

Screenrights is a non-profit company which administers copyright licences in Australia and New Zealand and collects similar royalties from Europe and North America for its 2,600 members from 54 countries.

June 2008

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This is an online newsletter. You can subscribe by emailing ota@screenrights.org

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Feature: Footage – A quick guide to finding what you need when you need it

Filmmakers use other people's footage to help them tell their stories. Stock footage can add content, comment, irony, illustration, contrast, and of course, save time and money. Clare Macken looks at where and how to access the images you want for your next film.

Getting hold of excellent footage is far easier today than it was even five years ago; and the Internet makes researching, previewing, surveying, accessing, buying and licensing this footage relatively simple.

Google 'archival footage' and you'll find fresh, relevant, accessible images with high production values on a multitude of subjects. You can still buy footage per-second but a lot of what's on offer is royalty-free or rights-ready. This doesn't mean the footage is free – with the exception of Film Australia's (see below) – but you pay only once for repeat uses.

As always, keeping records of what you found is important. If you use a mix of your own and bought footage, make sure you log the relevant in and out points. You may also need to give a copy of your finished production to the stock footage provider.

Here are some great sources of footage:

The ABC (www.abccontentsales.com.au/librarysales)

ABC Library Sales offers 75 years' coverage of news, current affairs, sport, science, natural history, arts and many other subjects.

The range is vast. From its own 52 domestic news bureaux and 13 international offices, you can find footage of the devastation of Cyclone Tracy, bushfires, the Sorry Marches, the aftermath of the Bali bombing, a solar eclipse, personalities such as Lindy Chamberlain, New Year's Eve fireworks and Cricket Australia's archives (soon to be joined by those of the NRL and AFL).

The ABC also represents the Associated Press (AP) Archive non-exclusively in Australasia and south-east Asia. As the world's oldest and largest news gatherer, AP Archive claims to have footage on every major international event since moving images began. With bureaux in 80 cities, AP Archive receives several international news feeds a day, adding 20,000 stories to its archives a year.

ABC Library Sales holds core AP Archive material, which is convenient for Australasian clients wishing to research in the same time zone, and can access anything else rapidly from AP Archive in London. AP Archive also has Twentieth Century Archives and Universal Newsreels, covering contemporary and archival news, entertainment, pop culture, sport, science and lifestyle content. So if you're after footage of the 1929 stock market crash or Elvis marrying Priscilla, this is the collection for you.



*Sydney Harbour Bridge, Australia
from ABC Library Sales*

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ABC Library Sales also represents National Geographic Digital Motion, covering 50 years – and 250,000 hours - of wildlife, science and technology, cities and landscapes, culture and history, people, sports and recreation, and High Definition. You can also find music video at ABC Library Sales. They have performances, interviews and out-takes of some of the greats of classical music, big band, jazz, country, pop, hip hop and rock.

Contact ABC Library Sales with your selection and they'll help you preview and buy your item, available in a range of formats.

If you can't find what you're looking for, ABC Library Sales will undertake a preliminary search to your brief to tell you what they have and estimate supply costs and licence fees.

Independent program makers can also do their own research at the ABC in Sydney and Melbourne.

Beyond Vision (www.beyondvision.com.au)

Beyond Vision offers video stock footage from Beyond International's film and television libraries, as well as from some independent filmmakers and specialised stock video footage collections overseas.

Beyond Vision has made the process of accessing what you want relatively simple. Its 'royalty-free' footage means you pay once for unlimited use, by shot or by title. You can preview its International Series online, which is footage of 12 cities such as New York, Venice, Cairo, Moscow, Jerusalem and Hong Kong.

You can also view and buy online 'royalty-free singles' on topics including Australia, wildlife, medicine, emergencies, agriculture and industry. Want nine minutes of Bondi Beach? Eleven minutes of suburban roof sprawl? Eighteen minutes of a doctor taking a blood sample? You preview the footage, add the item to your shopping cart, sign the online Rights and Licensing Agreement and receive the material as PAL or NTSC CD-ROM, with 95% photo JPEG compression or as analogue or digital tape.

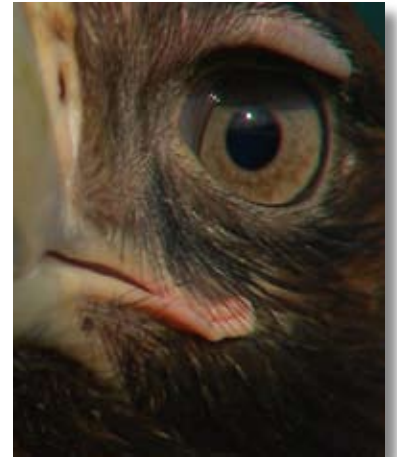
For more difficult to find footage, you can contact a researcher via the site.

The site offers other footage it calls 'themed packages' which it sells by the second. This includes wildlife, technology, medicine, industry, travel, world cultures. 'Animal House' for example, contains a wide variety of animals' expressions and behaviour. To access 'themed packages' you order a half-hour, time-coded VHS preview copy instead of downloading from the website.

Film Australia (www.filmaustralia.com.au/library)

Film Australia (to merge with the AFC and FFC in July 2008 as Screen Australia) generously offers 'zero-fee' licensing, giving Australian documentary filmmakers 10 minutes of footage (or 40 stills) free.

