

Screenrights is a non-profit company which a  
2,200 members from 51 countries.

August 2006

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This is an online newsletter. You can subscribe by emailing [ota@screenrights.org](mailto:ota@screenrights.org)

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## Feature: Interacting with Ten Canoes

With educators and filmmakers now recognising the importance of study guides in teaching film, the Australian Teachers of Media (ATOM), has further developed this important resource, producing its first online interactive guide for an Australian film.

The guide, for Rolf de Heer's recently released **Ten Canoes**, was produced with sponsorship from EnhanceTV, the FFC and Palace Films, in a move that ATOM hopes will herald the production of many more interactive guides.

"There is no doubt as to the importance of study guides in helping filmmakers to get their work used in classrooms," EnhanceTV Project Manager Jamie LeHuray said. "We did a survey of visitors to EnhanceTV last year and one of the clear messages that came out of this was that if educators are given the right tools to teach audio-visual material, they will do so more regularly and more confidently. In fact the EnhanceTV online survey showed that more than 50% of EnhanceTV users find the study guides to be the most useful resource on the website."



"Furthermore, it could also be argued that the availability of a study guide means that educators are more likely to develop a lesson around that program, with almost 40% indicating that lack of support material is the biggest obstacle to teaching film and television," LeHuray said.

Peter Tapp, who edits Metro Magazine and Screen Education for ATOM, said they had been thinking of how to extend the usefulness of study guides beyond the PDF notes, which are "too static when dealing with film and television."

"An interactive guide has many benefits over a PDF guide," he said. "You can play scenes from the film immediately before having to answer questions. This allows for more detailed questions from the teacher, and it also calls for greater detail and thought from the students. In addition to this, an interactive guide lets students view the scenes as often as they like and work at their own pace."

Tapp said that interactive guides also work well in combining the information a distributor wants to get out to the general public, along with the educational content for teachers and students.

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**Ten Canoes**, with its strong links to the educational curriculum, was chosen “as the first of what we hope will be a number of interactive web sites for Australian features and documentaries,” he said.

Visitors to the site will find that it:

- Explains the complexity of the **Ten Canoes** story and its characters so that teachers and students have the information to understand the film, and how the stories within stories are told across different time frames.
- Includes a PDF guide for teachers who prefer printed notes and exercises.
- Includes the movie trailer, which can be played a number of different ways and at different sizes depending on the software and bandwidth of the user's computer.
- Includes two interactive exercises: an editing exercise, where students can put together a scene from the film using their own story, or using the shooting script available on the site; and an exercise that allows students to create their own poster for the film.
- Includes a list of Australian museums with Indigenous collections so that teachers can organise tours, and an easy to use booking system to assist teachers in taking their class to the film.

“The most important aspect of the site is the interactive exercises,” Tapp said. “To the best of my knowledge, we have the best interactive editing exercise available to students anywhere in the world. We hope to add further features with each website we build.”

Director Rolf de Heer said he was very pleased that ATOM chose **Ten Canoes** as its pilot project for an interactive study guide.

“Educators have consistently told me that the film is ideal for their purposes, and an interactive guide gives teachers new ways of getting students involved with it. I’ll be interested to find out how the site works in the classroom,” he said.

According to Tapp, the feedback has already been good.

“Our web site statistics show a huge amount of traffic over the last two months since the site was launched,” he said.

To visit the site, go to [www.tencanoes.com.au](http://www.tencanoes.com.au)

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## Retransmission case finalised

Screenrights and the pay television operators have reached an agreement for the payment of retransmission royalties, with back payments payable from 2001.

The agreement finalises all outstanding matters since the Copyright Tribunal established a retransmission royalty rate of 22.5 cents per subscriber per month in May 2006.

Since May 2001 the Australian Copyright Act has allowed pay television operators to retransmit free to air channels as part of their service provided they pay copyright owners for this use of their work. Screenrights has been appointed by the Australian Government to administer these provisions.

