January 2013:

- **3<sup>rd</sup> AACTA Awards Luncheon presented by Deluxe – Tuesday 28 January 2014**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> AACTA Awards Ceremony – Thursday 30 January 2014 – Broadcast on Network Ten**

Tickets to the 3<sup>rd</sup> AACTA Awards Luncheon presented by Deluxe and the 3<sup>rd</sup> AACTA Awards Ceremony and Official After Party are available to purchase. For more information about this event, this is open to the public and the industry, click [here](#).

AACTA also recognises screen excellence regardless of geography through the **AACTA International Awards**. The 3rd AACTA International Awards were presented in L.A. on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2014. Information and winners can be viewed [here](#).

For further information about AFI | AACTA, visit: [www.aacta.org](http://www.aacta.org)

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