

The Boomerang

June 2007



The winner of the QANTAS flights to Sydney is.....turn to page 5 to find out the winner.

(l-r) Actress Jenny Baird drawing the winning ticket from the bowl held by Rob Marsala.



From the President

June was a fantastic month for *Australians in Film* with 3 successful screenings -- FANTASTIC FOUR 2 on the Fox lot with Julian McMahon; EVENING starring Toni Collette and the upcoming US premiere of the hit Australian feature INTRODUCING THE DWIGHTS which we will co-host with Warner Independent Pictures. Our thanks to all who help make each event such a special night. These evenings are a terrific opportunity to acknowledge and highlight the talent and successes of Australians in the film industry.

We have another wonderful holiday opportunity from our Silver sponsor, Tourism Queensland. Visit www.ultimatequeensland.com and register to win.

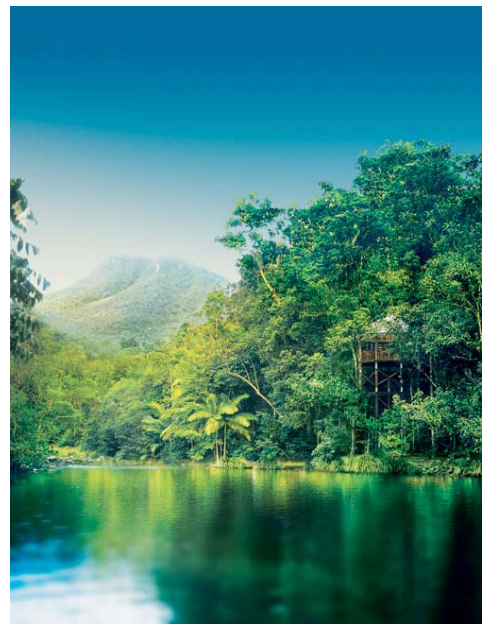
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Our biennial elections were held recently and I congratulate Susie Dobson who was elected President, effective July 1.

Susie has been on the Board since its inception and has proved a valuable and energetic contributor to the organization. Founding Board member, Paula Paizes has been appointed to the supportive role of Vice President.

Win a Queensland holiday



(continued on page 2)

Pirates of the Caribbean Screening

Australians in Film and Walt Disney Pictures were delighted to present a screening of *Pirates of the Caribbean 3* at the Harmony Gold Theatre on Wednesday 30 May, 2007.

We thank our sponsor Penfolds for the wonderful Australian wine served both prior and after the screening.

Event photography by Michelle Day. Additional images are available from our website, www.australiansinfilm.org.



(l-r) President, Rob Marsala, Kevin Lesser & Justin Marconi



(l-r) Board Member, Paula Paizes and her sons Benny and Jordan.

Australians in Film thanks Liza Robinson-Vidal, President of Fine Foods Australia for its donation of the delicious cookies at the screening reception. www.finefoodsaustralia.com

Casting News

- Melissa George will star in the MGM thriller *CAPTIVE* that was written and will be directed by Amanda Gusack.
- Wolf Creek' actor **Nathan Phillips** has joined the cast of the Matthew McConaughey starrer *Surfer Dude* that S.R. Binder will direct.
- Los Angeles-based Aussie actress **Gia Carides** has returned to Australia to costar in the ABC's latest drama *East of Everything*, also starring Susie Porter and Richard Roxburgh. Gia Carides, who has appeared in *Strictly Ballroom* and *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, is married to Australians in Film ambassador Anthony LaPaglia, who stars in *Without a Trace*.
- Recent AIF Breakthrough recipient, **Emilie De Ravin** will star in the indie ensemble "*Ball Don't Lie*" opposite Ludacris, Rosanna Arquette, Harold Perrineau, James Pickens Jr. and Nick Cannon. Brin Hill will direct the teen basketball prodigy drama.

The President (continued from page 1)

I will be moving on to the newly created position of Chairman/Secretary of the Board. Please join me in welcoming and supporting our new Board officials. Looking forward to seeing you all over the summer.

Rob Marsala
Chairman of the Board, Australians in Film

Film Festivals

As any film buff knows, audiences differ in their appreciation and understanding of films and their content. Film festival audiences are generally regarded as being discerning and knowledgeable thus making a film festival an ideal venue for introducing a film. Listed below are two such opportunities: The *Show Me Shorts Film Festival* in New Zealand and the *Manhattan Short Film Festival* in New York City.

Show Me Shorts Film Festival

Australian Short Films are again being sought for the 2007 New Zealand *Show Me Shorts Film Festival*.

Short films from all genres may be submitted, including comedy, documentary, horror, drama, sci-fi, thriller, and children. There are four award categories, including Best Student Film. Films will be screened in the Academy Cinemas in Auckland, and at prime locations in Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

The submissions deadline is 15 July 2007. Entries must be between three and thirty minutes long and must have been completed after 31 December 2003. Full guidelines are available on the website and entry forms may be submitted electronically. Get the low-down at www.showmeshorts.co.nz and click on Submit a Film.

Manhattan Short Film Festival

New York City's Manhattan Short Film Festival has issued its final call for entries to Australian Filmmakers who wish to represent Australia in the 10th annual Festival with deadline for entries being 31 July 2007.

