



Jesse Richardson and Daniel Green

Look out for **Robber, Driver and the Lonely Fiver**, a new short film written by **Daniel Green**, Directed by **Mungo McKay**, produced by **Barbara Baugh**. Featuring graduates **Daniel Green** and **Jesse Richardson** as a couple of bumbling crims who don't get what they bargained for when they try to rob a convenience store manned by a savvy young girl (**Anastasia Surrey**).



The Actors Workshop

Established in 1994

Queensland's 1st registered actor training organisation.

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Industry News



Many of our students created or performed in the **Short and Sweet** festival this year: **The biggest little play festival in the world.**

Sir Phillip will have his Revenge (photo above) created by and featuring **Craig l'Anson, Sharner Barker and Tiahni Thompson** made the top 20.

Confessions of a Dirt Eater featuring **Craig l'Anson and Liesl Hinde** was a wildcard entry.

The Corpse Cannot Play, also a wildcard entry written by **Michele Cashmore**. Directed by **Jessica Armbrust**. Featuring **Alex Hines and Susie Omar**.

Best in Show

First year students ended the year in style, lifting the level again with some great work. **Alex Hines, Rachael Hinton-Smith** and **Ryan Veivers**



Ryan Veivers are featured here, in rehearsal for their assessment performance of **August Strinberg's** naturalist masterpiece **Miss Julie**.



Taryn Madeley, Mercedes Porter and Johancee Theron

We sadly say goodbye to our second year students who proved most worthy at their **Graduation Showcase**, held at the school December 9th - 11th. This concluded 2 years of study for the graduating theatre students - congratulations! Featured above are **Taryn Madeley, Mercedes Porter** and **Johancee Theron** in a memorable scene from their self devised **Then There Were Five**.

Friends of the Workshop

Rowena Balos was in Australia in October conducting her series of American Accent workshops. Our students gleefully soaked up the knowledge of this master teacher. We always look forward to Rowenas visits!

www.rowenabalos.com

Casting director **Sue Manger** (**McLeod's Daughters, Richmond Hill, The Young Doctors**) also visited the school in October with her information packed Audition class. Thanks Sue!

www.suemanger.com



Rowena Balos

The Noticeboard

On 22 November 2010, artists from around the globe were awarded at the annual International Emmy Awards Gala held at the Hilton Hotel in New York City. **Gabrielle Ringuet** attended the awards Gala where extraordinary individuals, including **Lorne Michaels** (Saturday Night Live, NBC) and **Simon Cowell**, were awarded for their achievements in the arts and sciences of television production.

Above: Australian Doco-maker **Faramarz Rahber** and TAW Teacher **Gabrielle Ringuet**

And finally...**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL and HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

And a special thanks to everyone who contributed to the Newsletter.



Eye of the Alumni: Leilani Wyatt

If there's a 'Will' there's a way...

It's been 7 years since Leilani graduated from the Workshop and, in her own words, she still has "Ah-ha light bulb moments" where she finally understands another part of her craft. Not unlike a giant jigsaw puzzle, it often takes years and plenty of real-life experience for students to be able to put into practice the mass of knowledge Lyn imparts with her technique. Leilani says: "The training at The Actor's Workshop equips the modern actor with everything you will possibly need for your technique toolbox."

Leilani has been living and working in Los Angeles for 3 years now and says it's tough: "Everyone is beautiful and talented and at any audition you are competing against hundreds of actors who look just like you, only prettier, skinnier, with longer legs than you. I am fortunate enough to audition sometimes 2 or 3 times a day - after all, 80% of success is just showing up, everything can change in an instant!" Leilani recently played the lead in an episode of **1000 Ways To Die** airing on **Spike TV** on December 14th and worked on a big budget feature with **Will Ferrell** - it was this job that helped her get a coveted SAG card. The film is called **Casa De Mi Padre** - due for release in the US next year, Leilani was the body double for the lead actress: "It was Will Ferrell's first time doing nudity for a sex scene and he was more nervous than I was!"

