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Asia Pacific Screen Awards reveal first juror alongside sneak peak at new-look program of events

The Asia Pacific Screen Awards (APSA) today announced that Indonesia's best-known art house director Garin Nugroho will chair this year's Youth, Animation and Documentary International Jury in Brisbane in November.

Nugroho is currently in Australia as a guest of the Asia Pacific Screen Awards and the Melbourne International Film Festival, where his film *Memories of My Body* is being screened.

The daring film, which tells of a young dancer's rite of passage, won Nugroho the coveted Best Film at Venice Film Festival's Horizon section before taking out last year's APSA Cultural Diversity Award.

The jury announcement coincided with a first-look at the Asia Pacific Screen Award's new program of events that will take place during the week leading into the black-tie awards ceremony.

The program will include a special screening of APSA Academy President and Australian screen icon Jack Thompson's ***NFSA Restores: Sunday Too Far Away***, where Thompson stars as a knock-about gun shearer who leads a strike against the wealthy landowners.

The screening is in partnership with the National Film and Sound Archive and will feature an unmissable in-conversation Q&A with the legend himself.

The program will also bring five animation films to Brisbane for a colourful two-day program.

In collaboration with the region's largest computer graphics conference SIGGRAPH Asia, which takes place in Brisbane alongside APSA this year, the ***Animation Weekend*** will include several new animated hits and a rare screening of this year's nominees for Best Animated Feature Film.

Industry-focused panel discussions and round tables will also feature as part of the new program, enabling local filmmakers the unique opportunity to engage with high-profile international actors, directors and producers attending the awards.

Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner said the Asia Pacific Screen Awards was a fantastic way for locals and industry to experience world-class films.

"These unique screening events will give Brisbane residents an incredible opportunity to be a part of the world-class event that is the Asia Pacific Screen Awards, experience some of the best cinema from the region and meet the filmmakers behind the story," he said.



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"I'm thrilled to see the Asia Pacific Screen Awards continue to be a key factor in attracting major film business events and am delighted to see the industry program grow to support our burgeoning film industry.

"The Asia Pacific Screen Awards continues to build our city's reputation as a cultural hub for the region and shines a spotlight on our city as a place to do film business."

Asia Pacific Screen Awards Chair Michael Hawkins encouraged industry to take part in the growing program.

"Last year was a huge success, and we're extremely excited to expand the industry program in 2019," he said.

"Together with APSA's connection to animation mega-event SIGGRAPH Asia and the local screen program, there will be a multitude of opportunities for cultural and creative collaboration and interaction, with filmmaker guests, industry professionals, and local audiences."

The Asia Pacific Screen Awards nominations will be announced on 16 October, with winners announced live from the awards ceremony on 21 November in Brisbane, Australia.

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APSA program of events

NFSA Restores: Sunday Too Far Away
20 November | Australian Cinémathèque, Gallery of Modern Art

Animation Weekend
17-18 November | Australian Cinémathèque, Gallery of Modern Art

Industry Program
19-22 November | Various locations