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SAFC LAUNCHES *FULL TILT*

South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC) today launched an inclusive approach to skills development for content makers with disability under the banner of FULL TILT.

The first new initiative launched under the Delivering Diversity umbrella of programs announced by the SAFC in April, FULL TILT joins the Gender Agenda and the Aboriginal Screen Strategy, delivering practitioner and content programs for a multiplicity of voices under-represented in the screen industry.

Courtney Gibson, CEO of the South Australian Film Corporation said “Delivering Diversity is all about removing barriers to careers in the screen sector for a wide range of under-represented voices. SAFC is committed to working with industry to deliver positive change and enrich our working environments, to grow the industry and audiences alike.”

FULL TILT will be informed by internationally renowned leader in disability arts, **Gaelle Mellis** in the newly created role of **SAFC Disability Strategy Executive**. A passionate advocate for accessibility and diversity in the arts, Ms Mellis has served as Creative Director of Access2Arts SA, and as Vice Chair of Arts Access Australia.

SAFC Disability Strategy Executive Gaelle Mellis said “For too long our stories have been told by others and non-disabled actors continue to win awards for ‘cripping up’. This has to stop. We want to tell our own stories and see ourselves represented authentically. Disability is a normal part of life. Disabled people can shed light on different aspects of the lived human experience with our stories adding to the richness and diversity of our cultural landscape.”

Courtney Gibson said “We welcome Gaelle to the SAFC team to drive us to deliver great programs and effect real change. “

The **FULL TILT Attachment program** opens opportunities for filmmakers with disability to undertake paid attachment positions in SAFC-supported productions.

Channel 7 series *Wanted* starring Rebecca Gibney, with the current block directed by Jocelyn Moorhouse, is the first production to employ a Full Tilt Attachment. South Australian emerging cinematographer Paul Vagnarelli, who is profoundly Deaf, is working as a camera attachment to multi-award-winning cinematographer Mark Wareham (*Mystery Road, Cleverman, Secret City*).

Paul is a graduate of Adelaide College of the Arts, Adelaide City TAFE with an Advanced Diploma in Screen and Media and has worked as a Gaffer’s Assistant (Lighting Department) on a number of local film productions but his dream is to work in the fields of cinematography and lighting. *Wanted* is his first experience on set of a major television production.

Paul Vagnarelli said “This experience is invaluable in the development of my skills which will help my future cinematography goals.”

Wanted Producer Tom Hoffie said “If Paul’s significant contribution to the set of *Wanted* is any indication, then the Full Tilt initiative is sure to be an important driver to greater inclusion and

diversity in our industry. We congratulate the SAFC for the initiative and would encourage upcoming productions to support Full Tilt.”

The **FULL TILT short documentary initiative**, a partnership between SBS and the SAFC, also announced today, will fund three stand-alone short screen works created by South Australian filmmakers with disability to premiere on SBS’s streaming platform, SBS On Demand, in 2019.

This initiative will prioritise diverse filmmakers, with two out of the three key creatives in each team (*based on a team of writer, director, producer*) coming from underrepresented communities and **at least one** member of the key creative team being a filmmaker who is Deaf or with disability. If there are only two key creatives, **one** member of the key creative team must be a filmmaker who is Deaf or with disability. Development funding and a development workshop will be provided for up to five shortlisted teams.

The SAFC and SBS will then co-fund three teams to go into production.

Submissions close August 13.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information can be found on the Funding & Support- Development Support page at <http://www.safilm.com.au/funding-and-support/delivering-diversity/>

MEDIA CONTACT

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Gaelle Mellis Bio

Gaelle Mellis is one of Australia’s most highly regarded dance and theatre designers and is a passionate advocate for accessibility and diversity in the arts. A recipient of an Australia Council for the Arts Creative Australia Fellowship, as well as a Churchill Fellowship, Gaelle was chosen as one of fifty thinkers from around the world to participate in the inaugural “Assessing the Future of the Field” disability and arts convention hosted by the [John F Kennedy Centre for the Performing Arts](#). Gaelle has previously served as the Creative Director of Access2Arts SA as well a member of the Minister’s Disability Advisory Council of South Australia. Gaelle is a cultural and thought leader in disability arts in Australia and internationally. Through her work she is interested in authentic representation, effecting change, pushing aesthetic boundaries to tell new stories, discovering new form and creating high quality accessible product, making accessibility a starting point, not an after thought.