



MEDIA RELEASE

Winners of Queer Screen's Completion Fund Announced

27 January 2017: Body positive documentary *Nothing to Lose – The Documentary* and supernatural web series *Jade of Death* were the winners of Queer Screen's Completion Fund announced at the launch of [Queer Screen's 24th Mardi Gras Film Festival](#).

The new fund has been established to provide independent LGBTIQ filmmakers and storytellers with support to tell stories that reflect the uniqueness and diversity of LGBTIQ lives and the community through grants, awards, training and resources.

Nothing to Lose – The Documentary was awarded \$8000 to assist in bringing the story of the *Nothing to Lose* dance theatre show to completion after 4 years in post-production. A Force Majuere/Kelli Jean Drinkwater co-production, the show delved into real-life experiences and stories to challenge aesthetic norms and reclaim a performative space for people with large bodies.

Accepting the grant, Kelli Jean Drinkwater said: "I'm sure you know that indie filmmaking is a labour of love and without the support of our community and organisations like Queer Screen so many of our stories would go untold. We believe that a film which centres body politics and queerness is long overdue and this Queer Screen support is absolutely essential to getting this film to the big screen".

Runner up *Jade of Death*, was awarded \$4,000. A 6-part supernatural series, which follows small town girl Jade who has a powerful ability to see when and how people will die, features a remarkable cast led by Bernie Van Tiel as Jade and a mix of emerging and established talent including Jordan Cowan (*Wolf Creek 2*) and Yoshi Washington, and guests such as Susan Prior (*The Rover*, *Animal Kingdom*, *Muriel's Wedding*) and Sara West (*Peter Allen: Not the Boy Next Door*, *The Daughter*, *Winter*).

Applications for the completion fund will be accepted for feature films, documentaries and web series. To be eligible, projects must have already completed principal photography (at least 80%) and now be in post-production stage.

Tickets are now on sale at queerscreen.org.au or the Mardi Gras Film Festival app for the full program which runs from 15 February to 2 March in Event Cinemas George St and other venues across Sydney and NSW.

-ENDS-

Note to Editors:

- Festival Director Paul Struthers and Queer Screen President Lisa Rose are available for interview

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