

5 December, 2008

Awards announced for excellence in film and history publishing and research

The XIVth Biennial Conference of the Film and History Association of Australia and New Zealand (FHAANZ) presented a series of awards recognising excellence in film and history publishing and research as part of this year's conference program in Dunedin, New Zealand.

Awards Convenor and AFI Research Collection librarian Alex Gionfriddo was delighted that excellent work on Australian and New Zealand film and television history was highlighted at the conference dinner.

Research and Writing Awards

The **Best Monograph** category of the Film and History Association Research and Writing Awards was awarded to **Ina Bertrand**, a Principal Fellow at the University of Melbourne, and **Bill Rount**, a film and popular art and culture historian, for their book *The Picture That Will Live Forever: The Story of the Kelly Gang* (Australian Teachers of Media, 2007).

The **Best Essay/Book Chapter/Refereed Journal Article** category was awarded to **Simon Sigley**, a teacher of film, television and cultural studies at Massey University, for his article "How 'The Road to Life' (1931) Became the Road to Ruin: the case of the Wellington Film Society in 1933", published in *New Zealand Journal of History* (Vol 41, No. 2, 2008).

Details of all finalists in these two categories are listed overleaf.

Achievement Awards

Two Achievement Awards recognising excellence of achievement by Australian and New Zealand film historians respectively were also presented at the Film and History Conference.

- **The Joan Long Award**, commemorating the major contribution of the late producer, director and screenwriter, was presented to filmmaker, writer, researcher, and film archivist, **Alec Morgan**, for his work on the film *Hunt Angels* (2006).
- **The Jonathon Dennis Award**, named after the driving force behind, spokesperson for, and first director of the New Zealand film archive, was presented to **Bruce Babington**, a Professor of Film Studies at Newcastle University, for his book 'A History of New Zealand Fiction Feature Film' (Manchester University Press, 2007).

Both Alec Morgan and Bruce Babington were 'honoured' to receive the awards named after such important figures within Australian and New Zealand film history scholarship and appreciation.

The Film and History Conference is held every two years. This year's conference, titled *Remapping Cinema, Remaking History*, was jointly presented by the University of Otago's Research Network on Cultures, and Identities in Film, Media and Literature, and the University of Otago's Department of Media, Film and Communication Studies, and staged at the University of Otago from 27 – 30 November.

For further information on the results of the Film and History Association Research Awards, contact:

Alex Gionfriddo
Awards Convenor
Tel: (03) 9925 9811
Email: alexander.gionfriddo@rmit.edu.au

**1. NOMINEES FOR THE BEST ESSAY/ BOOK CHAPTER/ REFEREED
JOURNAL ARTICLE**

SUSAN BYE

'The Gillies Report and the Golden Age of Satire' in *Metro*, No. 155. pp. 80-84.

FELICITY COLLINS

'Kenny: the Return of the Decent Aussie Bloke in Australian Comedy' in *Metro*, No. 154. pp. 90.

LAURENCE SIMMONS

'Yiyuan Qu Xiang (Forming the Image From a Distance): Traditions of Landscape in Illustrious Energy' in *Illusions*, No. 40 (Winter 2008). pp. 15-20.

DEANE WILLIAMS

'*The Overlanders: Between Nations*' in *Studies in Australasian Cinema*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (January 2007). pp. 79-90.

Winner

SIMON SIGLEY

'How *The Road to Life* (1931) Became the Road to Ruin: the case of the Wellington Film Society in 1933' in *New Zealand Journal of History*, Vol 41, No. 2 (October 2008).

2. NOMINEES FOR THE BEST MONOGRAPH

GRAEME BLUNDELL
'The Naked Truth'
(Sydney: Hachette Livre, 2008)

HENRY REYNOLDS
'The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith'
(Strawberry Hills, NSW: Currency, 2008)

KRISTIN THOMPSON
'The Frodo Franchise: The Lord of the Rings and Modern Hollywood'
(Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2007).

DEANE WILLIAMS
Australian Post-War Documentary Film: An Arc of Mirrors
(Intellect, 2008).

Winner INA BERTRAND AND BILL ROUTT
"The Picture That Will Live Forever": The Story of the Kelly
Gang'
(St Kilda West: Australian Teachers of Media: The Moving
Image 8, 2007)

3. JOAN LONG ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (AUSTRALIAN FILM HISTORY)

The Joan Long Achievement Award was given to Alec Morgan for his work as director and writer for the film *Hunt Angels*.

4. JONATHON DENNIS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (NEW ZEALAND FILM HISTORY)

The Jonathon Dennis Achievement Award was given to Bruce Babington for his work as author of the book *A History of New Zealand Feature Fiction Film*.