



DOC EDGE FORUM 2019

AUCKLAND

31 MAY & 1 JUNE

DAY ONE - FRIDAY 31 MAY

Doc Edge Pitch, Ellen Melville Centre

9 am – 3 pm

Doc Pitch is a significant opportunity for filmmakers to pitch their documentary proposals to industry experts, to find new partnerships, receive feedback and progress their ideas to funding stage.

15 projects comprising short films, television series and feature documentaries will be pitched to local and international commissioning editors, funding agencies, distributors and sales agents.

This year we are very excited to welcome all Forum attendees and Doc Edge Pitch participants to a French-German luncheon reception at Hotel DeBrett. This reception is an exclusive opportunity to meet the international delegation.

Date-a-Doco

4pm - 5pm

A closed session of fast-paced, one-on-one meetings between panellists, pitchers and selected filmmakers.

DAY TWO - SATURDAY 1 JUNE

Doc Edge Forum, Ellen Melville Centre

09.15 am – 09.45 am

Registration

09.55 am

Welcome

10.00 am – 10.30 am

Keynote Speech

Amie Mills, Head of Funding, NZ on Air

Annabelle Sheehan, CEO, NZFC

10.30 am – 11.30 am

Beyond Borders: Tool Kit for International Co-pros

Colleen Champ, Co-production Manager, Screen Australia

Stephen Oliver, Commissioning Editor, ABC Australia

Richway Ponnampalam, Managing Partner (Co-Productions), Aurora Media, Singapore

Matthew Metcalfe, Producer GFC, NZ

Moderator: **Mladen Ivancic** CFO, NZFC

Increasingly, international co-productions are becoming more and more vital in being able to not only produce a film but also to attract market interest and potential audience reach. Hear from leading documentary co-production experts from Singapore, Australia and NZ.

11.30 am – 11.45 am

Morning Tea

11.45 am – 12.45 pm

How Distributors and Buyers work in a Digital Age

Cristine Dewey, Managing Director, ro*co Films, USA

Kaye Warren, Acquisitions Manager, SBS Australia

Phil Bremner, Owner, Vendetta Films, NZ

Kimberly Dilts, Distribution Strategist, Film Ignite, USA

Moderator: **Fiona Gilroy**, Content Sales & Distribution Manager, Flame Distribution, Australia

Distributors and sales agents facilitate the connection with film exhibitors, broadcasters and festivals. The panel will share its experience and knowledge how filmmakers can benefit from this support. They will discuss insights into their sales and festival strategies, and what types of documentaries are hot in the market.

12.45 pm – 2.00 pm

Lunch

2.00 pm – 3.00 pm

Rebooting NZ One-Off Docos

Kay Ellmers, Senior Commissioner, RNZ

Amie Mills, Head of Funding, NZ on Air

Annabelle Sheehan, CEO, NZFC

Dan Salmon, independent director

Moderator: **Alex Lee**, Doc Edge Festival Director

In March 2019, NZ On Air hosted a Factual Wānanga. Guests and speakers unanimously agreed that NZ one-off documentaries are under threat. This appears to be in stark opposition to global trends where there is a voracious appetite for thought-provoking, single-broadcast documentaries. This work session is an opportunity for the NZ documentary sector to come together and find inspiring and practical strategies to foster and enable more quality, one-off documentary content for NZ television. This is a must-attend for anyone interested in the revival of quality, one-off documentaries by NZ storytellers that are relevant to the world.

3.00 pm – 3.15 pm

Afternoon Tea

3.15 pm – 4.15 pm

VOD is The New Black

Stuart Moulds, Doc Play, Australia

Orly Ravid, The Film Collaborative, USA

Paddy Buckley, Stuff Pix, NZ

Moderator: **Jess Keogh**, Doc Edge VOD Digital Manager

VOD platforms are revolutionising the way we consume documentaries. There is no longer any need to switch on the TV or go to the theatre. But what does this mean for content creators? How can they use this to their advantage? VOD platforms instantly open up the possibility of reaching a global audience, but there are many pitfalls, producers in particular, need to look out for when distributing their content via this new approach. Traditional filmmakers might view VOD as a threat to long-established revenue generators, but this session will lift the lid on the norm by providing an inspiring deep-dive into how VOD is an exciting new frontier for global documentary distribution.

4.15 pm - 4.20 pm

Short Break

4.20 pm – 5.00 pm

Fiscal Sponsorship in the USA

Dana Merwin, Program Officer, International Documentary Association, USA

What does fiscal sponsorship mean and how does it work? This session will break down the basics of fiscal sponsorship and how it can be a funding opportunity for your film. IDA's fiscal sponsorship program is open to independent filmmakers and documentarians, regardless of education, background or previous credits. Fiscal sponsorship is a formal arrangement in which a public charity agrees to sponsor a project that furthers the charity's mission for the purpose of fundraising through grants and donations. Last year, IDA administered over 7 million dollars in donations and grants to sponsored projects.

Q&A to follow.

05.30 pm – 06.30 pm

Networking drinks venue (TBC)