

MEDIA RELEASE:

Tuesday 27 September 2016

‘SPEED’ WRITER AND ‘THE AMERICANS’ EXEC PRODUCER GRAHAM YOST CONFIRMED FOR THE 2016 SCREEN FOREVER CONFERENCE, MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA

Screen Producers Australia in association with Film Victoria is delighted to announce **Graham Yost**, acclaimed Canadian scriptwriter of the box-office smashes *Speed*, *Broken Arrow* and *Hard Rain*, the TV series *Justified* and *Boomtown* and mini-series *The Pacific* and *Band of Brothers*; as one of the keynote speakers for **SCREEN FOREVER 2016**, the premier conference for the screen industry in Australia.



Graham Yost is an acclaimed scriptwriter and executive producer of Academy Award®-nominated films and Emmy®, Golden Globe® and Peabody-winning programs, with experience as a creator, director and show runner. After commencing as a writer for Nickelodeon in 1989 on the series *Hey Dude* and then a short-lived stint at *Full House*, Yost began writing for film after his script for *Speed* was sold to Paramount (and later produced by 20th Century Fox) and went on to gross \$350 million worldwide. His feature film credits include *Broken Arrow*, starring John Travolta, *Hard Rain* starring Morgan Freeman, Brian de Palma’s *Mission to Mars*, and *The Last Castle* starring Robert Redford.

In television, Yost then went on to write for Norman Lear’s *The Powers That Be*, where he worked with the show’s creators, Marta Kauffman and David Crane (later of NBC’s *Friends*), and the comic series *Herman’s Head*. Yost became a producer, winning an Emmy® and Golden Globe® Awards for the HBO miniseries *From the Earth to the Moon*. In addition, Yost garnered an Emmy® nomination for writing the episode *Apollo One*, and he directed the fifth segment of the critically-acclaimed series. Yost later wrote/co-wrote two installments of the Golden Globe® and Emmy® Award-winning HBO miniseries *Band of Brothers*.

In 2002, Yost created the critically-lauded TV series *Boomtown* for NBC. Cancelled in 2003, the late-lamented *Boomtown* was honoured with a Peabody Award and two Television Critics Association awards. In 2006, Yost created *Raines* starring Jeff Goldblum for NBC, before teaming up with Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg to serve as co-executive producer of the *The Pacific*, HBO’s epic miniseries following three Marines through the Pacific theater of World War II, as well as co-writing and directing an episode for which Yost won an Emmy® Award. Yost is also an Executive Producer on the FX series *The Americans*, the critically-lauded spy drama created by Joe Weisberg (who worked with Yost on the first season of TNT’s *Falling Skies*). Until the spring of 2015, Yost was the show runner of the Sony-produced series on FX *Justified*, starring Timothy Olyphant, based on a character created by America’s pre-eminent crime novelist Elmore Leonard. Yost is currently the show runner on the crime drama series *Sneaky Pete* for Amazon. Starring Giovanni Ribisi, Margo Martindale, and Marin Ireland, the show was created by David Shore and Bryan Cranston.

“We are honoured that Graham Yost joins the great lineage of global talent that SCREEN FOREVER attracts each year. As an experienced and highly regarded screenwriter and producer who has worked with great success across various platforms, Mr Yost brings many valuable insights,” said Matthew Deaner, CEO, Screen Producers Australia.

“We are delighted to welcome Graham Yost to Melbourne as a key guest and speaker for this year’s Screen Forever Conference. Having Mr Yost share his key insights as to what has helped him achieve his enormous success across both feature film and television is bound to inspire all attendees,” said Jenni Tosi, CEO, Film Victoria.

Graham Yost will speak at the ‘In Conversation with Graham Yost’ at SCREEN FOREVER in Melbourne on Tuesday, 15 November, 3.30pm

SCREEN FOREVER

15 to 17 November 2016. Crown Conference Centre, Melbourne Australia.

Registrations now open at www.screenforever.org.au

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Media enquiries:

Miranda Brown – Miranda Brown Publicity | **ph:** 03 9419 0931 **mob:** 0411 568 781 | miranda@mbpublicity.com.au

Hannah Andrews – Miranda Brown Publicity | **ph:** 03 9419 0931 **mob:** 0425 885 412 | hannah@mbpublicity.com.au

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SCREEN FOREVER is one of the largest congregations of screen professionals in the southern hemisphere, providing a forum for discussion and debate on local and global trends, issues and challenges facing the business of screen production. Past keynote speakers include Gale Anne Hurd (*The Walking Dead*, *Aliens*, *The Terminator*); Dana Brunetti (*House of Cards*); Emile Sherman (*The King's Speech*, *Top of the Lake*); Sydney Pollack (*Tootsie*); Ted Hope (*21 Grams*), David Puttnam, Kt, CBE (*The Mission*), Jon Plowman (*The Office*), Matthew Weiner (*Mad Men*) and George Lucas (*Star Wars*).