

GOALPOST PICTURES AUSTRALIA'S KYLIE DU FRESNE INVITED TO JOIN BERLINALE, GENERATION JURY; GOALPOST APPOINTS KEITH THOMPSON TO SPEARHEAD DEVELOPMENT

Goalpost Pictures Australia partner Kylie Du Fresne will join the jury of Berlinale, *Generation*, a key section of the 2010 Berlin Film Festival, at the invitation of *Generation* Director Maryanne Redpath.

Since 1978, the Berlinale has dedicated a special section for children and youths: *Generation*. Extraordinary short and feature-length films are presented in two competitions, *Kplus* and *14plus*. The best films are awarded the Berlinale's Crystal Bears.

Kylie, who produced *The Djarn Djarms* which won a Crystal Bear for Best Short Film at Berlin in 2005, is one of five international filmmakers invited to join the Jury. Kylie has also produced two series of Lockie Leonard, based on Tim Winton's books. Series one was much acclaimed, winning AFI and Logie Awards and receiving a British Academy Award (BAFTA) nomination. Series two will screen in 2010.

"It is a tremendous honour to be invited to sit on the Berlinale, *Generation Jury*. This section always attracts films of incredibly high standard from a diverse range of countries and I'm very much looking forward to viewing them with my fellow Jury members," Kylie said.

Goalpost Pictures Australia has also announced the appointment of leading Australian screenwriter Keith Thompson to spearhead the Goalpost script development arm.

Keith will be working with the Goalpost group - Goalpost Pictures Australia, international sales company Goalpost Film based in London and production company Goalpost Pictures UK – on an ambitious international feature film development and production program.

Capitalising on the availability of the producer offset arrangements in Australia and the recent 3-year Enterprise development deal from Screen Australia, Goalpost group partners Rosemary Blight (Australia) and Tristan Whalley (UK) are actively seeking 'high quality, distinctive films' for the Australian and international market.

"Keith Thompson is a longstanding creative partner of the Goalpost Group, he is a highly acclaimed screenwriter and has well-regarded development skills. He will be a tremendous asset to the Goalpost Group," Rosemary Blight says.

"As a company, we genuinely believe there is a wealth of ideas and writing talent in Australia. Our new development arm will allow us to have a process to develop new writers, as well as working with established screenwriters, several with whom we've had successful and long-standing relationships. "

Keith Thompson has worked as script editor on almost 25 produced feature films, including *Japanese Story*, *Love Serenade* and *Samson and Delilah*. He has received 15 AWGIE (Australian Writers Guild) nominations, winning 8 times and receiving the Gold AWGIE twice. His original feature film, *Clubland*, which he produced with Goalpost Pictures won the 2007 AWGIE Award for Best Feature Film and the overall AWGIE for Outstanding Australian Script of the Year. Keith's recent international work includes working with Ruby Films adapting the best-selling novel, *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian*, and with Working Title on an adaptation of Marian Keyes' novel, *Rachel's Holiday*.

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