



ACS

53rd ANNUAL
NATIONAL AWARDS
FOR CINEMATOGRAPHY 2023

MAY 6TH • 6:00PM • CRYSTAL BALLROOM LUNA PARK

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The Australian Cinematographers Society wish to acknowledge First Nations Peoples and their unceded Lands on which we live and work.

We celebrate the continuing links Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have as original custodians, and recognise their rights, richness of culture and ongoing connection to Knowledge, Stories and Country - Land, Seas and Sky.

As storytellers, we commit to continuing conversations and creating a path to a deeper recognition for First Nations Heritage

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To all ACS members, sponsors, guests and dear friends, it is my great pleasure and privilege to welcome you to our 53rd ACS National Awards for Cinematography.

Hosted with style and panache by the ACS New South Wales branch, here on the water's edge of Sydney Harbour on Cammeraygal land. I am very honoured to be here tonight.

2023 marks the 65th anniversary of the ACS, and we can all be very proud of the achievements of the Society. From the camaraderie of all the gatherings and branch events to the world leading report into working camera department conditions, A Wider Lens, the ACS continues to grow and evolve.

The ACS National Awards are special.

They are a celebration of the exceptional artistry and courage of our members. Some ACS members continue facing life threatening risks around the world to capture the pictures that tell horrifying stories, especially from Ukraine, and we thank you.

Tonight we recognise the best of the best work of our members, and acknowledge the enormous effort and time that goes into every entry.

The high calibre of Australian cinematographers continues to be recognised locally and internationally with nominations and wins for Mandy Walker AM ACS ASC and Jules O'Loughlin ACS ASC, including AACTA, BAFTA, ASC and the Academy. Congratulations everyone for your incredible work, persistence and passion.

My deep thanks to everyone in the NSW Branch, especially ACS NSW President Carolyn Constantine ACS, for all your work bringing this brilliant event to us.

Congratulations again to all nominees and winners tonight!

ACS NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - ERIKA ADDIS

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of the ACS NSW Branch we welcome you to the 53rd ACS National Awards for Cinematography 2023 that celebrates some of the best cinematography from around the country at the iconic Sydney landmark of Luna Park here on Cammeraygal land.

A big welcome to all our sponsors and thank you for the great support you give the ACS, in particular our Major National Sponsor, Fujinon Fujifilm.

We are honoured to welcome our National President, Erika Addis and our very special Guest of Honour, Russell Boyd AO ACS ASC who is an industry legend, an inspiration and mentor to many of us.

Thank you to Ray Martin AM who will be our Master of Ceremonies this evening, we are delighted to have you steering the ship.

Much work has gone into pulling tonight together and I'd like to welcome and thank our Chair of Judges, David Burr ACS and all the judges who gave much of their time and experience.

Thank you to Aleksei Vanamois for coordinating this mammoth process. A big acknowledgement to those NSW and National ACS Committee members who contributed towards the many tasks to make tonight a success.

Congratulations to all the nominees tonight, your work represents the best cinematography from across Australia so you are all winners already.

For those of you unable to join us in person tonight, I hope you enjoy the live stream and I thank Geoff Anderson and his team from Sonic Sight for their work behind the scenes to bring us the show and broadcast tonight.



Enjoy this fantastic opportunity to get together with fellow cinematographers and sponsors to help celebrate such impressive images and storytelling.

ACS NSW PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - CAROLYN CONSTANTINE ACS



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Congratulations to all the 2023 ACS National Awards
for Cinematography Winners and Nominees



Ray Martin AM is an obsessive “snapper”, calling himself unashamedly ‘a feral photographer’.

Two years ago he somehow convinced Melbourne University Press to publish a book of his career photographs, which actually became a best-seller.

Ray has been taking street snaps for most of his fifty years in journalism, starting out as an ABC cadet, then a decade based in New York as the North American Correspondent before joining the Nine Network, as one of the original three 60 Minutes reporters in 1978.

In the following years he hosted The Midday Show, A Current Affair, Sunday,

Federal Elections along with countless network specials. He’s won more Logies and Peoples Choice awards than anyone on television, including five Gold Logies.

In 2012 Martin was awarded an Order of Australia for his charity work - especially with indigenous Australians - and for his contribution to journalism.

But his main claim to fame, Martin reckons, is “making cameramen look good by writing & editing around their mistakes”.

