



THE L'ORÉAL PARIS 2008 AFI AWARDS NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

In a year where the **L'Oréal Paris AFI Awards** celebrate **50 years of pride and passion**, **Vince Colosimo** joined fellow actors **Asher Keddie** and **Steve Bisley** at the Sydney Theatre, Walsh Bay to announce the nominations for the **L'Oréal Paris 2008 AFI Awards**. These prestigious awards recognise excellence and success in both the film and television industry.

The highly anticipated announcement of the nominees for the **L'Oréal Paris AFI Award for Best Film** revealed **The Black Balloon**, **The Jammed**, **The Square** and **Unfinished Sky** as the contenders to take out the coveted award this year. In total, **The Black Balloon** received 11 nominations, **Unfinished Sky** 10 nominations and **The Jammed** and **The Square** 7 nominations each.

Nominees from these films will join the host of this year's ceremony, AFI Award winner **Stephen Curry** with a cavalcade of Australian film and television stars and industry heavyweights at the **L'Oréal Paris 2008 AFI Awards**. This 50th anniversary celebration will be held at Melbourne's iconic **Princess Theatre** on **Saturday December 6** and will be broadcast on the **Nine Network** at **9.30pm** that evening.

All of the films nominated in the **Best Film** category also received the honour of a nomination for the **AFI Award for Best Direction**. Those nominees are **Elissa Down** (*The Black Balloon*), **Dee McLachlan** (*The Jammed*), **Nash Edgerton** (*The Square*) and **Peter Duncan** (*Unfinished Sky*).

Those in the running for the **AFI Award for Best Lead Actress** are **Noni Hazlehurst** (*Bitter and Twisted*), **Emma Lung** (*The Jammed*), **Veronica Sywak** (*The Jammed*) and **Monic Hendrickx** (*Unfinished Sky*). Also announced today were the nominees for the **AFI Award for Best Lead Actor - Rhys Wakefield** (*The Black Balloon*), **Guy Pearce** (*Death Defying Acts*), **David Roberts** (*The Square*) and **William McInnes** (*Unfinished Sky*).

In the **Best Supporting Actor** category, the nominees are **Luke Ford** and **Erik Thomson** (both for *The Black Balloon*) and **Joel Edgerton** and **Anthony Hayes** (both for *The Square*). **Best Supporting Actress** nominations went to **Leeanna Walsman** (*Bitter and Twisted*), **Toni Collette** (*The Black Balloon*), **Maeve Dermody** (*Black Water*) and **Saskia Burmeister** (*The Jammed*).

Aspiring young actors **Danielle Catanzariti** (*Hey Hey it's Esther Blueburger*), **Tom Green** (*The Ground Beneath*), **Saoirse Ronan** (*Death Defying Acts*) and **Clarence John Ryan** (*September*) were all nominated for the **L'Oréal Paris AFI Young Actor Award**.

Nominations for the **AFI International Award for Best Actor** are **Eric Bana** (*The Other Boleyn Girl*), **Russell Crowe** (*American Gangster*), **Heath Ledger** (*The Dark Knight*) and **Jack Thompson** (*Leatherheads*). The nominated actresses are **Cate Blanchett** (*Elizabeth: The Golden Age*), **Judy Davis** (*The Starter Wife*), **Rachel Griffiths** (*Brothers and Sisters*) and **Nicole Kidman** (*The Golden Compass*).

In television, the critically acclaimed Nine Network series **Underbelly** received a remarkable eight nominations, including **Best Television Drama Series**. Other nominations in that category went to **City Homicide** (Seven Network), **Rush** (Network Ten), and **Satisfaction** (Showcase).

Nominated performers for **Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama** are **Phoebe Tonkin** (*H2O – Just Add Water*), **Diana Glenn** (*Satisfaction*), **Alison Whyte** (*Satisfaction*) and **Kat Stewart** (*Underbelly*). **Best Lead Actor** nominations in this category went to **Don Hany** (*East West 101*), **William McInnes** (*East West 101*), **Callan Mulvey** (*Rush*) and **Gyton Grantley** (*Underbelly*).

Those in the running for **Best Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama** are **Hanna Mangan-Lawrence** (Bed of Roses), **Amanda Muggleton** (City Homicide), **Brittany Byrnes** (H2O – Just Add Water) and **Madeleine West** (Underbelly). The contenders for **Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama** are **Gary Files** (Dogstar), **Taffy Hany** (East West 101), **Vince Colosimo** (Underbelly) and **Damian Walshe-Howling** (Underbelly).

