

**For immediate release**

## **Nominations Announced for the L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards**

**Today - 24 October, 2007 Sydney** – Talented Australian actresses **Deborra-lee Furness** (*Jindabyne*), **Sibylla Budd** (*The Bet*) and **Marny Kennedy**, (recipient of the 2006 L'Oréal Paris AFI Young Actor Award) joined James Hewison, CEO of the Australian Film Institute, at the Sydney Theatre, Walsh Bay to announce this year's nominations for the **L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards**, Australia's most prestigious awards.

The highly anticipated announcement of nominees for the **L'Oréal Paris AFI Award for Best Film** revealed ***The Home Song Stories*, *Lucky Miles*, *Noise* and *Romulus, My Father*** as the contenders to take out the coveted award this year.

***The Home Song Stories*** revolves around the life of Rose, a glamorous nightclub singer. Set in 1990s Western Australia, ***Lucky Miles*** follows the plight of Iraqi and Cambodian refugees abandoned by an Indonesian fishing boat. ***Noise*** is the tale of a young cop beset with doubt and afflicted with tinnitus and ***Romulus, My Father*** is the film adaptation of Raimond Gaita's critically acclaimed memoir.

These nominees will join Academy Award winner and host Geoffrey Rush and a cavalcade of Australian screen stars and industry heavyweights at the **L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards**, which will be held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre over two glittering nights on **5 & 6 December**. The **L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards** will be broadcast nationally on the Nine Network at 9.30pm on Thursday 6 December and for the third consecutive year will be produced by Dainty Consolidated Entertainment (DCE).

Hewison congratulated this year's nominees saying; "There's no doubt that the yields this year across film and television production are proof of considerable diversity of subject and concerns. The palette features a range of styles, plus fundamentally a series of snapshots of contemporary Australia in all its colours."

In the television categories, critically-acclaimed ABC series ***Bastard Boys***, the story of the 1998 battle for Australia's waterfront, received a stunning six nominations across television categories including Best Telefeature or Mini-Series, Best Direction in Television, Best Screenplay in Television, Best Lead Actor in a Television Drama (**Daniel Frederiksen**), Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama (**Justin Smith**) and Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama (**Jack Thompson**).

The love affair with ***Love My Way*** continues with the hit series receiving five nominations. ***The Circuit***, the SBS series starring Gary Sweet also received five nominations. ***The King*** (TV1), ***Call Me Mum*** (SBS), ***All Saints*** (Seven Network), ***Dangerous*** (Fox 8) and ***Stepfather of the Bride*** (ABC) all received nominations in the television drama categories.

In the television comedy category, SBS series **Wilfred** received four nominations, while **Supernova** (UKTV) and **David Tench Tonight** (Network Ten) each received two nominations and the ABC's **The Chaser's War on Everything** received one nomination.

The children's drama series **Lockie Leonard** (Nine Network) was a standout in the children's television category, receiving four nominations.

**The New Inventors** (ABC), **Rockwiz** (SBS), **The Sideshow with Paul McDermott** (ABC) and **Spicks and Specks** (ABC) were all nominated for the **AFI Award for Best Light Entertainment Television Series**.

Eight documentaries received various nominations with **Words From The City, Forbidden Lie\$, Global Haywire** and **4** all vying for top honours in the Best Documentary category.

Nominees for the **AFI International Award for Best Actor** are: **Eric Bana** for his role as Huck Seed, a professional poker player in **Lucky You**, **Julian McMahon** who stars as plastic surgeon Dr. Christian Troy in the hit Nine Network series **Nip/Tuck**, **Hugh Jackman** for his portrayal of magician and charismatic showman Robert Angier in **The Prestige** and the star of the Seven Network's **Prison Break**, **Dominic Purcell**, who plays inmate Lincoln Burrows in the series.

**AFI International Award for Best Actress** nominees are: **Rachel Griffiths**, who stars as the eldest sister Sarah Walker in the Seven Network drama series **Brothers & Sisters**, **Rose Byrne** who plays an ambitious lawyer in the Nine Network's new series **Damages**, **Jacinda Barrett** for her role in the feature film **The Last Kiss** and **Toni Collette** for her portrayal of Sheryl, matriarch of the fractured Hoover family in the film **Little Miss Sunshine**.

