

Hon Jay Weatherill MP

Premier

Friday, 1 September 2017

Set construction workshop for Adelaide Studios

The Heysen Hicks Set Construction Workshop officially opens today, with the purpose-built workshop enhancing Adelaide Studios' status as a world-class production hub for innovative and acclaimed production.

The Workshop has been named after internationally acclaimed filmmakers Scott Hicks and Kerry Heysen, who have both made an immense contribution to the South Australian Screen Industry.

The new Workshop will enable Adelaide Studios to build sets on-site, adding to the existing facilities of two sound stages, a state-of-the-art Dolby Premier 7.1 Mixing Theatre, ADR and Foley Studios, a 100-seat screening theatre, modern production offices and art departments.

South Australia currently has three major productions located at Adelaide Studios. Production is underway on *Wolf Creek Series 2* and *Storm Boy*, while feature film *Mother* is in pre-production, and is currently building its sets in the workshop. These three productions are anticipated to contribute over \$15m to the SA economy and 400 jobs.

SA Film Corporation (SAFC) currently anticipates 14 projects in the 2017 calendar year to bring the total contribution to the SA economy to \$26.m with 853 jobs.

Further enhancing South Australia's advantages as a production destination, the SAFC Production App, is now live. It showcases the State's extraordinary locations and provides a directory of the State's globally recognised crew and services, filming permissions and more.

Background

Heysen and Hicks, proud South Australians have written, directed and produced acclaimed films in the State including *Shine*, *Highly Strung* and *The Boys are Back*. Together, their extensive body of work includes the feature films *Fallen*, *The Lucky One*, *Glass: A Portrait of Philip in 12 Parts*, *No Reservations*, *Heart in Atlantis* and *Snow Falling on Cedars*.

Since 2011 the Adelaide Studios has hosted 158 projects including 43 feature films, 42 Television commercials, 28 TV series and 18 short films. Projects using the studios have triggered an estimated SA spend of over \$105 million.

The newly built 400sqm Heysen Hicks Set Construction Workshop features precast walls and detailing which complements the existing heritage buildings and provides a seamless extension to the existing studio buildings.

Quotes attributable to Premier Jay Weatherill

South Australia has a great talent for telling stories, and our reputation as a film production hub is world-renowned.

Having set production capability within Adelaide Studios is yet another string to our bow. It improves efficiency and strengthens the offering of SAFC. It means we can be increasingly competitive in securing productions from around the world, while enhancing the quality of what is available to our local industry.

This new space also rightly recognises two South Australians who have made an outstanding contribution to putting SA's film industry on the map - Scott Hicks and Kerry Heysen.

Quotes attributable to South Australian Film Corporation CEO Annabelle Sheehan

South Australia is known the world over for its award-winning crew and extraordinary locations. The Heysen Hicks Set Construction Workshop now added to our other state-of-the-art Adelaide Studios facilities contributes enormously to the attractions of shooting in Adelaide and across the rest of the State.

I am also so pleased that the naming of the workshop honours the work of Kerry Heysen and Scott Hicks. Their creative drive is emblematic of the Maverick, innovative south Australian screen industry.

Quotes attributable to Production Designer of Mother Hugh Bateup

It shouldn't be underestimated how much having set building facilities on site helps the Art Department as well as the production generally. The fact that all concerned can see the progress of the set building process helps enormously. It's a great asset for productions wanting to film in the Adelaide Studios.