

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FILM INDUSTRY LEADERS TO VISIT NEWCASTLE

Leaders in the Film Industry will descend on Newcastle for the **Real Film Festival November 7-9.**

The Real Film Festival is a three-day community, arts and Industry event showcasing documentaries, independent short and feature films *based on true stories*. The Program comprises of film screenings, Industry workshops and talks, film Q&A, networking events and film competitions for filmmakers of all ages and experience.

The educational workshops and talks provide young, emerging and established filmmakers with an inspirational and a creative environment where participants can focus on their craft and interact with other filmmakers and industry professionals throughout the three-day program.

Workshops and Talks will be held on **Friday, November 7 from 9am** at Newcastle Film & Media School, 590 Hunter Street, Newcastle West.

Workshop presenters include **Emmy Award** winning Special Effects Artist **Chad Atkinson**, Television Drama Producer Rachel Gardener, Conceptual Designer Jeff Julian, Writer and Director Vanessa Alexander and many more.

Some of the exciting workshops to be held on Friday include *Editing, Acting for Screen, Directing, Conceptualising, Cinematography, Sound Design, Portable Film Making, Sound Design, Transmedia Storytelling* and *Writing for Short Films*.

The *Pocket Film Making Master Class* suitable for the general public will be held on Saturday at 2pm at The Lock-up, 90 Hunter Street, Newcastle.

Panel Discussions on Saturday will include *How can we promote Australian Films in and out of Australia* - 10:30am at Limelight Creative Media, 9 Albert Street, Wickham and *Where is your market place?* - 1:30pm at The Production Hub, 4 Crown Street, Newcastle.

Industry talent presenting at workshops and events over the weekend include:

Chad Atkinson – Special Effects Artist

Emmy Award winning Chad Atkinson is a veteran Special Effects Artist from Los Angeles. Chad has worked on over 100 films and television shows and has over 16 years of experience in the Film and Television Industry. Chad won an **Emmy** award for his work on the HBO mini-series ***The Pacific***.

Chad has worked on major films such as *Starship Troopers, Alien Resurrection, X-Files The Movie, I Still Know What you Did Last Summer, Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and Oscar nominated film *The Hobbit*.

Ian Hamilton – Director

Ian has worked on numerous documentary and drama programs including *Australian Story*, *Police Rescue*, *Water Rats*, *McLeod's Daughters*, *Heroes*, *Wildside*, *Bordertown*, *Heartbreak High*, and the BBC series *Soldier Soldier*.

Vanessa Alexander – Writer & Director

Vanessa's work as the **lead director on *Outrageous Fortune***, garnered her a nomination for Best Director at the 2005 Qantas TV awards. More recently Vanessa was show-runner and director on a new primetime comedy for TVNZ, *Agent Anna*, starring Roy Billing and Robyn Malcolm. The series has gone on to become the highest rating locally scripted comedy ever, and regularly wins its primetime slot. She has also directed on the award winning BBC series *Maddigan's Quest*, Disney's *Power Rangers* as well as co-writing or story-lining on several popular New Zealand drama and comedy series (*The Pretender*, *Burying Brian*, *This Is Not My Life*).

For additional details on workshops and presenters visit www.realfilmfestival.com.au

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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Interviews and photos with industry professionals can be arranged by contacting Annette.