



## DIRECTOR RACHEL PERKINS TO RECEIVE INAUGURAL ANIMAL LOGIC ENTERTAINMENT ILLUMINATE AWARD, AT 8<sup>TH</sup> AUSTRALIANS IN FILM GALA ON OCT. 23 IN LOS ANGELES

***Previously Announced Honorees include: Naomi Watts, Ruby Rose, Sarah Snook, Dacre Montgomery, Anthony Maras and Bill Draper***

**SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA – October 17, 2019** – Australians in Film (AiF) today announced that Australian director **Rachel Perkins** will receive the inaugural **Animal Logic Entertainment Illuminate Award** as part of the **8<sup>th</sup> AiF Awards Gala and Benefit**. The critically acclaimed Australian director will receive the first-ever award for excellence behind the camera, in recognition of her incredible body of work including *Total Control* starring Deborah Mailman and Rachel Griffiths and AACTA Award-winning TV mini-series *Mystery Road*.

AFI Award-winning director, producer and screenwriter Phillip Noyce (*Rabbit-Proof Fence*, *The Giver*) will present the Award to Perkins at the star-studded award's ceremony taking place at the Intercontinental in Beverly Hills on Wednesday, October 23, 2019.

“Rachel Perkins is undoubtedly one of the most exciting and talented Australian directors of her generation,” said Kate Marks, President of Australians in Film. “AiF is thrilled to be presenting this inaugural award to Rachel with long-term partner Animal Logic Entertainment, one of Australia’s leading international production companies.”

Animal Logic CEO Zareh Nalbandian said: “As both an animation studio and production company, we are always looking for ways to celebrate the incredible and often unsung talent that exists behind the camera. In our inaugural year, Animal Logic is proud to recognise Rachel’s prolific career as an acclaimed producer, director and screenwriter. Rachel is a powerful creative leader who has indelibly shaped the landscape of screen arts in Australia and continues to break new ground. Her commitment to telling bold Australian stories that support the growth and sustainability of the local industry is a testament to her passion for Australian film and television. Rachel’s continued innovation across the full spectrum of filmmaking embodies the spirit of this award: lighting a path for a new era of screen content and the people who make it possible.”

Of the Award win, Perkins said: “Thirty years ago, when I was a trainee making my first thirty-second community service advertisement for TV, I secretly aspired to make films that could touch a wide audience. It is such a privilege that I am able to work in this industry I love and contribute to Australia by telling its incredible stories.”

Trained in the desert of Alice Springs, Perkins’ diverse filmmaking career has evolved across multiple feature films, telemovies, documentary series and more recently television drama. In the process she has collaborated with some of Australia’s greatest actors including Judy Davis, Geoffrey Rush, Rachel Griffiths, Deborah Mailman, Toni Collette and Hugo Weaving.

Perkins will be joined at the Awards by previously announced honorees: Two-time Academy Award nominee **Naomi Watts** (*The Loudest Voice*), **Ruby Rose** (The CW’s *Batwoman*), **Sarah Snook** (HBO’s *Succession*), **Dacre Montgomery** (Netflix’s *Stranger Things*), director **Anthony Maras** (*Hotel Mumbai*) and **Bill Draper** (Warner Bros’ President Worldwide Physical Production).

The Awards Ceremony will be hosted by Australian singer-songwriter, comedian, writer and actor, **Eddie Perfect**, best known for his performance in the critically acclaimed series *Offspring* and more recently for his Tony-nominated work on Broadway, writing the score for *Beetlejuice*.

The 8<sup>th</sup> AiF Awards Gala and Benefit Dinner is presented by Ausfilm, Screen Australia and Create NSW and proudly supported by media partners Vogue and GQ Australia, together with Qantas, AiF’s official airline and hotel partner, The Standard Hollywood. Beverage partners include Bird in Hand, Penfolds, Mr Black and Little Creatures.

The awards support AiF’s non-profit mission to usher Australian talent into the international market and provide educational and career development programs including the highly successful creative work sharing space, Charlie’s in Hollywood.

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Tickets are [available here](#).

For Corporate Tickets and Event Partnership Packages, please email [events@australiansin film.org](mailto:events@australiansin film.org)

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**ABOUT AUSTRALIANS IN FILM:** Founded in 2001, Australians in Film is a Los Angeles based non-profit screen organization that supports its members with career development and education programs including the prestigious Heath Ledger Scholarship, Mentor LA, Village Roadshow/Animal Logic Entertainment Internship, Greg Coote Fellowship, Gateway LA and The Writers Room. AiF is based at Charlie's, a shared workspace at the historic Raleigh Studios in Hollywood. Charlie's is a bespoke hub for business, collaboration and networking for the Australian screen community in Los Angeles and it is where AiF holds its industry education programs. For more information about joining AiF, <http://www.australiansinfilm.org/JoinAiF> Follow on Twitter: @australiansfilm and Instagram: @AustraliansinFilm

**ABOUT ANIMAL LOGIC ENTERTAINMENT:** With a focus in the four-quadrant family space, Animal Logic Entertainment collaborates with world-class filmmakers to develop and produce a strong slate of commercially minded, story driven projects stamped with the visual and technical innovation that has become the hallmark of Animal Logic's work. For more information, visit [www.animallogicentertainment.com](http://www.animallogicentertainment.com).

**ABOUT AUSFILM:** Ausfilm connects international filmmakers with Australia's talent, screen agencies, studio complexes, locations and production facilities. On behalf of the Australian Government Ausfilm markets Australia's Screen Production Incentive Scheme, which comprises the Location, PDV (post, digital and visual effects) and Producer Offsets. Ausfilm is an Australian industry – government partnership. It comprises Australia's Federal and State Governments; the major studios; leading post, sound and visual effects facilities; and production service providers. Ausfilm has offices in Los Angeles and Sydney. For more information visit: [www.ausfilm.com](http://www.ausfilm.com).

**ABOUT SCREEN AUSTRALIA:** Screen Australia is the Australian Federal Government agency charged with supporting Australian screen content through development, production and promotion across television, film, documentary and digital originals. The agency administers Australia's official co-production program, in addition to the Producer Offset tax rebate which assists eligible television, film and online works to be made. Screen Australia provides a range of resources and opportunities to the industry including access to research, market intelligence plus special initiatives such as its highly success Gender Matters program. For more information visit [screenaustralia.gov.au](http://screenaustralia.gov.au)

**ABOUT CREATE NSW:** Based in Sydney, Create NSW is the State government's integrated agency for arts, screen and culture. Create NSW offers incentives to attract footloose production and post-production to NSW and offers location and production liaison services to eligible productions considering locating in NSW. For more information, visit [www.create.nsw.gov.au](http://www.create.nsw.gov.au)