



Strictly Confidential – Embargoed until Tuesday 30 July 2019 12:01am AEST

2019 AACTA AWARDS PRESENTED BY FOXTEL

SHORT-LISTED FILMS THAT WILL SCREEN AT AACTA SHORTS+WEB FEST presented by MINI

– SHORT FILM–

DESERT DASH

On the outskirts of Australia, opals have become the currency for survival in the game of Desert Dash. When a feisty heroine gets the opportunity to 'Level Up' there is no choice but to win. Game on!

Director: Gracie Otto

Producers: Gracie Otto, Jessica Carrera, Craig Deeker, Francesca Duncan

THE EGG

A young girl is dropped off at an elderly Korean woman's house each day to be babysat whilst her mother works. Bored, lonely and mistreated in this muted world of foreign suburbia, the girl looks for anything to break the monotonous routine of congee, old Korean movies and mandatory naps. Becoming infatuated with an Easter egg upon the refrigerator, she fantasizes about the day where she will find the courage to claim her prize.

Director: Jane Cho

Producers: Jane Cho, Ilana Lazar

THE PROJECTIONIST

An elderly widower discovers he can use his Super 8mm projector to travel into the world of his home movies, forcing him to revisit the night a tragic accident changed his life forever.

Director: Marcus McKenzie

Producer: Kirsty Stark

REBOOTED

In an industry obsessed with the superficial, it's not easy being an aging movie star. It's even harder when you're also a stop-motion animated skeleton monster. Phil used to be a cutting edge special effect. As a stop-motion animated skeleton from the 1960s, modern movie studios just aren't hiring him to star in blockbusters anymore. Refusing to succumb to his own irrelevance, Phil takes drastic measures when he learns the film for which he was created is being rebooted without him.



Director: Michael Shanks

Producers: Nicholas Colla, Chris Hocking

SNARE

At an ageing Chinese restaurant in 1997, a dad (Steve Rodgers) asks his punk musician son (James Fraser) to help him follow his dreams.

Director: Madeleine Gottlieb

Producers: Madeleine Gottlieb, Tom Slater

YULUBIDYI – UNTIL THE END

A young Aboriginal man, Jarman, is tasked with protecting his younger disabled brother, Brianol, from life in a harsh remote community. His father, Thunder, wants him to become the leader of the tribe and mocks any weakness in him. Brianol is seen as useless and yet Jarman senses that the boy has a great connection to the land and spirit. After witnessing abuse and intimidation from their overbearing father, Jarman takes matters into his own hands and flees with Brianol to the desert. Thunder pursues them, aiming to bring Jarman home and abandoning Brianol to die. But they are helped by a dreaming creature (Mamu).

Director: Curtis Taylor, Nathan Mewett

Producer: Glen Stasiuk

– SHORT ANIMATION –

ACCENTS

Accents, a spoken word piece written and performed by poet Denice Frohman, is an ode to her mother's Puerto Rican accent. Accents takes on the energy, soul and rhythm of Denice's performance, transposing her rhythmic vocal motifs into moving image using vibrant and raw frame-by-frame traditional animation. "I wanted to write my mother out of a shame that didn't belong to her. I wanted to write her into a power that she possesses. I wanted to subvert the hierarchies of language that puts English at the top, and every other language at the bottom."

Director: Robertino Zambrano

Producer: Robertino Zambrano

DELLA MORTIKA: CAROUSEL OF SHAME

This is the fantastical world of Della Mortika, where steam is king, where life is hard, but where adventure is always adventure. Here we meet the Della Morte Sisters: Abigail, Beatrix and Zarah, whose sisterly bond is about to be tested.

Director: Marisa Martin

Producers: Marisa Martin, Geraldine Martin

JASPER

Jasper is wild little girl who doesn't come home when she's supposed to and prefers a big sky over her head rather than a screen in front of her face. She doesn't care what people think she should do or be. She just wants to fly - and she isn't going to give up until she does. Jasper explores the idea that the dream of flight completely transcends gender.

Director: Simon Rippingale

Producer: Alessandra Grasso

PINCHPOT

A story about giving and receiving, art and work, life and death, and things made from lumps of clay.

