



MEDIA RELEASE

**EMBARGOED**

**3 December 9pm**

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SCREEN AWARDS 2021 WINNERS NAMED AT MERCURY CX GALA**

*The winners of the South Australian Screen Awards 2021 have been named at a gala awards ceremony at Mercury CX. There were 81 nominees, across 24 awards which were presented to creatives and crew across a range of craft and genre categories including drama, documentary, web series, animation, comedy, music video, screenwriting, directing, editing etc, culminating in the Grand Jury Prize presented by the South Australian Film Corporation.*

*MYTH - The Go Between and The Recordist have taken out joint honours for Best Drama. MYTH – The Go Between produced by William Littleton, picked up three additional awards including Best Director for Alies Sluiter. The Recordist, produced by Ashleigh Knott and Indianna Bell and directed by Indianna Bell and Josiah Allen also picked up Best Performance for Brendan Rock along with Best Sound Design for Indianna Bell.*

Best Comedy, presented by KOJO was awarded to Producer Lisa Bishop and Writer/Director Gareth Wilkes for *Happy Anniversary*. Best Documentary, supported by AIDC, was won by *My Ba* from Producer/Director Alice Yang and Best Animation was *The Better Angels* for Producer Richard Chataway and Writer/Director Michael Cusack.

In addition five individual awards were presented to acknowledge South Australian screen excellence culminating in the illustrious City of Adelaide Mercury Award, which recognises a South Australian creative's lifetime achievement and contribution to the screen industry. This award was presented by the Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Sandy Verschoor to acclaimed Sound Recordist, Mixer and Sound Designer James Currie. Currie's 45-year career has seen him work on 146 productions spanning feature films, television series, documentaries and short films. His international reputation has been built working innovatively on sound for directors including Paul Cox, Rolf de Heer and Scott Hicks. Currie said of the award: "I am truly humbled to be the recipient of this year's City of Adelaide Mercury Award 2021," adding that hometown recognition was especially meaningful.

Director Scott Hicks said of James' win "James recorded sound on my very first film 'The Wanderer', and almost 50 years later he's working on my current film 'The Musical Mind'. I've lost count of the films we've done in between. Many congratulations James - such a well-deserved honour and recognition of your place in the pantheon of South Australian filmmakers. You're an institution, and I salute you."

[www.mercurycx.org](http://www.mercurycx.org)

**13 Morphett Street, Adelaide SA, 5000**

[hello@mercurycx.org](mailto:hello@mercurycx.org) +61 8410 09791



The inaugural Best First Nations Talent Award sponsored by South Australian Film Corporation was presented to actor Natasha Wanganeen for her compelling performance in the short film *Djaambi*. Another first for 2021 was the inclusion of the Mercury Rising award, supported by the Adelaide Festival Centre and presented to an MCX Member across any award category. The inaugural winner is producer and director Eva Grzelak. The Carclew Foundation presented the Young Filmmaker Award to cinematographer Nicholas Frayne and Media Super presented the Emerging Producer Award to Lilla Berry.

Mercury CX CEO, Karena Slaninka said “I am constantly impressed with the level of talent we have in South Australia and Mercury CX is proud to play an essential role in supporting and celebrating emerging and established talent”.

“The South Australian Screen Awards have helped launch the careers of many filmmakers who have gone from making an award winning short to their first feature and are an important career milestone. We couldn’t offer these awards without the support of our many partners and award sponsors”.

