



For immediate release
23 August 2007

MEDIA RELEASE

Cardwell community hall to host rare Indigenous film showcase, 13-14 October.

Girringun Aboriginal Corporation, in association with the Australian Film Commission, is set to transform the remote country Cardwell community hall in north Queensland into a temporary movie theatre for an Australian Indigenous film program, as part of the Caring for Country Cultural Festival, between 13 and 14 October.

Curious festival goers and ardent film lovers alike will enjoy the 17 hours of content *Black Screen* (an initiative of the **Australian Film Commission**) have curated for the festival.

The star feature will be the internationally renowned film *10 Canoes* directed by Rolf de Heer.

***10 Canoes* is famous for being the first ever film to employ Aboriginal language throughout the entirety of the screenplay and for winning a special jury prize at the 2006 Cannes Film festival.**

From classical Indigenous works, to contemporary motion pictures, the film program covers a broad array of Indigenous themes and messages, and is designed to appeal to viewers of all age groups.

"We're aiming to show a variety of genres, from comedy to drama to action, in order to meet the interests of a wide range of audiences," says Ellenor Cox, Film Festival Director and Producer of Firelight Productions.

"We will be screening mostly shorter films, approximately 20 minutes in length, which will enable festival attendees to enjoy some of the very best Australian Indigenous productions without missing out on the many other activities planned for the Cultural Festival," says Cox.

The seven hours programmed so far indicate the high quality of film attendees can expect, with some of the works having already featured in the Brisbane Film Festival, the Message Sticks Film Festival, (Sydney Opera House) Kinderfest and the International Film Festival (Berlin).

"This is really very exciting for the locals in Cardwell. Just seeing a feature film like *10 Canoes*, a highlight of the Festival, with a number of shorter works probably never heard of before is something that the audience will respond to. This temporary movie theatre is yet another example of Girringun's commitment to ensuring that the whole Cardwell community, not just the organisation itself, benefit from the event," says Rist.

The Second National CARING FOR COUNTRY INDIGENOUS LAND AND SEA MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE (October 9-12) and FESTIVAL (October 13-14) will be held in Cardwell, NQ. Presented by the Girringun Aboriginal Corporation, the Conference points to the future and is one of the most relevant and important environmental and cultural events held in Australia this year.

For more information on the Cultural Film Festival, please contact Jay McDonnell on 07 4066 8300. All bookings can be made online at www.greataustraliancorroboree.com.au

MEDIA: For interviews and images please contact

National Publicist | Trudy Johnston | 02 8904 0822 | trudy@tjc.com.au | 0402 485 902

Media Co-ordinator | Cassie Harvey | 07 4066 8300 | media@girringun.com.au | 0408 892 600

Media Co-ordinator | Wendy Salam | 07 4066 8300 | wendy@girringun.com.au | 0420 381 466

CARING FOR COUNTRY www.caringforcountry.com.au

CONFERENCE PROGRAM <http://www.caringforcountry.com.au/program-day1.php>

BACKGROUNDER TO LAND AND SEA MANAGEMENT ISSUES <http://www.clc.org.au/>

Girringun Aboriginal Corporation acknowledges the assistance of Black Screen, an initiative of the Australian Film Commission.

