

# R.I.D.E

**Respect, Inclusion, Diversity and Equality  
in the screen sector**

A full day of panel sessions, special guests,  
lively discussion and industry networking

**THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER, 2019, 9:00AM - 5:00PM  
STATE LIBRARY OF QUEENSLAND**



#makeitinqld

[screenqueensland.com.au](http://screenqueensland.com.au)



**Queensland  
Government**



**BRISBANE  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL  
3-13 OCT 2019**



## FOREWORD

# JO DILLON

## ACTING CEO, SCREEN QUEENSLAND

I am pleased to welcome you to R.I.D.E - Screen Queensland's 2019 signature event in association with the Brisbane International Film Festival (BIFF).

The festival brings people together to celebrate cinema from our own back yard and the other side of the world; it unites us in our shared love of stories; it is the perfect setting for our event and its discussions on the big issues that lie ahead for our sector and our community – and how we can rise to meet them together.

R.I.D.E is for everyone who loves stories and loves telling stories.

It is a reflection of our values – Respect, Inclusion, Diversity and Equality – and the kind of world we want to see, both on and off our screens.

It is a nod to the R.I.D.E feature film fund Screen Queensland launched this year with SBS, Madman Entertainment, The Post Lounge and Media Super to champion diversity on screen.

It is a call to the dreamers, the thinkers, the wits and the provocateurs – whoever and wherever they are – to tell their stories.

Stories are reflections of the world-view of our storytellers. So, when we play on repeat only those that emanate from a dominant few, we miss our chance to see new landscapes, characters and ideas. We miss our chance to catch to step into a different kind of sunlight and grow.

Right now, we are all missing out.

A 2016 Screen Australia report showed that just seven per cent of characters in Australian television drama were from a non-European background, compared to 17 per cent of the population, and just four per cent of characters were portrayed with a disability, as opposed to 18 per cent of the population. This lack of diversity also plays out behind the camera. Practitioners representing culturally and linguistically diverse, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, disabled and LGBTIQ+ communities are underrepresented in the screen industry and women represent just 34 per cent of producers, 22 per cent of writers and 15 per cent of directors in the sector.

The good news is we have the power, when we work together, to change all that.

And today's event will play its part. It will highlight exemplary diverse practitioners and projects and stimulate open discussion and robust conversation. I'm delighted you're here to take another step closer to achieving greater inclusion and diversity in the screen sector.

I hope you enjoy today's insightful guest speakers and take the opportunity to network on the State Library's Queensland Terrace. See you there.

## PANEL 1:

9:00am - 10:00am

# CALLING CARD TO CAREER

Learn what it takes to build your career as a director.



## LOANI ARMAN

In 2018 Loani wrote and directed *The Mother Load*. Amongst her other credits, she did clearances, research and press kit for *The Family Law*, was a researcher for *Hoges* and was Production Associate on *Wanted*. Loani is also a co-recipient of the 2019 AACTA Pitch.



## MAIRI CAMERON

Mairi is the Queensland Chapter Head of the Australian Director's Guild. She has over a decade of experience directing short films, music videos and television commercials. She directed *The Second*, (a Screen Queensland and STAN Original feature film) and her short film *Milk* was selected for official competition at Cannes.



## PRISCILLA CAMERON

Priscilla's debut feature film, *The Butterfly Tree* was one of the final 10 feature projects to be selected for the 2014 Berlinale Project Talent Market. Her short films have won awards and screened internationally at a range of festivals.



## HAYLEY MACFARLANE

After moving to London in 2014, Hayley began directing *Big Brother UK*, *Love Island UK*, *Survival of the Fittest* and *I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here*. Hayley also directs commercials and campaigns, working with such clients as Discovery Kids Network, MTV, Village Roadshow and Tourism QLD.



## CHANTELLE MURRAY

A proud Bardi woman Chantelle's debut directing piece *My Name Is Mudju*, was released this year and was selected to screen at the prestigious Bronze Lens Film Festival, Melbourne International Film Festival, CinefestOZ and Rotorua Indigenous Film Festival.



PANEL 2:

10:00am - 11:00am

# A TASTE OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA

## STRAIT TO THE PLATE

Delve into the production of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content.



**WAYNE  
BLAIR**

Wayne Blair is an acclaimed film, television and theatre director, writer, actor and producer. Wayne

directed *Top End Wedding*, *The Sapphires*, *Cleverman*, *Love Child*, *Dirty Dancing* (2017), *Septembers of Shiraz* and *Redfern Now*.



**JIMI  
BANI**

Award-winning actor Jimi Bani is a proud Wadagadum man from the Torres Strait Islands. He has held

leading roles across theatre and television including ABC's *The Straits* and Rachel Perkins' telefeature *Mabo*, for which he received an AACTA nomination for Best Lead Actor (TV series). He has also appeared in *Blue Water Empire*, *Black Comedy* (series 2), *Ready for This* and *Redfern Now*.

Jimi Bani (right) as King Kebisu in *Blue Water Empire*.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

11:15am - 12:00pm

## KARNI LIDDELL

Karni Liddell is a former world record holder, Paralympic swimmer, speaker, television presenter, mother and clinical social worker. Karni was born with a neuro-muscular wasting disease and her parents were told that their first-born child wouldn't walk, crawl or live past her teenage years.

Karni broke her first World Record at the age of 14 and she went on to win Paralympic medals at every Paralympics she competed at and she regards being captain of the Number 1 team at the Sydney 2000 Games as her greatest sporting achievement.

Karni has raised over \$1 million dollars throughout her career for the various disability charities she supports.

Karni is the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Queensland Ambassador, she is a member of the Queensland Premier's Domestic and Family Violence Council, she is a radio broadcaster, a presenter for Channel 7 and is the Patron of the International Day of People with a Disability, Ambassador for Kids Help Line, Muscular Dystrophy Queensland and Sporting Wheelies and Disabled Association.