Aspiring young actors, **Kodi Smit-McPhee**, **Irene Chen**, **Corey McKernan** and **Joel Lok** were all nominated for the **L'Oréal Paris AFI Young Actor Award**. These talented newcomers delivered outstanding performances in their respective roles. **Irene** was also nominated for **Best Supporting Actress** and **Kodi** for **Best Lead Actor**, making each of them dual AFI Award nominees.

The AFI also announced Melbourne based actor and writer **Nick Barkla** (*Em4Jay*) as the recipient of the **Australian Film Institute Fellowship**. The AFI Fellowship, which was launched in May this year, aims to enrich the cultural environment of the Australian filmmaking community by supporting an Australian film practitioner striving for excellence.

Details of **The Global Achievement Award** were also outlined by Hewison, who said, "This year the Australian Film Institute will recognise the achievement of a particular Australian; an achievement that has reached truly global proportions." This Award will be presented at the AFI's discretion, to acknowledge achievement on a global scale by an Australian or Australians working within the film and television industries internationally.

Tickets to the **L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards**, including the Industry Awards, Members' Lounge and Awards Dinner will go on sale exclusively to AFI members and nominees on **2 November**. The general public will be able to purchase tickets from **19 November** (subject to availability) by calling Undertow Media on 03 9429 6339.

A full list of nominees in all categories and ticketing details follow.



## **Notes to Editors:**

### **About the Australian Film Institute**

The Australian Film Institute presents the AFI Awards each year to recognise and celebrate excellence in Australian film and television production. Now in their 49<sup>th</sup> year, the AFI Awards are the Australian Film and Television Industries' longest running and most prestigious awards.

The AFI is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to developing an active film culture in Australia and fostering engagement between general public and the film industry.

[www.afi.org.au](http://www.afi.org.au)

Cate Blanchett, Academy Award® and AFI Award winner, is the ambassador of the AFI. Dr. George Miller, four-time Academy Award® nominee and winner of eight AFI Awards, is the AFI's patron.

### **About the L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards**

The **L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards** will be held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre over two glittering nights on **5 & 6 December** and will be broadcast nationally on the Nine Network at **9.30pm on Thursday 6 December**. For the third consecutive year the event will be produced by Dainty Consolidated Entertainment.

### **About Dainty Consolidated Entertainment**

Paul Dainty's business, Dainty Consolidated Entertainment (DCE), is the promoter and producer of a vast array of live entertainment events from theatrical productions, to major concerts and special events.

Paul Dainty has been responsible for some of the largest and most successful tours to ever visit Australian and New Zealand including Paul McCartney, The Rolling Stones, U2, David Bowie, Prince, Pink Floyd, Michael Jackson, Phil Collins, Neil Diamond, Bee Gees, George Michael and ABBA as well as theatrical productions such as Mamma Mia!, Happy Days: The Arena Mega Musical, The Rocky Horror Show, Saturday Night Fever and Riverdance.

In 2005 Paul Dainty was appointed to produce the **L'Oréal Paris AFI Awards** until 2011.

Further information can be found at [www.dcegroup.com](http://www.dcegroup.com)

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## L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards Nominees

### AFI International Award for Best Actor

- Eric Bana – *Lucky You*
- Julian McMahon – *Nip/Tuck* (Nine Network)
- Hugh Jackman – *The Prestige*
- Dominic Purcell – *Prison Break* (Seven Network)

### AFI International Award for Best Actress

- Rachel Griffiths – *Brothers & Sisters* (Seven Network)
- Rose Byrne – *Damages* (Nine Network)
- Jacinda Barrett – *The Last Kiss*
- Toni Collette – *Little Miss Sunshine*

### L'Oréal Paris AFI Young Actor Award

- Irene Chen – *The Home Song Stories*
- Joel Lok – *The Home Song Stories*
- Corey McKernan – *Lockie Leonard* (Nine Network)
- Kodi Smit-McPhee – *Romulus, My Father*

