

Wednesday 23 August

SUSANNA VAN ASWEGEN WINS THE INAUGURAL BIFF CENTURION SHORT FILM AWARD

Last night, Griffiths Film School graduate Susanna Van Aswegen was announced as the winner of the inaugural **BIFF CENTURION SHORT FILM AWARD**. Susanna is the director of the short film RED KITE and she was presented with the \$2000 prize by Diya Eid, VP Content – Operations and Initiatives from Screen Queensland at a special event at Palace Centro that showcased the short films of all ten finalists. The runner-ups were Robert Corley for his film FURU IKE: ANCIENT POND and Claire Randall for WOLFE.

The **BIFF CENTURION SHORT FILM AWARD** is sponsored by Palace Cinemas and was open to graduates from five film schools across South East Queensland. The award was created to provide a platform for new filmmakers to establish themselves within the film community and highlight their work on the silver screen.

The **BIFF CENTURION SHORT FILM AWARD** was judged by Kiki Fung, film critic, curator and former Head Programmer for BAPFF & BIFF, ABC 612 film critic Matthew Toomey and Des Partridge, the former film critic for the Courier Mail. Des Partridge said that RED KITE was “a warm and surprising film that delivers a strong emotional finale.”

BIFF CENTURION SHORT FILM AWARD winner Susanna Van Aswegen said ““Wow! We are privileged to have shown our story on the big screen in Brisbane. And even more excited to have won the inaugural BIFF Centurion Short Film Award, which will help us with our future film project.”

Peter Moyes, Acting Deputy Head of School, Griffith Film School said “It's heartening to see wins for Griffith Film School live-action and animation productions in these inaugural awards - an important opportunity for our students to see their films up on the big screen and to be acknowledged by local critics and industry.”

The finalists were:

William Robson - Twin Beaks
Claire Randall - Wolfe
Sarah Rackermann - One Small Step
Carey Ryan - Empathy is the Devil
Emily Tathem - Body
Susanna Van Aswegen - Red Kite
Lachlan Pendragon - The Toll
Benjamin Gerbanas - Grey Space
Adam Willis - Mechanophile
Robert Corless - Furu Ike: Ancient Pond



<http://biff.net.au/biff-centurion-award/>

Images from RED KITE and from the Awards Presentation are available on request.

Full Program and ticketing information at: www.biff.net.au

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About the Festival

The Brisbane International Film Festival runs from 17 August – 3 September 2017. The festival is co-directed by experienced film curator Richard Sowada and Brisbane's Maxine Williamson, previously Film Director of the Asia Pacific Screen Awards and the Brisbane Asia Pacific Film Festival. The festival is made possible through the support of Screen Queensland via the Queensland Government and major partner, Palace Cinemas.

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