

MEDIA RELEASE

**Film Victoria - Fostering The Resurgence Of Factual Content From
Victoria's Innovative Practitioners**

Film Victoria has today confirmed a commitment of \$202,000 to fund two thought-provoking factual projects in its first Production Investment round for the financial year.

The two projects are radically different explorations of the themes of creation and re-creation and those of sexuality and the human body.

Factual television production thrived in Victoria throughout the 2008/ 2009 financial year, with the value of production activity in Victoria increasing by 82% from 2007/2008¹. Film Victoria supported the production of an estimated 76% of these projects.

The two projects receiving Production Investment from this most recent round are:

AFTER THE FIRES - a year-long observational study of the flora and fauna of the Great Dividing Ranges – following the Victorian Bushfires of February 2009. Produced by Tony Wright of **December Films**, and written and directed by Dione Gilmour, **AFTER THE FIRES** utilises spectacular time lapse photography to provide real insight into the seemingly impossible, yet innate task of recreation after such devastating events.

Conceived as a documentary, this special project highlights the intimate stories of animals as they struggle alongside their habitat to regenerate, and the exemplary strength of the people at the coal face of flora and fauna rehabilitation.

ANATOMY – SERIES 2 explores how sexuality and the body act as the driving force for many artists and performers through the episodes; FACE, EYE and MIND. Produced by **Big & Little Films**' Michael McMahon, Tony Ayres and Polly Staniford, **ANATOMY – SERIES 2** will be written and directed by Donna McCrum & Andy Canny, Adele Wilkes and Emma Crimmings.

Big & Little Films are once again providing this fantastic platform for early-career directors, with the resulting three standalone episodes benefiting greatly for each director's highly intimate access to their subject matter.

When announcing the funding decisions, Film Victoria's CEO, Sandra Sdraulig, commented, "With the last financial year being one of real growth in factual content in Victoria, we're delighted to be building on this strength - given the broad social importance promised by **AFTER THE FIRES** and the innovative outlooks presented in **ANATOMY – Series 2**".

"Moving and informative, **AFTER THE FIRES** provides an alternate perspective of healing and renewal", explains Ms Sdraulig.

Screen industry practitioners can stay informed of funding deadlines, opportunities and announcements via Film Victoria's website (www.film.vic.gov.au) e-news or on twitter (<http://twitter.com/filmvictoria>).

¹ The total production value of Televised Factual Productions commencing filming during the financial year 2008/2009 as compared to those commencing in the 2007/2008 year.