



15/07/2010  
Dr Ruth Harley,  
Chief Executive Officer  
Screen Australia  
Level 4, 150 William Street  
Woolloomooloo NSW 2011  
via email: [ruth.harley@screenaustralia.gov.au](mailto:ruth.harley@screenaustralia.gov.au)

Dear Dr Harley,

**Re: Draft Screen Australia International Co-production Program Guidelines**

We, the undersigned, wish to voice our serious concerns regarding the new draft of Screen Australia's International Co-production Program Guidelines.

The new points test being proposed will empower producers to not engage Australian performers for lead roles on feature films, dramas, and animations. This is a significant attack on Australian performers and an undermining of the cultural basis for the government's film and television production support program. Australian taxpayers invest heavily in the film and television industry through direct subsidies and the Producer Offset. Co-productions are able to access all these support mechanisms. Australians deserve a cultural dividend for their investment and expect to hear Australian voices and see Australian faces on screen.

Your proposal to loosen up the rules in the animation area is particularly disturbing given the poor track record of producers choosing to voice animations in a North American accent rather than an Australian accent. This is insulting to all Australian performers as well as Australian audiences.

It is the fundamental role of Screen Australia to support the Australian film and television industry and Australian culture. This must include supporting the development of Australian performers.

We ask that you reverse your decision to introduce a new points test and tighten the guidelines to ensure an Australian on-screen presence in all Australian co-productions.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Burke  
Equity President



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the people who inform and entertain

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On behalf of

John Adam	Heather Christie	Sara Gleeson
Camilla Ah Kin	Dustin Clare	Paul Goddard
Robert Alexander	Kellie Clarke	Kevin Golsby
Jacob Allan	Sophie Cleary	Ben Grant
Val Athanassiou	Bill Conn	Corinne Grant
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Patricia Amphlett	Laurence Coy	Nathan Griffin
Akos Armont	Natasha Crane	Linal Haft
Robyn Arthur	Jeanette Cronin	Jane Harders
Emily Barclay	Michael Cullen	Benedict Hardie
Tony Barry	Lynette Curran	Tom Healey
Steve Bastoni	Maree D'Arcy	Keffa Heaney
Karen Bayly	Helen Dallimore	Genevieve Hegney
Katherine Beck	Morgana Davies	Kevin Fa'asitua Hofbauer
Daisy Betts	Essie Davis	David Hoflin
Roy Billing	Ralph Davis	Nicholas Hope
Elizabeth Blackmore	Matt Day	Meg Hoult
Natalie Blair	Antony Deary	John Howard
Rachael Blake	Lara Dignam	Elaine Hudson
Colin Borgonon	Con Dolmas	Nick Hunter
Clare Bowen	Leo Domigan	Sharon Hunter
Nathan Bowen	Vanessa Downing	Joanne Hunt
Mark Brady	Suzanne Dudley	Lyndall Iron
Emily Rose Brennan	Russell Dykstra	Tiffany Jackson
Holger Brockmann	Merridy Eastman	Adrian Jarrett
Noeline Brown	Sandie Eldridge	Adele Johnston
Ann Burbrook	Sarah Enright	Rebecca Johnston
Liz Burch	Layla Estasy	Radek Jonak
Carol Burns	Judy Feldman	Melissa Jones
Mitchell Butel	Andrew Ferguson	Marko Jovanovic
Annie Byron	Michael Finney	George Kanaan
Daniel Byrnes	Anni Finsterer	Maria Karambelas
Peter Callan	Jack Finsterer	Sophie Katinis
Troy Carlson	Alan Flower	Malcolm Kennard
Renai Caruso	Shane Foster	Maggie King
Michael Caton	Holly Fraser	Christopher Kirby
Danielle Carter	James Fraser	Kim Knuckey
Lisa Chappell	Patrick Frost	Jacek Koman
RitaKahn Chen	Laura Gabriel	Peter Kowitz
Jason Chong	Janie Gibson	Toni Lamond



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Eliza Logan  
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