

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019

2019 has been a busy and productive year across the country, some new events and some old favourites popping up. Events have been well attended, gaining good feedback, with one event attracting close to 90 attendees.

I wish to say a huge thank you to our five active and dedicated committees across Australia, they have been the ideas bank of our many exciting activities. I also wish to thank the many members and friends of the committee who put up their hands to assist throughout the year.

Again we had close to 80 Members judging this year's Ellie award nominations, which have brought up some great and varied productions in the mix.

Events across the country have been very much driven by the needs perceived by the individual committees, providing screenings, Q&A's, technical workshops, participation in educational panels, joint Guild events and informal gatherings which have encouraged Editors to network, educate and enjoy themselves. The website, facebook and email have been critical for members to access information about upcoming events in their states.

The Newsletter has continued to run bi-monthly and has been a great vehicle to keep members informed about all our events, meet new members, keep up to date with technology and ideas as well as being an alternate showcase for our editor's achievements with in-depth articles on work that may not have had the benefit of a screening or Q&A. This year we have very much focused on putting human faces to our Accretee's, Assistants and Fellow Editors

We again updated our "Rates and Conditions Card" adding 3% to wages in line with the Fair Wage Commission boost to the minimum wage.

The Mentorship program has been running steadily with new Mentees and Mentors joining us through our recruitment during each awards entry. We are proud to have hosted the mentor/mentee panel at this year's AGM, as well as featuring some of our treasured Assistants in a series of 3 short video clips at this year's upcoming Ellie Awards.

We have continued being active participants in the Australian Screen Industry Group (ASIG) which helps project the voice of the guilds to our politicians, enables us to combine forces on issues such as workplace health and safety, mental health issues, support campaigns such as "Make It Australian" and maintain the Sustainability of the Australian Film and Television Industry.

The ASE continues to support the Industry in many other ways by participating in curriculum panels with Industry leaders, as well as Meet The Guilds events at AFTRS, Engaging with WIFT to support issues of diversity, Holding sessions at Film Festivals around the country, participating in QEST, the Queensland Emerging Screen Talent Conference, Continuing our engagement with Monica Davidson and her Screen Business courses in WA and Melbourne, and showcasing our great editors talents in every state through screenings, discussions and fantastic editing competitions.

It is important to mention the success of our members not just at our own Ellie's awards but ASE members have been nominees and winners across a diverse range of Awards, including AACTA, Atom awards, Film Critics Circle awards, Tropfest and major Film Festivals in Australia and overseas. Special mention goes to member Dany Cooper ASE who was welcomed into the Oscar Academy this year.

We have continued contact with the American Cinema Editor's Guild, the ACE, who have recently begun accepting International Affiliate memberships, with Australia being one of the invitees. Our International work has extended to Cologne, where the ASE has been involved in the beginnings of "Tempo" an international umbrella organization of Screen Editing Guilds. We have also been in discussion with our contemporaries in NZ, discussing rates, conditions and contracts.

**OUR COMMITTEES:** All of our committees have done an extraordinary amount of work through the year. There is a real warmth, generosity and commitment, and without you all, the ASE would not function. Thank you to all the State Chairs: **Barrie Munro ASE (Victoria), David Fosdick ASE - Western Australia.** *Many Thanks to David who is stepping down as Chair this year and will be replaced by Nick Dunlop.* **Tony McGrath (Queensland) and Veronica Buhagiar (South Australia).** Each have been running their Committees with enthusiasm and real thought for what their members would enjoy and have run some truly wonderful events. Their reports follow.

**OUR SPONSORS:** The ASE is very grateful to all our sponsors who help us maintain our financial base, make a large contribution to the Ellie Awards, and give our events cheerful and generous support through the year. This year we welcome two new sponsors, Warner Brothers and Blackmagic Design

We wish to give a wholehearted thanks to all the sponsors of the ASE:

Our current Gold Sponsors are: **Adobe, AFTRS, Audio Network Australia, Avid, Blackmagic Design, Blue Post, Digistor, Endemol Shine Australia, Videocraft and Warners**

Our Silver Sponsors are: **Roar Digital, Spectrum Films, Soundfirm and City Post.**

We also particularly wish to acknowledge the generosity of **The Editors** whose continuing support is very much appreciated as well as the support of the **City Of Sydney Creative City** program.



