

# NT SCREEN SUMMIT 2024



FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2024

## THE SPARK SHORT FILM INITIATIVE

Join us at the Deckchair cinema on Friday the 20th for the 2024 SPARK Short Films as part of the Darwin International Film Festival. This year's initiative is bigger than ever before with each team provided \$30,000 by Screen Territory towards a film exploring the theme of 'Courage'. The initiative is further supported by Panavision, Australian Film Television and Radio School, Broad Story, Panafreight, The Post Lounge, Subsonic Audio, Screen Producers Australia and Trackdown.

**Location:** Deckchair Cinema, Darwin, NT 0800  
**Time:** Doors open at 5.30PM for a 7PM screening  
**Book:** <https://diff.net.au/>

## SATURDAY | 21 SEPTEMBER 2024 NT SCREEN SUMMIT | DAY 1

- 09:00 - 09:15** **Opening Remarks by Screen Territory and the Strategic Plan**  
Director of Screen Territory, Jennie Hughes, provides an overview of the current state of the NT screen industry and what its future strategic priorities are.
- 09:15 - 09:30** **Meeting the CEO of Screen Australia, Deidre Brennan**
- 09:35 - 10:45** **Genre Renaissance: The Impact and Influence of Genre Films and TV Today**  
Delve into the resurgence of genre storytelling in contemporary screenwriting. Once considered niche and dismissed as formulaic or relegated to cult status, genres like sci-fi, horror, fantasy, and thriller have returned to the forefront of popular culture, gaining critical acclaim and commercial success alike.
- 10:45 - 11:45** **Behind the Scenes: The Producer's Role in Crafting Compelling Screen Content**  
Deep dive into the heart of screen production with an in-depth exploration of the producer's pivotal role in bringing stories to life on film and television. With a panel comprising some of Australia's best Screen Producers, this discussion will provide a detailed examination of the multifaceted responsibilities and creative decisions that define the producer's journey.
- 11:45 - 12:30** Lunch Break
- 12:35 - 14:00** **Case Study: Territory**  
Territory stands as the most ambitious television series ever produced in the Northern Territory. Set against the stunning backdrop of the NT, the series encapsulates the push-pull relationship between the raw beauty and the unique filmmaking challenges of the region. As such, every frame of Territory reflects the skill and dedication of the crew, from the intricate camera work that captures the sweeping landscapes to the meticulous production design that immerses viewers in Marianne Station's unique environment. This is a rare opportunity to hear firsthand from the professionals who navigated the unique challenges of filming in the Territory, balancing the technical demands of high-end production with the raw, rugged and untamed beauty of the Top End.
- 14:00 - 14:15** Break
- 14:15 - 14:30** **SPA member and Industry update - Zoe Angus Screen Producers Australia**  
Join Zoe Angus, Industrial Director at Screen Producers Australia, for a key industry update.
- 14:30 - 16:00** **Lights, Camera, Funding: Navigating the Financing Landscape of Screen Productions**  
A comprehensive exploration of the financing landscape in the film industry. Expert panellists from industry discuss traditional funding sources, tax incentives and offsets, emerging trends, legal considerations, and the future outlook for financing screen productions. From navigating streaming deals to harnessing the power of philanthropy, gain valuable insights into securing funding for Screen productions.

## SUNDAY | 22 SEPTEMBER 2024 NT SCREEN SUMMIT | DAY 2

- 10:00 - 10:10** **Introduction to Day 2**  
Welcome back! Grab a coffee or a tea and get ready for a great day of interesting sessions.
- 10:15 - 11:15** **Exploring the Power of Feature Documentary**  
Documentaries have evolved from being niche productions to becoming powerful tools for social change, education, and entertainment. Feature documentaries, in particular, have gained significant traction in recent years, captivating audiences with their immersive narratives and real-world storytelling. Alongside this, the concept of merging documentary storytelling with interactive elements has started to reshape how audiences engage with documentary content. This is a thought-provoking panel discussion that delves into the world of feature documentary filmmaking.
- 11:15 - 11:30** Break
- 11:30 - 12:45** **Inside the Writers Room: Mastering Story Development with insights from the Writers Room**  
This session will offer a comprehensive exploration of the journey from concept to screen, bringing together a diverse group of seasoned screenwriters, directors, and producers. Gain invaluable insights into the entire process of story development and the critical steps to successfully transition a first draft script into full production. Dive into the intricacies of screen story development and the practical steps to bring your story from page to screen.
- 12:45 - 13:30** Lunch Break
- 13:30 - 14:30** **Crafting Content for Online Distribution: Strategies and Innovations for Screen Creatives**  
In an era dominated by digital platforms, the demand for high-quality, engaging content is greater than ever. Our panellists represent a diverse range of expertise, including filmmakers, digital producers, content strategists, and distribution specialists. Whether you're a filmmaker exploring new avenues for distribution or a digital content creator looking to enhance your storytelling skills, this panel discussion offers invaluable insights and practical strategies for success in the digital age.
- 14:30 - 14:45** Break
- 14:45 - 16:15** **NT Indigenous Creatives Contribution to Australia's Screen Industry presented by AFTRS and Screen Territory**  
Aboriginal creatives from the Northern Territory have been instrumental in shaping narratives, challenging stereotypes, and showcasing their cultural heritage in film and television. This panel unites leading Indigenous voices to discuss the challenges, triumphs, and evolving journey of navigating cultural spaces in the screen industry. Through their insights, we'll explore how Indigenous filmmakers, actors, writers, and producers are transforming the landscape of Australian cinema and television.