Director: Greg Holfeld

Producer: Greg Holfeld

SOHRAB AND RUSTUM

Sohrab and Rustum is the story of a young English teacher reading a poem to a class of teenage girls in 1960s Sydney. Through the poem, the girls are transported to ancient Persia where they witness a legendary fight between two warriors. The girls are confronted with the reality of death.

Director: Lee Whitmore

Producer: Lee Whitmore

SOLE

Sole is a 3 minute short film based on the true story of Paul Evans, who passed away before fulfilling his dream of hiking the Appalachian Trail. His wife gave out his hiking boots to strangers so that they could take 'him' with them on the hike. The film explores the relationship of Maia and her Grandpa, and how she overcomes grief by fulfilling his dream.

Director: Yori Narpati, Erika Ju, Quynh Truong

Producers: Yori Narpati, Erika Ju, Quynh Truong

– SHORT DOCUMENTARY –

DEMONIC

Demonic revisits the infamous Satanic Panic of the 1980s, a mass hysteria where people around the world recovered memories of debauchery, murder, human sacrifice and satanic cults. Blending archive and reconstruction the film uncovers the forces at play between psychiatry, media, and false memory.

Director: Pia Borg

Producers: Pia Borg, Anna Vincent, Bonnie McBride

HOME FRONT – FACING AUSTRALIA'S CLIMATE EMERGENCY

A powerful and eye-opening analysis that presents some of Australia's former security, defence and political leaders who all warn us that climate change is 'a catalyst for conflict' and a 'threat multiplier' as it fuels instability in the world's most vulnerable regions. The global scientific community has reached broad consensus on climate change - but its social consequences, and how we will deal with them, highlight our failure of imagination. HOME FRONT explores how climate change is inexorably linked to our national and regional security, and how the relationship between climate disruption and conflict will be the predominant force shaping the 21st century.

Director: Luke Taylor
Producer: Luke Taylor

LOST RAMBOS

Although tribal fighting has long been present in the Papua New Guinea highlands, the influx of modern automatic weaponry in the 1990s turned local disputes into swift lethal exchanges which threatened to permanently reshape highlands culture. Bootlegged copies of the American film Rambo circulated in remote communities, becoming a crude tutorial on the use of such weaponry. The influence of the film was so pronounced that the term Rambo is now used in Papuan dialects to describe hired mercenaries who are paid to support local combatants in violent tribal disputes.

Director: Chris Phillips
Producers: Kiki Dillon, Michaela Perske

SAVING SEAGRASS

An exploration of the priceless environment of Roebuck Bay – the traditional lands of the Yawuru people – now under threat on many fronts. The immense bay is home to dugong, turtles, migrating birds and countless shellfish. It's also been the food bowl for generations of Yawuru people. From the intertidal zone to the sweeping sands, it's a complex chain of survival for the saltwater animals and plants. The seagrass on which much of this diverse ecosystem relies is a bio indicator of the state of the environment. Today, the seagrass is disappearing at an astonishing rate and the local community is doing all it can to protect this resource.

Director: Gary Hamaguchi
Producer: Jodie Bell

WAR MOTHERS: UNBREAKABLE

When the war came to Ukraine in 2014, 18 year old Yana Zinkevych watched as her countrymen returned to little or no care, so she set about creating a local chapter of an ancient order of medics. Three years into the conflict, her organisation had grown from a handful of dedicated followers to a battalion of veterans, but early one frosty winter morning, Yana's life and work came to a crashing halt as she found herself lying in a ditch, with a car bearing down on top of her...

Director: Stefan Bugryn
Producers: Stefan Bugryn, Steven Zelko

WOVEN THREADS

Woven Threads is an 8 x 5 minute series, which, through beautiful and powerful animations showcases many varied and moving true stories of refugees. Each episode is a realisation of one happy moment in a person's otherwise difficult life journey so that for a few minutes it is the human and not the refugee experience that is central. Woven Threads reminds us that regardless of creed or colour we all belong to the same human family, and as mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters we care for each other and dare to hope for peace and a safe place to call home.