Fiona Strain ASE  
President, Australian Screen Editors

## **NSW EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:**

### **DECEMBER 2018**

The **2018 ASE Awards** - aka **The Ellies** - were held at a new venue, The Eternity Theatre Darlinghurst on Saturday 15 December. Attended by approximately 160 members, committee members and sponsors from around the country enjoyed the presentation hosted by comedians Eliza and Hannah Reilly. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners, and to our new Accredittee Edward McQueen Mason ASE.

Despite horrendous storms in the week prior and on the night, the venue, catering and sponsor engagement was fabulous and the committee decided to quickly book the venue for the 2019 Awards.

### **JANUARY 2019**

**ASE Movie Night:** An extremely special event featuring New York based sample artists Soda\_Jerk joined us for a full house at AFTRS Theatre for a break-down of their controversial work "TERROR NULLIUS" - a political mash-up of countless Australian films hosted by Nick Meyers ASE

### **FEBRUARY 2019**

**The Return of Sundowners**, with a strong turnout of new and seasoned Editors at the Courthouse Hotel on a sunny Sunday afternoon in Newtown. Conversation, Networking and general swapping of war stories was enjoyed over drinks and snacks.

#### **Tropfest**

ASE Member Pip Hart won Best Editing for the film 'Crush', with the award presented by member Margi Hoy

### **MARCH 2019**

#### **Meet The Winners Pt 1**

With no AACTA "Meet the Nominees" events in 2018, the NSW ASE decided to run our own "Meet the Winners event". We got such a great response from our Ellies and AACTAs winners that we opted to run two events.

The first was held at The Camperdown Commons. With food and drinks available, Editors settled in to see Jane St Vincent Welch ASE moderator, chat with Karen Johnson (AACTA Award for Best Editing in a Documentary for "Ghosthunter One"), Andrea Lang ASE (Audio Network Award for Documentary Feature for "Back Track Boys"), Karen Pearlman (Digistor Award for Open Content for "After the Facts"), Harriet Clutterbuck ASE (co-winner with Sam Hart of Spectrum Films Award for Documentary for "Hawke: The Larrikin and the Leader") and Andrew Holmes (ASE Award for Branded Content for "2017 Byron Bay Festival").

## **APRIL 2019**

### **Meet The Winners Pt 2**

The Sequel was held on 9 April at The Horse - Surry Hills where 2018 Ellies winners Bill Russo ASE (Blue Post Award for Drama - "Blue Murder: Killer Cop"), Katrina Barker (AFTRS Award for Short Drama - "Concern for Welfare") and Peter Crombie (Videocraft Award for Factual Entertainment - "Body Hack 2.0 - Iraq") held a wide-ranging discussion on editing with Sally Fryer ASE.

## **MAY 2019**

### **Adobe shared storage in Premiere Pro- workshop**

On 2nd May at Andy Kristiaman's facility in Pyrmont we held a combined AVPUG/ASE workshop to explore the shared storage scenario for multiple users on Adobe Premiere Pro.

Jon Barrie and Maude Rokvic were in the driver's seat to explain to the 20+ attendees how Premiere Pro leverages shared storage, using "Shared Projects". Luke Simpson and Simon Chisholm from Videocraft were manning the Avid Nexis with kilometres of blue network cables to ensure we were all communicating. It was a practical and enlightening session.

## **JUNE 2019**

### **TALKING EDITING - SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL**

The ASE combined with The Sydney Film Festival and Vivid Sydney to talk editing. Over 60 Sydney Film Festival attended what the festival billed as "The Master Editors behind some of this year's Festival Features".

*Palm Beach*, edited by Nick Meyers ASE, opened 2019's festival, and *Judy and Punch* edited by Dany Cooper ASE, screened to packed audiences. Andrea Lang ASE edited the documentary *We Don't Need a Map* which opened the Sydney Film Festival in 2017. Andrea was an expert and entertaining moderator as she fired thought provoking questions at Dany and Nick over the 60-minute session.

