



29th September, 2008

AUSTRALIAN DIRECTORS GUILD ANNOUNCES 2008 ADG AWARDS WINNERS

The Australian Directors Guild is proud to announce the winners of the 2008 ADG Awards. They provide the highest accolade to outstanding Australian directing talent and are judged by their peers.

This year, the Awards were hosted by Leah Purcell and Paul McDermott on Saturday 27th September and held at Leighton Hall in the University of New South Wales, Kensington Campus. They were held in conjunction with the ADG 2008 Conference, *In Good Company: Creative Collaborations*, which took place in Sydney at the new AFTRS building in Moore Park over the weekend (25-28 Sept).

One of the highlights of the evening was Gillian Armstrong's moving speech about the career of her long time collaborator Mark Turnbull, who received the Outstanding Achievement Award - First Assistant Director. Also in attendance to support Mark Turnbull being honoured were many friends and filmmakers including Marian Macgowan, Jane Campion and Jan Chapman. Other special awards went to Australian luminaries Bruce Petty (Outstanding Achievement Award) as well as Tom Zubrycki (Cecil Holmes Award) and Kate Woods (Michael Carson Award).

In the competitive awards section were the following winners:

2008 Best Direction in a Feature Film:

Elissa Down.....*The Black Balloon*

2008 Best Direction in a TV Drama Series – Periodical:

Tony Tilse.....*Underbelly - Episode 2: The Sorcerer's Apprentice*

2008 Best Direction in a TV Mini-Series:

Peter Andrikidis.....*East West 101 - Episode 1: The Enemy*

2008 Best Direction in a TV Drama Series - Ongoing:

Ian Gilmour.....*All Saints - Episode 435: Blind Faith*

2008 Best Direction in a TV Comedy Series:

Stuart McDonald.....*Summer Heights High*

2008 Best Direction in a Documentary - Feature:

Tom Murray.....*In My Father's Country*

2008 Best Direction in a Documentary - Stand Alone: Under 60 Minutes:

Natasha Gadd.....*Anatomy - Muscle*

2008 Best Direction in a Documentary - Series:

Brian McKenzie.....*Love's Harvest*

2008 Best Direction in an Animated Film:

Dennis Tupicoff.....*Chainsaw*

2008 Best Direction in a Short Film:

Julius Avery.....*Jerrycan*

2008 Best Direction in a Short Film - Student:

John Evagora.....*296 Smith Street*

2008 Best Direction in a Television Commercial - Performance:

Sean Meehan.....*The Race (McDonalds)*

2008 Best Direction in a Television Commercial - Visual Narrative:

Paul Middleditch.....*Brewtopia (Pure Blonde)*

Sidebar Pitching Competition

Tony Findlay.....*Mob Wars*

*****New Award**

2008 GRASS (Get Real About Sustainable Screens) Award for a director who recognises environmental sustainability on and off screen

Ben Lawrence..... *What One Person Can Do (Earth Hour 2008)*

For more information about the ADG Awards and Conference, please visit the Conference website at www.adgconference.com. Further information about last year's ADG Awards is available on the ADG website at www.adg.org.au

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