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AUSTRALIAN FILMS

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2018 ADELAIDE FILM FEST TO OPEN WITH *HOTEL MUMBAI* AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

WED 10 OCTOBER

The **ADL Film Fest Fund** today announced the internationally anticipated **HOTEL MUMBAI** is set for an Australian Premiere at the **2018 ADL Film Fest Opening Night Gala** on Wednesday 10 October. The Toronto International Film Festival earlier today announced the *Hotel Mumbai* World Premiere, a TIFF special presentation in September, the same event that launched the international hit *Lion* in 2016.

Directed by Anthony Maras and starring **Armie Hammer, Dev Patel, Nazanin Bonaidi, Tilda Cobham-Hervey**, with **Anupam Kher**, and **Jason Isaacs**, *Hotel Mumbai* tells the astonishing story of those trapped in the iconic Taj Mahal Palace Hotel in the 2008 attacks.

The film's key creatives including South Australian director Anthony Maras and producer Julie Ryan will be in attendance, with additional special guests to be announced. The event kicks off the festival's boldly curated 11-day programme of screenings and events.

The ADL Film Fest Fund, now in its ninth successful round, was the first of its kind in Australia and remains one of the few in the world. The 86 projects to date have won major awards at all of the world's leading film festivals including Cannes, Berlin, Toronto, Venice and Sundance. The full line up of the ADL Film Fest Fund films to screen at the 2018 festival will be announced in the coming weeks.

The *Hotel Mumbai* Gala Premiere will take place at GU Film House, followed by the ADL Film Fest Opening Night party at the Queen's Theatre. Tickets are \$95 and now on sale now at www.adelaidefilmfestival.org

Hotel Mumbai is directed by Anthony Maras, written by John Collee & Anthony Maras, and produced by Basil Iwanyk, Gary Hamilton, Mike Gabrawy, Julie Ryan, Andrew Ogilvie and Jomon Thomas.

Hotel Mumbai is presented by Screen Australia and Xeitgeist Entertainment Group, in association with the South Australian Film Corporation, and Arclight Films, and Adelaide Film Festival, Double Guess Productions and Screenwest. Arclight Films is handling World Sales, with Icon Film Distribution the Australian Distributor. WME and Verve are handling U.S. sales alongside Arclight Films.



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QUOTES ATTRIBUTABLE TO:

Amanda Duthie – CEO and Artistic Director of the ADL Film Fest and ADL Film Fest Fund:

'It will be a momentous occasion to open this year's festival with the stunning ADL Film Fest Fund feature *Hotel Mumbai*, an extraordinary directorial film debut from South Australia's Anthony Maras with an array of exceptional local talent both on and off the screen. The 2018 FUND line-up premiering at the ADL Film Fest in October will include some of Australia's most anticipated features, hot on the heels of the 2017 FUND which included Warwick Thornton's Venice and Toronto winner *Sweet Country*, Australia's first ever Netflix Original feature *Cargo*, and series *F*!#ing Adelaide* that went on to compete at Series Mania in France.'

Minister Pisoni – South Australian Minister for Industry and Skills:

'*Hotel Mumbai* is a film that was driven by talented South Australian screen professionals and was partly shot in Adelaide, creating jobs for local cast and crew. Having *Hotel Mumbai* open the Adelaide Film Festival, a world-renowned event, is the perfect opportunity to both showcase and be entertained by the world-class creative talents of our local screen industry.'

Director Anthony Maras:

'I am forever grateful for the unwavering support the Adelaide Film Festival has offered our project since day one. The SAFC and ADL Film Fest's backing of *Hotel Mumbai* enabled my home town of Adelaide to play a crucial role in the making of this truly international production, and allowed us to work again with so many amazing South Australian cast and crew. It could not be more fitting to premiere the film at AFF, and so soon after the World Premiere at the Toronto international Film Festival.'

Producer Julie Ryan:

'Having previously collaborated with director Anthony Maras on his short film *The Palace*, it was great to work with him in bringing *Hotel Mumbai* to life, and I wholeheartedly agree with Variety that he really is a director to watch. I am incredibly proud of this film, which is a life-affirming story of hope and compassion. The making of *Hotel Mumbai* was a truly international collaboration in which Adelaide played a key part, and I can't wait to share with audiences at the opening night of the Adelaide Film Festival.'

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

HOTEL MUMBAI – SYNOPSIS

26 November 2008. A wave of devastating terror attacks throughout Mumbai catapult the bustling Indian metropolis into chaos. In the heart of the city's tourist district, Jihadist terrorists lay siege to the iconic Taj Palace Hotel, whose guests and staff become trapped in a heroic, days-long fight for survival.



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ADL FILM FEST - 10 – 21 OCTOBER 2018

'The Adelaide Film Festival is both nest and provocation, as probably the most daring source of government money in the Australia screen landscape.' Screenhub 2018

The ADL Film Fest has secured a reputation around the globe as an essential screen culture event and was named in *Variety Film* magazine's 50 Unmissable Film Festivals list. With a distinctively curated program of Australian and international screen culture, special events, awards and forums, the festival continues to be regarded as a premier destination for new and exciting screen projects.

Each edition of the ADL Film Fest has three prestigious juried awards: Best International Feature Film, Flinders University International Feature Documentary Award, the AFTRS International Virtual Reality Award and the Audience Awards.

The ADL Film Fest takes place immediately after the Venice and Toronto Film Festivals, signifying the beginning of the awards season. Australian screen industry icons Margaret Pomeranz and David Stratton are patrons of the festival. www.adelaidefilmfestival.org

ADL FILM FEST FUND

The ADL Film Fest Fund, now in its ninth successful round, was the first of its kind in Australia and remains one of the few in the world. The 86 projects to date have won major awards at all of the world's leading film festivals (Cannes, Berlin, Venice, Toronto, Sundance) as well as an Emmy, and four features have been Australia's submission to the Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film. The cutting edge initiative is open to multiple formats including feature fiction, feature documentary, shorts, TV series as well as augmented and virtual reality.

ADL Film Fest Fund features include Warwick Thornton's *Sweet Country* and *Samson & Delilah*, Rolf de Heer's *Charlie's Country* and *Ten Canoes*, Sophie Hyde's *52 Tuesdays* and Rosemary Myer's *Girl Asleep*, *Snowtown*, *Tracks*, *Mrs Carey's Concert* and *Look Both Ways*. VR works include Lynette Wallworth's Emmy Award winning *Collisions* and Trent Parke, Narelle Autio and Matthew Bate's *The Summation of Force*.

MEDIA INFORMATION

Images: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wwxbpbwj9kmm1m9/AABVonROmuFqtPhYboWdsqPVa?dl=0>

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