



Victorian College of the Arts
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VCA Film & Television graduate Julius Avery wins Cannes short film award

VCA Film & Television graduate **Julius Avery** was awarded the prestigious short film Jury Prize at the 61st Cannes Film Festival in France yesterday. Avery, 29, won the award for *Jerrycan*. Set in regional Victoria and using non-actors, the film is about a boy who risks everything after he is bullied into making a life and death decision.

Avery completed a Graduate Diploma in Film and Television (Narrative) at the VCA in 2004 and did a Masters by Coursework (Narrative) in 2005. He was the recipient of the Emerging Australian Filmmaker Award at the Melbourne International Film Festival in 2006 and the winner of the Australian Directors Guild Directors Award for Best Direction in a Student Film for *End of Town* in 2007.

Two of the nine short films selected for official competition in Cannes this year were made by VCA Film & TV graduates. *My Rabbit Hoppy* was written and directed by **Anthony Lucas**, while *Jerrycan* was written and directed by Avery with cinematography by VCA alumni **Adam Arkapaw**.

VCA Film & TV graduates at the Cannes Film Festival

2008 - **Ben Hackworth** was in Cannes for the The Cinéfondation Atelier (Workshop).

2006 - **Sara Watt's** *Look Both Ways* (1990) was invited for a special screening as part of the 45th International Critics Week.

2006 - *Snow*, written and directed by **Dustin Feneley** and produced by **Kate Beverley** was in competition for best student film.

2004 - **Pia Borg's** animated short film *Footnote* (2003) was a finalist in the official Cinéfondation competition.

2004 - *Blue Tongue*, directed by **Justin Kurzel** and produced by **Tim Jolley**, was selected to screen in Critic's Week. *Blue Tongue* was Kurzel and Jolley's 2004 VCA graduating film.

2003 - *Crackerbag*, directed by **Glendyn Irvin** won the Palme d'Or Award for best short film.

2002 - **Anthony Lucas's** short film *Holding Your Breath* screened in official competition.

2001 - **Ben Hackworth's** graduating film, *Martin Four*, was selected for the Cinéfondation Competition.

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