### AFI Visual Effects Award

- *Air Australia: Canvas & Sticks* – David Rutherford, Reigy Skwarko, Paul Siciliano & Delon Govender
- *Crocodile Dreaming* – Kirsty Millar & Chad Malbon
- *ROGUE* – Andrew Hellen, Dave Morley & Jason Bath
- *Spider* – Mike Seymour

## TELEVISION NOMINEES

### AFI Award for Best Children's Television Drama

- *The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill* – Jacqueline Chan & Noel Price (ABC)
- *I Got a Rocket* – Suzanne Ryan (Network Ten)
- *Lockie Leonard* – Kylie du Fresne (Nine Network)
- *The Sleepover Club* – Susie Campbell (Nine Network)

### AFI Award for Best Television Comedy Series

- *The Chaser's War on Everything* – Andy Nehl, Julian Morrow & Jo Wathen (ABC)
- *David Tench Tonight* – Todd Abbott (Network Ten)
- *Supernova* – David Maher & David Taylor (UKTV)
- *WILFRED* – Jenny Livingston (SBS)

### AFI Award for Best Television Drama Series

- *All Saints* – Bill Hughes & MaryAnne Carroll (Seven Network)
- *Dangerous* – John Edwards & Imogen Banks (Fox 8)
- *Love My Way* – John Edwards & Claudia Karvan (Showtime)

#### **AFI Award for Best Light Entertainment Television Series**

- *The New Inventors* – Anita Jorgensen & Jo Wathen (ABC)
- *RockWiz* – Brian Nankervis, Ken Connor, Peter Bain-Hogg & Joe Connor (SBS)
- *The Sideshow with Paul McDermott* – Ted Robinson, Pam Swain & Megan Harding (ABC)
- *Spicks and Specks* – Anthony Watt & Bruce Kane (ABC)

#### **AFI Award for Best Telefeature or Mini Series**

- *Bastard Boys* – Brett Popplewell & Ray Quint (ABC)
- *The Circuit* – Ross Hutchens & Colin South (SBS)
- *The King* – Jason Stephens (TV1)

#### **AFI Award for Best Direction in Television**

- *Bastard Boys* – Ray Quint (ABC)
- *The Circuit: Home Is Where the Past Is* – Richard Frankland (SBS)
- *The King* – Matthew Saville (TV1)
- *Lockie Leonard: Cyril* – Tony Tilse (Nine Network)
- *WILFRED: Dogs of War* – Tony Rogers (SBS)

#### **AFI Award for Best Screenplay in Television**

- *Bastard Boys* – Sue Smith (ABC)
- *The Circuit: Home Is Where the Past Is* – Kelly Lefever (SBS)
- *Lockie Leonard: The Ladder of Love* – Keith Thompson (Nine Network)
- *Love My Way: Cars Without Brakes* – Tony McNamara (Showtime)

#### **AFI Award for Best Lead Actor in a Television Drama**

- Daniel Frederiksen – *Bastard Boys* (ABC)
- Khan Chittenden – *Dangerous* (Fox 8)
- Stephen Curry – *The King* (TV1)
- Ben Mendelsohn – *Love My Way* (Showtime)

#### **AFI Award for Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama**

- Catherine McClements – *Call Me Mum* (SBS)
- Tammy Clarkson – *The Circuit* (SBS)
- Claudia Karvan – *Love My Way* (Showtime)
- Noni Hazlehurst – *Stepfather of the Bride* (ABC)

#### **AFI Award for Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama**

- Mark Priestley – *All Saints* (Seven Network)
- Justin Smith – *Bastard Boys* (ABC)
- Jack Thompson – *Bastard Boys* (ABC)
- David Ngoombujarra – *The Circuit* (SBS)

#### **AFI Award for Best Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama**

- Lynette Curran – *Call Me Mum* (SBS)
- Vicki Saylor – *Call Me Mum* (SBS)
- Monica Maughan – *The King* (TV1)
- Justine Clarke – *Love My Way* (Showtime)

**AFI Award for Best Performance in a Television Comedy**

- Drew Forsythe – *David Tench Tonight* (Network Ten)
- Peter Kowitz – *Supernova* (UKTV)
- Jason Gann – *WILFRED* (SBS)
- Adam Zwar – *WILFRED* (SBS)

