
News for independent screen practitioners in Victoria.au

Welcome to OPENLine!

In this issue of OPENLine we feature updates from our intrepid trainers and members who are making their fine way in the world, including our first projects with Sri Lankan based TVE Asia Pacific.

We also make a call for expressions of interest for the use of SHED 4! We've got just about 4000 square metres to fill and we need you to help us bring a great deal more colour and movement to Docklands. If you've never been down to the waterfront, take a punt and come over for a visit. Now's the time to get involved!

And don't forget the Screenhub fundraiser... 50% of your Screenhub subscription goes towards the purchase of much needed field equipment at OPEN CHANNEL... that many of you will want use!

OPEN CHANNEL would like to farewell Natascha Stellmach who headed our Membership and Marketing department during the massive settling in period in Docklands. Natascha brought urgency, unlimited energy and dedication into a challenging position. Natascha is now in Berlin having been awarded a 12 month residency at the Künstlerhaus Bethanien. We're mighty proud of Natascha and wish her well. Auf Wiedersehen...

Filling Natascha's bright red shoes, we're thrilled to announce, is the dynamic team of Lynda Watts and Melinda Maillard. Both Melinda and Lynda bring to OPEN CHANNEL a breadth of marketing and business development skills drawn from the performing, film and media arts sector. OPEN CHANNEL members will hear a lot more from Melinda who is keen to know whether you're making the most out of your membership...

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__ OUR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER COURSES ARE HARD TO RESIST!

There are some decisions in life you can leave until the last minute - but enrolling in one of our popular courses is not one of them! Don't risk missing out on learning new, or enhancing current, filmmaking skills. It doesn't matter if you're just starting out, or if you're already working in the industry, we have a course tailored to suit you.

August courses COMMENCE AUGUST 11: Digital Filmmaking Introduction (deadline for enrolling August 4); Producing & Production Management (deadline August 4); and Video Distribution on the Web - How to Get Your Video Online (deadline August 17).

Enrolments for our accredited course, Certificate III in Screen, have

closed but special consideration may be given - call NOW on 8610 9300 to find out more.

September will be here in no time and our course schedule is sure to entice: Final Cut Pro - Introduction (deadline for enrolling August 31), Young Filmmakers' Holiday Workshops (13 to 17 years old) (1st workshop deadline September 7, 2nd workshop deadline September 14); Editing Essentials (deadline September 14); and Cinematography and Lighting (deadline September 14).

To enrol for any of our courses, or for more information, visit our Training page at www.openchannel.org.au

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SHORT & SHARP - FINAL CALL FOR ENTRIES

After Monday 7 August we won't be accepting any more entries for our pitching competition so download an entry form here:

http://openchannel.org.au/downloads/OC_Short-and-Sharp_Entry-Form.pdf

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SCREEN HUB FUNDRAISER - WE NEED YOU!

Thanks to OPEN CHANNEL Member Thomas Pullar who signed up for a discounted Screen Hub membership, and by doing so has donated half of his membership to OPEN CHANNEL. It won't be long before we can start investing in much needed new equipment to be accessed by OPEN CHANNEL's Members.

Not only has Thomas signed up for Screen Hub's great benefits he is the WINNER of the second prize in our giveaway bonanza - \$250 worth of film books from Currency Press.

The next prize will be drawn on Friday 11 August. Go to Screen Hub Fundraiser to find out more about this worthy initiative. While you're there join Screen Hub for your chance to WIN two \$50 iPod Music Cards, and also be entered into Screen Hub's monthly iPod draw.

http://www.screenhub.com.au/members/signup_step1_conc.asp?action=JoinNow

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OPEN CHANNEL MEMBER CONTRACTED FOR ASIA BASED DOCO

TVE Asia Pacific, a Sri Lankan based producer of media geared towards sustainable development and social justice, has contracted OPEN CHANNEL member, Adis Hondo, to direct a documentary for the Challenge Program on Water and Food.

Adis, Director of Hand in Hand Productions, has had a long been association with OPEN CHANNEL and is an accomplished documentary filmmaker and director. He also comes with a strong background in television drama, news gathering, corporate and educational films.

TVE Asia Pacific had also recently invited OPEN CHANNEL to participate in the one day workshop, Discerning ICT hype from hope: challenge for broadcasters, held in Malaysia as a precursor to the Asia Media Summit.

