



MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 5 December

First winners of the 6th AACTA Awards presented by Foxtel announced at Industry Luncheon in Sydney

The Australian screen industry today celebrated the best achievements in screen craft excellence of the past year at the **6th AACTA Awards presented by Foxtel | Industry Luncheon presented by Blue Post**.

Thirty-Three Awards were presented during the event, held at The Star Event Centre in Sydney, recognising the talent and skill of practitioners working across: feature film, television, documentary, and short film.

Australian comedians **Kitty Flanagan** and **Tom Gleeson** hosted the laughter-filled luncheon, which included a special musical performance from **Swing on This**. AACTA President **Geoffrey Rush**, **Danielle Cormack**, **Julia Zemiro**, **Darren Gilshenan**, **Rachael Blake**, **Steve Le Marquand** and **Matilda Brown** joined Kitty and Tom on stage to present the thirty-three Awards.

The remainder of this year's Award recipients will be announced at the 6th AACTA Awards Ceremony presented by Foxtel, at The Star Event Centre in Sydney on Wednesday 7 December, telecast at 8.30pm on Channel 7.

FEATURE FILM

WWII drama **HACKSAW RIDGE** led the Awards count, winning four out of a possible six nominations at today's Industry Luncheon.

Oscar and BAFTA nominee **John Gilbert** received his first AACTA Award, for **Best Editing**. The **AACTA Award for Best Production Design** was awarded to **Barry Robison**, best known for his work on **X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE** and **THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER**.

The **AACTA Award for Best Cinematography** went to **Simon Duggan ACS**, who previously won the category at the 3rd AACTA Awards for **THE GREAT GATSBY**.

Also winning for **HACKSAW RIDGE** were **Andrew Wright**, **Robert Mackenzie**, **Kevin O'Connell**, **Mario Vaccaro**, **Tara Webb** and **Peter Grace ASSG**, who won the **AACTA Award for Best Sound**.

HACKSAW RIDGE is nominated for a further seven Awards that will be presented at Wednesday's Ceremony.

Antony Partos AGSC received the **AACTA Award for Best Original Music Score** for **TANNA**, marking his sixth AFI or AACTA Award for an Original Music Score in film, television, or documentary.

Simon Stone received the **AACTA Award for Best Adapted Screenplay** for his debut feature film **THE DAUGHTER**, an adaptation of his Belvoir Street Theatre production of Henrik Ibsen's *The Wild Duck*.

Receiving his first AACTA Award, also for an adaptation of a stage production, was **Jonathon Oxlade**, who took home the **AACTA Award for Best Costume Design** for **GIRL ASLEEP**.

TELEVISION AND SUBSCRIPTION TELEVISION AWARDS

The Television Awards were hotly contested, with eighteen Awards spread across seventeen winning productions.

RAKE (ABC) was the only production to receive multiple Awards in the television categories, receiving awards for **Best Direction in a Television Drama or Comedy** (awarded to **Peter Duncan ADG**) and **Best Sound in Television** (awarded to **Guntis Sics ASSG, Michol Marsh, Peter Hall, and Olivia Monteith**).

The **AACTA Award for Best Direction in a Television Light Entertainment, Lifestyle or Reality Series** went to **Michael Venables** for **THE RECRUIT** (Foxtel, Fox8).

Co-creator and leading actor of **NO ACTIVITY** (Stan), **Patrick Brammall**, received his second **AACTA Award for Best Performance in a Television Comedy** for his role as Detective Hendy. He previously won the category at the 2nd AACTA Awards.

Following her win at the 5th AACTA Awards, **Celia Pacquola** took home her second AACTA Award, for **Best Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama** for her role as Dolly Faraday in ABC's modern adaptation of Leo Tolstoy's Anna Karenina, **THE BEAUTIFUL LIE**.

Damon Herriman received his first AACTA Award, for **Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama** for his role as Kim Gordon in political thriller **SECRET CITY** (Foxtel, Showcase). Damon is also nominated for **Best Supporting Actor** for his role in **DOWN UNDER**, which will be presented at Wednesday's Ceremony.

Eddie Kurzer took home her first AACTA Award, for **Best Costume Design in Television** for her era-spanning costume designs in **MOLLY** (Seven Network). **Sam Rickard** also took home his first AACTA Award, for **Best Production Design in Television** for **MARY: THE MAKING OF A PRINCESS** (Network Ten).

Matteo Zingales received his third AACTA Award, for **Best Original Music Score in Television** alongside **Max Lyandvert** for **THE KETTERING INCIDENT** (Foxtel, Showcase).

Receiving back-to-back **AACTA Awards for Best Cinematography in Television** was **Geoffrey Hall ACS (WOLF CREEK, Stan)**, after receiving the Award at the 5th AACTA Awards for **DEADLINE GALLIPOLI**.

The **AACTA Award for Best Editing in Television** went to **Ben Joss** for his work on gritty prison drama **WENTWORTH** (Foxtel, SoHo).

