



Department of Culture and the Arts
Government of Western Australia



Media Statement

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WA Indigenous short films screening at PIAF

Western Australian Indigenous short films will screen as part of the Perth International Arts Festival, prior to the main program of the 07/08 Lotterywest Festival Films.

ScreenWest Chief Executive Ian Booth said Perth audiences at the Somerville Auditorium will be treated to four Indigenous short films showcasing the diverse filmmaking talent in WA.

"ScreenWest is proud to be working together with the Perth Festival to develop new audiences for Western Australian productions," Mr Booth said.

Perth Festival Artistic Director Shelagh Magadza said. "It is great to be able to show the work of West Australians alongside some of the world's best filmmakers"

Traversing a range of genres from coming of age, to mystery-thriller and comedy, the WA-produced short films deal with universal themes as well as stories unique to Western Australians.

First-time film director Jub Clerc's short drama *Storytime* is a dark fable - Indigenous thriller in the vein of *Picnic at Hanging Rock*. Writer/director Gary Cooper's film *Sugar Bag* tells a familiar yet still resonant story of one woman's experience as part of the 'stolen generation'.

On a lighter note, writer/director Debbie Carmody's short comedy *Done Dirt Cheap*, will provide more than a few laughs and the short documentary *Bollywood Dreaming* introduces an Aboriginal/Afro/American girl with movie aspirations. Directed by Cornel Ozies, the producer and writer of *Bollywood Dreaming* have collaborated previously as writers on the highly acclaimed Western Australia produced drama series *The Circuit*.

The WA indigenous short film screening details are:

Bollywood Dreaming

Screening: 8.30pm December 17 - 23

Synopsis: Jedda Rae Hill is a 16 year old Aboriginal Afro American girl who skates and who dreams of one day going to Bollywood to star in a Bollywood movie. Her world is a mixture of real time and fantasy but how will she make her dreams come true?

Writer: Mitch Torres

Director: Cornel Ozies

Producer: Dot West



Sugar Bag

Screening: 8.30pm January 28 - February 3

Synopsis: 70 year old Laurel Cooper tells of her childhood experience when her parents resolved the dilemma of keeping their family together in the face of Australian Government policy of removing fair-skinned Indigenous children.

Writer/director: Gary Cooper

Producer: Robyn Marais

Done Dirt Cheap

Screening: 8.30pm February 18 – 24

Synopsis: Amos enlists two larrikin miners into his ingenious way to make money from an unsuspecting tourist, who walks into the plot and gets less than what he bargained for.

Writer/director: Debbie Carmody

Producer: Kath Shelper

Storytime

Screening: 8.30pm March 17 - 23

Synopsis: Two adventurous Kimberley kids wander deep into the mangroves at sunset, only to find the terrifying campfire stories of the Goynboyn Woman may not be myth after-all...

Writer/director: Jub Clerc

Producer: Belinda Kelsall

These films were all funded by ScreenWest and Lotterywest through the *Deadly Yarns*, *Index* and *Bit of Black Business* programs supporting the development of WA Indigenous filmmakers.

To arrange interviews with the filmmakers and for further production photographs, contact ScreenWest Communications and Marketing Officer Joanna Hos: jo@screenwest.com.au (08) 9224 7424 or 0412 385 034.