"The more I work as a professional actress and take classes with Hollywood's "top teachers", the more I realise that the training I received from the Actor's Workshop was the most realistic and thorough training that I could've received anywhere in the world!" Back in Australia in July to shoot a Horror film called **Still Waters** which should be finished and ready for distribution early next year, Leilani also has an on-going contract as the "face" of Sunshine Plaza - so far a 3 year contract for her.

"Basic courtesy 101 is extra important in this biz: Be professional, be on time and be nice! It doesn't matter how amazing an actor you are, if you're a jerk that's all that people will remember... you're ALWAYS auditioning for your next job!" Thanks Leilani, the more actors can remind themselves of that the better. From your home town, we wish you all the best.



In the Works

- * **David Mines** did voiceover for video-game **Dragon Age: Dark Times for Bioware**. David has voiced 4 different characters for the game so far. www.bioware.com
- * **Niki-J Witt** landed the lead in a **QPIX** film: **True Love**. She also **Fight Directed** for **Trolley Boys** - playing at the **Metro Arts** now until Dec 4th, and **Romeo and Juliet** for **Vena Cava**. Niki is **Performing** in **Fractal's Under Milk Wood** Opening Night Tues. 14th Dec at the Old Museum Building, Brisbane Tues to Fri at 7.30pm - including Fri 24th Dec.
- * **Glen Martin** has been busy **directing and producing** his first music video, for Sunshine Coast country band **The Rain**. Featuring **Carmel Savage**, click [here](#) to see it.
- * **Sisters of War** featuring **Ben Taylor** and **Emma Randall** aired on the **ABC** in November and screened as part of the **Brisbane International Film Festival**.
- * The **Spierig Brothers' Daybreakers** has received **2 AFI nominations** for **Original Screenplay** and **Visual Effects**, the awards took place over the weekend and the film won **best Visual Effects!**
- * **Margie Turner's Wicked Events Youth Theatre** was nominated for their production of **Facing Up** by **Cynthia Mercarti** at the **Gold Coast Theatre Awards**. They have been nominated for **best play, best actress** and **best actor** in the Youth/School Play section. The awards night is 30th November. Margie has also just completed **directing** a short film called **The Cult**.
- * **Yivan Cable** and **Aleks Popovich** welcomed their baby **Saša Pakupaku Tane Popovic**.
- * **Lyn Kidd** and **Mungo McKay** were each awarded a **Media Mates Award** from the **Institute Director of Metropolitan South Institute of Tafe** for assistance they have given to the students of the **Diploma and Certificate IV in Screen Media**.
- * **Elizabeth Purton** had her **directorial debut** with the self-written play **Temptation**. Adapted from **Adam** by **John Doyle** and **C.S. Lewis' The Screwtape Letters**. Produced by **The Pope's Men Theatre Company**, performing at the **Pineapple Hotel**, December 13.
- * **Glenn Keogh** has been busy in the U.S - he shot 5 episodes of the **Sons of Anarchy** show, which airs on the **FX channel** playing an Irish gangster. He also shot an episode of **Undercovers** - created by **JJ Abrahms** (**LOST, Star Trek**) playing an Irish crime boss... a nice meaty role, it aired in the U.S on **NBC** in October. Glenn also shot another 4 episodes on **General Hospital** playing an unscrupulous Bartender.
- * **Sally Richards** has the **leading role** of **Princess Ramiza** in **The StageDoor Theatre's** upcoming musical production **Aladdin and his really cool lamp**. See it at **The StageDoor Theatre** Jan 10 - 23rd.
- * There were several **48 hour film project** entries featuring Workshop people this year: **The Realm** with **Liesl Hinde, Rob Griffiths, Craig l'Anson, Aaron Singfield & Mercedes Porter**. Mercedes won the **Best actress award** - congratulations Mercedes! **Property of the Grim Reaper** with **Rita Artman & Dryden Bingham**. **Love** with **Jess Thomas-Hall, Queen of Hearts** with **Rachel Niclair, 48** with **Johancee Theron**, and **Sally Richards** in **The Deposit**.