Nominations for **Best Television Comedy Series** went to **Chandon Pictures** (Movie Network), **The Hollowmen** (ABC), **The Librarians** (ABC) and **Summer Heights High** (ABC). The **Best Performance in a Television Comedy** nominees are **Rob Carlton** (Chandon Pictures), **Rob Sitch** (The Hollowmen), **Robyn Butler** (The Librarians) and **Chris Lilley** (Summer Heights High). In the **Best Light Entertainment Television Series** category, the nominees were **Enough Rope with Andrew Denton** (ABC), **The Gruen Transfer** (ABC), **Rockwiz** (SBS) and **Spicks and Specks** (ABC).

The Children's Television Drama **H2O Just Add water** did extremely well with four nominations, including Best Children's Television Drama, Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama (**Phoebe Tonkin**), Best Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama (**Brittany Byrnes**) and the AFI Visual Effects Award.

The **L'Oréal Paris 2008 AFI Awards** also pays tribute to Documentary, Short Animation and Short Fiction Films. Among those highlighted at the nominations event today were the **AFI Award for Best Documentary** nominees **Beyond Our Ken** (Luke Walker), **Not Quite Hollywood** (Craig Griffin and Michael Lynch), **The Oasis** (Ian Darling) and **Rare Chicken Rescue** (Vickie Guest). Nominees for the **AFI Award for Best Short Fiction Film** are **Four** (Zyra McAuliffe and Erin White), **Jerrycan** (Stuart Parkyn and Julius Avery), **The Ground Beneath** (Kristina Ceyton and Rene Hernandez) and **My Rabbit Hoppy** (Anthony Lucas). The nominees for **Best Short Animation** are **Chainsaw** (Fiona Cochrane and Dennis Tupicoff), **Dog With Electric Collar** (Steve Baker and Damon Escott), **Mutt** (Beth Frey and Glen Hunwick) and **Paper City Architects** (Daniel Agdag).

The **L'Oréal Paris 2008 AFI Awards**, celebrating **50 years of pride and passion** will take place at **Melbourne's Princess Theatre** on **Saturday 6 December** and will be televised on the **Nine Network** at **9.30pm**.

The **L'Oréal Paris AFI Industry Awards** presented by Digital Pictures will take place at the **Princess Theatre** on **Friday 5 December**.

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L'Oréal Paris 2008 AFI Awards Nominees

AFI International Award for Best Actor

- **Eric Bana.** *The Other Boleyn Girl*
- **Russell Crowe.** *American Gangster*
- **Heath Ledger.** *The Dark Knight*
- **Jack Thompson.** *Leatherheads*

AFI International Award for Best Actress

- **Cate Blanchett.** *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*
- **Judy Davis.** *The Starter Wife. Network Ten*
- **Rachel Griffiths.** *Brothers & Sisters. Seven Network*
- **Nicole Kidman.** *The Golden Compass*

L'Oréal Paris AFI Young Actor Award

- **Danielle Catanzariti.** *Hey Hey It's Esther Blueburger*
- **Tom Green.** *The Ground Beneath*
- **Saoirse Ronan.** *Death Defying Acts*
- **Clarence John Ryan.** *September*

AFI Visual Effects Award

- **Death Defying Acts.** James Rogers
- **Double The Fist (Series 2).** Doug Bayne, Adam MacGowan, Michael Blake & Bill McGuire. *ABC*
- **Gabriel.** Matthew Graham & Steve Anderson
- **H2O – Just Add Water (Series 2).** Barry Lanfranchi. *Network Ten*

FEATURE FILM NOMINEES

L'Oréal Paris AFI Award for Best Film

- **The Black Balloon.** Tristram Miall
- **The Jammed.** Dee McLachlan, Andrea Buck & Sally Ayre-Smith
- **The Square.** Louise Smith
- **Unfinished Sky.** Cathy Overett & Anton Smit

AFI Award for Best Direction

- **The Black Balloon.** Elissa Down
- **The Jammed.** Dee McLachlan
- **The Square.** Nash Edgerton
- **Unfinished Sky.** Peter Duncan

Macquarie AFI Award for Best Original Screenplay

- **The Black Balloon.** Elissa Down & Jimmy The Exploder
- **Hey Hey It's Esther Blueburger.** Cathy Randall
- **The Jammed.** Dee McLachlan
- **The Square.** Joel Edgerton & Matthew Dabner

Macquarie AFI Award for Best Adapted Screenplay

- **All My Friends Are Leaving Brisbane.** Stephen Vagg
- **Unfinished Sky.** Peter Duncan

AFI Award for Best Cinematography

- **The Black Balloon.** Denson Baker ACS
- **Death Defying Acts.** Haris Zambarloukos BSC
- **The Tender Hook.** Geoffrey Simpson ACS
- **Unfinished Sky.** Robert Humphreys ACS

AFI Award for Best Editing

- **The Black Balloon.** Veronika Jenet ASE
- **Black Water.** Rodrigo Balart
- **The Jammed.** Dee McLachlan & Anne Carter
- **Unfinished Sky.** Suresh Ayyar ASE

