

WIFT NZ

Awards 2016

PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH

NZ On Air
Irirangi Te Motu

Press Release – EMBARGOED until 8pm, Wednesday, 24 February 2016

WIFT NZ AWARDS 2016 WINNERS

WIFT NZ is pleased to announce the recipients for the seven award categories of the WIFT NZ 2016 Awards, held tonight in the Grand Tearoom of the Heritage Hotel, Auckland.

South Pacific Pictures Award for Achievement in Film

presented by Chief Executive Officer Kelly Martin

› Leanne Pooley – for *Beyond the Edge*

Queenstown Camera Company Entrepreneurship Award

presented by Managing Director Brett Mills

› Bettina Hollings – for founding Imagination Television, one of New Zealand's top independent production companies, consistently producing popular, rating television for networks in New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom and Asia.

Images & Sound Award for Success in Television

presented by Producer Samantha Jukes

› Philly de Lacey – CEO & Executive Producer – for *ScreenTime* New Zealand's drama production broadcast between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2015 including *How to Murder Your Wife*, *Venus and Mars* and *Monster at Mangatiti*.

Professional Lighting Services Award for Unsung Heroine of the NZ Screen Industry

presented by General Manager Ruthe Kenderdine

› Leonne Kassler – Manager, Film Equipment rental company – for going the extra mile every day at *The Film Equipment Company* and *Portsmouth Rentals* and providing a role model for women working in a male dominated area of the industry.

(continued...)

Awards 2016

Fulcrum Media Finance Woman to Watch Award

presented by Sarah Cull, representing Managing Director Sharon Menzies
> Desray Armstrong – Producer – for strategic transitioning from short films to features with a solid bedrock of experience and a high level of professionalism.

Te Puni Kōkiri Te Reo Māori Champion Award

presented by Executive Director of Ngā Aho Whakaari, Hineani Melbourne on behalf of Te Puni Kōkiri
> Hinewehi Mohi – for her significant contribution to the increased use and knowledge of te reo Māori me ngā Tikanga, for her promotion of te reo Māori in all her work – as a singer, a producer and presenter and as an advocate for the disabled.

Great Southern Film & Television Award for Outstanding Contribution to the New Zealand Screen Industry

presented by Chief Executive Officer Phil Smith
> Jane Wrightson – Chief Executive of New Zealand on Air – for advocacy, common sense, integrity and leadership that resounds across the industry.

ENDS/...

NOTES FOR THE EDITOR:

1. The WIFT NZ Awards were established in 2004 to recognize, celebrate and encourage the achievements of women in film, television and digital media.
2. 105 nominations were received over seven categories.
3. Finalists were decided by a panel of Christina Milligan (Chair), Kelly Martin, Robin Laing, Fiona Milburn, Hineani Melbourne, Vicki Jackways, Jill Macnab and Julia Parnell.
4. Previous award recipients include Niki Caro, Ngila Dickson, Chelsea Winstanley, Rachel Lang, Janine Morrell-Gunn, Gaylene Preston, Robin Scholes and Jane Campion
5. The event was MC'd by Kate Rodgers, with music by DJ Rebecca Turner and a surprise guest appearance from "Dynamotion" – New Zealand's premiere comedy dance troupe.
6. The full list of finalists is:

South Pacific Pictures Award for Achievement in Film

Leanne Pooley for 'Beyond the Edge'
Miriam Smith for 'The Ground We Won'
Chelsea Winstanley for 'What We Do in the Shadows'

(continued...)

Queenstown Camera Company Entrepreneurship Award

Bettina Hollings – Imagination Television Ltd

Robyn Scott Vincent – The Attitude Group

Michelle Walshe – Augusto Ltd

Images & Sound Award for Success in Television

Tash Christie for 'Neighbours at War', 'Showtime' and 'Nabbed' for Greenstone TV

Philly de Lacey for Screentime New Zealand's drama programmes first broadcast between 1 July 2013 and 30 June 2015

Bronwynn Bakker for 'Jono and Ben'

Professional Lighting Services Award for Unsung Heroine of the NZ Screen Industry

Christina Asher

Leonne Kassler

Pat Robins

Fulcrum Media Finance Woman to Watch Award

Desray Armstrong

Alyx Duncan

Sophie Henderson

Te Puni Kōkiri Te Reo Māori Champion Award

Mihingarangi Forbes

Mina Mathieson

Hinewehi Mohi

The judges determined that there should be only one recipient to be announced at the Awards ceremony for the **Great Southern Film & Television Award for Outstanding Contribution to the NZ Screen Industry**.

Enquiries to Patricia Watson on patricia@wiftnz.org.nz or telephone (09) 373 4071