Founding OPEN CHANNEL member and C31 Chair, Peter Lane, represented OPEN CHANNEL at the workshop, where he discussed the greater community use of the digital television spectrum.

OPEN CHANNEL Program Director, Andrew Garton, is working to establish closer ties with organisations in Asia to broaden our understanding of the cultural complexities of region and our place in it as independent media makers.

For further information about the workshop, in particular its outcomes, refer to:

<http://www.tveap.org/news/0606discerning.html>

TVE Asia Pacific

<http://www.tveap.org/>

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__CALLUM COOPER BEATS HIS WAY TO EDINBURGH

Former OPEN CHANNEL Certificate Graduate and tutor Callum Cooper has been busy dealing with a string of successes. His film "2:41 Upfield" was nominated for "Best Short Animation" at the L'Oreal Paris 2005 AFI Awards, it took out the "Best Script, Best Animation and Most Cinematic Potential" at the VCA awards, featured in the 2006 Flickerfest programme, as well as being screened on ABC TV. And that's only mentioning a few "2:41 Upfield" successes.

We now congratulate Callum on receiving Film Victoria's International Travel Fund which means he'll be taking his film "How to Make a Beat" to the Edinburgh International Film Festival this month.

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__WE REMEMBER NIGEL

Congratulations to the cast and crew of "Remembering Nigel" which was co-winner of the "Best Short Film" at the "Melbourne Underground Film Festival (MUFF) 2006".

OPEN CHANNEL is excited to have been involved in getting this film off the ground through significant support via our OPENAccess Initiative.

"Remembering Nigel" premiered on July 16 at the Spanish Club in Fitzroy, to a packed house of more than 250 people.

Insiders tell us that the audience loved it with some outstanding crowd favourites, like Bert Newton, Bud Tingwell, John Flaus, Ian Smith and Tommy Dysart. The almost ongoing applause, cheers and whistles as the actors' end credits came up convinced the filmmakers that they had all been part of a wonderful project, that has a heart and a soul.

Keep an eye open for the general release of "Remembering Nigel".

For more information on MUFF visit:

<http://www.muff.com.au>

For more information on OPEN CHANNEL's OPENAccess Initiative visit:
http://www.openchannel.org.au/s_discounts.html

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__BREAK A LEG ALKINOS

OPEN CHANNEL wishes Alkinos Tsilimidos the best of luck for the World Premiere of "Em 4 Jay" this month at the "2006 Melbourne International Film Festival", followed by the Queensland Premiere at the 15th Brisbane International Film Festival.

It's OPEN CHANNEL's mission to ensure we only have the best tutors and we're excited to have had Alkinos run our Directors' Workshop last year.

We continue to work with outstanding filmmakers so call our Training Department on 8610 9300 to find out who we have recruited for our 2006 courses.

If you want to know more about "Em 4 Jay" or MIFF visit:
<http://www.melbournefilmfestival.com.au>

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__TUTOR'S DISTURBING TALE WINS FUNDING

Congratulations to 2005 OPEN CHANNEL tutor John Brawley, along with fellow producers Georgie Neville and David Rapsey, and writer/director Joel Anderson for receiving a production funding commitment from the Australian Film Commission for their eerie supernatural drama "Lake Mungo". This project is one of four new feature films backed in the latest round of the AFC's IndiVision Production Fund.

This project is to be shot on Super 16 and Mini DV/Hi 8 over six weeks with a small crew. To be finished on 35mm. Developed through Arista and Film Victoria to treatment stage, which will be the shooting document.

We wish John and his team the best of luck with raising the remaining

funds. Maybe you're looking for a project to invest in? Contact OPEN CHANNEL and we'll put you in touch with John.

+ OPPORTUNITIES

SHED 4 - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT

OPEN CHANNEL's new home at SHED 4 is now available for general office hires, short to long-term tenancies, artist residencies, production and events space.

SHED 4 is an entirely new precinct development for Victorian filmmakers, hybrid media artists, digital content developers and initiatives that support the aims of OPEN CHANNEL. At 4000 square metres, SHED 4 is perhaps the largest remaining industrial space of its kind left in Melbourne.

Your welcome to become a part of this amazing new community. SHED 4 applicants must be current/financial members (individual or organisation) of OPEN CHANNEL.

For more information download our SHED 4 Precinct Charter / Guidelines:
http://openchannel.org.au/pdf/OC_SHED4_Guidelines_2006.pdf

Pick up your paint brushes, your cameras and laptops and join us down on the waterfront!

