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HARVEY WEINSTEIN TO RECEIVE THE INAUGURAL
AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF CINEMA AND TELEVISION ARTS (AACTA)
INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

The Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts announced today US film producer and screen arts advocate Harvey Weinstein will receive the inaugural Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts International Fellowship in Australia later this month.

The fellowship, the first of its kind in the history of The Australian Academy, recognises the outstanding contribution of an international citizen and their impact on the Australian screen arts industry.

Mr. Weinstein said, "Australia produces some fine screen talent and I have had the pleasure of working with some incredible performers and filmmakers who call Australia home. I thank the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts for honoring me as their inaugural International Fellowship recipient and I look forward to visiting Australia later this month."

Weinstein, who needs little introduction to those in the screen industry, is best known as co-founder of Miramax Films. He and his brother Bob have been co-chairmen of The Weinstein Company, their film production company, since 2005.

AACTA CEO, Damian Trehwella said, "I am delighted that Harvey Weinstein's contribution to film-making in general and Australian cinema in particular, will be acknowledged this month in Australia. The International Fellowship is the highest honour the Australian Academy can bestow on an international screen colleague and Harvey is a most deserving recipient. "

Australian screen productions and co-productions including *Rogue*, *The Quiet American*, *The Piano*, *Holy Smoke* and most recently *The Sapphires* have all benefited from Weinstein's wisdom and investment which has repeatedly proven instrumental to the success of performers and productions in North America.

NSW Minister for Tourism, Major Events and the Arts, George Minister Souris said: "On behalf of the NSW Government, I welcome Mr. Harvey Weinstein to Australia and congratulate him on being first recipient of the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts International Fellowship.

"Our investment in Sydney's 3rd AACTA Awards affirms the NSW Government's commitment to the NSW screen industry and to all those work of those in the creative industries. It is also recognition that NSW is the hub of film and television production in Australia."

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Weinstein has been recognised for his service and contributions to the film and television across the globe. In 2004 he was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire for contributions to the British film industry and in 2012 he was named a Knight in the Legion d'Honneur in recognition of his efforts to increase the presence and popularity of foreign films in the United States.

The inaugural Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts International Fellowship will be presented on Saturday 23rd November as part of the Canberra International Film Festival's Body of Work program honouring Harvey Weinstein and his contribution to cinema.

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About the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA).

Launched by the Australian Film Institute (AFI) on 18 August 2011, the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA) is a professional membership body formed to identify, encourage, promote and award excellence in Australian screen productions.

The AACTA Awards are held in Sydney in January each year. This year marks the third AACTA Awards season of the Australian Academy. The AACTA Awards are a continuum of the AFI Awards, which have proudly celebrated Australia's screen excellence and heritage since 1958.

For further information on the AACTA Awards, to purchase tickets to the 2014 AACTA Award Ceremony and Official After Party and the AACTA Luncheon presented By Deluxe in Sydney, NSW please visit www.aacta.org.

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