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Photos from Award Ceremony will populate on this link:

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AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE 4TH AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

BIRDMAN or (THE UNEXPECTED VIRTUE OF IGNORANCE) leads with 4 Wins Including BEST FILM

The Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA) today announced seven winners nominated across the following categories – Best Film, Best Direction, Best Screenplay, Best Lead Actor, Best Lead Actress, Best Supporting Actor and Best Supporting Actress – for the 4th AACTA International Awards.

The winners were announced at the G'Day USA Gala featuring the 4th AACTA International Awards presented by Qantas at the Hollywood Palladium in Los Angeles on January 31, 2015. The Awards were presented by multi-award winner and AACTA President Geoffrey Rush who shared the stage with fellow presenters including Nicole Kidman, Elizabeth Debicki, John Travolta, Rachel Griffiths, Jonathan LaPaglia, Rebel Wilson and Russell Crowe.

BIRDMAN or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance) leads the wins with a total of four wins including BEST FILM, BEST SCREENPLAY, BEST DIRECTION (Alejandro G. Iñárritu) and BEST LEAD ACTOR (Michael Keaton). The film, which has received critical acclaim and was named one of the Best Films of 2014 by several organizations including the American Film Institute and the National Board of Review beat fellow BEST FILM nominees including BOYHOOD and THE IMITATION GAME which had received five AACTA nominations each, including Best Film, Best Direction and Best Screenplay.

STILL ALICE'S Julianne Moore picked up the AACTA International Award for Best Lead Actress, and is now the frontrunner to sweep the Awards circuit with Golden Globe and SAG Award wins for her portrayal of Alice, a Columbia linguistics professor diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's disease.

Similarly to Moore, both Golden Globe and SAG Award Winners, J.K. Simmons (WHIPLASH) and Patricia Arquette (BOYHOOD) each picked up their statuettes for the AACTA International Award for Best Supporting Actor and Actress.

Winners of the 4th AACTA International Awards were announced in Los Angeles on 31 January 2015 at the G'Day USA Gala featuring the 4th AACTA International Awards presented by Qantas. This marks a brand new event format for the AACTA International Awards, and for the G'Day USA Gala, following the

announcement of a partnership between AACTA and G'Day USA in December 2014. The AACTA International Awards served as the centrepiece of the Gala, which also saw Chris Hemsworth honoured by G'Day USA. The AACTA International Awards segment of the event will be broadcast on Foxtel's Arena channel (Australia) on Sunday 1 February 2015.

AFI | AACTA CEO, Damian Trehwella, said:

"The AACTA International Awards are Australia's international stamp of screen success, adding an Australian perspective alongside that of our international counterparts in recognition of outstanding screen craft excellence by our international peers, as well as by Australians working internationally.

"Each year we see a fascinating situation wherein the voting patterns of the Australian Academy's international chapter often presage those of the SAG Awards, Golden Globes and the Oscars, though sometimes with interesting deviations too. I congratulate all of this year's AACTA International Award nominees and winners on their outstanding work, and look forward with anticipation to seeing the outcome of this year's Oscars in relation to today's winners."

4TH AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARDS WINNERS

AACTA International Award for Best Film

BIRDMAN - Alejandro G. Iñárritu, John Lesher, James W. Skotchdopole * WINNER

BOYHOOD

THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL

THE IMITATION GAME

WHIPLASH

AACTA International Award for Best Direction

BIRDMAN - Alejandro G. Iñárritu * WINNER

BOYHOOD – Richard Linklater

THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL – Wes Anderson

THE IMITATION GAME - Morten Tyldum

WHIPLASH - Damien Chazelle

AACTA International Award for Best Screenplay

BIRDMAN - Alejandro G. Iñárritu, Nicolás Jacobone, Alexander Dinelaris Jr, Armando Bo * WINNER

BOYHOOD - Richard Linklater

THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL - Wes Anderson

THE IMITATION GAME – Graham Moore

WHIPLASH – Damien Chazelle

AACTA International Award for Best Lead Actor

Steve Carell - FOXCATCHER

Benedict Cumberbatch - THE IMITATION GAME

Jake Gyllenhaal - NIGHTCRAWLER

Michael Keaton – BIRDMAN * WINNER

Eddie Redmayne – THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING

AACTA International Award for Best Lead Actress

Essie Davis - THE BABADOOK

Felicity Jones - THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING

Julianne Moore - STILL ALICE * WINNER

Rosamund Pike - GONE GIRL

Reese Witherspoon – WILD

AACTA International Award for Best Supporting Actor

Ethan Hawke – BOYHOOD

Edward Norton – BIRDMAN

Mark Ruffalo – FOXCATCHER

Andy Serkis - DAWN OF THE PLANET OF THE APES

J.K. Simmons – WHIPLASH * WINNER

AACTA International Award for Best Supporting Actress

Patricia Arquette – BOYHOOD * WINNER

Keira Knightley - THE IMITATION GAME

Emma Stone – BIRDMAN

Meryl Streep - INTO THE WOODS

Naomi Watts – BIRDMAN

ABOUT AACTA

This year marks the fourth Awards of the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA), which was established by the Australian Film Institute (AFI) in 2011. The AACTA Awards are a continuum of the AFI Awards, which commenced in Australia in 1958. Former AFI Award recipients include Nicole Kidman, Russell Crowe, Eric Bana, Toni Collette, Dr. George Miller (AFI | AACTA Patron), Cate Blanchett (AFI | AACTA Ambassador) and Geoffrey Rush (AACTA President).

AACTA holds a year-round program of events in Australia showcasing and promoting Australian screen productions and screen culture. The program culminates in two annual Awards events in Sydney; the AACTA Awards Luncheon presented by Deluxe, and the AACTA Awards Ceremony.

ABOUT THE AACTA INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

The AACTA International Awards recognise film excellence regardless of geography. These Awards are determined by the invitation only AACTA International Chapter which comprises 140 Australian screen professionals with distinguished international credentials, many of whom are also members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts.

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For more information on the AACTA International Awards, [click here](#).

For more information on AFI | AACTA, [click here](#).

The AACTA Awards are proudly supported by the New South Wales Government, through its tourism and major events agency, Destination New South Wales.

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