

15 / 07 /2009



Birdman soars to new heights

Lindsay Cupper, does the name ring a bell? It might if you're a fan of David Attenborough's nature programs.

This unassuming Australian cinematographer doesn't seek the lime light but instead lets his work shine through. You might be surprised to know that you've probably seen his work. His story and accomplishments are all very impressive, for the Mallee boy who grew up on a Yelta fruit block near the northern Victorian township of Merbein.

Lindsay's most recent work screened on the ABC last year in the program 'Australia Land of Parrots'. Lindsay's work has also screened on National Geographic, the Discovery Channel, the BBC and Australia's ABC. One of his notable achievements includes his footage which screened as a part of David Attenborough's 'Trials of Life' and 'Life of Birds' television programs.

Lindsay's work has been recognised with many awards, including an Australian Film Industry (AFI) award for best cinematography.

Lindsay began his career as a photographer. He worked with his father Jack on the book 'Hawks in Focus'. The pair set about photographing all twenty-four species of birds of prey. It wasn't long before Lindsay progressed from still photography to filming all sorts of wildlife. However he is probably most notably known for his expertise in the filming of birds.

Lindsay's latest endeavour returns him to the world of still photography. He calls his new work Imaginature.

Lindsay says "After coming back to still photography after more than 25 years of concentrating exclusively on moving images, I am looking at the natural world from a new perspective."

He also comments that "While still photographing birds in a conventional, realistic style, I am now also looking more closely at all aspects of nature, such as colours and textures, resulting in images that have both impressionistic and abstract qualities."

As a part of the Merbein Centenary Celebrations, Lindsay will be giving a rare night time screening and display of his work.

This must see event of his various works and exhibition of his new Imaginature images will be held on 16 August at 7.30pm at the Merbein Citizens Club, Commercial Street Merbein.

This event will provide a unique opportunity for the public to meet Lindsay and see his work. Audiences may be lucky enough to hear stories of his filming adventures, which have taken him, not only all over Australia, but to the sub-Antarctic Crozet Islands, Papua New Guinea, Southern Africa and Christmas Island.

Merbein Centenary Committee member Richard Wells has been lucky enough to join Lindsay on some of his adventures. Richard says "This is a fantastic opportunity for the public to see Lindsay's work. His work has screened across the globe and the quality of it is second to none and the stories he has to tell, they have to be heard to be believed."

Lindsay and his wife Ruth now base themselves in Northern Australia for many months of the year as Lindsay continues his passion for filming birds and still photography.

Lindsay's event is just one of those listed in the ten days of events celebrating Merbein's Centenary. The celebrations run from 14- 23 August 2009. For further information on this event, please see the following web site - www.merbeincentenary.com.au

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