



FROM ROLLING STONES TO FATAL ATTRACTION: WENDALL & WOOTTON HIT MELBOURNE!

MELBOURNE: What do the Rolling Stones, *The Great Gatsby*, Ernest Hemingway and *Fatal Attraction* have in common? Punters attending the **Wendall Thomas Talks Scripts** and **Adrian Wootton Talks Icons** series will find out!

Organized by the Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF) Industry Programs Unit, which stages film financing event **MIFF 37°South Market** and the **Accelerator** emerging director workshop, the **Wendall Thomas Talks Scripts** and **Adrian Wootton Talks Icons** series are ticketed events open to the general public – be they film or media students, aspiring or existing screen practitioners, film aficionados or just the plain curious!

Celebrated LA-based developer, writer and lecturer **Wendall Thomas**, who has written and developed projects for the likes of Disney, Warners, Paramount and Universal, returns exclusively to Melbourne for more of her popular series unlocking the secrets of films' script structure with a series of four standalone all day seminars. For more details and bookings, see <http://miff.com.au/wendallthomastalksscripts>

Presented by **MIFF 37°South Market & Accelerator**, the **Wendall Thomas Talks Scripts** series comprises:

➤ **DIALOGUE WRITING: THE FORBIDDEN – Voice-over & Flashbacks (Mon 29 July, 9.30am-4.30pm)**

This seminar explores various approaches to mastering the advanced techniques of voice-over and flashback which has characterized such classic filmmaking as *Sunset Boulevard*, *Apocalypse Now*, and *Annie Hall to Election*, *Adaptation*, *La Vie En Rose* and *Beasts of the Southern Wild*.

➤ **CHARACTER: EVIL GENIUS – How to Write a Great Villain (Tues 30 July, 9.30am-4.30pm)**

Creating a strong antagonist is a vital part of most scripts – think the Wicked Witch of the West, Hannibal Lecter, The Joker and Jackie Weaver's calculating matriarch in *Animal Kingdom* – and this seminar explores how to make a film forever memorable with great screen villains.

➤ **SCENE BY SCENE: FATAL ATTRACTION – The Classic Three Act Structure (Wed 31 July, 9.30am-4.30pm)**

With a perfect three-act structure, this thriller includes classic plot dynamics, characterizations, scene structure, dialogue, tone, pacing and antagonist – things which can improve any script - and the seminar offers a scene-by-scene exploration of every aspect of this enduring international hit, including how it functions as a genre piece.

➤ **STORY & STRUCTURE: THE DREADED SECOND ACT - A Practical Guide (Thurs 01 Aug, 9.30am-4.30pm)**

Whether writing comedy, horror, drama, or thriller, the second act is a challenge and this seminar offers advice on getting through the "desert" of the second act in any genre, including interweaving subplots, maintaining steady movement from dramatic "pluses" to "minuses," and moving a protagonist their arc.

Meantime, former British Film Institute and London Film Festival Director **Adrian Wootton** returns exclusively to Melbourne for another series of his acclaimed **Illustrated Film Talks**, this year celebrating major icons of screen culture. For more details on each talk and bookings, see <http://miff.com.au/illustratedfilmtalks>

Presented by **MIFF 37°South Market & Accelerator**, the **Wootton Talks Icons** series, comprises:

➤ **THE ROLING STONES: 50 Years on Screen (Thurs 01 Aug: 5pm to 6.30pm)**

Revel in the on-screen adventures of the world's Greatest Rock'n'Roll Band as Stones aficionado Wootton explores their exciting screen history in this illustrated talk featuring clips from films such as *Gimme Shelter*, *Rock and Roll Circus*, *Sympathy for the Devil* and the latest documentary *Crossfire Hurricane*, plus rare TV appearances and an extensive slide show.

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➤ **F. SCOTT FITZGERALD: The Jazz Age on Screen (Fri 02 Aug: 5pm to 6.30pm)**

Following the recent release of Baz Luhrmann's new film adaptation of *The Great Gatsby*, Wootton chronicles the rich history of F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896-1940) whose writing - especially his iconic novel *The Great Gatsby* - defined the 1920s Jazz Age. With extensive film clips and slides, the talk explores Fitzgerald's complicated relationship with Hollywood that saw his novels made into silent and sound movies (and remain a staple for screen adaptation to this day) and a stint as an MGM screen-writer.

➤ **WILLIAM FAULKNER: Nobel Prizes & Pulp Fiction (Sat 03 Aug: 10.30am to 12 noon)**

Following the recent Cannes Film Festival launch of James Franco's adaptation of Faulkner's 1930 classic *As I Lay Dying*, Wootton traverses Faulkner's life and work - especially his adventures and misadventures in the screen trade - and shows that while Faulkner (1897-1962) wrote critically-acclaimed, academically-revered and stylistically complex fiction that garnered every major literary award, he was also a long-term Hollywood screen-writer who co-wrote the 1944 screen adaptation of Hemingway's novel *To Have and Have Not* and maintained a close friendship with movie-making legend Howard Hawks.

➤ **ERNEST HEMINGWAY: "Papa" & The Movies (Sun 04 Aug: 10.30 to 12 noon)**

Hugely influential for his prose style and known for his action man ("Papa") lifestyle, Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961), who saw most of his major work adapted for cinema and had a brief adventure working on documentary film-making, was mostly a film refusenik. This talk, with film clips and slides, explores the life and times of this great American novelist and his relationship to film.

➤ **FITZGERALD, FAULKNER & HEMINGWAY: Great American Writers & Hollywood (Fri 2 Aug: 10am to 11.30)**

A condensed compendium lecture aimed at both the time-poor and students, this talk traces the lives and times of, and the variable personal and work connections between, arguably the three greatest American writers of the 20th Century along with anecdotes about their adventures in and out of Hollywood. With numerous clips and slides, the lecture shows that all three men's work was regularly adapted by others for the cinema (and continued to be so after their deaths) and two of them, Fitzgerald and Faulkner, had varying success as screen-writers, while Hemingway and Fitzgerald have also been regularly portrayed in fictional dramas - most recently in Woody Allen's *Midnight in Paris*.

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