

Buckskin – A film About Jack

About the Film

Jack Buckskin is the sole teacher of a once extinct language. From the northern Adelaide suburb of Salisbury, Jack's mission is to teach the Kurna language, the language of his ancestors, to as many people as he can in his lifetime. But this is not easy. The language was driven to near extinction over a century ago. Now, Jack and fellow language speakers are sculpting a new Kurna language and culture, and through that bring a new way of being to the youth of suburban Adelaide, in the form of a new Aboriginal identity, and with that, hope.

THE FILMMAKERS

Penelope McDonald

Producer

Penelope McDonald is known as a producer with an eye for talent, her production credits include the multi award winning *My Mother India*, filmed in New Delhi and Sydney, directed by Safina Uberoi, and *Much Ado About Something*, Mike Rubbo's masterpiece questioning the authorship of Shakespeare, Warwick Thornton's documentary *Photographic Memory*, a portrait of photographer Mervyn Bishop, and drama *Payback*, Erica Glynn's dramas *My Bed Your Bed* and *My Mother My Son*, and Tracey Moffat's seminal work *Night Cries: A Rural Tragedy*. Her work as a director includes *Too Many Captain Cooks*, *Life On Earth As I Know It* and *Kamira: Pina Yanirlipa Ngurrakurra*. She was a producer at Film Australia for three years, and at the New South Wales Screen Agency. Her work has contributed to the development of many Indigenous Australian filmmakers, and has been the Director of the Northern Territory's screen agency, responsible for investing in and stimulating film production in the Territory.

Dylan River

Director

www.dylanriver.net

Dylan River (Dylan McDonald) is an award winning filmmaker from Alice Springs.

He grew up in a creative family filled with numerous filmmakers and from an early age thought filmmaking was boring and not for him! He couldn't have been more wrong...

In the later years of high school Dylan experimented in the visual arts, and found film combined all his interest in one. And he developed a further passion for lighting, frames and camera movement in cinematography.

From the finishing of high school in 2011 Dylan has been largely self-taught, and has been working at CAAMA Productions (Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association).

Buckskin is Dylan's first introduction to documentary and he is now motivated to continue staying behind the camera and telling stories close to home.

Screenings

Sydney Film Festival 2013

Adelaide Film Festival 2013

Oceanian International Documentary Film Festival (FIFO), Tahiti 2014

Stronger Than Fiction Canberra 2014

Down Under Film Festival Berlin 2014

Margaret Mead New York 2014

Awards

Winner Foxtel Australian Documentary Prize Sydney Film Festival 2013