



Visual highlights from TAW student productions in 09

Enrollments for 2010 are still open with classes kicking off again at the end of January. Past students will notice some improvements to the school over the summer, ready for a bumper 2010!



# The Actors Workshop

Established in 1994  
Queensland's 1st registered actor training organisation.

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## Industry News

**Festival junkies head south for the next installment**

Entries are now open for the 2010 St Kilda Film Festival short film competition, for details check out their website: <http://www.stkildafilmfestival.com.au> entries close Jan 29th.

Many of our students have had films screen at this well respected festival over the years – get together with your producer friends and submit your work!

## Eye of the Alumni: Georgina Symes

*Winding down or winding up? Georgie is busier than ever!*

At the time of year when most of the theatre and film industry has its Christmas break, it couldn't be busier for one of The Workshops' first graduates Georgina Symes. Dividing her time between Sydney and Brisbane, Georgie has been busy working simultaneously on 2 projects in different mediums. Shooting horror film **Bad Behaviour** on the Gold Coast with **John Jarratt** by day and flying down to Sydney by night to perform in **Mark O'Rowe's Crestfall** for **Bareboards Productions** and **Griffin Independent**. Described by The Guardian as "...A modern Jacobean revenge tragedy that bleeds poetry and violence." The Crestfall season runs until January 30 at the **Griffin Theatre** in Sydney. In Crestfall Georgie plays drug addicted prostitute Tilly, and in Bad Behaviour she plays Jennifer - a witty, bitchy, defiant school teacher. Georgie has welcomed the challenge of playing two such different characters and calls herself a "...bit of a shoe actor – coupling costume with exploring and finding physicality gives a great entry point into discovering character". Surely a test for Georgie's stamina and focus, we're not sure how she's managed to find time to sleep juggling this lot but it's a testament to her dedication to her craft. Georgie has this advice for new actors; "I really believe that a young actor out there in the Industry needs to be incredibly patient and find a balance between acting and life. You have to work for free and build your Bio so you gain experience working with different people and in different mediums which allows you to be flexible and versatile. Put the skills learnt training into practice and understand how you process the training for yourself. We grow as actors when we grow as people... And be nice." Very sage advice.



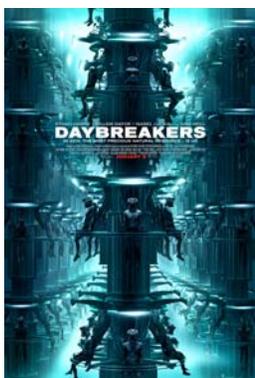
## Best in Show

Graduate **Michael Thompson** has landed the latest **XXXX Beer national ad campaign** – the first of the commercials was shot just before Christmas on Rainbow beach - hopefully with more to shoot later in the year. Michael, a former 'Rocky Bloke' as the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin puts it welcomes his first professional 'break'. Cheers Michael!



## Friends of the Workshop

After the success of their first feature film **Undead**, **Peter and Michael Spierigs'** second feature **Daybreakers** releases in Australian Cinemas on **February 4th**. Opening at #4 at the US box office last week the noir vampire epic has certainly secured the brothers even more fans of their work. Starring **Ethan Hawke, Willem Dafoe** and **Claudia Karvan**, graduates **Robyn Moore, Joel Spreadborough, Mungo McKay, Lisa Cunningham, Troy MacKinder, Mark Finden, Glen Martin** and **Gabriella Di Labio** all make appearances.



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## The Noticeboard

Thanks to graduate Glenn Keogh, now successfully working in LA, Glen was home for a short visit and gave interested students a free seminar on the pro's and con's of working in the US.

Thanks also go to Dirk Hunter and Allyn Bradley from Driven Point Media for a great night sharing your knowledge with the students of how to start your own production company. A great night was had by all!

## In the Works

\* Graduates **Liesl Hinde, Aaron Singfield, Craig I'Anson** and **Sharna Barker** have filmed their first short film under **The Revue Factory** banner. Titled **Kill Bufo**, the film will be entered into **Tropfest**.

\* **Liesl Hinde's** short play **Confessions of a Dirt Eater** is being performed at the **Newtown Theatre** for Sydney's **Short and Sweet Festival** this month.

\* Graduate **Brent Dunner** appears in the new **Stockland Homes Commercial** airing soon.

\* Graduate **Pannah-yota** has been training and performing regularly with **Edge Improv**. In 2010 they are presenting **The Harold** during the following performances:

Jan 23rd, Feb 20th, March 20th, April 17th, May 22nd - **Metro Arts Basement**, 109 Edward Street, Brisbane. For more info: [edge@edgeimprov.com](mailto:edge@edgeimprov.com)

\* Graduate **Rita Artmann's** short film for **Trapdoor Films** titled **The Assassination of the Ice Cream King** by the **Coward Sark Raving Mad** won **best overall film** and **best male Actor** (Joe Bauer) at the **48 hour film Project**.