AFI Award for Best Sound

- **The Black Balloon.** Ben Osmo & Paul Pirola
- **Hey Hey It's Esther Blueburger.** Liam Egan, Tony Murtagh, Phil Judd MPSE & Des Kenneally
- **The Tender Hook.** Liam Egan, Tony Murtagh, Phil Judd MPSE & Gary Wilkins
- **Unfinished Sky.** Andrew Plain, Annie Breslin & Will Ward

AFI Award for Best Original Music Score

- **The Black Balloon.** Michael Yezerksi
- **The Square.** François Tétaz & Ben Lee
- **The Tender Hook.** Chris Abrahams
- **Unfinished Sky.** Antony Partos

AFI Award for Best Production Design

- **Children of the Silk Road.** Steven Jones-Evans
- **Death Defying Acts.** Gemma Jackson
- **The Tender Hook.** Peter Baxter
- **Unfinished Sky.** Laurie Faen

AFI Award for Best Costume Design

- **Children of the Silk Road.** Wenyan Gao & Kym Barrett
- **Death Defying Acts.** Susannah Buxton
- **Hey Hey It's Esther Blueburger.** Shareen Beringer
- **The Tender Hook.** Cappi Ireland

AFI Award for Best Lead Actor

- **Rhys Wakefield.** The Black Balloon
- **Guy Pearce.** Death Defying Acts
- **David Roberts.** The Square
- **William McInnes.** Unfinished Sky

AFI Award for Best Lead Actress

- **Noni Hazlehurst.** Bitter & Twisted
- **Emma Lung.** The Jammed
- **Veronica Sywak.** The Jammed
- **Monic Hendrickx.** Unfinished Sky

AFI Award for Best Supporting Actor

- **Luke Ford.** The Black Balloon
- **Erik Thomson.** The Black Balloon
- **Joel Edgerton.** The Square
- **Anthony Hayes.** The Square

AFI Award for Best Supporting Actress

- **Leeanna Walsman.** Bitter & Twisted
- **Toni Collette.** The Black Balloon
- **Maeve Dermody.** Black Water
- **Saskia Burmeister.** The Jammed

TELEVISION NOMINEES

AFI Award for Best Children's Television Drama

- **Animalia.** Ewan Burnett & Murray Pope. *Network Ten*
- **Blue Water High (Series 3).** Noel Price & Dennis Kiely. *ABC*
- **Double Trouble.** Rachel Clements & Terry Jennings. *Nine Network*
- **H2O - Just Add Water (Series 2).** Jonathan M. Shiff & Joanna Werner. *Network Ten*

AFI Award for Best Television Comedy Series

- **Chandon Pictures.** Rob Carlton. *Movie Network*
- **The Hollowmen.** Santo Cilauro, Tom Gleisner & Rob Sitch. *ABC*
- **The Librarians.** Wayne Hope & Robyn Butler. *ABC*
- **Summer Heights High.** Chris Lilley & Laura Waters. *ABC*

AFI Award for Best Television Drama Series

- **City Homicide** (Series 2). MaryAnne Carroll. *Seven Network*
- **Rush**. John Edwards & Mimi Butler. *Network Ten*
- **Satisfaction**. Andrew Walker & Roger Simpson. *Showcase*
- **Underbelly**. Greg Haddrick & Brenda Pam. *Nine Network*

AFI Award for Best Light Entertainment Television Series

- **ENOUGH ROPE with Andrew Denton**. Bernice Toni, Polly Connolly, Jon Casimir & Megan Brownlow. *ABC*
- **The Gruen Transfer**. Jo Wathen & Jon Casimir. *ABC*
- **RockWiz**. Ken Connor, Joe Connor, Peter Bain-Hogg & Brian Nankervis. *SBS*
- **Spicks and Specks** (Series 4). Anthony Watt. *ABC*

AFI Award for Best Telefeature, Mini Series or Short Run Series

- **Bed of Roses**. Stephen Luby & Mark Ruse. *ABC*
- **East West 101**. Steve Knapman & Kris Wyld. *SBS*
- **Rain Shadow**. Gus Howard. *ABC*
- **Valentines Day**. Tony Wright. *ABC*

AFI Award for Best Direction in Television

- **East West 101** (Episode 2, Death at the Station) **Peter Andrikidis**. *SBS*
- **Satisfaction** (Episode 5, Truth) **Daina Reid**. *Showcase*
- **Summer Heights High** (Episode 8) **Stuart McDonald**. *ABC*
- **Underbelly** (Episode 7, Wise Monkeys) **Peter Andrikidis**. *Nine Network*