Truth is, he’s a tireless supporter of cinematographers, which is why he loves hosting these awards every year.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES - RAY MARTIN AM

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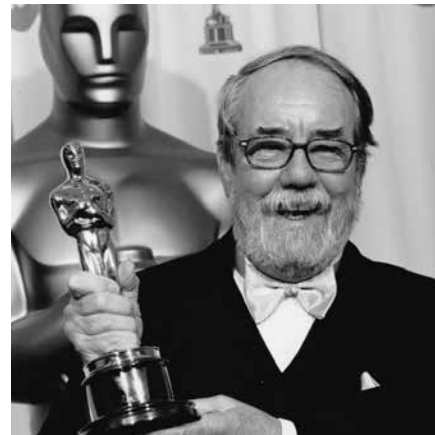
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Russell was born on 21st April, 1944 in Melbourne & grew up in Geelong, Victoria. It goes without saying that he's a huge Cat's fan! Wanting to pursue a career in photography, he joined Cinesound in Melbourne in 1961 as a trainee. It was there that he started shooting news stories & some commercials.

In 1964 he joined Seven Network in Melbourne & it was while shooting news that he realised what a powerful medium film was to tell a story. He joined Supreme Sound Productions, continuing to gain experience in lighting & filming while working on commercials & documentaries.

In the early 70's, director Mike Thornhill asked Russell to be Director of photography on *Between Wars*, the 1st feature film for Mike & Russell.

In 1974 Peter Weir asked Russell to be DOP on *Picnic at Hanging Rock* & from there he went on to shoot 6 feature films with Peter over a 33 year period, winning a BAFTA for *Picnic* & an Academy Award for *Master & Commander*.

Russell also shot 3 films with Gillian Armstrong, *Starstruck*, *Mrs Soffel* & *High Tide*. He shot his 1st film in USA in 1981. *Tender Mercies*, directed by Bruce Beresford.

Crocodile Dundee 1 & 2 were also there in his filming schedule in 1986 & 1988. During the 80's & 90's Russell worked mainly in the USA, photographing *A Soldier's Story*, *In Country*, *White Men Can't Jump*, *Cobb*, *Tin Cup*, *Liar, Liar* & *Doctor Doolittle* to name a few. His last feature film was Peter Weir's *The Way Back* in 2009 in Bulgaria.

After that, Russell decided to spend more time at home with his family & continued to work on commercials until his retirement in 2020.

GUEST OF HONOUR - RUSSELL BOYD AO ACS ASC



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At age seventeen David Burr was offered an opportunity to work in the camera department at the renowned Cinesound Productions in Sydney and so he commenced his career in the Australian film industry.

The production work at Cinesound was mainly the Cinesound Review, a black and white weekly newsreel released on Thursdays to the Greater Union cinema chain.

Not long after he started David was handed an Arriflex camera, 400' of 35mm black and white film stock and sent out to shoot his first "story" - talk about being thrown in the deep end.

Given a chance to work with the great John McLean ACS David moved to John's commercial production house and this soon led to feature films - David had found his niche.

Films from David's early career included "Don Quixote" with Oscar winning cinematographer Geoffrey Unsworth BSC, Peter Weir's first feature film, "The Cars That Ate Paris", "Storm Boy", "My Brilliant Career", "Gallipoli", "Breaker Morant" and many others. David moved up the ladder from Clapper Loader to Focus Puller to Camera Operator and finally to Cinematographer.

David attended his first ACS event in 1969 and is still very much involved with the Society, being this years National Awards, Chair of Judges.

AWARDS CHAIR - DAVID BURR ACS



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Bruce has been shooting since 2002, after starting his career in the drama dept at the ABC in 1990.

He has a long a varied credit list that includes, Power Games, The Code, Deep Water and the feature film Storm Boy.

Bruce has won numerous gold awards from the ACS, including a Gold Tripod for The Secret River.

He recently shot The Last King of The Cross and soon to be released Class of 07.

AWARDS JUDGE - BRUCE YOUNG ACS



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AWARDS JUDGE - ERNIE CLARK ACS

Forty years ago, Ernie was honoured
to receive his ACS Accreditation #145
and ever since he's been involved in
judging ACS cinematography awards.

He was inducted into the ACS Hall of Fame
in 2006 and received a Ron Windon ACS
Contribution Award in 2014 and is still actively
involved on the ACS National executive and
committees and as SA branch President.