## **JULY 2019**

### **Cutting Music for Reality and Unscripted Television**

Held at the AFTRS Theatre, with approximately 90 attendees, Toby Trappel, senior Editor on a variety of reality television shows, broke down his process for finding the right music track for a scene, and then re-editing it to enhance the drama of the production.

### **WIFT ADVOCACY MEETING**

In July Jenny Hicks attended the first Advocacy group for women in television. Representatives from all the guilds attended, along a number of organisations including WIFT, Dame Changer, Film Fatales, Screen Vixens, WISE, Primetime, , Natalie Miller Fellowship, the MEAA, Ausfilm and Screen Australia in attendance, with the lone man being the legendary Kingston Anderson, then CEO of the ADG. The aim of the group is to create a combined calendar of events targeted at addressing equity and diversity. The ASE will continue to engage and support the initiatives that come out of the group.

### **ASE Rates and Conditions card updated.**

An Invaluable resource for our members, the ASE Rates and Conditions Card was updated in line with the Fair Work Commission's 3.0% increase to minimum wages.

### **AUGUST 2019**

A winter's Sundowners was held at The Bank Hotel Newtown with Editors attending from far afield. It was a great way to socialise as Editors from out of town were able to catch up with the locals and discuss Industry goss.

### **AFTRS Industry Panel**

Fiona Strain attended the first of a series of Industry discussions on AFTRS curriculum direction and priorities with others engaged as stakeholders across the Film Industry .

### **AIT MOTION Editing awards Presented in Sydney and Melbourne**

Congratulations to the winners of the Best Editing Awards at the Academy of Information Technology (AIT) Motion Awards nights. (Also held in Melbourne. In Sydney Dominic Dimech was awarded Best Editor, along with just about every other award garnered for his film 'The Tame Painter' 7 awards in all...! Dominic is now an ASE member.

### **SEPTEMBER 2019**

**EDIT ROYALE.** One of our most popular events, Edit Royale again pitted five young Editors against each other in a battle for best edit in a 2-hour period. Each had the same set of rushes with a choice of four unique and diverse music tracks provided by Audio Network. This year the picture rushes were from a music video provided by Tribal Apes, thanks to Lawrence Lim and Bruce Dawson.

Steven Love, Lily Davis, Ange Vic, Emily Clulow and Alexandre Guterres edited on systems of their choice across PC, Mac, Adobe Premiere Pro and Avid Media Composer. Our fabulous and energetic hosts Scott Walmsley and Sally Fryer ASE kept the evening bubbling along, Andrew Brinsmead chatted to ASE Award winner (and many times nominee) Brad Hurt about his work in the music video space, and spoke to last year's Edit Royale competitor Gabriel Robinson about his experience of competition.

We had some incredible prizes on offer from AVID, Adobe, BorisFX and Digistor, Wacom Australia and BlackMagic Design.

### **OCTOBER 2019**

***Dancing The Invisible* in Los Angeles.** Ausfilm and The American Cinema Editors presented Axel Grigor's Film about Jill Bilcock in Los Angeles as part of Ausfilm week. President Fiona Strain ASE was pleased to attend and meet up with a strong cohort of Aussies working in LA who enjoyed the film and discussion with Jill and Axle. There was a definite vibe of pride, and homesickness among many of the Aussies in the audience.

### **International Film Editors Forum**

President Fiona Strain ASE, and members Cheryl Potter, Emma McCleave, and Luca Capelli travelled to the FilmPlus Editing Festival in Cologne Germany. The ASE were

proud to represent Australian Editors alongside Editing Guilds from 20 countries that attended the

Forum of Film Editors that was part of the Festival. Much networking was achieved as well as discussions on issues that are important to Editors, such as collaboration, communication, sharing information on rates and conditions, and recognition of Editors as co-creators. We learnt how different guilds run their events, the way they publicise each other's work. An International Organisation of Screen Editors called 'Tempo' was formed on the final day, which the ASE looks forward to participating in.

## **NOVEMBER 2019**

### **MEET THE MENTORS & AGM**

This year's AGM kicked off with a panel of Mentors and Mentees discussing their mentoring experience at the Camperdown Commons.

