



## MEDIA RELEASE

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# AACTA announces Foxtel remaining as Presenting Partner for the next two years, reveals 2017 dates and announces Channel Seven to again telecast the 7th AACTA Awards

The Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA) today announced that the 7th AACTA Awards will again be telecast on **Channel 7** and that **Foxtel** will return as the Presenting Partner for the 7th and 8th AACTA Awards.

Officially launching the seventh Awards season, AACTA also today announced the dates for the two major 7th AACTA Awards events, both held at The Star Event Centre in Sydney for the sixth year running. The **7th AACTA Awards presented by Foxtel | Industry Luncheon** will be held on Monday 4 December, followed by the **7th AACTA Awards presented by Foxtel | Ceremony & Official After Party** on Wednesday 6 December, televised on Channel 7 for the third consecutive year with encore screenings on Foxtel.

As a leader in the Australian screen industry and long-time partner of AFI | AACTA, Foxtel's additional support marks a significant endorsement of the AACTA Awards and the pursuit of excellence in the Australian screen industry as a whole. Foxtel have produced some of Australia's most popular television shows including AFI and AACTA Award winning productions **LOVE MY WAY**, **THE KETTERING INCIDENT** and **WENTWORTH** which, now in its fifth season is airing in more than ninety countries with three international remakes, further cementing the strong international profile of Australian made screen content.

The renewed two-year partnership will also see Foxtel continue as the Presenting Partner of the AACTA Award for Best Film and will see AFI | AACTA members benefit from special Foxtel subscription offers.

### AFI | AACTA CEO Damian Trehwella said:

"Foxtel is, and always has been, a great supporter of Australian screen content. We are thrilled to continue our Presenting Partner relationship with Foxtel, whose commitment to developing, promoting and celebrating Australian film and television aligns so closely with AACTA's mission.

"We're also very pleased that for the third consecutive year the AACTA Awards will be telecast primetime nationally on Channel Seven, Australia's leading free to air network and another company committed to sharing great Australian stories including Seven produced **A PLACE TO CALL HOME**.

"I look forward to celebrating the Australian screen community, alongside all our valued partners, this December at the 7th AACTA Awards presented by Foxtel."

### Foxtel Executive Director of Television Brian Walsh said:

"Foxtel is proud to continue its role as presenting partner for the 7th AACTA Awards, further cementing the company's commitment to developing, promoting and celebrating the Australian film and television community.

“At Foxtel we are committed to producing a wide range of local content for our customers and this partnership with AACTA provides the ideal platform to embrace, recognise and celebrate the vibrant Australian film and television industry.

“We look forward to this year’s Awards and particularly those nominated in subscription television which, last year, saw our diverse drama slate celebrated so comprehensively including wins for Best Television Drama and Best Mini Series”.

**Seven’s Director of Production Brad Lyons** said:

“We all look forward to television’s night of nights. The bringing together of both the film and television industries in this black tie event is a fitting celebration of the passion behind telling great Australian stories.”

**The Star’s General Manager Marketing and Entertainment Melinda Madigan** said:

“The Star is delighted to continue our support of the AACTA Awards, which seamlessly align with The Star’s focus on delivering thrilling entertainment experiences. In fact this will be the sixth consecutive year The Star has hosted the AACTAs, reinforcing The Star as the true home to Sydney’s most profiled and illustrious events.

“These Awards are a much anticipated and significant highlight on Sydney’s annual event calendar. As the official Destination Partner and host to the coveted 7th annual AACTA Awards The Star is proud to stand alongside AACTA to showcase Sydney and to globally recognise Australia’s innovative and creative talents in film and television”.

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

– ENDS –

## **ABOUT AFI | AACTA**

Formerly the Australian Film Institute (AFI), the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA) has been honouring and celebrating excellence in Australian film and television since 1958, when the first ever film excellence Awards were held. The AACTA Awards are Australia’s highest screen accolades and are considered the Australian equivalent of the Oscars and the BAFTAs.

Some of the biggest names in Australian and international screen have been awarded by AFI | AACTA, including Geoffrey Rush (AACTA President), Cate Blanchett (AFI | AACTA Ambassador), Dr George Miller (AFI Patron), Nicole Kidman and Russell Crowe, to name a few. The AACTA Awards are celebrated annually in Sydney, home of the AACTA Awards.

## **MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

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