



Australian Government

SCREEN  
AUSTRALIA

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## Investment in feature development announced

**Tuesday 26 July 2011:** Screen Australia today announced investment in the development of eight feature films.

Writer/director **Adam Elliot's** (*Mary and Max*) new script ***Ernee***, an animated adventure romance, is among projects to receive single-draft development funding. The project is set to be produced by **Peter Kaufmann** and executive producers **Brian Rosen** and **Bryce Menzies**.

Other new feature projects to receive development support include ***Julian Corkle Is a Filthy Liar***, a coming-of-age story based on the best-selling novel from DJ Connell. Writer **Mark Herman** will adapt the screenplay with producers **Marian Macgowan** (*Two Hands*, *The Rage in Placid Lake*) and **Sarah Radclyffe**. Writer **Tony Morphett** will also develop an adaptation of the novel ***The Diary of Jimmy Porter***, with director **Nadia Tess** and producers **Lisa McCune** and **Gus Howard**.

***Under*** is a new suspense drama in development from writer **Alice Addison** (*The Hunter*) and writer **Glenda Hambly** will develop the children's/family film ***Secret Sisters*** with producers **David Rapsey** and **Moira Moss**.

***Banjo & Matilda***, a dramatisation of the true story of Banjo Paterson and *Waltzing Matilda*, is a new project in development from writer **David Roach**, award-winning director **Bruce Beresford** (*Mao's Last Dancer*) and producer **Bill Leimbach**.

Screen Australia has also given support to develop two rock biopics. ***Bon Scott*** from writer **Sophie Edelstein**, director **Eddie Martin** and producer **Lizzette Atkins** is a biopic of the life of the legendary ACDC front man and ***Michael*** is a biopic of another Australian rock legend from writer/director **Richard Lowenstein**. **Sue Murray** and Richard Lowenstein are set to produce the film with executive producer **Domenico Procacci**.

MEDIA RELEASE

## **FEATURE DEVELOPMENT – SINGLE DRAFT**

### **BANJO & MATILDA**

**Genre** Drama/Romance

**Producer** Bill Leimbach

**Writer** David Roach

**Director** Bruce Beresford

**Synopsis** In 1895, with the country in turmoil a young city poet and journalist travels to a remote sheep station to track down a political agitator. When the clashes between union shearers and landowners turn to violence, a man is found dead in a billabong. Was it suicide or murder? A dramatisation of the extraordinary true story of Banjo Paterson and *Waltzing Matilda*.

### **BON SCOTT**

**Genre** Biopic

**Producer** Lizzette Atkins

**Writer** Sophie Edelstein

**Director** Eddie Martin

**Script Editor** Stephen Cleary

### **THE DIARY OF JIMMY PORTER**

**Genre** Coming of Age Drama

**Producers** Lisa McCune, Gus Howard

**Writer** Tony Morphett

**Director** Nadia Tess

**Synopsis** Based on the novel by Christine Harris.

### **ERNEE**

**Genre** Animated Adventure Romance

**Producer** Peter Kaufmann

**Executive Producers** Brian Rosen, Bryce Menzies

**Writer/Director** Adam Elliot

### **JULIAN CORKLE IS A FILTHY LIAR**

**Genre** Coming of Age

**Producers** Marian Macgowan, Sarah Radclyffe

**Writer** Mark Herman

**Synopsis** A hilarious romp through family life and black-sheepedness in small town, then slightly larger town, Tasmania in the 1980s. Based on the bestselling novel by DJ Connell.

### **MICHAEL**

**Genre** Biopic

**Producers** Richard Lowenstein, Sue Murray

**Executive Producer** Domenico Procacci

**Writer/Director** Richard Lowenstein

**Script Editor** Scott Meek

**Synopsis** At the height of his internationally renowned career, a sudden blow to the head robs the famously sensual rock star of two of his most cherished senses. A series of personal battles follows, ending tragically with his death at the age of 37 the night before embarking on a world tour.

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**SECRET SISTERS**

**Genre** Children's/Family Film

**Producers** David Rapsey, Moira Moss

**Writer** Glenda Hambly

**Script Editor** Alison Tilson

**Synopsis** Friends forever... until a green-eyed monster appears. Five girls from the Go Girl franchise have their friendship tested by the school musical extravaganza.

**UNDER**

**Genre** Suspense Drama

**Writer** Alice Addison

**Synopsis** A diver searching for a missing girl finds only questions: Is she his daughter? Was she murdered? Does her killer want him dead too?