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## Recipients of ADG Achievement Awards announced

The Australian Directors Guild today announced the recipients of its three Achievement Awards to be presented next week. The awards will be presented along with a number of peer-assessed competitive awards at the ADG Awards Dinner at the Star City Astral Restaurant in Sydney on Thursday September 23, 2010.

The awards will be hosted by Jaimie Leonarder, with tickets available online at [www.adg.org.au](http://www.adg.org.au).

Documentary maker Bob Connolly will be the recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award. Previous winners include Scott Hicks, Bruce Petty, Gillian Armstrong, Phillip Noyce, Tom Jeffrey, Ray Lawrence, Fred Schepisi and Peter Weir.

The Outstanding Achievement Award is presented to a director who – in the opinion of the ADG board – has created an outstanding body or work during their career, in any genre.

### **Outstanding Achievement Award for an outstanding body of work (to be presented by Paul Byrnes)**

#### **Recipient: Bob Connolly**

Bob Connolly trained as a journalist at the ABC, spending a decade there as a foreign correspondent, current affairs reporter and documentary filmmaker. He left the ABC in 1978 and worked independently with his wife, Robin Anderson until her death in 2002. Their documentaries included Oscar-nominated **First Contact**, followed by **Joe Leahy's Neighbours** and **Black Harvest**. Shot in the Papua New Guinea highlands over a decade, these three films won 30 national and international awards and each of them won the Grand Prix at France's Festival Cinema du Reel and AFI awards for Best Documentary. Connolly and Anderson released **Rats in the Ranks** in 1996 and their last film together was **Facing the Music**, which won the AFI award for Best Documentary. With co-director Sophie Raymond, Connolly has just completed his sixth feature documentary: **Mrs Carey's Concert**.

### **Michael Carson Award for excellence in TV drama production (to be presented by Mark Wareham ACS)**

#### **Recipient: Tony Tilse**

Tony Tilse has been directing Australian television drama since 1992, when he worked on **G.P.**. Most recently he has worked as a director on **Underbelly I, II and III**. He has directed on drama series including **City Homicide**, **East of Everything**, **Lockie Leonard**, **All Saints**, **Blue Water High**, **CrashBurn**, **Farscape** and **Police Rescue**. He has also worked on telemovies **Panic at Rock Island**, **Scorched**, **To Catch a Killer** and **Postcard Bandit**, as well as the mini-series **A Difficult Woman**.

### **First Assistant Directors Award (to be presented by Kriv Stenders)**

#### **Recipient: Chris Webb**

Chris Webb has worked on 35 feature films as first assistant director since 1985, including 2010 features **Red Dog** (directed by Kriv Stenders) and **Oranges and Sunshine**. He has also worked on more than a dozen television dramas during this time, including **My Place**, **Farscape**, **Kings in Grass Castles** and **The Shiralee**.

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