The Beatles inspired **BEAT BUGS** (7Two), which features an impressive list of guest performers covering The Beatles' songs, including: Pink, James Corden, Robbie Williams, Rod Stewart and Sia, won the **AACTA Award for Best Children's Television Series** (awarded to **Josh Wakely and Jennifer Twiner McCarron**).

AACTA also presented four inaugural subscription television awards in partnership with the Australian Subscription Television and Radio Association (ASTRA).

Beloved television personality **Maggie Beer** received the **AACTA Subscription Television Award for Best Female Presenter** for **GREAT AUSTRALIAN BAKE OFF** (Foxtel, Lifestyle Food), while Walkley Award winner **Stan Grant** received **Best Male Presenter** for **CRIMES THAT SHOOK AUSTRALIA** (Foxtel, Crime + Investigation).

Fox Sports won the remaining two Subscription Television Awards: **Best New Talent** was awarded to **James Rochford** for his hilarious segments on **NOT THE NRL NEWS** (Foxtel, Fox Sports), and **Best Live Event Production** was awarded to **Murray Shaw and Geoff Bullock** for the **2015/16 HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE ADELAIDE UNITED V WESTERN SYDNEY WANDERERS** (Foxtel, Fox Sports).

Receiving the inaugural **AACTA Award for Best Hair and Makeup** were **Kath Brown, Simon Joseph** and **Troy Follington** for their incredible hair and makeup work on **CLEVERMAN** (ABC).

The **AACTA Award for Best Visual Effects or Animation** went to **Joe Bauer, Steve Kullback, Glenn Melenhorst** and **Ineke Majoor** for their work on **GAME OF THRONES – BATTLE OF THE BASTARDS** (Foxtel, Showcase).

DOCUMENTARY

Award winning journalist **Sarah Ferguson** received her second consecutive **AACTA Award for Best Documentary Television Program** for **HITTING HOME** (ABC), alongside **Nial Fulton** and **Ivan O'Mahoney**.

Anna Broinowski took home her third AFI or AACTA Award, for **Best Direction in Documentary** for **HANSON: PLEASE EXPLAIN** (SBS).

Dan Jackson received two Awards for **IN THE SHADOW OF THE HILL: Best Editing in a Documentary**, alongside **Steven Robinson ASE**, and **Best Cinematography in a Documentary**. and **Best Editing in a Documentary**.

Past AFI Award winner **James Currie** received the **AACTA Award for Best Sound in a Documentary** alongside **Pete Smith** and **Tom Heuzenroeder ASSG** for **HIGHLY STRUNG**, while two-time AFI Award winning composer **Cezary Skubiszewski AGSC** received the **AACTA Award for Best Original Music Score in a Documentary** for **MONSIEUR MAYONNAISE**.

SHORT FILM

The **AACTA Award for Best Short Animation** was presented to **Angie Fielder, Brendan Fletcher** and two-time Archibald Award Winner **Del Kathryn Barton** for **OSCAR WILDE'S "THE NIGHTINGALE AND THE ROSE"**.

The heart-warming drama **DREAM BABY** received the **AACTA Award for Best Short Fiction Film** (awarded to **Lucy Gaffy** and **Kiki Dillon**) and included stand out performances by **Darcey Wilson** and **Robyn Malcolm**.

AFI | AACTA CEO Damian Trewhella said:

“This year we had over 800 of the screen industry’s finest at the Industry Luncheon, celebrating the talented practitioners who work in front and behind the camera to create Australia’s finest screen productions.

“The Awards showcase the inspiring level of talent Australia produces across so many screen crafts and genres, and on behalf of AFI | AACTA I’d like to congratulate all winners announced today. From the multi-AFI and AACTA Award winners to those receiving their first AACTA Award, we look forward to watching the next chapter in your careers.

“I’d also like to encourage those in the industry and screen fans alike to tune in to see the remaining AACTA Awards presented at the 6th AACTA Awards Ceremony presented by Foxtel this Wednesday night, televised on Channel 7.”

– ENDS –

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

INDUSTRY LUNCHEON WINNERS PRESS KIT

A full list of Industry Luncheon winners by Award and images of Nominees can be accessed via Dropbox: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/xbh1dhc4sd0cqnB/AADaDEzGPbKzRFt9QHO5pgRia?dl=0>

6TH AACTA AWARDS CEREMONY PRESENTED BY FOXTEL

The 6th AACTA Awards Ceremony will be held at The Star Event Centre in Sydney on Wednesday 7 December 2016 and televised on Channel 7 at 8.30pm.

NOTES

This year marks the 6th Awards of AACTA, which was established by the Australian Film Institute (AFI) in 2011. The AACTA Awards are a continuum of the AFI Awards, which were first presented in 1958.

The AACTA Awards are determined by member and jury voting. Feature Film voting is via a two-step preferential voting system, as is standard across internationally recognised screen academies.

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