



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY 20 MAY 2008**

New Australian director to be showcased at the DGA

The Australian Directors Guild (ADG) and the Directors Guild of America (DGA) proudly present director Kriv Stender's raw domestic drama *BOXING DAY* as part of the Director's Finder Series.

BOXING DAY is a "psychological thriller" told in real time in one continuous shot. The film is a powerful, emotional and immersive cinematic experience that explores the nature of families and the indisputable bonds that keep them together, no matter how dysfunctional they might be.

The film, which premiered at the Adelaide Film Festival and was screened at numerous festivals, including the Pusan International Film Festival, but has not yet found US distribution, was selected by a panel of established directors who appreciated the film's innovative approach. This film marks the first time that Australia has participated in the IAESDO Director's Finder Series.

"This is a great opportunity for an Australian filmmaker to find a distribution and exhibition outlet in the USA, and reach an audience there," says Australian Directors Guild president Ray Argall. "The Director's Finder Series also shares our less well-known films with our American peers—the members of the DGA."

"To show your film to your peers at the Directors Guild of America is a pretty extraordinary privilege and opportunity for any filmmaker. I am very excited to be coming over and to show the film to American filmmakers and to get their feedback. It's a real adventure, and a really great chance to learn and professionally evolve as a director," said director Kriv Stenders.

Stenders (*THE ILLUSTRATED FAMILY DOCTOR*, *BLACKTOWN*) has been quietly building a reputation for making raw, socially relevant and extremely low budget films. "We took a lot of creative and technical risks in terms of the 'one shot' approach," added Stenders. "I'm hoping that American audiences get excited by this style of innovation and leave with a strong sense of having experienced something special and unique."

The International Affiliation of English Speaking Directors' Organizations (IAESDO) Directors Finder Series was conceived to bring the national directorial talents of the IAESDO member countries to a much wider audience than might otherwise see these films.

"As a founding member of IAESDO, the Directors Guild of America looks forward to hosting *BOXING DAY*, ADG's first film presentation as part of the Directors Finder

Series, in the DGA theatres in Los Angeles and New York,” said Kathy Garmezy, DGA Assistant Executive Director of Government and International Affairs. “We anticipate that the screening will prove to be just as successful as the other wonderful IAESDO screenings that have taken place over the past four years as part of this series.”

“We are proud to support the ADG/DGA Director’s Finder Program in America as our organizations share the common goal of supporting Australian filmmakers in the US, by creating a prominent platform where their work can be showcased,” says Susie Dobson, president, Australians in Film.

BOXING DAY screens in Los Angeles on May 30 at 3pm at the DGA Theatre Complex, 7920 Sunset Boulevard and in New York on June 6 at 7pm the New York Directors Guild Theatre, 110 West 57th Street. The New York event is co-hosted by the Hon John Olsen AO, Australian Consul General.

**For further information or to arrange an interview
with director Kriv Stenders, contact:**

Australian Directors Guild

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Additional information available:

Synopsis

Director biography

ADG

Finders Series

Film credits

Select media quotes

Director’s quotes

Director’s headshot