Director: Michi Marosszeczy

Producer: Michi Marosszeczy, Paul Sullivan

– ONLINE VIDEO OR SERIES –

AUNTY DONNA – GLENRIDGE SECONDARY COLLEGE

Glennridge Secondary College is a hilarious, absurd and unrelenting sketch series simply about growing up in Australia. Aunty Donna are one of the biggest names in Australian comedy, and we're heading back to school to poke fun at the ridiculousness that exists in every classroom across the country. Based on the 2018 award winning live show of the same name, this series is a bold mix of Film, Animation and Song that will reach deep in the psyche of anyone who has lived through High School and leave them screaming with laughter.

Creators: Katherine Dale, Rachel Millar, Max Miller, Aunty Donna

CONTENT

Welcome to Lucy's phone. Lucy is a recent Uni graduate living in Brisbane with her bff Daisy. Lucy is not content with her boring AF existence. But when a car crash makes her a worldwide meme her life changes course forever. And now Lucy's had a taste of internet fame... she's addicted. And she will do ANYTHING to get it back. Throughout the season we follow Lucy's increasingly desperate attempts to recapture the attention of the internet. But no matter what she tries Lucy can't seem to cut through the noise... Or can she?

Creators: Meg O'Connell, Daley Pearson, Jackson Lapsley Scott, Anna Barnes

KOALA MAN

By day, Kevin Williams is a divorced dad, stuck in a dull IT job at the Unanderra council. By night, he's Koala Man, a civic superhero cleaning up the streets from petty crime. Clad in a koala mask, and wielding a bottle of Eucalyptus Oil, Koala Man won't stop until he's rid the town of every last loiterer, litterer, and local kid who looks a bit dodgy down at the park. Wherever there's a minor misdemeanour, there is Koala Man (Except between nine and five on weekdays when he's at work. And every second weekend when he has his son).

Creators: Michael Cusack, Mike Cowap

LIFT



When serial temp Olivia (Lucy Durack) steps into an elevator for her 46th job this century, she needs to make this one stick. Inside she meets straight-laced Simon (Duncan Ragg) preparing for a nerve-wracking rooftop marriage proposal. Despite a disastrous first impression, confusing office politics, interfering colleagues (Mark Coles Smith and Vivienne Garrett) and Simon's impending nuptials, these two might just fall in love, one elevator ride at a time.

Creators: Lucy Durack, Lauren Elliott, Zoe Pepper, Jess Murray, Leon Murray

OVER AND OUT

A narrative comedy about two young parents fervently trying to raise their children right, in a world full of wrong. Lewis and Freya are stuck in the middle of the two most stressful things to do ever...Raising babies and surviving the end of the world. They're battling the cute and cuddly horrors of early parenthood alongside the ACTUAL horrors of reaving metal-clad gangs, ravenous zombies, disfigured mutants, cannibals, dehydration, disease, and starvation. Our story is about the highs and lows of parenting, maintaining your sanity and relationship whilst facing the harsh brutality of a planet that's been all but destroyed.

Creators: Adele Vuko, Christiaan Van Vuuren, Bridget Callow-Wright, Gemma Knight, Abi Tabone

ROBBIE HOOD

Robbie Hood is only 13, but already he's famous in Alice Springs. He and his mates - little Georgia Blue and big Little Johnny - are a notorious band of misfits who skirt the law to right the wrongs they see going down in Alice. With no parents supervising them, no money, and only themselves to rely on, Robbie and his mates spend their days getting around on their BMX bikes, causing headaches for the local copper and Robbie's deadbeat dad. The memory of Robbie's mum sticks in his head though, and his life of mischief is led with a strong sense of right and wrong.

Creators: Dylan River, Tanith Glynn-Maloney, Meg O'Connell, Charlie Aspinwall

SARAH'S CHANNEL

Online Beauty Vlogger Sarah is not going to let the fact that she has been re-animated underground in a dystopian future get in the way of producing relatable, fun, quirky online content! She's going to keep doing what she does best: Vlogging! The web series is presented as a classic YouTube channel: a locked off shot, with a low-fi self-edited style. In every episode Sarah adamantly hides, downplays, and normalises her horrifying predicament by showing you, for instance, what's in her bag. In the meantime the Mole People who have reanimated her believe she is their salvation from impending doom.

Creators: Nick Coyle, Karen Colston, Robbie Miles, Jean Mostyn