AFI Award for Best Screenplay in Television

- **Dogstar** (Episode 26) **Philip Dalkin**. *Nine Network*
- **East West 101** (Episode 2, Death at the Station) **Kris Wyld**. *SBS*
- **The Hollowmen** (Episode 1, Fat Chance) **Santo Cilauro, Tom Gleisner & Rob Sitch**. *ABC*
- **Underbelly** (Episode 2, The Sorcerer's Apprentice) **Peter Gawler**. *Nine Network*

AFI Award for Best Lead Actor in a Television Drama

- **Don Hany**. *East West 101*. *SBS*
- **William McInnes**. *East West 101*. *SBS*
- **Callan Mulvey**. *Rush*. *Network Ten*
- **Gyton Grantley**. *Underbelly*. *Nine Network*

AFI Award for Best Lead Actress in a Television Drama

- **Phoebe Tonkin**. *H2O - Just Add Water* (Series 2). *Network Ten*
- **Diana Glenn**. *Satisfaction*. *Showcase*
- **Alison Whyte**. *Satisfaction*. *Showcase*
- **Kat Stewart**. *Underbelly*. *Nine Network*

AFI Award for Best Guest or Supporting Actor in a Television Drama

- **Gary Files**. *Dogstar* (Episode 26) *Nine Network*
- **Taffy Hany**. *East West 101* (Episode 1, The Enemy Within) *SBS*
- **Vince Colosimo**. *Underbelly* (Episode 2, The Sorcerer's Apprentice) *Nine Network*
- **Damian Walshe-Howling**. *Underbelly* (Episode 7, Wise Monkeys) *Nine Network*

AFI Award for Best Guest or Supporting Actress in a Television Drama

- **Hanna Mangan-Lawrence**. *Bed of Roses* (Episode 1, Not Worth a Cent) *ABC*
- **Amanda Muggleton**. *City Homicide* (Series 1: Episode 3, Lie Down With Dogs) *Seven Network*
- **Brittany Byrnes**. *H2O - Just Add Water* (Series 2: Episode 25, Sea Change) *Network Ten*
- **Madeleine West**. *Underbelly* (Episode 7, Wise Monkeys) *Nine Network*

AFI Award for Best Performance in a Television Comedy

- **Rob Carlton**. *Chandon Pictures*. *Movie Network*
- **Rob Sitch**. *The Hollowmen*. *ABC*
- **Robyn Butler**. *The Librarians*. *ABC*
- **Chris Lilley**. *Summer Heights High*. *ABC*

NON-FEATURE NOMINEES

AFI Award for Best Documentary

- **Beyond Our Ken.** Luke Walker
- **Not Quite Hollywood.** Craig Griffin & Michael Lynch
- **The Oasis.** Ian Darling
- **Rare Chicken Rescue.** Vickie Gest

AFI Award for Best Direction in a Documentary

- **Beyond Our Ken.** Melissa Maclean & Luke Walker
- **The Oasis.** Ian Darling & Sascha Ettinger Epstein
- **Rachel: A Perfect Life.** Fiona Cochrane
- **Rare Chicken Rescue.** Randall Wood

AFI Award for Best Cinematography in a Documentary

- **A Northern Town.** Andrew Commis & Rachel Landers
- **Bomb Harvest.** Kim Mordaunt
- **NIGHT.** Laurie McInnes
- **Rare Chicken Rescue.** Randall Wood

AFI Award for Best Editing in a Documentary

- **Not Quite Hollywood.** Jamie Blanks, Sara Edwards & Mark Hartley
- **The Oasis.** Sally Fryer
- **Rare Chicken Rescue.** Scott Walton
- **The Siege.** Stewart Young ASE

AFI Award for Best Sound in a Documentary

- **Fairweather Man.** Ben Crane, Michael Gissing, Guy Gross & Mike Jones
- **The Oasis.** Felicity Fox & Michael Gissing
- **Rare Chicken Rescue.** Brett Aplin, Greg Docwra & John Willstead
- **The Siege.** Ian McLoughlin, Antony Partos & David White

AFI Award for Best Short Animation

- **Chainsaw.** Fiona Cochrane & Dennis Tupicoff
- **Dog With Electric Collar.** Steve Baker & Damon Escott
- **Mutt.** Beth Frey & Glen Hunwick
- **Paper City Architects.** Daniel Agdag

AFI Award for Best Short Fiction Film

- **fOUR.** Zyra McAuliffe & Erin White
- **Jerrycan.** Stuart Parkyn & Julius Avery
- **The Ground Beneath.** Kristina Ceyton & Rene Hernandez
- **My Rabbit Hoppy.** Anthony Lucas

AFI Award for Best Screenplay in a Short Film

- **296 Smith Street.** John Evagora
- **Chainsaw.** Dennis Tupicoff
- **fOUR.** Erin White
- **The Ground Beneath.** Rene Hernandez