**NON-FEATURE NOMINEES**

**AFI Award for Best Documentary**

- 4 – Joanna Buggy, Tim Slade
- *FORBIDDEN LIE\$* - Sally Regan & Anna Broinowski
- *Global Haywire* – Claude Gonzalez
- *Words from the City*- Philippa Campey

**AFI Award for Best Direction in a Documentary**

- *Crude* – Richard Smith
- *FORBIDDEN LIE\$* - Anna Broinowski
- *Global Haywire* – Bruce Petty
- *Words from the City*- Rhys Graham & Natasha Gadd

**AFI Award for Best Cinematography in a Documentary**

- 4 – Pieter de Vries ACS
- *Cuttlefish - The Brainy Bunch* – Malcom Ludgate ACS, Joel Peterson & Scott Carrithers
- *Thunderheads* – Klaus Toft, Cameron Davies & Mark Lamble ACS
- *Words from the City*- Rhys Graham & Natasha Gadd

**AFI Award for Best Editing in a Documentary**

- *Cuttlefish- The Brainy Bunch* – Carsten Orlt
- *FORBIDDEN LIE\$* - Vanessa Milton & Alison Croft
- *Global Haywire* – Sam Petty
- *Words from the City* – Paul Williams

**AFI Award for Best Sound in a Documentary**

- *Cuttlefish- The Brainy Bunch* – Sam Hayward
- *FORBIDDEN LIE\$* - Peter Smith & Craig Carter
- *Global Haywire* – Sam Petty
- *Words from the City* – Peter Smith & Emma Bortignon

**AFI Award for Best Short Animation**

- *An Imaginary Life* - Steve Baker
- *The Bat and the Butterfly (Dust Echoes 2)*- Michael Wagner & Dave Jones
- *The Girl Who Swallowed Bees*- Justine Kerrigan & Paul McDermott
- *The Goat That Ate Time* – Lucinda Schreiber

**AFI Award for Best Short Fiction Film**

- *Boy's Own Story* – Michael Petroni & Jamie Hilton
- *Dugong* – Melanie Brunt & Erin White
- *Spike Up* – Anthony Maras & Kent Smith
- *Swing* - Louise Pascale & Christopher Houghton



### **AFI Award for Best Screenplay in a Short Film**

- *Boy's Own Story* – Michael Petroni
- *Crossbow* – David Michod
- *Dugong* - Erin White
- *Katoomba* – Leon Ford

### **FEATURE FILM NOMINEES**

#### **L'Oréal Paris AFI Award for Best Film**

- *The Home Song Stories* – Liz Watts & Michael McMahon
- *Lucky Miles* – Jo Dyer & Lesley Dyer
- *Noise* – Trevor Blainey
- *Romulus, My Father* – Robert Connolly & John Maynard

#### **AFI Award for Best Direction**

- *Clubland* – Cherie Nowlan
- *The Home Song Stories* – Tony Ayres
- *Noise* – Matthew Saville
- *Romulus, My Father* – Richard Roxburgh

#### **Macquarie Private Wealth AFI Award for Best Screenplay (Original or Adapted)**

- *Clubland* – Keith Thompson
- *The Home Song Stories* – Tony Ayres
- *Lucky Miles* – Helen Barnes & Michael James Rowland
- *Noise* – Matthew Saville
- *Romulus, My Father* – Nick Drake

#### **AFI Award for Best Cinematography**

- *Clubland* – Mark Wareham ACS
- *The Home Song Stories* - Nigel Bluck
- *Noise* – Laszlo Baranyai ACS
- *Romulus, My Father* – Geoffrey Simpson ACS

#### **AFI Award for Best Editing**

- *Clubland* – Scott Gray
- *The Home Song Stories* – Denise Haratzis ASE
- *Noise* – Geoff Hitchins
- *Romulus, My Father* – Suresh Ayyar ASE

#### **AFI Award for Best Sound**

- *Clubland* – Andrew Neil, Ian McLoughlin CAS, Liam Egan & Stephen Jackson-Vaughan
- *The Home Song Stories* – Craig Carter, James Harvey, Andrew Neil & John Wilkinson
- *Noise* – Emma Bortignon, Doron Kipen & Philippe Decrausaz
- *Romulus, My Father* – Sam Petty, Gary Wilkins CAS & Phil Heywood