Ernie said "Judging cinematography
for the National ACS Awards is very
enjoyable as you see the best of the
best work. With five different sets of very
experienced eyes assessing the entries
the cream always raises to the top!"



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Carolyn began her career in Sydney solidifying her reputation with notable work as DOP on a number of films by emerging Australian directors such as Cate Shortland, Pentuphouse (Kodak and Dendy Award winner) and Somersault (2nd Unit DOP and director).

She has numerous TV drama operating and DOP credits (Wildside, Young Lions, All Saints, Rake, Please like Me, Headland, Janet King, Pulse, Born to Spy, Bump S1,2 & 3, Underbelly; Vanishing Act and the BBC drama, Ten Pound Poms).

She has lensed a number of high profile documentaries including Madhattan, Yoko Ono: War is Over, and Wide Open Sky which won the audience award for best documentary at SFF 2015.

Determined to push the creative and technical boundaries of her craft, she's continually exploring new ways to visually interpret her subjects and their stories.

AWARDS JUDGE - CAROLYN CONSTANTINE ACS

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Laszlo was born in Budapest, Hungary.

Soon after developing a passion for images that were able to capture people's stories on the big screen, he started to work as a Camera Assistant for the Hungarian Film Company in 1970.

In 1978 he was accepted into the internationally renowned ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC & CINEMATIC ART,

FILM & TELEVISION, Budapest.

Now based in Melbourne, he has forged a body of work, including TV series, mini-series, documentaries, short dramas.

and multi-award winning feature films like "Crackers" "Soft Fruit", "Roy Hölsdotter Live", "Noise", "Curtin", "Downriver".

Between productions, Laszlo is a passionate educator and mentor of young filmmakers.

He has conducted a MASTER CLASS in BUDAPEST, participated in KODAK MASTERCLASS in Melbourne and gave several university lectures in the history of visual art to illustrate how directors and cinematographers finding and defining visual choices and structure to support a narrative and elevate the story far beyond what is written on the page.

AWARDS JUDGE - LASZLO BARANYAI ACS HSC

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Roger Lanser ACS has been in the International film and television industry for over 40 years.

He has won numerous ACS awards for his cinematography including the coveted 'Milli' Cinematographer of the Year Award and is an ACS Hall of Fame recipient.

Some of Roger's credits as a Director of Photography include films with actors Denzel Washington, Emma Thompson and Bryce Dallas Howard.

He also became friend and collaborator with multi BAFTA & Oscar winning actor/director/ writer Sir Kenneth Branagh and they have collaborated on 8 films together.

Roger is an active member of the ACS and was a previous NSW State President.

AWARDS JUDGE - ROGER LANSER ACS



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BellaBella - Satbir Aulakh Ft. LeedaH
Faces - Stephanie Cherote
Beautiful Thing - Nic Cester
JOY. - Think About It
Intro - Coyote
Tonsillitis - Michael Aldag
Glitch - Parkway Drive
CHOKE - Colletto Bianco
Courtney Barnett - Before You Gotta Go
Every Last Echo - Aquila Young
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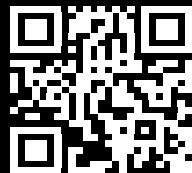


