



MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

31 JULY - 17 AUGUST 2014

THE MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL LAUNCHES CRITICS CAMPUS

APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2014 FESTIVAL ROUND NOW OPEN

MELBOURNE, 8 May 2014 — The **Melbourne International Film Festival** is proud to launch its inaugural **Critics Campus**, an intensive seven-day lab that enables emerging Australian film critics to develop their skills in a live Festival setting. The first iteration of the Critics Campus will take place during the Festival's 63rd edition, 31 July-17 August 2014.

Underlying the Campus's ethos is a belief that in a swiftly changing media environment, informed writing and criticism on cinema is vital to a strong film culture and industry. Digital media allows for a diversity of voices yet poses challenges for writers seeking employment in the field. The Campus will address these issues and better prepare participants for a successful career in film writing. It will also offer them a platform to be heard in the competitive Festival environment.

Up to eight participants will take part in mentoring sessions and panels with key Australian industry and media players, as well as producing their own daily coverage. They will have access to Festival films, publicity materials, guests and networking opportunities. In return, meals and accommodation will be provided, as well as the invaluable experience of producing a range of pieces daily for publication across a variety of outlets.

Four prominent international critics will also visit the Festival to participate in the Campus, variously assisting with mentoring, sitting on panels, and as a resource for the participants.

Applications are sought from Australian writers in the beginning stages of their career, with no more than two years experience in film writing. They should prepare to be available 4-10 August inclusive.

Applicants will be asked to provide:

- A one-two page resume covering relevant studies and/or professional experience and a list of portfolio of writing and criticism with links where relevant.
- Three film writing samples including:
 - i. a film review under 500 words.
 - ii. a feature or interview under 2000 words.
 - iii. a piece of the applicant's choice that they feel best demonstrates their capabilities.

University essays are allowed but not encouraged.

Additionally they may include a podcast/video interview (5-10 min excerpt) if they have interest in working in these mediums.

The online application form is accessible from the Critics Campus page: www.miff.com.au/criticscampus.
Deadline for applications is 9am Monday 2 June 2014.

All Critics Campus enquiries should be directed to criticscampus@miff.com.au.

Successful applicants will be notified by Friday 13 June 2014.

For more information on MIFF visit: www.miff.com.au.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES: Ghita Loebenstein | 0411 436 620 | ghita@ashaholmespublicity.com.au