#### **AFI Award for Best Original Music Score**

- *The Home Song Stories* – Antony Partos
- *Noise* – Bryony Marks
- *Razzle Dazzle* – Roger Mason & Green Dragon
- *Romulus, My Father* – Basil Hogios

**AFI Award for Best Production Design**

- *Clubland* – Nell Hanson
- *The Home Song Stories* – Melinda Doring
- *Noise* – Paddy Reardon
- *Romulus, My Father* – Robert Cousins

**AFI Award for Best Costume Design**

- *Clubland* – Emily Seresin
- *The Home Song Stories* – Cappi Ireland
- *Razzle Dazzle* – Ariane Weiss
- *Romulus, My Father* – Jodie Fried

**AFI Award for Best Lead Actor**

- Qi Yuwu – *The Home Song Stories*
- Brendan Cowell – *Noise*
- Eric Bana - *Romulus, My Father*
- Kodi Smit-McPhee – *Romulus, My Father*

**AFI Award for Best Lead Actress**

- Brenda Blethyn – *Clubland*
- Joan Chen – *The Home Song Stories*
- Kerry Armstrong – *Razzle Dazzle*
- Franka Potente – *Romulus, My Father*

**AFI Award for Best Supporting Actor**

- Frankie J. Holden - *Clubland*
- Richard Wilson – *Clubland*
- Marton Csokas – *Romulus, My Father*
- Russell Dykstra – *Romulus, My Father*

**AFI Award for Best Supporting Actress**

- Sibylla Budd – *The Bet*
- Emma Booth - *Clubland*
- Irene Chen – *The Home Song Stories*
- Esme Melville – *Romulus, My Father*

**Ticketing details for the L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards**

Tickets to the **L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards**, including the Industry Awards, Members' Lounge and Awards Dinner will go on sale exclusively to AFI members and nominees on **2 November**. General public will be able to purchase tickets from **19 November** by calling Undertow Media on 03 9429 6339.



**The L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Industry Awards - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December**  
**Presented by Digital Pictures**

This gala cocktail function and awards ceremony kicks off the two-night AFI Awards celebration, with 25 gongs across a range of categories, including cinematography, production design, costume design, editing and various television and non-feature film awards. This is a catered event, which will feature star presenters and performers and will be hosted by Geoffrey Rush.

**Venue:** Melbourne Exhibition Centre, 2 Clarendon Street, Southbank Vic 3006

**Time:** 7.00pm

**Tickets:** \$85 per ticket.

To purchase tickets, please call Amanda Mathews at Undertow Media 03 9429 6339.

**The L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Members Lounge – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

The Melbourne Exhibition Centre theatre and balcony foyer provides the ideal venue for the L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards Members' Lounge. Drinks and canapés will be served on arrival, after which guests will be invited into the theatrette to watch the live broadcast of the Awards ceremony – totally uncut and uncensored! After the show, Members' Lounge guests can then join the Awards Dinner guests at the official AFI Awards After Party.

**Venue:** Melbourne Exhibition Centre, 2 Clarendon Street, Southbank Vic 3006

**Time:** 7.00pm – 10.30pm                      **After Party:** 10.30pm

**Tickets:** \$160 per ticket.

To purchase tickets, please call Amanda Mathews at Undertow Media 03 9429 6339.

**The L'Oréal Paris 2007 AFI Awards Dinner - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

The AFI Awards Dinner is *the* night of nights for the Australian film and television industries and will be broadcast nationally on Channel Nine. Geoffrey Rush and a cavalcade of star presenters, performers and special guests will entertain around 1,100 guests in the room and a television audience expected to be around 1 million. A sumptuous two-course banquet will be followed by the awards ceremony, after which guests will attend the official AFI Awards After Party.

**Venue:** Melbourne Exhibition Centre, 2 Clarendon Street, Southbank Vic 3006

**Time:** **Red carpet arrivals:** 5.30pm sharp

**Awards dinner:** 6.30pm sharp

**Afterparty:** 10.30pm

**Tickets:** \$525 per ticket.

To purchase tickets, please call Amanda Mathews at Undertow Media 03 9429 6339.

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