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URGENT CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Are you an enthusiastic, fun loving person over 18 years old, looking for a way to help Victoria's screen resource centre? If your answer is a resounding "yes" then we want you! OPEN CHANNEL is currently recruiting volunteers to assist with a vast range of projects. Interested? Then email us now on <marketing@openchannel.org.au>.

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__LOVE YOUR WORK! - MAKE A NOTE IN YOUR DIARY

Are you an OPEN CHANNEL Member looking for an opportunity to showcase your short film at an event attended by a broad audience? Then "Love Your Work!" can help your dreams come true.

We're looking for short films to feature at our screening night on Thursday November 23 and deadline for entries is Monday October 9. But we're still working on the finer details for this event so in the meantime keep a watchful eye on our "Love Your Work!"

Keep an eye on both OPENLine and:
http://www.openchannel.org.au/e_lyw.html

Start thinking about which of your films you want to submit!

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__TRASHARAMA A-GO-GO - STALKING FOR ENTRIES, DEADLINE AUGUST 14

Don't think there's a film festival for you? Trasharama A-go-go is stalking short Horror, Sci-fi, Bad Taste Comedies, Dodgymentaries, Cheesy Animations, B-grade Schlock and other Filmic Disasterpieces for the Australian 2006 competition.

Want more information on Australia's nastiest touring short film festival?

Visit <http://www.trasharama.com.au> - we dare you!

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__ARE YOU GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR OPEN CHANNEL MEMBERSHIP?

There are some great discounts to be accessed by brandishing your membership card. Check out Member Benefits:
http://www.openchannel.org.au/a_join.html

Ensure you're taking full advantage of what you paid for, especially

the offers from our Member Discounters.

We welcome your feedback so if we could be doing more for you let us know by emailing Marketing <marketing@openchannel.org.au>. Or just let us know if you're happy!

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__LEARN TV PRODUCTION SKILLS OR UTILIZE YOUR EXISTING SKILLS

Community Media Services (CMS) are looking for Work-for-the-Dole participants to produce 2 shows on community television.

Contact CMS on 03 9419 2555 or Sam on 0400 845 067.

+ EVENTS

__SHORT & SHARP PITCHING EVENT - BE AN AUDIENCE MEMBER

On Thursday August 24, in front of a live audience, seven contestants will vie for \$3,500 worth of OPEN CHANNEL resources.

Our seven lucky "Pitchers" will present their short film projects to a panel of industry professionals... and you're invited to witness the discovery of the next Phillip Noyce!

Not only will you be caught up in the excitement of the competition, you have the opportunity to be inspired and learn about the craft of pitching... and what it takes to sell an idea.

When: Thursday, August 24

Time: 6.15-9.15pm

Cost: \$12 full / FREE for OC Members

Tickets available from door. More information will be available on our website shortly.

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__THE OTHER FILM FESTIVAL 2006 - BE A WINNER AND BE THERE

From 25-27 August 2006 at Melbourne Museum's Age Theatre, "The Other Film Festival 2006" will screen new cinema by, with and about people with a disability and is proudly sponsored by OPEN CHANNEL's OPENAccess Initiative.

Don't miss this strong and diverse program of Australian and international films, including new works by filmmakers with a disability. Over 170 films from all around the world were entered this year, impressing the selection panel with the innovation and quality of the work. The festival weekend will also feature interviews, forums, and professional development opportunities for filmmakers.

Academy Award winning animator Adam Elliott will once more serve as patron. Humour and disability are concepts that Adam's own films have explored, and he will host a post-screening forum during the festival called Who's Laughing Now? "I have a kinship with those filmmakers who dare to push the boundaries and explore the many and varied lives of those so often ignored in cinema," Adam says. "THE OTHER FILM FESTIVAL is a rich and creative pool of wonderful films I can't wait to swim in!"

For Festival information visit:
<http://www.otherfilmfestival.com>.

For more information on OPEN CHANNEL's OPENAccess Initiative visit:
http://www.openchannel.org.au/s_discounts.html

GO FOR FREE - if you're a current OPEN CHANNEL Member there's still a chance to WIN one of 10 double passes to attend any session of "The Other Film Festival 2006" (excludes Opening Night). Send us an email with your membership number and mailing address by AUGUST 11.

Send to <info@openchannel.org.au> with THE OTHER FILM FESTIVAL in the subject line.

**** YOUR CLASSIFIEDS HERE! ****

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