

SHOWFEST

Film. Future. Festival.

20-25 OCTOBER 2026



SCREEN SUMMIT 2026

STRENGTHENING AUSTRALIA'S SCREEN INDUSTRY FROM THE REGIONS

Through a local lens: stories that resonate nationally and echo globally

WHEN Fri 23 October · 9.00am – 5.00pm
WHERE Level 2, Maroochy RSL, Maroochydore
TICKETS \$40 members · \$100 non-members

ABOUT THE SUMMIT

A full day of panels, keynotes and conversations for emerging and established screen practitioners. Hear from commissioners, funders and producers from Screen Queensland, ABC, SBS, AFTRS, Ludo Studio and more, pick up practical insight you can use straight away, then stay to connect over networking drinks.

25+ SPEAKERS
4 SESSIONS
1 KEYNOTE
1 FULL DAY

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

8.30am Registration & networking	9.00am Welcome & opening	9.35am AI Tomorrow	10.30am Morning tea	11.00am Keynote: State of the Nation	11.15am Sunshine Coast Production
12.10pm Lunch	1.05pm The Commissioner, The Platform, The Pathways	2.30pm Afternoon break	2.45pm Showdown: A Unique Offering	4.00pm Celebration & networking drinks	5.00pm Close

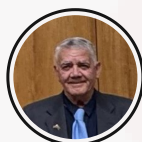
OPENING

9.00am WELCOME & OPENING

MC Shonee Samia opens the day with a Welcome to Country from Uncle Michael Douglas, a strategic plan update from Screen Collective President David Edgar and a welcome from Mayor Rosanna Natoli.



Shonee Samia
MC



Uncle Michael Douglas
Welcome to Country



David Edgar
President, Screen Collective



Mayor Rosanna Natoli
Sunshine Coast Council

SESSION 1

9.35am AI TOMORROW

Digital Storytelling & Human Generative Workflows

How AI is changing screen production, and how to embrace new tools while keeping the skills, judgement and craft at the heart of filmmaking.



David Gougé
Technology & Entertainment Executive; formerly Wētā FX, Autodesk, Y&R



Jay Topping
CoFounder, The Fourthe



David Edgar
CEO, fxphd



Doug Hogan
Creative Technologist & VFX Professional, ComfyUI

KEYNOTE

11.00am KEYNOTE: STATE OF THE NATION

Where the industry is heading, and what it means for the regions.



Tanya Ellen
Head of Content, Screen Queensland

We're thrilled to have Tanya Ellen deliver her **third State of the Nation** at Screen Summit. A creative producer, screen lawyer and Screen Queensland's Head of Content since 2023, Tanya brings a rare view across both the creative and commercial sides of the industry, and her keynote is always one of the most valuable sessions of the day.



We have talented people, successful productions and an industry that's ready to grow. The next step is making sure the opportunities, infrastructure and investment are here to support them."

DAVID EDGAR · PRESIDENT, SCREEN COLLECTIVE

TICKETS & FULL SHOWFEST PROGRAM

screencollective.au/showfest · events.humanitix.com/showfest-2026



SESSION 2

11.15am

SUNSHINE COAST PRODUCTION: STORIES FOR EVERYWHERE

Stories That Travel

From natural history and documentary to
unscripted.



Ivan O'Mahoney
Moderator
Founder, In Films



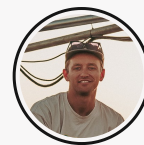
Joseph Maxwell
Head of Unscripted,
SBS



Chadden Hunter
Chadden Hunter Films



Anna Jeffries
Founder, Five Storey
Films



Jack Riley
Cinematographer, The
Kimberley



Julia Lorsch
Producer, The Art Side
of the Moon



Kim Ingles
Director, The Art Side
of the Moon

SESSION 3

1.05pm

THE COMMISSIONER, THE PLATFORM, THE PATHWAYS

*Opens with a fireside chat: Todd
Abbott & Lisa Fitzpatrick*

A fireside chat with the ABC's
Commissioning Editor, Comedy, leads
into a panel on commissioning,
platforms and pathways into a screen
career.



Lisa Fitzpatrick
Moderator
Screen Collective
Executive Committee;
Fitz & Co Director



Todd Abbott
Commissioning Editor
Comedy, ABC



Sharon Zeeman
Director People &
Culture, AFTRS



Derek Dyson
COO, WTFN, Radar
Studios



Sam Moor
Ludo Studio Producer
& Head of Production
& Commercial



Sanjay Bhaskaran
CEO, APAC



Amy Parry
Independent
Filmmaker and
Creative Producer



Adam Szudrich
Writer/Director,
Extraordinary Rob,
Slow Dating

SESSION 4

2.45pm

SHOWDOWN: A UNIQUE OFFERING

The Past. The Present. The Future.

A sizzle celebrates five years of
Showdown winners and 21 short films.
Then hear from the creators behind
them and what's next for Showdown in
2027 and beyond.

SESSION LEADS



Dan Munday
SESSION LEAD
Co-Founder,
Showdown



Louise Hayse
SESSION LEAD
Screen Collective
Secretary; Showdown
EP

PANEL



Adam Szudrich
Showdown '23 Finalist
– Slow Dating



**Janneke
Williamson**
The Carers - 2025
ShowdownMAX
winner



Charlotte Carr
The Carers - 2025
ShowdownMAX
winner



Josh Capelin
2026 ShowdownDOC
winner



Lauren Capelin
2026 ShowdownDOC
winner



Catherine Mack
ShowdownDOC EIC;
Current Mood Films



**Lilli Corrias-
Smith**
Producer, Olive the
Bug Girl



**Davina May
Marr**
Independent
Filmmaker

4.00pm CELEBRATION & NETWORKING DRINKS

The MC closes the Summit and invites everyone to celebrate in the foyer. Food and beverage included throughout the day.

Program, speakers and running order subject to change.