Karni was awarded the Pride of Australia medal, she won the Queensland Teacher and Trainer of the year (2015) and was awarded the Alumni of the Year award for the faculty of health at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT). Karni holds a Clinical Masters in Social Work (QUT) and a double Bachelor's degree in Communications from Bond University.

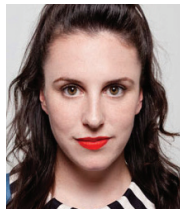
Karni is an internationally acclaimed and sought after keynote speaker and has just done a TED speech, which has been watched by thousands of people around the world and was the only TED speaker on the day to receive a standing ovation.



# SHORT AND VERTICAL

## DEVELOPING NARRATIVE CONTENT AND PLATFORMS FOR MOBILE AUDIENCES

The screen world is now more mobile than ever before – this panel discussion brings together some of the key creatives in this emerging space to discuss their processes.



**ANNA BARNES**

Anna is an award winning playwright and author. Anna is the Writer of *Content* - Australia's first ever

vertical video comedy series, streaming now on ABC's social media channels and on iView. Anna won a 2017 AWGIE Award for *Ghosts of Bileola*, in the interactive category.



**LAURA CLELLAND**

Laura Clelland is a Producer and Director, freelancing in production for nearly two decades on television commercials,

series and features. Laura was Director, Co-Producer and Co-Writer on *Life of Jess* which received awards including Best Dramedy at the Asia Web Awards and an Award of Excellence from Indie Film Fest. She also owns Queensland's crew booking agency, Essential Crew.



**JORDANA JOHNSON**

Currently a freelance Creative Director and Producer, Jordana is now based in Sydney Australia. Clients have included Adobe, Nike,

Tourism NSW, Lucas Films, triple J, ABC, Stan and West Coast Tasmania.



**FARHAD MEHER-HOMJI**

Farhad is the founder of Changer Studios, which is shaping the future of short-form video content. Through its work with leading

brands like Google and YouTube as well as top creators and video experts from around the world, Changer has developed unique insights into what it takes to succeed on the world's biggest video platforms.



**MEG O'CONNELL**

Meg O'Connell is an International Emmy® Award-winning producer. In the past year, she has produced two digital series:

*Robbie Hood* for SBS On Demand and *Content* for ABC iView. Both series have been nominated for AACTA Awards. She was also the development manager on Ludo's Logie Award-winning series *Bluey*. Meg is also a recipient of the Screen Queensland Mentorship program, where she has been working alongside Sarah Doole, director of global drama at Fremantle Media.



IN CONVERSATION WITH

2:00pm - 3:00pm

## STUART PAGE

### TOTAL CONTROL

This conversation will focus on why Australian characters are gaining popularity overseas.



Stuart Page has more than a decade of experience writing for Australian television and is behind titles such as the second season of the popular series *The Secret Daughter* (Channel 7), the acclaimed ABC/Sundance sci-fi drama *Cleverman* and the third season of the Foxtel cult prison series *Wentworth*.

Stuart's most recent project *Total Control* starring Deborah Mailman and Rachel Griffiths (pictured below) premiered at the Toronto Film Festival and goes to air on ABC this October.

Deborah Mailman and Rachel Griffiths in *Total Control*.



PANEL 4:

3:00pm - 4:00pm

## IN IT FOR THE R.I.D.E

### DOES DIVERSITY SELL?

Discuss the challenges of achieving diversity on both sides of the camera and growing audience desire for diverse content.



#### ROSEMARY BLIGHT

Rosemary is one of Australia's most experienced producers, having worked on *Top End Wedding*, *I am*

*Woman*, *Holding the Man*, *Felony*, *The Sapphires* and more. Rosemary's television credits include *Panic at Rock Island*, *Love is a Four Letter Word*, *Small Claims 1, 2 and 3* and *Stepfather of the Bride*. She has been principal partner and company director with Goalpost Pictures since 1992 and is a former Screen Australia board member.



#### TRACEY CORBIN-MATCHETT

Tracey is an inclusion and diversity champion, making groundbreaking change in the film industry in her new role as CEO of pioneering not for profit organisation Bus Stop Films, where she is leveraging her strong industry connections to use filmmaking and the film industry to raise the profile of people with disability on both sides of the camera.



#### MITHILA GUPTA

Mithila started her screenwriting career in the story room at *Neighbours* in 2010 - where she introduced an Indian family to the regular cast. She went on to script edit and write for the show. Mithila most recently wrote on *Five Bedrooms* (Ten), as well as several episodes, including the pilot, of Aquarius Films' *The Unlisted* (ABC and Netflix). She's also written on *Doctor Doctor* (Nine), *The Heights* (ABC), *Playing For Keeps* (Ten), *Winners and Losers* (Seven), *Home and Away* (Seven), *Trip for Biscuits* (ABC), and *Toybox* (Seven). She was the assistant script editor on *Cleverman* (ABC).



#### GREER SIMPKIN

Greer Simpkin is Producer and Head of Television for Bunya productions, where she has produced *Mystery Road*, *Sweet Country*, *Goldstone* and *Jasper Jones*. She previously worked in editorial and production roles for ABC and Channel 4 (UK).



## SCREEN QUEENSLAND WOULD LIKE TO THANK

All of our panellists and facilitators, who have generously given of their time and talent

Brisbane International Film Festival (BIFF) Artistic Director Amanda Slack-Smith  
and the entire BIFF team.

The staff at State Library of Queensland

Ab Fab Catering

Northside Flower Market



#makeitinqld

[screenqueensland.com.au](http://screenqueensland.com.au)