Members who have not yet registered their titles with Screenrights in order to receive retransmission royalties can do so now. Either download the forms from our website: [www.screenrights.org](http://www.screenrights.org) or email [memberservices@screenrights.org](mailto:memberservices@screenrights.org) for the forms to be sent out to you.

Members can also choose to make their registration global. This means that Screenrights not only collects Australian retransmission royalties on your behalf, it also collects retransmission and private copying royalties from the United States Europe and Canada.

Simon Lake, Screenrights CEO said "It's simply a matter of indicating that you would like us to collect for you in these territories when you complete your registration details. There's no need to make separate registrations, and the administration fee for our international service is capped at 12% until 1 July 2008. This is one of the most competitive rates in international collections."

## Nominations for Board of Directors

Screenrights is calling for nominations to fill four vacancies on its Board of Directors, with nominations to be in writing and returned to Screenrights by 5pm, 7 September 2006.

The Board consists of 12 directors who are voted in for a three-year term. This means that four directors retire each year, with these four eligible to stand for re-election.

Only Screenrights members are entitled to nominate a candidate. The candidate does not need to be a Screenrights' member although he or she must be a resident of Australia or New Zealand.

To download a nomination form, go to [www.screen.org/forms/directors\\_nom\\_form\\_2006.pdf](http://www.screen.org/forms/directors_nom_form_2006.pdf)

A full list of the current Board of Directors can be found on our website: [www.screenrights.org](http://www.screenrights.org)

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## New Zealand documentary festival

Screenrights is delighted to sponsor an award for Best Documentary Made for Television at the International Documentary Film Festival held in New Zealand during September and October.

The DOCNZ programme includes screenings, a pitching forum and an awards night on 14 September 2006.

More information about the event can be found at [www.docnzfestival.com](http://www.docnzfestival.com)

Screenrights sponsorship guidelines can be downloaded from our website at [www.screenrights.org](http://www.screenrights.org)

## International update

Screenrights International is currently distributing over \$600,000 from Europe for retransmissions in the following territories and years:

- Finland, 2001-04
- Luxembourg, 2001-04
- The Netherlands, 2002-05
- Norway, 2001-04
- Portugal, 2003-04
- Sweden, 2000-04

The majority of royalties for each territory are for the most recent year. For example, in The Netherlands most royalties would be for the 2005 calendar year, with the others being "late identification" royalties.

If you believe you may be owed royalties from any of these territories, please email [maha@screenrights.org](mailto:maha@screenrights.org) so that we can investigate your claim. If you have not yet registered for our international service and would like to do so, email [maha@screenrights.org](mailto:maha@screenrights.org). With administration costs of only 12%, the service is one of the most competitive in international collections.

## New look pitching competition for SPAA

SPAA has announced changes to the popular pitching competition held at its annual SPAA Conference.

This year, the Australian Film Television and Radio School (AFTRS) has come on board, and will stage pitching workshops across Australia in October, with the finalist from each to pitch at the SPAA conference on 15 November.

The winner receives a trip to Cannes or a major television market in the UK or US.

For more information, visit [www.aftrs.edu.au](http://www.aftrs.edu.au) or email [muffy.potter@aftrs.edu.au](mailto:muffy.potter@aftrs.edu.au)

Screenrights is one of the sponsors of the annual SPAA Conference.

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## EnhanceTV competition

A new EnhanceTV competition gives teachers and librarians the chance to win a DVD recorder for their school, TAFE or university.

Entering the competition is simple. Each time a teacher or librarian purchases a copied program through the new EnhanceTV resource centre, they can enter, simply by letting us know why their institution should win the DVD recorder. Each entry also puts the teacher or librarian in the running for an iPod Nano for themselves.

To find out more, visit [www.enhancetv.com.au](http://www.enhancetv.com.au)

## Copyright information

The Australian Copyright Council has updated a number of information sheets on its website.

These include fact sheets on screening films in class, home taping from television, and information on the fair use provisions in Australia and the United States.

Fact sheets can be downloaded for free from [www.copyright.org.au](http://www.copyright.org.au)