Simon Callow-Wright (*Employable Me / Love on the Spectrum*) and Peter Crombie (*Body Hack / Janet King*) were joined by their mentee's, Ryan Cook (*Australian Survivor Series 4, House Rules Series 7*) and Timothy Hadwen (*Assembly Editor - Child Genius Australia / Editor - Keepers of the Forest*), to discuss with Orly Danon how their mentorship process worked and the benefits they have gained.

Editors gathered to listen to their experiences, catch up for a drink and a chat and learn what is in store for the ASE for the next year.

**A HUGE Thank you to the Sydney Executive Committee** who have been on the ground thinking up, preparing, advertising, delivering and writing up these events, while continuing the ongoing work catering for the welfare and interests of the ASE membership.

Also a massive thanks for **Margaret Starke** our administrator who is the engine behind all our activities across the country. She ensures we are all kept organised, work within the bounds of the rules and regulations and she works to ensure our rights are protected.

### **Fiona Strain ASE**

President

### **New South Wales Executive Committee:**

Jenny Hicks - **Vice President**

Fiona Macintosh - **Secretary**

Alison Myers - **Treasurer**

Adrian Barac

Scott Walmsley - **Social Media**

Danielle Boesenberg

Orly Danon - **Mentorship**

Andrew Brinsmead

Jordan Swioklo

Brianna Cook

## VICTORIAN EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

This year the ASE in Victoria has held a number of events and welcomed new faces on our committee: Tim Heydon and James Ruse. We also acknowledged some of our accomplished members and helped to entertain and educate others.

Our first event of the year was the very successful **“Freelance Survivor Guide”** hosted by Monica Davidson at ACMI on the 25<sup>th</sup> March. A seemingly dull lecture on the business of freelancing turned out to be a very entertaining, engaging and ultimately rewarding session on the ins and outs of being a freelancer in today’s screen industry. Our dedicated committee member Gwen Sputore put in a huge amount of work securing the funding from Film Victoria for the event and our audience was very thankful for education they received.

We celebrated the **10th anniversary of Steven Robinson’s ASE Accreditation** on the 9th of June at the Cherry Tree Hotel. Steven continues to be a pillar of the committee in Victoria as well as a sought-after editor, cutting some of Australia's most memorable documentaries and drama, including *Kath & Kim*, *Filthy Rich & Homeless* and *Putuparri and the Rainmakers* to name a few. A small group came out to celebrate with us; Editors, Assistants, some who had worked with Steven for 4 months and others who had worked with him for over 40 years.

The ASE was back at the **St Kilda Film Festival** this year to set up a stall at the industry and development weekend; “The Big Picture”. It was a chance to meet prospective members and brush shoulders with the other guilds and education facilities. The St Kilda Film Festival had an awards night where ASE representatives Sam Hardy and Sean Meltzier from Roar Digital presented the Best Achievement in Editing award along with one year’s membership to the ASE and complementary services from Roar Digital to Rohan Cooper for *Here There be Monsters*.

On Sunday 21st of June the **ASE teamed up with Adobe at St Kilda Film Festival to present the “Perfect Cut”**. Camille Van Wesseem hosted the session with a panel of three Editors who discussed how they constructed and edited their films. All three short films were edited on Adobe Premiere Pro and there was a lively discussion on the macro and micro aspects of short film post-production.

**MIFF (Melbourne International Film Festival)** rolled around in August and on the 10th the ASE and Accelerator lab hosted a Q&A with Johanna Scott whom edited *H is for Happiness*. Moderated by Cindy Clarkson the discussion covered the post-production of a studio feature and was met with a barrage of thoughtful questions from the accelerator lab participants.

New committee member Tim Heydon and Barrie Munro ASE attended the **AIT Motion Award night** at Cinema Nova on the 22nd of August to present the Best Editing Award for the film “Wonder”. It was the first Motion Awards night in Melbourne and was a great opportunity to promote the guild to a new generation and to also connect with the other members of the screen guilds.

