



Troy Grant MP

Minister for Hospitality, Gaming and Racing
Minister for the Arts

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 21 August 2014

NSW GOVERNMENT HELPING THREE NEW FILMMAKING TEAMS ON THE ROAD TO CAREER SUCCESS

Three NSW-based filmmaking teams are being assisted on the road to success through the NSW Government's Emerging Filmmakers Fund (EFF), Minister for the Arts, Troy Grant announced today.

The recipients of the 2014 Emerging Filmmakers Fund are writer/director, Shane Danielsen and producer, Vanessa Humphrey for their film, *The Guests*; director Erin Good, writer, Huna Amweero and producer, Jessica Mitchell for their film, *Let Me Go*; and writer/director, Matt Holcomb and producer, Annie Kinnane for their film, *Flat Daddy*.

Mr Grant said the three teams may follow in the footsteps of past recipients who have gone on to considerable national and international success.

"The Emerging Filmmakers Fund assists talented new filmmakers from NSW to make high quality short films," Mr Grant said.

"The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is focused on developing the next generation of world renowned filmmakers and this funding offers an important pathway for them to harness their ideas and talents.

"Past recipients include Jennifer Kent, director of *The Babadook*, which was the hit of this year's Sundance Film Festival, and internationally acclaimed director David Michod, who went on from his EFF film, *Crossbow*, to make *Animal Kingdom* and *The Rover*."

Mr Grant said each team will receive \$30,000 to complete their short film projects.

"This is a significant investment for each of these teams, giving them the opportunity to make a film that can become a calling card for future success in the film industry," Mr Grant said.

Mr Grant said the three teams will also benefit from the experience of this year's EFF Executive Producers, Causeway Films, a partnership between Kristina Ceyton, who produced *The Babadook* (selected for Sundance 2014) and *The Ground Beneath* (short-listed for an Academy Awards nomination and winner of the Sydney Film Festival, Rouben Mamoulian Dendy Award), and respected developer Sam Jennings whose short, *Deluge*, won the Grand Jury Prix at Clermont-Ferrand.

Further details on the three 2014 Emerging Filmmakers Fund projects are below.

The Emerging Filmmakers Fund is offered by Screen NSW: www.screen.nsw.gov.au

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2014 EMERGING FILMMAKER FUND RECIPIENTS

THE GUESTS

Writer/director: Shane Danielsen

Producer: Vanessa Humphrey

Eastern Europe, the late 1960s. Anna has recently moved with her husband Philip to a new city, where she is left at home looking after their six-month-old baby. The new country's language and culture are alien to her; she feels lonely and isolated. One night, while awaiting Philip's return, there is a buzz at the front door. She opens it, thinking it's him—but is confronted instead by a quartet of locals, claiming they have arrived for a housewarming party ... Has Philip not told her they were coming? Confused, Anna lets them in. And then, almost at once, more guests arrive. And a nightmare begins...

LET ME GO

Director: Erin Good

Writer: Huna Amweero

Producer: Jessica Mitchell

Nina is caught between two realities, one defined by the oppressive care of her partner, the other, a potential way out offered by a mysterious young woman. A haunting story of one woman's attempt to gain freedom and live as her true self, no matter what the cost.

FLAT DADDY

Writer/Director: Matt Holcomb

Producer: Annie Kinnane

Flat Daddy is about how a life-size photographic cut-out of a serving Australian military officer, meant to be a source of comfort, ends up causing emotional upheaval for the officer's wife and young daughter.

Logie award winner Kat Stewart (Offspring, Underbelly, Tangled) has been cast in the lead role which will be shot in Lithgow.

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