

FROM *MOONLIGHT* TO JUDY GARLAND WORLD RENOWNED WENDALL THOMAS & ADRIAN WOOTTON HIT MIFF

Acclaimed Hollywood-based script developer **Wendall Thomas** and London-based film culture tsar **Adrian Wootton** return exclusively to Melbourne this August for a packed program of talks and seminars presented by the Melbourne International Film Festival's **MIFF 37°South Market & Accelerator Lab**.

Both the **Wendall Thomas Talks Scripts** and **Adrian Wootton Talks Film Femmes** series are ticketed events open to the general public, including film or media students, aspiring or existing screen practitioners, and film culture aficionados. Tickets are on sale now at miff.com.au/industry-public-access-events

LA-based developer, writer and lecturer **Wendall Thomas**, who has written and developed projects for the likes of Disney, Paramount and Universal, returns with more of her secrets to unlocking the art of film scripting with a series of four standalone all-day seminars including:

- **STRUCTURE: FIVE FOOLPROOF WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR SCENE WRITING** (Mon 7 August, 9.30am). Thinking of the farewell scene in *Casablanca*, the “deli orgasm” in *When Harry Met Sally*, the twist contest in *Pulp Fiction*, and the clicking heels in *Wizard of Oz*, this seminar focuses on the importance of great scene writing and offers five specific techniques to make your scenes more memorable and effective.
- **SPOTLIGHT: *MOONLIGHT* - INDIE TO OSCAR** (Tue 08 Aug, 9.30am). Exploring the elements behind the success of the unconventional *Moonlight*, this seminar includes a scene-by-scene breakdown of the Oscar-winning film and a discussion of its low budget business model.
- **DIALOGUE: CREATING UNFORGETTABLE FILM & TV VOICES** (Wed 09 Aug, 9.30am). Drawing on such examples as *Sunset Boulevard*, *Fargo*, *Breaking Bad* and *The Big Bang Theory*, this seminar examines how to create vivid and unique character voices and how to use those memorable voices to enhance your scripts.
- **CHARACTER: CREATING & STRUCTURING CHARACTER ARCS** (Thurs 10 Aug, 9.30am). A believable character arc is the backbone of any film and the emotional hook for audiences. From *Lawrence of Arabia* to *Lantana* to *La La Land*, this seminar examines ways a character's decisions form the structure of a memorable arc.

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Former British Film Institute and London Film Festival Director **Adrian Wootton** brings us more of his acclaimed **Illustrated Film Talks**, this year focusing on the Hollywood Golden Age and four legendary actresses, who appeared in some of the greatest films in celluloid history. The **Wootton Talks Femmes** series of two-hour lectures comprises:

- **LAUREN BACALL: Hollywood Icon of Cool** (Mon 07 Aug: 5.15pm). Remembered for classic noir thrillers (*To Have and To Have Not*, *The Big Sleep*, *Key Largo*) and comedy (*How to Marry a Millionaire*), Wootton chronicles the amazing long life and career of former model Lauren Bacall (1924-2014) who was a protégé of legendary director Howard Hawks, linked to Humphrey Bogart and Frank Sinatra, and also a radio star and Tony award-winning stage performer.
- **JUDY GARLAND: Over the Rainbow** (Tues 08 Aug: 5.15pm). Forever remembered in *The Wizard of Oz*, Wootton explores the rollercoaster career and life of child star Judy Garland (1922-1969) which encompassed award-winning acting, acclaimed film musicals, Grammy-winning recording and concert career and, later, TV series, as well as being a five-times married gay icon who mothered a musical dynasty (Liza Minnelli and Lorna Luft), and was mother-in-law to Australian showman Peter Allen.
- **GLORIA GRAHAME: Not Dying in Liverpool** (Wed 09 Aug: 5.15pm). Coinciding with a new biopic, starring Annette Bening and adapted from the book *Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool*, Wootton hails the onscreen brilliance of Gloria Grahame (1923-1981), who embodied the femme fatale in the likes of the Oscar-winning *Bad and the Beautiful* and Fritz Lang's *The Big Heat*, but reveals the controversial personal life of the four-times married screen siren was as tumultuous and complex as the plots of her movies.
- **INGRID BERGMAN: Golden Era Global Star** (Thurs 10 Aug 5.15pm). Best remembered for *Casablanca* (1942), *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (1943), *Spellbound* (1945) and *Notorious* (1946), Wootton salutes the cinematic brilliance of the Oscar, Golden Globe, Emmy and Tony award-winning Ingrid Bergman (1915-1982) whose eventful personal life included three marriages, and a scandalous relationship with Roberto Rossellini that resulted in European career exile and the birth of actress Isabella Rossellini.

More event details and ticket sales, are at <http://miff.com.au/industry-public-access-events>

INTERVIEWS ARE AVAILABLE WITH BOTH WENDALL THOMAS AND ADRIAN WOOTTON.

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