

Media Release – Strictly embargoed until 9:00am Tuesday 19 April, 2016

## Australian Academy brings ‘THE DRESSMAKER’ Director to Sydney’s Vivid Ideas

Internationally acclaimed director of **THE DRESSMAKER**, Jocelyn Moorhouse, has joined this year’s Vivid Ideas program, holding an ‘In Conversation’ event presented by the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA) at **Vivid Sydney**, the world’s largest festival of light, music and ideas.

The **Directing ‘THE DRESSMAKER’: In Conversation with Jocelyn Moorhouse** event will be held on Thursday 16 June at Event Cinemas on George Street and will provide an insightful, informative and honest conversation about filmmaking and what it takes to be an award-winning director.

With a career spanning more than 30 years in Australia and the United States, writer-producer-director Jocelyn Moorhouse has worked with some of the world’s biggest names in film.

Moorhouse’s most recent film, **THE DRESSMAKER**, received five AACTA Awards, including the AACTA People’s Choice Award for Favourite Australian Film, and quickly became one of the top 10 most successful films of all time at the Australian box office.

Moorhouse also directed **PROOF**, marking one of Hugo Weaving’s early starring roles, and produced **MURIEL’S WEDDING**, drawing international attention to the talents of Toni Collette and Rachel Griffiths.

Internationally, Moorhouse has directed some of the world’s best-known performers, including Anne Bancroft and Winona Ryder in **HOW TO MAKE AN AMERICAN QUILT**, and Michelle Pfeiffer, Colin Firth, Keith Carradine, Jason Robards, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Jessica Lange in **A THOUSAND ACRES**.

Topics to be discussed during **Directing ‘THE DRESSMAKER’: In Conversation with Jocelyn Moorhouse** include:

- Is modern filmmaking business or art?
- From page to script to screen – adapting books for film
- The importance of social media in promoting Australian films
- How to secure and work with an all-star cast

AFI | AACTA CEO, Damian Trehwella, said he was delighted to bring such an icon of Australian filmmaking to the Vivid Ideas 2016 program.

“Jocelyn Moorhouse first caught the attention of the Australian Film Institute 25 years ago with her breakthrough film **PROOF** earning her two AFI Awards and garnering industry attention at home and abroad.

“In addition to her considerable filmmaking talents, which effortlessly cross crafts, Moorhouse is credited with spotting and nurturing the talent of some of our best practitioners and performers, in turn launching their international careers. Her latest film, **THE DRESSMAKER**, took the Australian Academy as well as audiences by storm last year, and we’re delighted to provide an exposé into the fascinating world of

filmmaking with Jocelyn as part of Vivid Ideas during this year's Vivid Sydney festival, bringing the creativity of directing to diverse audiences wishing to expand their imagination and knowledge by attending this great event in Sydney," Trehwella said.

Jocelyn Moorhouse, director of **THE DRESSMAKER**, said, "Vivid is an important and exciting annual event in Sydney, and I am thrilled to be able to participate this year with thanks to AACTA. I hope that, by sharing some of my experiences in making **THE DRESSMAKER**, I might inspire others to pursue their creative dreams".

## EVENT DETAILS – TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Directing 'THE DRESSMAKER': In Conversation with Jocelyn Moorhouse

6:30pm – 8:00pm | Thursday 16 June 2016 | Event Cinemas, 505/525 George Street, Sydney

Tickets are open to the general public (\$20 plus booking fee) and AFI | AACTA members (\$10 plus booking fee).

Tickets are available from 9am Tuesday 19 April 2016 via [Moshtix](#).

This event is presented in partnership with Vivid Sydney and Event Cinemas.

## ENDS

### ABOUT AFI | AACTA

In addition to holding Australia's top screen awards, the **AACTA Awards**, across two major events in Sydney each year, AFI | AACTA holds a robust year-round **Screen Culture & Industry Development Member Events Program**, offering more than 80 screenings, masterclasses and events with cast and crew, including panel discussions and Q&As, complimentary and exclusive to members of AFI (open to all) and AACTA (open to industry). For upcoming events and to join, see the [AFI | AACTA website](#).

### ABOUT VIVID IDEAS

**Vivid Ideas** is Asia Pacific's annual celebration of innovation, creativity and community, and is held as part of **Vivid Sydney**. Vivid Ideas brings the world's greatest minds, innovators and industry leaders to Sydney to build engagement between the creative industries and the broader economy, exploring trends, movements and opportunities that shape society and business through public talks, industry seminars, conferences, workshops and debates. Vivid Sydney is owned, managed and produced by Destination NSW, the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency and runs from 27 May to 18 June 2016. For more information visit [www.vividsydney.com/ideas](http://www.vividsydney.com/ideas)

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## CONNECT

**Official hashtag:** #AACTAs #vividsydney **Facebook:** /AACTAawards /VividSydney **Twitter:** @aacta @vividsydney **Instagram:** @aacta @vividsydney

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