



For Release: On Approval

Motion Picture Sound Editors to Honor George Miller with Filmmaker Award

68th MPSE Golden Reel Awards to be held as a global, virtual event on April 16th

Studio City, California – February 10, 2021 – The Motion Picture Sound Editors (MPSE) will honor Academy Award-winner George Miller with its annual Filmmaker Award. The Australian writer, director and producer is responsible for some of the most successful and beloved films of recent decades including *Mad Max*, *Mad Max 2: Road Warrior*, *Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome* and *Mad Max: Fury Road*. In 2007, he won the Academy Award for Best Animated Feature for the smash hit *Happy Feet*. He also earned Oscar nominations for *Babe* and *Lorenzo’s Oil*. Miller will be presented with the MPSE Filmmaker Award at the 68th MPSE Golden Reel Awards, set for April 16th as an international virtual event.



Miller is being honored for a career noteworthy for its incredibly broad scope and consistent excellence. “George Miller redefined the action genre through his *Mad Max* films, and he has been just as successful in bringing us such wonderfully different films as *The Witches of Eastwick*, *Lorenzo’s Oil*, *Babe* and *Happy Feet*,” said MPSE President Mark Lanza. “He represents the art of filmmaking at its best. We are proud to present him with MPSE’s highest honor.”

Miller called the award “a lovely thing,” adding, “It’s a big pat on the back. I was originally drawn to film through the visual sense, but I learned to recognize sound, emphatically, as integral to the apprehension of the story. I’ve become an utter convert to cinema sound. That’s why this award is so significant to me.”

Miller earned a degree in medicine from the University of New South Wales and was working as an emergency room doctor when he took part in a filmmaking workshop where he met his future co-producer, the late Byron Kennedy. They collaborated on a comedy short *Violence in the Cinema—Part 1* and later formed Kennedy Miller Productions, which has gone on to produce more than two dozen films and television mini-series while winning scores of international awards.

Miller made his directorial debut in 1979 with *Mad Max*, which he also co-wrote. The latest film in the series, 2015’s *Mad Max: Fury Road* was nominated for ten Academy Awards, including Best Motion

Picture of the Year and Best Achievement in Directing. Its six wins included Best Achievement in Sound Editing.

Miller's other film directing credits include *The Witches of Eastwick*, starring Jack Nicholson, Cher, Susan Sarandon and Michelle Pfeiffer, and the "Nightmare at 20,000 Feet" segment of *Twilight Zone: The Movie*. He produced John Duigan's *The Year My Voice Broke* and *Flirting* and Philip Noyce's *Dead Calm*. He also wrote, directed, produced and narrated the documentary *White Fellas Dreaming*, the Australian contribution to the international celebration of the Century of Cinema.

A key figure within the Australian film industry, Miller serves as a Patron of the Sydney Film Festival and the Australian Film Institute (now Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts/AACTA), and has been a Patron of the Brisbane International Film Festival. He has been a member of the jury at the Cannes Film Festival twice, in 1988 and 1999. In 1996 he was awarded the Order of Australia for distinguished service to Australian cinema and in 2009 he was honored with the French Order of the Arts and Letters. In 2016, he served as President of the Jury for the Palme d'Or at the 69th Cannes Film Festival.

About MPSE

Founded in 1953, the Motion Picture Sound Editors is a non-profit organization of professional sound and music editors who work in the motion picture television and gaming industries. The organization's mission is to provide a wealth of knowledge from award-winning professionals to a diverse group of individuals, youth and career professionals alike; mentoring and educating the community about the artistic merit and technical advancements in sound and music editing; providing scholarships for the continuing advancement of motion picture sound in education; and helping to enhance the personal and professional lives of the men and women who practice this unique craft.

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