With the need to justify an afternoon at the pub the committee arranged a **Halloween Social Drinks** at the Golden Gate hotel on the 27th of October. The casual afternoon managed to attract some of our ASE members to catch up on what they had been up to throughout the year and resulted in some new ideas for future events for the ASE in Victoria.

One such idea with encouragement from Cindy Clarkson was from Patrick McCabe who had just finished cutting the **documentary *Green Light*** directed by Ned Donohue. This documentary with a Q&A moderated by Steve Robinson ASE will be screened on 27 November at Music & Effects and will be our second last event for the year.

We have a committee member Grace Eyre at the **ATOM awards** this year held at Hotel Esplanade 26 November. Grace will present the award for Best Experimental film category. Grace Eyre has also been very busy organizing our Xmas party to be held on 15 December at The Golden Gate in South Melbourne. So far we have managed to combine with other guilds WIF&TV,ACS,ASDG,AGSC,and Screen Hub.

We’re looking forward to 2020 with a slate of new events, hoping to attract new members and to again increase our committee.

We are trying to organize a editing assistant event which now has two fronts:  
-Gwen Sputore has been working on funding for a three day event.  
-A shorter single evening based on assistants setting up on Avid, final cut Premier or Resolve to edit a drama or documentary.

We have two possible venues, rushes and an editor ready to demonstrate Davinci Resolve. We just need the software and a computer.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the committee members in 2019 but especially Sam Hardy, Grace Eyre, Steven Robinson, Gwen Sputore, Tim Heydon, James Ruse, Ashlee Lucas and Sean Meltzier at Roar Digital where we have all our meetings.

Also the friends of the committee Belinda Fithie, Cindy Clarkson and Camille Van Wesslem who have always supported us and without them some of these events would not be possible.

Thanks to Fiona, Danielle for her research and Margaret for your support throughout the year.

Compiled by James Ruse

**Barrie Munro ASE - Chairperson**

**Victorian Committee:**

Sam Hardy - **Secretary**

Steven Robinson ASE

Gwendalina Sputore

Grace Eyre

Ashlee Lukas

James Ruse

Timmy Heydon

## **WESTERN AUSTRALIA EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

At the start of 2019 the WA Committee set itself the goal of engaging more fully with the local post production community in order to **raise the profile of the ASE here in WA.**

The committee was successful in staging a number of events which were open to the wider post-production community.

In particular we were successful in securing funding from Screenwest to bring Monica Davidson across the Nullarbor for another **Freelance Survival Workshop.**

Lawrie Silvestrin was mediator on a seminar with a group of editors detailing the **workflows, and challenges of working on the ob doc series “Aussie Gold Hunters”, “Opal Hunters” and “Outback Truckers”**

Jude Cotter and Andrei Petrut held a seminar detailing the **workflows involved in editing Netflix’s “24 Dangerous”**

Tim Hadwen during a visit home from Sydney held an excellent workshop for local assistant editors on **Avid workflows for a variety of reality TV series.**

The committee previewed a member’s **Rates Calculation Tool**, an excellent Excel file that crunches the numbers to enable ASE freelancers to really evaluate the rate being offered on any contract.

**Sundowners and informal social events** were also part of the activities this past year.

At our **final committee meeting** for the year it was unanimously decided that Nick Dunlop would take over the role of Chair from December 1. The committee is looking forward to the enthusiasm and energy that Nick will bring to the task.

**David Fosdick ASE- Chairperson**

**Western Australia Committee:**

Meredith Watson Jeffrey - **Treasurer**

Lara Benwell - **Secretary**

Nick Dunlop  
Lawrie Silvestrin ASE  
David Langlands  
Jonathan Rowdon  
Andrew Parnell  
Andrei Petrut  
Ivan Davidov  
Brenton Cooney

## **QUEENSLAND EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

2019 saw a new state chair - Tony McGrath - and a new Committee. We have held semi-regular drinks nights throughout the year as well as participated in film festivals and events.

In April, Stewart Tyrell moderated an ASE presented panel on post-production for Ludo's Bluey at the Gold Coast Film Festival.

In June, Tony McGrath represented the ASE as a judge in both the Martini Awards and the West End Film Festival.

