

2 June 2010 SOUTH SOLITARY SHINES SPOTLIGHT ON REGIONAL VICTORIA

Victorian-made feature film to premiere at Sydney Film Festival

Wednesday, 2 June 2010 Regional Victoria is in the spotlight again as locally-made feature film SOUTH SOLITARY celebrates its world premiere this week. SOUTH SOLITARY, which filmed in southern Victoria in 2009, is a period love story from producer Marian Macgowan (Two Hands) and Director Shirley Barrett (Love Serenade). It stars Miranda Otto (The Lord Of The Rings) alongside her father, Barry Otto (Strictly Ballroom), Marton Csokas (Romulus, My Father) and Essie Davis (Australia) and premieres at the Sydney Film Festival today. Film Victoria's CEO Sandra Sdraulig said following an extensive search for the ideal location with the assistance of Film Victoria, the filmmakers chose the states stunning south-west. Director Shirley Barrett envisaged the landscape as another character in the film, and the spectacular locations around Portland, Cape Nelson State Park and the Great Otway National Park matched her vision perfectly. Ms Sdraulig also noted the significant economic and cultural benefits of filming for regional Victoria. We encourage regional councils to take advantage of these benefits and promote their locations to the film and television industry through our Location Victoria initiative. Glenelg Shire is just one of many film friendly shires in Victoria that has developed a promotional website showcasing the regions diverse filming locations. SOUTH SOLITARY was supported by Film Victoria through its Production Investment and Regional Location Assistance Fund programmes, bringing an estimated \$3 million into Victoria. Set in the 1920s, SOUTH SOLITARY tells the story of Meredith (Miranda Otto), a 35-year-old unmarried woman who arrives on a remote island with her difficult uncle (Barry Otto) and meets the resident lighthouse keepers - charmer Harry (Rohan Nichol) and smouldering loner Fleet (Marton Csokas). For more information about Victoria's great film locations, visit www.filmmelbournenow.com For more information about filming in southern Victoria, visit <http://www.film.greatsouthcoast.com.au>

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