

## DIASPORAS OF AUSTRALIAN CINEMA

### Call for chapters

November 2006

Since its early years, Australian filmmaking has been produced by and featured people from diverse cultural backgrounds. Filmmakers of NESB origins have produced many of the classics of Australian cinema from *Mad Max* to *Careful He Might Hear You*; from *Lonely Hearts* to *Malcolm*, from *Bad Boy Bubby* to *Storm Boy* and *Dot and the Kangaroo*. (O'Regan 1996; 352).

In the 1990s, twenty years after multiculturalism became the official policy of the Australian state, the newly accepted multicultural identity manifested spectacularly in films such as *Strictly Ballroom* and the *Heartbreak Kid*. At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century Australia's cultural diversity is no longer championed at policy and government levels, yet it remains a stable fixture of Australian cinema. Despite their continuous prevalence in Australian film, there have been few detailed case studies on the significance of the various cultural diasporas that have comprised Australian filmmaking over the past century.

In the general climate of 'pulling down the shutters' and the return to more homogenous notions of the nationstate a book like this one is vital, as is acknowledging the diversity that has shaped and continues to shape Australian cinema.

The purpose of this book is to identify the role various cultural diasporas have played in Australian cinema over the past century by bringing together a number of insights from a range of academics, writers and filmmakers.

We will welcome chapter proposals on:

- 1) clusters of migrant filmmakers (e.g. Greek-Australian filmmakers)
- 2) individual migrant filmmakers including second generation migrants
- 3) migrant representations in Australian films, including short, documentary and experimental filmmaking
- 4) representations of foreignness in Australian cinema (including English-speaking, ie Britishness and American)
- 5) industrial and policy considerations of diasporic diversity in Australian film, or
- 6) any related topic you would consider vital in a compendium of this nature.

If you would like to submit a chapter proposal for *Diasporas of Australian Cinema*, please e-mail 1) the suggested title, 2) abstract of no more than 200 words, 3) five-item bibliography and 4) short biography, all contained within **one page only**, to Catherine Simpson at [csimpson@scmp.mq.edu.au](mailto:csimpson@scmp.mq.edu.au) AND Renata Murawska at [Renata.Murawska@mq.edu.au](mailto:Renata.Murawska@mq.edu.au).

All proposals received by **31 December 2006** will be considered.

If you would like to ask further questions, do not hesitate to contact us at the e-mail addresses given above.

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