

REALITY BITES

A Taste of Factual
Production in Victoria



FILM VICTORIA
AUSTRALIA



VICTORIA
The Place to Be

WELCOME TO MELBOURNE, VICTORIA AUSTRALIA'S LEADING PRODUCTION CENTRE FOR WORLD CLASS FACTUAL CONTENT

It's an honour to have the 17th annual World Congress of Science and Factual Producers based in Melbourne this year.

It's fitting that Melbourne has been chosen – the state of Victoria is home to Australia's fastest growing factual production sector and some of Australia's leading and award-winning screen practitioners.

Film Victoria supports diverse and innovative factual productions through development and funding, and we are proud to have invested in projects which have received local and international acclaim, including '*Seed Hunter*', '*Captain Cook: Obsession & Discovery*' and '*Ned Kelly Uncovered*'

Melbourne also boasts a world-class science community and is home to some of Australia's brightest scientific minds, committed to excellence in research and development, and the international collaboration that is so important to leading edge science.

The 2009 Congress provides a perfect opportunity to promote and explore creative and commercial partnerships between local and international practitioners, and we look forward to seeing the influence of the Congress continuing into the future.

Reality Bites is only a snapshot of the innovative companies and people based in Victoria, and just a small taste of who you will have the opportunity to meet over the next few days.

Enjoy the Congress!

Sandra Sdraulig
CEO, FILM VICTORIA



Cover photo from *Paper Dolls – Pinup Girls of the World*, produced by Marina Films.

FOCUS ON 360 DEGREE FILMS

Sally Ingleton and John Moore are two of Victoria's leading lights in the production of factual content, and founders of 360 Degree Films.

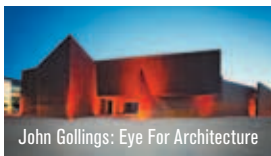
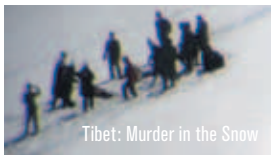
They have produced a number of renowned films, including international political documentary '*Tibet: Murder in the Snow*', the Australian history documentary '*Menzies & Churchill at War*' and the recently premiered '*John Gollings: Eye For Architecture*'.

One of their highest profile productions is '*Seed Hunter*', the acclaimed science adventure documentary. Featuring the Indiana Jones of environmental science, Dr Ken Street, it's an incredibly exciting journey to find seeds that may help save the world from the global food shortage crisis, brought about by human-induced climate change.

The documentary moves quickly from the front lines of scientists investigating gene technology through to drought stricken farms and ending with Ken, deep within the Arctic Circle, preserving his seeds in the 'doomsday vault.'

Another project worth watching out for, currently in post production, is '*Penguin Island*', a natural history series for ABC, BBC and ARTE FRANCE.

To find out more about 360 Degree Films, visit www.360degreefilms.com.au



SPOTLIGHT ON DECEMBER FILMS

December Films is one of Australia's most experienced production companies in factual and documentary program making. Based in Melbourne, they are known for quality documentaries, formats and series made for Australian and international markets.

Things have been busy recently for December Films in both production and development with a strong focus on Science and Natural History.

December Films has developed a partnership with Sonya Pemberton (ex Head of Specialist Factual at the ABC) to produce two HD Science Documentaries '*Catching Cancer*' and the upcoming '*Immortal*', which both investigate the latest medical research and feature the 2008 and 2009 Nobel prize winners for Medicine.

Another collaboration, this time with former ABC Head of Natural History Dione Gilmour on an HD Natural History documentary, '*After the Fires*'. It will depict over time, the recovery of flora and fauna habitat following the devastating impact of the February 2009 Victorian bushfires.

December Films is also very excited about a new TV series '*Chris Humfrey's Wild Life*', pegging Chris, a Melbourne zoologist, as "the new, younger, Steve Irwin."

Catch December Films at the WCSFP
or www.decemberfilms.com.au

INTRODUCING RENEGADE FILMS

Despite being a new addition to Renegade Films, the factual division is quickly producing a slate to be proud of.

Amongst them is '*Ned Kelly Uncovered*' which screened in July on ABC. Presented by an enthusiastic Tony Robinson, best known for *Blackadder*, *Time Team* and *The Worst Jobs in History*, '*Ned Kelly Uncovered*' is a journey into regional Victoria to literally "uncover" some of Ned's secret history.

Tony is there to follow an archaeological dig at the site where the Glenrowan Inn once stood and where Ned and his gang staged their last stand, which lasted over 24 hours, ending with Kelly's capture and the death of three gang members.

This is a great documentary about the bearded bushranger's final moments of freedom.

Other projects to watch out for include '*Jail Birds*' which is currently screening on the ABC, as well as a number of projects due to screen on SBS, including '*Last Chance Saloon*' (3 December 2009), *BiPolar Bears* (7 January 2010) and *Back to Work*, which has just finished shooting.

Next year keep your eyes peeled for '*Asylum FC*', a documentary about the Zimbabwean homeless soccer team seeking Asylum in Australia, and '*Inside the Firestorm*' an ABC documentary special to mark the anniversary of Australia's worst ever natural disaster, providing as detailed and complete picture as possible of how the Victorian bushfires unfolded over the weekend of February 6–9th.

You can catch Alex or Lucy from Renegade Films at WCSFP or go to www.renegade.com.au

REVIEWS

CATCHING CANCER

Melbourne based, award winning film maker Sonya Pemberton has joined with December Films to produce 'Catching Cancer', exploring whether it's possible to catch cancer.

'Catching Cancer' combines intimate stories with intriguing science and interviews with world experts, to eventually come up with the answer: yes and no.

Catching Cancer // December Films // Producer, Tony Wright // Writer and Director, Sonya Pemberton
// <http://www.decemberfilms.com.au/>



Sonya Pemberton

ANATOMY

Fifteen years is a long time to collaborate, particularly between a tattooist/artist and her subject. 'Skin', one of three episodes featured in 'Anatomy' - a documentary series exploring art, sex and the body - intimately examines this unusual relationship.

A compelling story that explores how sexuality and the body work as driving forces in the creative process, and the considerations of possibility bequeathing Geoff's tattooed skin as an artwork when he dies.

Confronting and endearing, it's a close exploration of the body.

Anatomy - 'Skin' // Big And Little Films
// Producers, Michael McMahon,
Tony Ayres // Director, Rhys Graham



Skin

**Reality Bites is a taste of what Victoria has to offer.
Connect with Melbourne's factual screen community
through the Industry Directory -
www.filmmelbournedirectory.com**

Look out for these and other Victorian based
production companies at the congress!

2s Company Pictures
360 Degree Films
Annie Holden Productions
December Films
Diane Perelsztejn Pty Ltd
Emergint
Fertile Films
Film Art Media
Flaming Star Films
Forget the Rules
Forte Communications
Let's Talk Pty Ltd
Lonely Planet Television
Matchbox Pictures
Movie Mischief
Renegade Films
Scarlett Productions
ScriptWorks
Stella Motion Pictures
Vue Group
Whyte House
WTFN Entertainment



Melbourne Australia

The centre of
excellence for
biotechnology in
the Asia Pacific



Melbourne, Australia is fast becoming the life sciences research capital of the Asia-Pacific and is home to 13 profitable biotech companies, including top ten giant CSL.

Melbourne based R&D is delivering new products to the global market that address early-detection of disease, improved patient management and novel treatments.

Our strong medical research base continues to deliver important breakthroughs in the areas of cancer, infectious diseases, neuroscience and stem cell research.

To learn more go to www.innovation.vic.gov.au

