



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Terrific Opportunity For Local Filmmakers on *Australia*

Five emerging Territory filmmakers have been given a rare opportunity to work on the set of the epic film *Australia* while it is shooting in Darwin.

Each of the group is known as attachments, meaning they have the opportunity to work alongside more experienced filmmakers with specific skills such as those in the sound and camera departments.

The NT Film Office within the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts and film company Bazmark sought applications from people within the NT film industry in June to apply for the positions.

“This is an amazing opportunity,” NT Film Office director Penelope McDonald said.

“It is not often that a production of this scale comes to film in the Territory.”

*Australia*, starring Nicole Kidman, Hugh Jackman, as well as a number of other Australian screen legends, has commenced filming in Darwin.

“12 talented filmmakers applied for the screen attachments offered by NTFO and Bazmark,” Ms McDonald said.

“I would like to thank Director Baz Luhrmann and Producer Catherine Knapman for their enthusiasm in making these attachments possible.

“I feel strongly that it is not enough for movies to just film in the Territory.

“It is important that where possible they employ locals, as well as formally attach emerging filmmakers to foster building the skills base in the Northern Territory.”

“In addition to the attachments, the production has employed a number of locals including David Curl, who is using his expertise in directing and cinematography, to capture second unit shots for the film.”

Below is further information on the successful applicants:

Philippa Barr:

Philippa Barr graduated with a Bachelor of Arts with Honours from Macquarie University in 2004 and has been working with film and the arts since then. Ms Barr worked as the Indigenous Affairs Coordinator on the Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS) Short Film *Fear*. She has been working at the Institute for Aboriginal Development. in Alice Springs for the past year.

Curtis Marriott:

Since commencing work in the Northern Territory Screen Industry in 1999 Curtis has worked in a variety of roles and locations including Alice Springs and Darwin. Mr Marriott’s recent credits include working as a Cameraman/Editor for *Imparja* Television and working as an attachment on the Central Australian Aboriginal Media

Association (CAAMA) Production's children's television series *Double Trouble*. He is currently working at CAAMA in Alice Springs.

David Hansen:

David Hansen has been working in the Northern Territory Screen Industry since 2005, after he graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA). Mr Hansen has most recently worked for PY Media on a number of projects and has also been teaching media in Indigenous Communities with Charles Darwin University (CDU) and the NT Police Juvenile Diversion Program.

Curtis Brownjohn:

Originally from Darwin, Mr Brownjohn is currently studying a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Screen Production) at Flinders University in Adelaide, but jumped at the chance to get some hands on experience on a large scale feature film whilst back home in Darwin for school holidays.

Bronwyn Wright:

Bronwyn Wright is an Artist/Photographer/Filmmaker whose work includes "The Swamp" on the edge of Darwin. A resident of the Northern Territory for 21 years, Ms Wright is well known as a photographer and artist, as well as making a number of short films.

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**Media Note – For more information contact Penelope McDonald on 0410 695 272**

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