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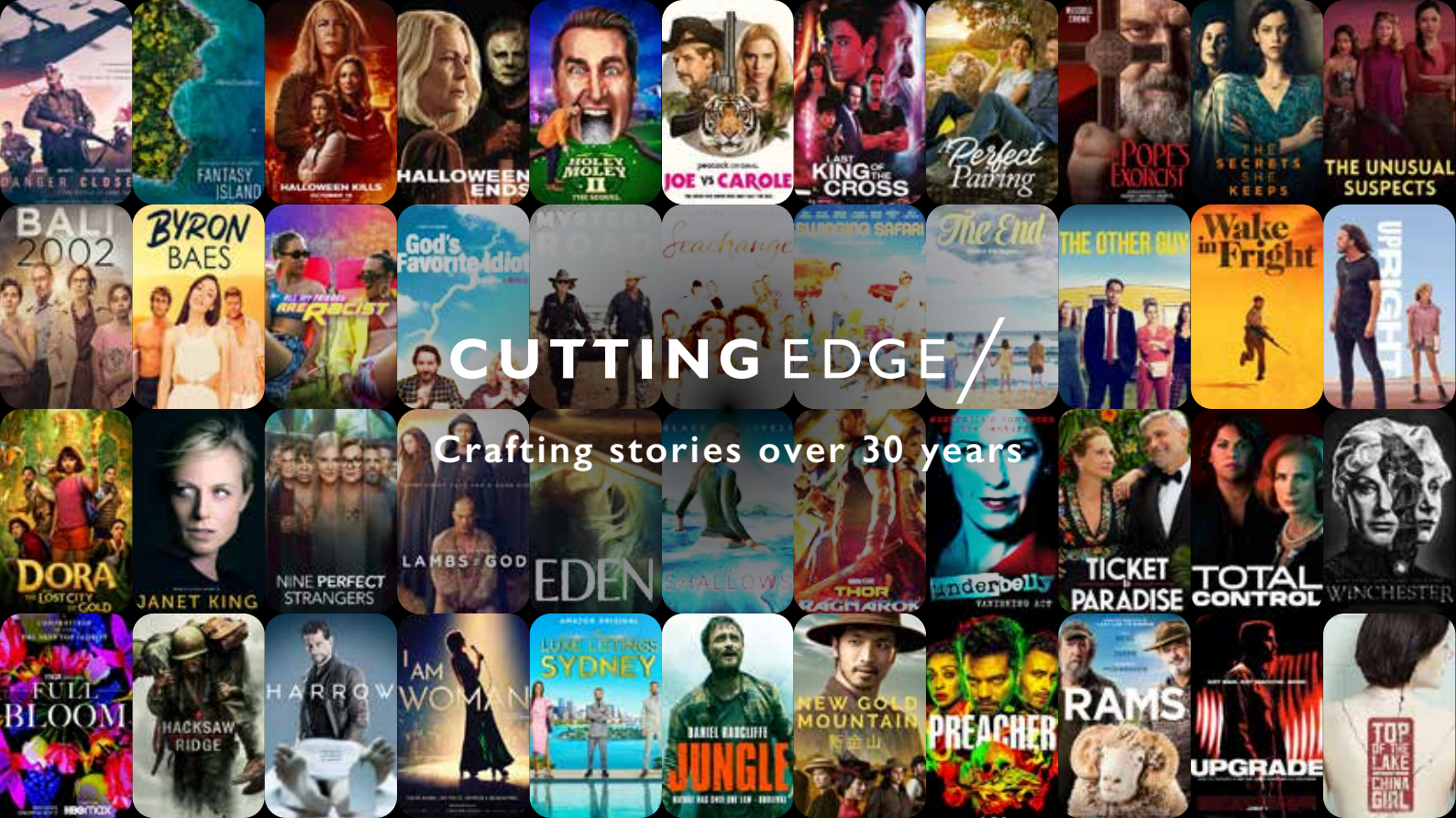
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Alekssei Vanamois

Mamu Kurtaji
Evie
The Saturday Night Dress
If I Were You
Balaclava
The Moths Will Eat Them Up
Becoming Emma Braintree
Tarneit
Black Hen
June
Coming Home - The Ballet
I Wanted To Be A Butterfly
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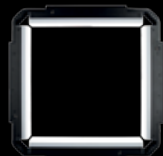
Congratulations to all nominees and award winners.

And we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all ACS members, across Australia – we have been inspired by the resilience and creativity of our cinematographers and our industry in what has been a tough twelve months.

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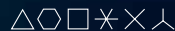
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Kino Flo is proud to partner with the Australian Cinematographers Society. Congratulations to all the nominees of this year's ACS Awards. Your dedication, enthusiasm and vision turn storytelling into movie magic.

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THANK YOU TO OUR NATIONAL SUPPORTERS





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A Royal in Paradise

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THE GRAY MAN
Blaze
Elvis
THE COLOUR ROOM
The Drovers Wife The Legend of Molly Johnson
I Onde Dager
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Good Luck to you Leo Grande

FEATURE FILMS - BUDGET \$2M AND OVER



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JOHN LEAKE OAM ACS EMERGING CINEMATOGRAPHER AWARD

The Award provides a cash prize of \$2,400 to an Emerging cinematographer and is named in honour of the Australian Cinematographers Society co-founder and industry icon, John Leake OAM ACS (1927-2009).

John began his cinematographic career as a 15-year-old with Movietone News in 1944 before moving on to Supreme Sound Studios. He served as both NSW President and Federal President of the ACS and was the Society's Official Historian until his passing.

