



sydneyfilmfestival

Media Release

Sydney Film Festival appoints new Artistic Director for 2005

Tuesday, March 23, 2004: The Sydney Film Festival today announced the appointment of film journalist and industry commentator, Lynden Barber to the position of Artistic Director for the 2005 and 2006 festival. Lynden will take over from Gayle Lake after the completion of the 2004 Festival in June.

“I am delighted to welcome Lynden to the Festival. His appointment confirms the Board’s commitment to the continued growth of the festival, through the presentation of high quality and diverse films, targeting new and traditional audiences,” Sydney Film Festival President Cathy Robinson said.

Ms Robinson said the appointment followed an exhaustive search in Australia and overseas, with dozens of candidates listed and a lengthy process employed to produce the best result for the Festival’s future.

“Lynden has emerged as a tremendous choice, having presented some outstanding concepts for the Festival. The Board believes both Lynden’s role as an opinion leader in film and his personal vision for the Festival will ensure his significant contribution to the continuing re-development of the Festival,” Ms Robinson said.

“Lynden already has a strong relationship with filmgoers and film makers. We welcome his many years of expertise, his depth and breadth of film knowledge and his tremendous enthusiasm for the job at hand,” Ms Robinson said.

Lynden Barber has been the Film Writer at The Australian newspaper for the past 10 years and was Film Critic prior to that for The Sydney Morning Herald. He has been the film critic for the ABC Arts Show. His freelance career included writing for Rolling Stone, National Times on Sunday and New Musical Express. He has also served on film festival judging panels including the Venice Film Festival, Flickerfest and Dendy Short Film Awards.

His appointment will be effective from July 1, 2004.

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