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## MEDIA RELEASE

-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

### AWARD WINNING SHORT FILMS TO TOUR REGIONAL NSW & ACT



An exceptional line up of short films will tour eight destinations across regional NSW and the ACT as part of Optus Flix in the Stix commencing next month. Many of the films have won high caliber awards from top international Festivals including the Monaco International Film Festival, the Sundance Film Festival and the Montreal World Film Festival.

The movies include short films from overseas as well as by Australian filmmakers such as brothers Nash and Joel Edgerton and feature great Australian actors including Paul Ashton, Gia Carides, Anthony LaPaglia, Jack Thompson, Gary Sweet, Sigrid Thornton, the Edgerton brothers and Ben Lawson.

Nash Edgerton's *Bear*, in which he stars alongside Teresa Palmer (*I am Number Four*) & Warwick Thornton (*Samson & Delilah*) and co-wrote with writer/director and fellow Blue-Tongue Films' member David Michôd (*Animal Kingdom*) is the highly-anticipated follow-up to the multi award-winning short film *Spider*.

*Bear*, straight from its North American premiere at the prestigious 2012 Sundance Film Festival will form part of the line-up for Optus Flix in the Stix, as well as brother Joel Edgerton's *Monkeys*, which

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Joel wrote, directed & starred in. *Monkeys* was produced by Louise Smith (*The Square*) and was a 2011 Tropfest finalist.

Filmmaker Nash Edgerton said, 'Joel and I are delighted to be part of Optus Flix in the Stix, which showcases Australian & international shorts to the regional Australian community. It is a fantastic initiative and so important to give regional Australia exposure to short films from all over the world, which hopefully will inspire the next generation of Australian filmmakers.'

Raised in Wagga as a child and then Canberra later in life, former *Secret Life of Us* actor and now LA-based actor-director, Paul Ashton is also supportive of the tour.

'Our short film *In Loco Parentis* will form part of the Optus Flix in the Stix line up,' said Paul. 'Although the movie was shot in Los Angeles, it was edited back in Canberra and it will be a real honour for family and friends back in Canberra and Wagga to be able to enjoy our work in stunning outdoor Aussie locations.'

Oscar nominee and award winning animator, Bill Plympton, will showcase his work *Hot Dog* - the third in Plympton's *Dog* series.

The short film line-up will be accompanied by live performances by highly respected Australian singer-songwriter James Reyne as well as well-known bush poets Murray Hartin and Peter Mace. Hartin will perform at all venues except Albury and Wagga where fellow award-winning bush poet Peter Mace will entertain audiences.

Optus Flix in the Stix will tour the following locations:

- Dubbo Lazy River Estate - Friday 3rd February
- Orange Botanic Gardens - Saturday 4th February
- Bowral Bong Bong Racecourse - Friday 24th February
- Canberra National Botanic Gardens - Saturday 25th February
- Albury Botanic Gardens - Friday 2nd March
- Wagga Music Bowl - Saturday 3rd March

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- Tamworth Bicentennial Park - Friday 16th March
- Armidale Saumarez Homestead - Saturday 17th March

Tickets are available from [www.flixinthestix.com.au](http://www.flixinthestix.com.au) or directly from Moshtix [www.moshtix.com.au/flixinthestix](http://www.moshtix.com.au/flixinthestix)

\*\*\*Ends\*\*\*

**Available for interview:**

- Simon Rollin, Flix in the Stix founder, MOJO Events and Promotions
- Renowned bush poets Murray Hartin and Peter Mace
- Highly respected Australian singer-songwriter James Reyne
- Australian actor and producer Paul Ashton

High-resolution images and publicity stills are available upon request.

For further information, interviews or images, contact:

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