



MEDIA RELEASE

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West Aussies Go Troppo

Bohemia Outdoor Cinema welcomes the Tropfest – Short Film Competition

Australia's most prestigious short film festival and one of its most iconic cultural events is back this weekend with the final of the prestigious Tropfest-short film competition to be held at Fremantle's Bohemia Outdoor Cinema this Sunday.

Famed as the world's largest short film festival, Tropfest is recognised for its high quality of amazing and eclectic short films, which have made a habit of launching the careers of international stars. Recent West Australian Alumni include *Avatar's* Sam Worthington as well as the Director of *The Black Balloon*, Elissa Down.

The annual short film competition is open to anyone who wishes to enter – regardless of their background or experience. 16 Finalists are selected from an entry pool of an average 650 annual entries and compete for more than \$150,000 in prizes. Tropfest films are unique in that they have all been made specifically for Tropfest, will premiere at Tropfest and include the Tropfest Signature Item (or TSI), which changes each year. The TSI for Movie Extra Tropfest 2010 is "DICE".

The support and involvement of film personalities from around the world has become one of the trademarks of the festival. Selection of the winning Tropfest film takes place live on the night of the festival by a panel of high profile industry and celebrity judges. Past judges have included Nicole Kidman, Naomi Watts, Toni Collette, Rose Byrne, Geoffrey Rush, Russell Crowe, John Woo, Samuel L Jackson, Baz Luhrmann, Keanu Reeves, Sam Neill, Ewan McGregor, Carrie-Anne Moss, Jane Campion, Salma Hayek, George Miller and Gabriel Byrne to name a few.

Representing WA in the Tropfest Top 20, is Julia Ngeow with her animated short, *All Work & No Play*. Featuring music from local outfit , Injured Ninja, *All Work & No Play* tells the tale of an ambitious high flyer, Sinbad Fingleberry Faxy Jax Milanee, which the director says is based loosely around her own "quarter life crisis".

Originally studying Biophysics with the hopes of a career designing prosthetic limbs, Ngeow decided instead to focus on a career in film after completing her Diploma of Digital Production at the Film & Television Institute WA (FTI) in 2007.

For more information, to arrange an interview or secure high resolution images, please contact Film & Television Institute - Marketing Manager, Michael Ellis on (08) 9431 6708 or michael_ellis@fti.asn.au



Since then Julia has worked in various crew roles, more recently focusing her attention primarily to the role of directing. To date, Julia has secured funding by FTI and ScreenWest for two film projects, *Victims* and *Carlos Rules the World*.

For the most part, Julia works on short films and music videos for WA-based bands. Her projects have gone on to be screened at various festivals including the Revelation Perth International Film Festival and the International Bike Film Festival in Melbourne.

Tropfest will be held at Bohemia Outdoor Cinema, Princess May Park, Fremantle on Sunday the 21st February 2010. A Best of the West Screening - showcasing the top West Australian entries, will take place at 5:30pm prior to the main screening of the Top 16 at 7:30pm. Entry is by donation, (\$5 recommended).