In October, Stewart and Tony were panellists on Career Pathways in Post as part of the Queensland Emerging Screen Talent Conference, Brisbane International Film Festival. They also ran an ASE stall as part of the accompanying careers market.

In November, Tony was a judge at the Ipswich Film Festival for Youth.

And in December we are helping to organise and run the all-guild Christmas Drinks event at Soapbox Brewery.

Regards,  
Tony McGrath

**Tony McGrath - Chairperson**

### **Queensland Committee:**

Dan Rice  
Judy Yeh  
Winnie Sempio  
Matthew Sawyer  
Stewart Tyrrell

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIA EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

This year we had two after work social catchups, '**April Sundowners**' and '**SA Winter Warmers**' in August. At both of these events there are familiar faces, and also a few new ones. It's always a great way to catchup on what everyone is working on, and what interesting news is happening around our small community.

We also had **Christmas drinks** last December which brought a few faces from interstate and overseas back home.

This December we are planning on hosting a **Cross-guild Christmas party**, in conjunction with the Visual Effects Society. We have invited the ACS, AWG, ADG, ASG, SAFC and the Casting Guild of Australia to join us, and hope it is a welcoming, inclusive night.

In June we had our **Show Us What You Got event**, showcasing short films created by South Australian editors. In total we screened 11 short pieces, including short films, excerpts from features, music videos, short corporate and documentary works. The screening was held at the South Australian Film Corporation's theatre. It was a great chance for filmmakers to see and showcase their work on the big screen, some for the first time. This event brought a moderate crowd of editors, friends, and family. We had a great response afterwards, with many of the editors asking us to do the event again in the future.

In November we hosted **Montage Wars** at UniSA. This was Adelaide's first social editing competition and was funded by the South Australian Film Corporation. It brought together filmmakers, industry professionals and the general public, and celebrated the creativity, hard work and art of editing in the South Australian community. The footage was provided by Miles Rowland - a local director/DOP and member of the Australian Cinematographers Society. The music track was provided by an Australian band called Manor. **Montage Wars** was a highly successful event.

We felt there was a lack of visibility for the ASE in South Australia, so this year we put together a powerpoint presentation and **visited Flinders University, UniSA and MAPS film school, presenting to the students** in their Creative Industries courses. Each of these presentations were very successful with many students coming up to the presenters after the talks, asking questions about editing, their pathways into industry and how to become a member. Through this we have increased our student membership, as well as our event participation.

At the start of last year I believe we had 12 members. Currently we have 36.

**Veronica Buhagiar - Chairperson**

**South Australia Committee:**

Karen McKay

Sam Matthews

Emma McGavisk

## MEMBERS CONGRATULATIONS

Finally, congratulations to these ASE members from across Australia whose work has achieved broad acclaim including:

- Congratulations to **Dany Cooper ASE** who has been invited to join the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences! Dany is now able to vote in the Academy Awards.
- **Dany Cooper ASE** also won Best Editing at the 2018 Film Critics Circle of Australia Awards for her work on 'Breath'.

ASE Members also dominated the Best Editing Film Critics Circle of Australia nominations including **Andy Canny** ('Upgrade'), **Nick Meyers ASE** ('Sweet Country'), **Mark Warner ASE** ('Ladies in Black')

- Congratulations **AACTA Feature Editing nominees**, members **Dany Cooper ASE** for 'Judy and Punch', and **Simon Njoo** for 'The Nightingale'
- Congratulations **AACTA Television Editing nominees**, member **Deborah Peart ASE** for two nominations: **Lambs of God - Episode 1: The Devil Into Paradise**, **Deborah Peart ASE- Total Control - Episode 3**.
- Congratulations **AACTA Documentary Editing nominees**, member **Bill Murphy ASE** for **The Cult of The Family - Episode 1: Unseen, Unheard, Unknown**, **Lile Judicas** for **Exposed: The Case of Keli Lane - Episode 1: Truth and Lies**, **Sally Fryer ASE** for **The Final Quarter**, **Taylor Martin**, one of the Editors on **MYSTIFY** **Michael Hutchence**

This year's Ellie Awards will be held on December 7th at The Eternity Theatre, Darlinghurst, Sydney.