

Media Alert – Thursday 29 January 2015

More Top Talent Announced for the AACTA Awards Tonight on Ten

Australia's biggest celebration of screen is set to sizzle in Sydney tonight, with more top talent announced as performing, presenting at and attending the 4th AACTA Awards Ceremony.

Joining hosts **Cate Blanchett** and **Deborah Mailman** as presenters will be EMMY Award winning US actor **Bobby Cannavale** (BOARDWALK EMPIRE, BLUE JASMINE) and star cricketer **Brett Lee** (with a sneak peak at his new film, UNINDIAN), while **Russell Crowe** will present from a live-cross from LA where he is on location for his latest movie, THE NICE GUYS with **Ryan Gosling**.

The 4th AACTA Awards Ceremony, held at The Star Event Centre and broadcast at 8:30pm on Network Ten, is filled with filmed tributes for Award winners and Award presentations from some of the world's leading performers, including **Colin Firth** (THE RAILWAY MAN) and **Ethan Hawke** (PREDESTINATION).

Geoffrey Rush will present the inaugural AACTA Trailblazer Award to recipient **Rose Byrne**, with tributes from Byrne's DAMAGES co-star **Glenn Close**, and Bridesmaids co-star **Kirsten Wigg**.

An 'Australia's favourite film and television moments' segment, which has been supported by audiences sharing their favourite moments on social media using the #LoveAusScreen hashtag, will feature a performance by WONDERLAND's **Ben Mingay**, and star of Dirty Dancing – The Classic Story on Stage, **Kirby Burgess**.

Also announced on the night will be the recipient of the AACTA Longford Lyell Award (Australia's highest screen honour, recently renamed in honour of Lottie Lyell, Raymond Longford's partner in filmmaking and in life), which will see filmed tributes from **Eric Bana** and **Shaun Micallef**. Also announced will be the winner of the Byron Kennedy Award, which includes a \$10,000 cash prize and celebrates outstanding creative enterprise within the film and television industries and is given to an individual or organisation whose work embodies innovation and the relentless pursuit of excellence

Nominees in attendance include **David Gulpilil**, **Mia Wasikowska**, **Patrick Brammall**, **Essie Davis** and **Hamish Blake**.

Previously announced presenters include **Kat Stewart**, **Marta Dusseldorp**, **Lachy Hulme**, **Stephen Curry** and **Dan Wyllie**, while guests include **Noni Hazlehurst** (AACTA Board Member), **Rove McManus**, **Sigrid Thornton** and **Natalie Bassingthwaite**.

One of Australia's most glamorous events, the AACTA Awards Ceremony also attracts hundreds of film and television fans to the red carpet as a highlight on the fashion calendar.

Catch all the star power, sophistication and style of the red carpet and Ceremony on Network Ten, 8:30pm tonight, with an encore on Foxtel's ARENA channel on Saturday 31 January.

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

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