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CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF ACCELERATOR

MIFF TALENT CAMPUS ALUMNI INCLUDES DAVID MICHOD, JUSTIN KURZEL AND MORE

MIFF Accelerator, the film director professional development program of the Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF), celebrates its 10th edition with a record 16 alumni directors featured in the MIFF program line-up.

Helping tomorrow's hottest filmmaking talent today, **MIFF Accelerator** is a selective intensive workshop helps the selected filmmakers hone their skills, craft and contacts in preparation for their transition to feature-length film directing. A part of the **MIFF 37°South Market** suite of industry programs, the four-day program comprises talks, screenings, seminars, networking and discussions on the creative and business aspects of the film industry.

Over its 10 years, MIFF Accelerator has fostered some extraordinary talent including **David Michod** (Accelerator 2007), who went on to direct the multi-award winning box office hit **Animal Kingdom**, **Matthew Bate** (2008), who directed the acclaimed Sundance 2011-selected feature documentary **Shut Up Little Man**, **An Audio Misadventure**, **Amiel Courtin-Wilson** (2004), whose feature **Hail** won The Age Critics Award for MIFF 2012 Best Australian Feature, and **Julius Avery** (2008), who is presently in post-production on his feature debut **Son of a Gun** starring **Ewan McGregor**. Following this year's intake, some 155 directors will have passed through the exclusive Accelerator program – for a full list of alumni see http://miffindustry.com/alumni_update.

This year MIFF Accelerator is proud to welcome back 16 Alumni – each with a new film in MIFF's program, including six of them featured in the 2013 **MIFF Premiere Fund** slate: **Rhys Graham** (Accelerator 2006; *Words from the City*, MIFF 07) with coming-of-age film **Galore**; writer/director **Zak Hilditch** (Accelerator 2011) with apocalyptic thriller **These Final Hours**; **Anna Broinowski** (Accelerator 2011; *Forbidden Lie\$,* MIFF 2007) presents her revolutionary film-within-a-film, based on the creative manifesto by North Korea's late leader Kim Jong-il, in **Aim High in Creation!**; and MIFF's highly-anticipated Centrepiece Gala **Tim Winton's The Turning** includes four chapters directed by Accelerator Alumni: **Justin Kurzel** (Accelerator 2005; *Snowtown*), **Jonathan auf der Heide** (Accelerator 2008; *Van Diemen's Land* MIFF 09), **Ashlee Page** (Accelerator 2010) and the aforementioned **Rhys Graham**.

Anthony Chen (Accelerator 2008) returns to MIFF in the Accent on Asia section with this year's Cannes Camera d'Or winner **Ilo Ilo**, while MIFF's International Panorama program features **Shopping**, the debut feature from **Mark Albiston** (2007) which won this year's Berlinale Generation 14plus Best Feature Film prize, and **Tower** from **Kazik Radwanski** (2010).

This year's Australian Shorts program will features six Accelerator Alumni: **Rodd Rathjen** (2011), who returns with the Cannes-selected **Tau Seru**; **Nicholas Verso** (2012) with **The Last Time I Saw Richard**; **Yianni Warnock** (2012) with **Man on Earth**; **Miranda Nation** (2011) with **Perception**; **Raphael Elisha** (2012) with **Truel**; and **Nash Edgerton** (2007), co-directs with Spender Susser, **The Captain**.

Occurring during the MIFF Shorts & Centre-Piece Weekend, at the mid-point of the Southern Hemisphere's oldest and largest film festival, this year's MIFF's Accelerator has 14 participants who have short films at MIFF 2013 as follows: **Aidee Walker** (*Friday Tigers*), **Catherine Bisley** (*Wide Eyed*), **Colin Hodson** (*Maul*), **James Vaughan** (*You Like It, I Love It*), **Jordan Prosser** (*Hungry Man*), **Margaret Harvey** (*The Hunter*), **Mat Govoni** (*The Misfortune of Others*), **Matthew Moore** (*The Amber Amulet*), **Rebecca Peniston-Bird** (*Summer Suit*), **Romaine Moreton** (*The Oysterman*), **Sam Dixon** (*Old Mate*), **Sophie Hayward** (*The Zoo*), **Tenika Smith** (*Thanks for the Ride*) and **Tymon Langford** (*Thylacine*).

Audiences can see these up-and-coming filmmakers in two programs of shorts: **Accelerator 1** on Saturday 03 August at 4pm (repeating Saturday 10 August 11am) and **Accelerator 2** on Sunday 04

August at 4pm (repeating Saturday 10 August 1:30pm). Bookings at www.miff.com.au. All Accelerator directors are guests of the festival.

MIFF Accelerator also offers express admission for a limited number of directors in partnership programs. This year, the following five directors are participating via the Screen Australia's Springboard program: **Christopher Weekes, Darlene Johnson, Hannah Moon, Sam McKeith** and **Tom McKeith**.

For more information on all the 2013 **MIFF Accelerator** participants visit:
http://miffindustry.com/accelerator/2013_participants

For all media enquiries and interview requests contact:
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Accelerator Screening & Workshop Partners:



The MIFF Accelerator workshop acknowledges the support of:

The William Angliss Charitable Fund &

