

ABC Chairman Justin Milne to Deliver Hector Crawford Memorial Oration at SCREEN FOREVER 2017

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Justin Milne has been a driving force of innovation across every phase of his career traversing media, telecommunications and broadcasting and Screen Producers Australia and Film Victoria are pleased to announce that he will deliver the Hector Crawford Memorial Lecture at SCREEN FOREVER 2017.

The Hector Crawford Memorial Lecture is the significant public statement of the screen and broadcasting industries given by a leading media and entertainment figure each year at SCREEN FOREVER.

Milne was appointed Australian Broadcasting Corporation Chairman in April of this year. He joined the public broadcaster at a time where his unique pedigree sweeping across technology and digital transformation is required in the traditional broadcasting and content realm most acutely.

His innate ability to anticipate the transformational powers of technology on media, business and culture has punctuated his leadership career from the Microsoft Network as MD to OzEmail as CEO and on to his prolific role at Telstra as CEO of Big Pond and Telstra Media in addition to his extensive board positions including current board member of the NBN.

“Justin Milne is a rare media executive who understands convergence at its core and has been pivotal in the transformation of the Australian digital landscape from technology to content and marketing. His landmark career experience offers a unique insight into the future possibilities of the nexus of content and digital distribution and disruption. We are delighted to host his much anticipated Hector Crawford Memorial speech at SCREEN FOREVER 2017,” said Screen Producers Australia CEO, Matt Deaner.

Milne was at the forefront of Australia’s own dotcom boom as the CEO of OzEmail and is one of the central characters in the broadband narrative of Australia’s telecommunications coming of age. Joining Telstra in 2002 and was instrumental in the ascension of BigPond as its Group Managing Director into Australia’s most successful Internet business. At the helm of Telstra Media, he was charged with amplifying the growth of Telstra’s domestic and international content and advertising assets. The Telstra Media arm included the part ownership of FOXTEL, BigPond’s suite of online and mobile properties, Sensis and new media assets.

Milne’s passion for screen content was nurtured at Flinders University with fellow undergraduate Scott Hicks and resulted in Milne’s gravitating to the South Australian Film Corporation for his first job. At the SAFC he worked on Peter Weir’s, *The Last Wave* and *Picnic at Hanging Rock*. Subsequently he founded Film and Television Associates, a television commercial production company. In 1992, he joined a small start-up, Globe Media, as Chief Executive Officer which was an early adopter of digital technology, designing some of Australia’s first commercial websites.



Milne is also Chairman of the MYOB Group Ltd and NetComm Wireless Ltd. He is a Non-Executive Director of Tabcorp Holdings Limited, Members Equity Bank Ltd, the Leichhardt Rowing Club and the current board member of the NBN.

Born in Adelaide, Justin was educated at St Peters College and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Flinders University.

*The Hector Crawford Memorial Lecture was first instituted by Screen Producers Australia as a keynote feature of the annual conference in 1992. The lecture was designed 'to honour the pioneering work of Hector Crawford (1913-1991) in the development of Australia's film and television industry and to emphasise the importance of independent production in Australia's cultural life'. Melbourne based Crawford Productions made over 4,000 hours of television including early iconic Australian television drama series such as Consider Your Verdict, Homicide, Division 4 and Matlock Police. Hector Crawford also led the original 'Make it Australian' campaign.

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About SCREEN FOREVER

Uniting the pillars of entertainment, media and technology, SCREEN FOREVER is one of the largest congregations of screen industry professionals in the Southern Hemisphere. It is attended by the leading Australian and international industry practitioners involved in all aspects of producing, creating, writing, directing, distributing and financing screen content across film, television, games, interactive and online.

About Screen Producers Australia

Screen Producers Australia was formed by the screen industry to represent large and small enterprises across a diverse production slate of feature film, television and interactive content. Our members employ hundreds of producers, thousands of related practitioners and drive more than \$1.7 billion worth of annual production activity from the independent sector. On behalf of these businesses we are focused on delivering a healthy commercial environment through ongoing engagement with elements of the labour force, including directors, writers, actors and crew, as well as with broadcasters, distributors and government in all its various forms. This coordinated dialogue ensures that our industry is successful, employment levels are strong and the community's expectations of access to high quality Australian content have been met.