FULL LIST OF WINNERS

#### **CITY OF ADELAIDE MERCURY AWARD**

**James Currie**

#### **GRAND JURY PRIZE**

***Sponsored by South Australian Film Corporation***

**ANNOUNCED ON THE NIGHT**

#### **EMERGING PRODUCER AWARD**

***Sponsored by Media Super***

**Lilla Berry**

#### **FIRST NATIONS TALENT AWARD**

***Sponsored by South Australian Film Corporation***

**Natasha Wanganeen - Actor, *Djaambi***

#### **YOUNG FILMMAKER AWARD**

***Sponsored by Carclew Foundation***

**Nicholas Frayne**

#### **MERCURY RISING AWARD**

[www.mercurycx.org](http://www.mercurycx.org)

**13 Morphett Street, Adelaide SA, 5000**

**hello@mercurycx.org +61 8410 09792**



*Sponsored by Adelaide Festival Centre*  
Eva Grzelak

> GENRE CATEGORIES

**BEST DRAMA**

*Sponsored by Adelaide Film Festival*  
Joint Winners

*The Recordist*

Producers: Ashleigh Knott & Indianna Bell  
Directors: Indianna Bell & Josiah Allen  
Writer: Indianna Bell

*MYTH - The Go-Between*

Producer: William Littleton  
Writer/Director: Alies Sluiter

**BEST COMEDY**

*Sponsored by KOJO*

*Happy Anniversary*

Producer: Lisa Bishop  
Writer/Director: Gareth Wilkes

**BEST DOCUMENTARY**

*Sponsored by Australian International Documentary Conference*

*My Ba*

Producer/Director: Alice Yang

*Honourable Mention:*

*Last Meal*

Producers: Danielle Tinker, Marcus McKenzie & Daniel Principe  
Directors: Marcus McKenzie & Daniel Principe

AND

*Deadly Family Portraits: Sansbury Sisters*



**Producer:** Lilla Berry

**Director:** Pearl Berry

**BEST ANIMATION**

*Sponsored by Finders University*

*The Better Angels*

**Producer:** Richard Chataway

**Writer/Director:** Michael Cusack

**BEST MUSIC VIDEO**

*Sponsored by Music SA*

*alt. "Devil's Cut "*

**Producers:** Ashley Pollard & Benjamin Powell

**Director:** Ashley Pollard

**BEST WEB SERIES**

*Sponsored by Government of South Australia Department for Innovation and Skills*

*Dead Centre*

**Producer:** Kurt Roberts

**Writer/Director:** Benno Thiel

**BEST STUDENT PRODUCTION**

*Sponsored by University of South Australia*

*Punchin' Out!*

**Producer:** Kirrily Snape

**Writer/Director:** Tasman Colquist

**BEST GAME**

*Sponsored by CDW Animation*

*Henosis*

**Brewed Engagement Extended Reality Labs**



**> CRAFT CATEGORIES**

**BEST SCREENPLAY**

*Sponsored by Australian Writers' Guild*

*Kate Bonney - Waiyirri*

**BEST DIRECTING**

*Sponsored by SunJive Studios*

*Alies Sluiter - MYTH - The Go Between*

**BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY**

*Sponsored by Pro AV Solutions*

*Nicholas Frayne - Which Made This Place Home*

**BEST EDITING**

*Sponsored by Channel 44*

*Tania Nehme - MYTH - The Go Between*

**BEST PERFORMANCE**

*Sponsored by Heesom Casting*

*Kavitha Anandasivam - Possum*

**AND**

*Brendan Rock - The Recordist*

**BEST PRODUCTION DESIGN**

*Sponsored by Light Adelaide*

*Brendan Homan & Natalie Homan - Last Meal*

**BEST HAIR AND MAKEUP**

*Sponsored by Kryolan Professional Make-up*

*Bec Troisi - MYTH - The Go Between*

**BEST COSTUME**

*Sponsored by The Fabric Store*

*Hannah Sitters - Secret Pretty Things*

**BEST SOUND DESIGN**

[www.mercury.cx](http://www.mercury.cx)

13 Morphett Street, Adelaide SA, 5000

[hello@mercury.cx](mailto:hello@mercury.cx) +61 8410 09795



***Sponsored by Best FX  
Indianna Bell – The Recordist***

**BEST SCORE**

***Sponsored by University of Adelaide Elder Music Conservatorium  
Christopher Larkin - Last Meal***

**#ENDS#**

***Note: A CV for James Currie is [included in the EPK](#)***

**Copyright © 2021 Mercury CX, All rights reserved.**