The Drew Llewelyn ACS **CAMERIMAGE** *Scholarship*

Established in 2015 in recognition of the legacy left by Drew Llewelyn ACS, with the generous support of the Llewelyn family, the ACS National Executive and ACS QLD, the Drew Llewelyn ACS Camerimage Scholarship enables one lucky ACS member to attend Camerimage in Torun, Poland with \$4,000 towards flights and accommodation, plus introductions at the Camerimage festival.

The Scholarship is open to financial Full (Cinematographer) and Active (Camera Crew) members of the Society. Applicants submit a simple document explaining "Why you want to travel to Camerimage and how you see it having long-term benefits for you".

Applications open on July 24th and close on August 14th 2023.

For application forms please contact National President Erika Addis at: president@cinematographer.net.au

JOHN LEAKE OAM ACS
EMERGING CINEMATOGRAPHER AWARD
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CAMERIMAGE SCHOLARSHIP
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Bob Miller ACS
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The Milli Award
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SPECIAL THANKS

2022	Stefan Duscio ACS	The Dry	2001	David Eggby ACS	Pitch Black
2021	Denson Baker ACS NZCS	The Luminaries - The Place You Return	2000	Kim Batterham ACS	The Potato Factory
2020	Nick Matthews ACS	Hotel Mumbai	1999	David Parer ACS	The Dragons of Galapagos
2019	Bob Nguyen ACS	Song Lang	1998	Pieter de Vries ACS	Rat
2018	Simon Duggan ACS	Hacksaw Ridge	1997	David Burr ACS	The Phantom
2017	Abraham Joffe ACS	Tales by Light - Darren Jew Submerged	1996	Andrew Lesnie ACS	Babe
2016	John Seale AM ACS ASC	Mad Max: Fury Road	1995	Andrew Lesnie ACS	Temptation of a Monk
2015	Garry Phillips ACS	The Railway Man	1994	Martin McGrath ACS	Seventh Floor
2014	John Toon ACS NZCS	Mr Pip	1993	Peter James ACS	Alive
2013	Jo Rossiter ACS	Sleight of Hand	1992	Peter James ACS	Black Robe
2012	Ben Nott ACS	Tomorrow When the War Began	1991	Peter Levy ACS	Predator II
2011	Greig Fraser ACS ASC	Bright Star	1990	Ross Berryman ACS	Minnamurra
2010	Andrew Commis ACS	Beautiful Kate	1989	Yuri Sokol ACS	Georgia
2009	Roger Lanser ACS	The Magic Flute	1988	Jeffrey Malouf ACS	Stringer Series Torch Song
2008	Ben Nott ACS	The Company	1987	Gary Moore ACS	The Last Chance
2007	David Gribble ACS	The Worlds Fastest Indian	1986	Geoffrey Simpson ACS	Playing Beatie Bow
2006	Ben Nott ACS	Salems Lot	1985	John Seale ACS	Witness
2005	David Parer ACS	Terror's of Tasmania	1984	Dean Semler ACS	Razorback
2004	David Parer ACS	Platypus - Worlds Strangest Animal	1983	John Seale ACS	Goodbye Paradise
2003	Martin McGrath ACS	Swimming Upstream	1981	Russell Boyd ACS	Gallipoli
2002	Russell Bacon ACS	My Brother Jack	1980	Don McAlpine ACS	My Brilliant Career

PREVIOUS MILLI AWARD WINNERS

1979	Ross Nichols ACS	Hospitals Don't Burn Down
1978	Dietmar Fill ACS	A Small Body of Still Water
1977	Geoff Burton ACS	Storm Boy
1976	Peter James ACS	Caddie
1975	Russell Boyd ACS	Between Wars
1974	Paul Onorato ACS	E Force One
1973	John McLean ACS	Hands of Cormac Joyce
1972	Phil Pike ACS	David and Pyewacket
1971	Peter James ACS	Willi Willi
1969	Ron Jones (Engineer)	Inventor of the Rolling Loop
1968	John Bale ACS	Asylum

THE MILLI AWARD

...is presented at the ACS National Awards to the Australian Cinematographer of the Year.

All National Gold Tripod winners progress through to be in the running for the Milli Award.

The Milli Award is the highest award an Australian Cinematographer can receive from the Society.



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