The Festival is set to screen during the last week of September. Twelve finalists from twelve countries will have their films distributed to over 150 cinemas in Europe, North, South and Central America, where the audience members will vote for the film they feel should win the event.

The winner will be announced after the last screening in Union Square Park NYC on Sunday, September 30. Entry forms can be obtained from the Festival's Website at www.MSfilmfest.com Entry 07 Link.

Future June Screenings Introducing The Dwights

Warner Independent Pictures and Australians in Film invite you and a guest to the Los Angeles premiere of *INTRODUCING THE DWIGHTS*, Tuesday June 26, at 7:30 pm at the Directors Guild of America.

Stars Brenda Blethyn (two-time Academy Award nominee for *Secrets & Lies* and *Little Voice*), Khan Chittenden, Emma Booth and Richard Wilson; director Cherie Nowlan; producers Tristan Whalley and Rosemary Blight will attend.

RSVP to rsvp@australiansinfilm.org Please note that there are limited seats available, so RSVPs are taken on a first come, first served basis.

June Screenings

Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer

Australians in Film and 20th Century Fox were proud to present *FANTASTIC FOUR: Rise of the Silver Surfer*, Saturday June 16 at the Zanuck Theater on the Fox Studios Lot. It was a packed house filled with an enthusiastic audience who, after the movie, plied Julian McMahon with questions.



(l-r) Raquel Welch & Kaat Cleenewerck, *Australians in Film* administrator

Australians in Film thanks Julian who was a terrific sport, signing autographs and having his photo taken with the many keen junior members and guests who attended the viewing.

Photography by John Ziomek.



(l-r) Board Member, Andrew Warne & Julian McMahon

Evening

Australians in Film and Focus Features were proud to present *EVENING*, Wednesday June 20th at the Harmony Gold Theater.

Guests were treated to the songs of Toni Collette's first CD "*Beautiful Awkward Pictures*", which is available for purchase via her website www.tonicolletteandthefinish.com



Australians in Film thanks its sponsor Rosemount Estate for the wine served during the reception. Photography by Kym Wilson.

(l-r) Aussie director Michael Rymer (*Queen of the Damned*, *Angel Baby*, *Battlestar Galactica*), Jenny Cooney Carillo, Loretta Rymer and newly elected AIF president, Susie Dobson.



(l-r) Vivien Flitton, Director of Operations Ausfilm & volunteer Greg Cook.

Television News

The successful TV show *Ugly Betty* (ABC) will be back next season with Australians Ross Berryman ACS ASC as Director of Photography and Tony Politis as Camera operator.

New Members

Christine Kirkwood, Australia based, graduate of the Australian Film TV & Radio School
Tristan Rogers, US nationality, actor (General Hospital, Family Law).

Australians in Film welcomes news about the activities and successes of our members.

Please send your information to administrator@australiansinfilm.org

Sponsor News

Gold sponsors



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Australians in Film

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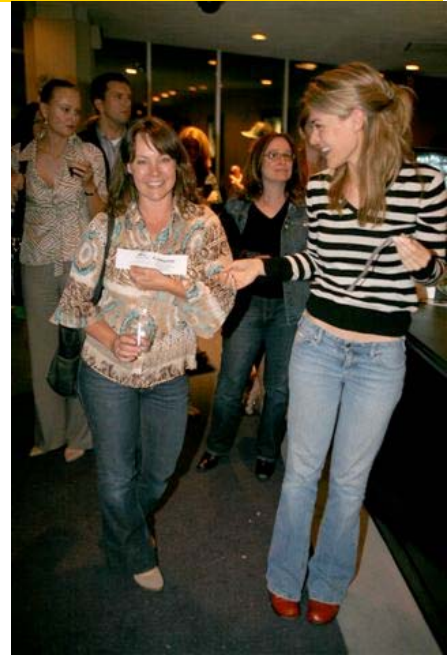
The QANTAS Opportunity... A Round Trip to Sydney

Congratulations to Melissa Bickerton, who won the two Round Trip Economy Class Flights with QANTAS, flying from Los Angeles to Sydney.

The tickets were drawn by Aussie actress Jenny Baird at the May screening 2007 of Pirates of the Caribbean.

Event photography by Michelle Day.

QANTAS - a Gold Sponsor of
Australians in Film



Jenny Baird presents Melissa Bickerton with her QANTAS tickets.

Tourism Queensland

Silver Sponsor Tourism Queensland is inviting members of Australians in Film and their friends to come say G'day at www.ultimatequeensland.com and register to win the ultimate Aussie escape with Tourism Queensland, Qantas Airways and Pleasant Holidays. When they invite their friends to register they receive additional entries to win!

The prize is for two adults and includes:

- Round trip economy airfares for two
- 3 nights on the world's largest sand island, Fraser Island, at Kingfisher Bay Resort
- 3 nights in a private bungalow at Thala Beach Lodge, Port Douglas
- 3 nights on the Great Barrier Reef in the heart of the Whitsunday Islands at Hayman Island
- 3 nights at O'Reilly's Rainforest Guesthouse, Lamington National Park, Southern Queensland



Terms and conditions apply. For full details and to enter log on to www.ultimatequeensland.com.

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