



## MEDIA STATEMENT

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04/09/09

### A little bit of Cannes comes to Busselton

Western Australia will host [Cannes Marché du Film](#) Executive Director Jérôme Paillard as the key speaker of a forum on digital media at the Australian/French film festival [CinéfestOZ](#) in Busselton on Saturday September 12, 2009.

ScreenWest Chief Executive Ian Booth said that it is a great coup for CinéfestOZ and the State to secure Mr. Paillard to speak at the forum - 'The New International Film Market' - in his only public commitment in Australia.

"This is a unique opportunity for local filmmakers to connect with digital media professionals on the topic of reaching worldwide audiences through traditional and new mediums," Mr. Booth said.

"Western Australians produce world-class screen content and digital media but to effectively compete in the global marketplace our practitioners need opportunities like this to gain international expertise.

"Australian feature film producer Melanie Coombs (*Mary & Max*) along with Troy Zafer (of WA animation studio [ZAC Toons](#)) and producer Aidan O'Bryan (WA production company [WBMC](#)) are also confirmed to speak on the panel and provide some local context to the discussion."

CinéfestOZ Chairman David Barton said that ScreenWest's support of the 2009 festival had assisted the event to connect with the wider screen industry in the State.

"CinéfestOZ is a great supporter of Western Australian content and we are pleased to announce that a number of local short films have been selected for the 2009 program along with the local feature film *Stone Bros.*, which will have its WA premiere at the festival," Mr. Barton said.

"The stars of *Stone Bros.* - Luke Carroll, Leon Burchill and Merlin the dog - are all confirmed to be in Busselton for the WA premiere, adding to the festival buzz."

CinéfestOZ will also host Australian filmmaker George Basha (lead actor and screenwriter of *The Combination*); and Melanie Coombs will be joined by WA filmmaker Pierce Davison - animation assistant on *Mary & Max* - to introduce their film.

'The New International Film Market' will be held from 2:30-4:30pm on Saturday September 12, 2009 followed by the WA premiere of *Stone Bros.*

Tickets for the forum and film screenings are available for purchase from the CinéfestOZ website: <http://www.cinefestoz.com.au/view/home/>

CinéfestOZ is proudly supported by ScreenWest and Lotterywest.

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