

MIFF PREMIERE FUND ROUND FIVE CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

MELBOURNE: 16 December 2008 – The **Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF 2008)**, the **MIFF Premiere Fund** today has opened its application process for Round Five with a call for submissions that closes on 09 January 2009.

The **MIFF Premiere Fund**, which commenced operations in September 2007 with a A\$1.6 million grant over two years from the Victorian State Government, provides strategic minority financial supports to a range of local theatrical documentaries and narrative feature films that will have their premieres at **MIFF**. At **MIFF 2008**, Victorian State Premier John Brumby and Innovation Minister Gavin Jennings announced that the **MIFF Premiere Fund** would continue for another two years with a further A\$1.6 million grant over two years from July 2009.

Thus far, the **MIFF Premiere Fund** has offered co-financing to 14 films, including **MIFF 2008** sell-out premieres **ROCK N ROLL NERD**, **NOT QUITE HOLLYWOOD**, **BASTARDY** and **CELEBRITY: DOMINICK DUNNE**, as well as **MIFF 2009** titles **BALIBO**, **BLESSED**, **BRAN NUE DAE**, **LOVED ONES**, **INDONESIA CALLING** and **BEN LEE: CATCH MY DISEASE** and **MIFF 2010** film **KIN**.

Round Five of the **MIFF Premiere Fund** primarily seeks applications from projects that can premiere at **MIFF 2010**. Round Five **MIFF Premiere Fund** decisions will be announced on 17 March 2009.

MIFF Premiere Fund production financing supports can include completion/enhancement loans, mini-gap equity investments and matching marketing/distribution advances. The Fund accepts applications from Victorian producers with market-ready feature documentary and feature drama projects in advanced stages of financing. Submissions must demonstrate that they: have strength of connection to Victoria; can premiere at **MIFF**; have viable co-financing to enable them to go into production in time for a **MIFF** premiere; and will benefit in creative, industrial and/or distribution terms from **MIFF**'s financial backing.

MIFF Premiere Fund Round Five guidelines and application forms are at <http://www.miffpremierfund.com>

In addition to being offered production co-financing, successful applicants to the **MIFF Premiere Fund** also receive priority consideration for registration to **37°South: Bridging the Gap**, **MIFF**'s film co-financing market that occurs in the opening weekend of **MIFF**. **MIFF Premiere Fund** co-financed titles also receive priority for **37°South: Breakthru Screenings**, showcasing films requiring sales and/or distribution to the market's invited buyers. For more information on **MIFF 37°South Market**, go to <http://www.miff37degreesSouth.com>

For media enquiries contact:

Limelight PR for MIFF:

Louise Heseltine 03-8660 4816
Asha Holmes 03-8660 4815

0402 054 143 louise@limelightpr.com.au
0403 274 299 asha@limelightpr.com.au

Limelight ^{PR}