

# WIFT NZ Awards 2020

Thursday 3 December

ASB WATERFRONT THEATRE

PRESENTED IN  
ASSOCIATION WITH

NZ On Air  
Irirangi Te Motu



Press Release – EMBARGOED until 9pm, Thursday, 3 December 2020

## WIFT NZ AWARDS 2020 WINNERS

Women In Film & Television (WIFT NZ) is pleased to announce the recipients for the 10 award categories of the WIFT NZ Awards 2020, held tonight at the ASB Waterfront Theatre, Auckland.

### **SAE Award for Outstanding Newcomer**

*presented by Dr Suzette Major, Director SAE Institute, and Dr Julia Reynolds, Head of Screen Production, SAE Institute*

> to Kayleighsha Wharton for her uncompromising professionalism as a production and location manager, and the incredible humanity and care she brings to her job.

### **South Pacific Pictures Award for Achievement in Film**

*presented by Kelly Martin, CEO, South Pacific Pictures*

> to Pietra Brett Kelly – for creating unique, intimate, beautiful cinematic works that open a window into another world.

### **Imagezone Entrepreneurship Award**

*presented by Fiona Thomas, Imagezone General Manager, and Dean Thomas, Company Director*

> to Sharon Menzies – for her savvy and successful work in film financing, and her tireless contribution to the screen industry.

### **Images & Sound Award for Success in Television and Digital**

*presented by Narelle Ahrens, Foley Artist at Images and Sound*

> to Annabelle Lee-Mather for her powerful work crafting and sharing award-winning indigenous stories and perspectives.

### **Professional Lighting Services Award for Unsung Heroine of the New Zealand Screen Industry**

*presented by Ruthe Kenderdine, General Manager, Professional Lighting Services*

> to Louise Baker – for her humility, passion, and meticulous hard work in many different industry roles over the past 37 years.

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## **Fulcrum Media Finance Woman to Watch Award**

*presented by Patricia Watson, representing Sharon Menzies, Managing Director, Fulcrum Media Finance*

> to Hweiling Ow – for hitting the big league in the horror genre and her continued success developing projects as a writer, director, and producer.

## **Te Māngai Pāho Te Reo Māori Champion Award**

*presented by Blake Ihimaera, Head of Content, Te Māngai Pāho*

> to Stacey Morrison – for her outstanding work promoting te reo Māori as a broadcaster, performer, teacher, and author.

## **The Queenstown Camera Company Craft Award**

*presented by Brett Mills, Managing Director, The Queenstown Camera Company*

> to Bindy Crayford – for her pioneering spirit and incredible capability and ingenuity as a gaffer, and for being an inspiring mentor to other technicians.

## **The Weta Group Creative Technology Award**

*presented by Poppy O'Dowd, client liaison, Wingnut Films*

> to Amy Barber – for her inspiring standard of work and, through her company Bespoke Post, for helping change how international sound supervisors see New Zealand.

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

*presented by Phil Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Great Southern Film & Television*

> to Kelly Martin – from commissioning and programming to running the country's biggest production company while being an active member of industry boards, Kelly Martin has been a longstanding champion of New Zealand-made content and a force for change on gender representation in the screen industry.

ENDS/...

*(Notes continued...)*

### *NOTES FOR THE EDITOR:*

1. The WIFT NZ Awards were established in 2004 to recognise, celebrate and encourage the achievements of women in film, television and digital media.
2. The SAE Award for Outstanding Newcomer is being awarded for the first time, celebrating the increasing number of outstanding women under 30 coming into the industry.
3. More than 90 nominations were received for the SAE Award for Outstanding Newcomer and the Fulcrum Media Finance Award for Woman to Watch, which speaks loudly to the bright future of women in the screen industry.

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4. Finalists were decided by a panel of Rachel Antony (Chair), Jill Macnab, Robin Laing, Kay Ellmers, Vicki Jackways, Christina Asher, Alyx Duncan and Vanessa Wells.

5. Previous award recipients include Niki Caro, Ngila Dickson, Robyn Malcolm, Rachel Lang, Rhonda Kite, Janine Morrell-Gunn, Chloe Smith, Robin Scholes, Robin Laing and Jane Wrightson.

6. The event was MC'd by Antonia Prebble, with music by DJ Nicola Tims and a surprise guest appearance by singer/songwriter Hollie Smith.

7. The full list of finalists is:

#### **Fulcrum Media Finance Award for Woman to Watch**

Aidee Walker  
Hweiling Ow  
Marina Alofagia McCartney  
Nadia Maxwell  
Vea Mafile'o

#### **Images & Sound Award for Success in Television and Digital**

Annabelle Lee-Mather  
Juliet Peterson  
Lisa Taouma

#### **Imagezone Entrepreneurship Award**

Aliesha Staples  
Lara Northcroft  
Sharon Menzies

#### **Professional Lighting Services Award for Unsung Heroine of the New Zealand Screen Industry**

Louise Baker  
Sharon Byrne  
Sioux Macdonald

#### **The Queenstown Camera Company Craft Award**

Bindy Crayford  
Ginny Loane  
Tammy Williams

#### **SAE Award for Outstanding Newcomer**

Amberley Jo Aumua  
Kathleen Winter  
Kayleighsha Wharton  
Matasila Freshwater  
Rachel Ross

#### **South Pacific Pictures Award for Achievement in Film**

Kerry Warkia  
Jackie van Beek and Madeleine Sami  
Pietra BrettKelly

#### **Te Māngai Pāho Te Reo Māori Champion Award**

Mihingarangi Forbes  
Nevak Rogers  
Stacey Morrison

#### **The Weta Group Creative Technology Award**

Alana Cotton  
Amy Barber  
Sabine Laimer

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 New Zealand Screen Industry**.

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For further information please contact Patricia Watson, Executive Director, WIFT NZ - 09 373 4071 or [patricia@wiftnz.org.nz](mailto:patricia@wiftnz.org.nz)

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