To qualify, the documentary production must have one of the following: an Australian free-to-air or pay television presale; funding from the AFC, FFC or a state funding body; or a letter of interest from an Australian broadcaster or funding body. The production will also qualify if the producer is a film student at an Australian educational institution or the producer/director is a member of SPAA or ADG.



Natural History collection, Eagle Tasmania from ABC Library Sales

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In addition, the production must qualify for "MA15+" or less from the OFLC or be an eligible program under the Australian Content Standard.

Rights licensed will be all media, worldwide for 10 years, with online rights restricted to the promotion of the licensed production. Online documentary productions made primarily for a website will be granted full online rights but will be required to watermark all footage and stills with the Film Australia logo. Material is licensed on a non-exclusive basis, for one use in one production.

Film Australia charges a research fee of \$250 per hour (minimum one hour); and also charges for transfers, stock and freight.

Film Australia's collection includes more than 5,000 titles, from the late 19th Century to the present. The collection grows with each new National Interest Program production. These documentaries provide a 'national slate of programs that give a "snapshot" of the nation.' They focus on: people and how they have lived, worked and played for more than a century; events including royal tours and Centennial celebrations; locations in Australia, Asia, Europe and the Americas, from the outback to the city; native plants and wildlife; industry, agriculture and transport; immigration and multicultural Australia; material from WWI, WWII, the Korean War and Vietnam; a world-renowned ethnographic film collection from Australia and Papua New Guinea; classics from Australian film pioneers; and the early works of filmmakers including Gillian Armstrong, Jane Campion, Chris Noonan, Phillip Noyce, Bruce Petty, Fred Schepisi, Dean Semler and Peter Weir.

You can search the Film Australia library online and enquire about a title. You may also be able to preview footage online or you can request a time-code tape, or visit Film Australia at Lindfield.

Contact Film Australia for help with determining the copyright status and holder of the item you wish to use. (You may also need to seek permission from someone other than Film Australia before they can release the footage.)

FilmWorld (www.thoughtequitymotion.com)

Now owned by Thought Equity Motion in the US, the FilmWorld collection includes Tourism Australia, Tourism Queensland, Natural History New Zealand, Sports Film and Cinesound Movietone.

Cinesound Movietone is the archival Australian and international newsreel collection covering events from the 1930s through to the mid-1970s. It showcases shifts in social attitudes; politics; war; natural disasters; entertainment; and sport.

Go to Cinesound if you're after footage of WWII, the Korean and Vietnam Wars; the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, the election of President Kennedy; or the opening of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

The site offers the potentially helpful 'chat with a live research assistant,' and both royalty-free footage, that is, for an unlimited time period and number of uses, as well as rights-managed footage which restricts the number of times you can use the footage, in which broadcast territory and over what time period.



News & current affairs reporting on tsunami in Banda Aceh 2005 from ABC Library Sales

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NFSA (www.screensound.gov.au)

The National Film and Sound Archive collects, stores, preserves and makes available screen and sound material relevant to Australia's culture. Since it doesn't usually hold the copyright for the works in its collection, you need to clear the right to use material from the copyright owner and/or depositor first. Collection Access staff can help you identify a copyright contact and advise of any restrictions or conditions that apply to the use of the film, such as where the work contains secret or sacred Indigenous material. If the copyright owner cannot be found, the NFSA may agree to supply the material and ask you to sign an indemnity form.

With a whopping 1.3 million items, the NFSA can show you the 1960s Skippy series; the 1939 film of Seven Little Australians; 1950s Jedda; 1906 Story of the Kelly Gang; the 1967 Referendum; Australians in WWI; rock and pop recordings; and the films of Charles Chauvel.

To view material, go to the NFSA in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne, or its Access Centres in Hobart, Perth, Brisbane and Adelaide.

To request the NFSA to undertake research or supply material, you need to send a purchase order, company fax or letter. There are charges for research, tape copying and using the viewing facilities.

Any material is, of course, licensed on a non-exclusive basis, for use in one specified production.

Getty Images – (www.gettyimages.com)

Much of Getty Images' footage is rights-ready, and with its self-serve pricing, licensing and downloading, it's immediately available. Simply select a use category and download the format or size, and you can use the footage in one production.

The Getty collection includes: Archive Films of diverse and rare film clips, iconic personalities, moments, eras, industrial films, newsreels and educational films; Dick Clark Productions, Inc., stock clips of pop and rock performances including television footage from American Bandstand, Studio 54 and the American Music Awards; Discovery FootageSource - vibrant imagery of the natural and man-made worlds; Imagebank Film, 35mm cinematography; One80 art-directed stock footage; and Universal Studios footage.

Briefly, other sources include:

- Broadcasters here and overseas:

- ITN Source (formerly ITN Archive) - one of the world's largest providers of motion imagery, with over 800,000 hours of footage from 1896 to the present. Includes news, drama, celebrity, comedy, music, wildlife, natural history and film. The archive grows by 20 hours a day. Represents Reuters, ITN, Channel 4, Granada, British Pathe, FOX News, FOX Movietone and other specialist collections. Based in London, ITN Source has a Sydney sales office. You can also search, view, download and buy footage online.

- Olympic Television Archive Bureau (OTAB) has over 30,000 hours of footage. Fees are usually quoted on a 'per minute, or part thereof' basis. Generally, music and commentary associated with an Olympic Games is the copyright property of either the individual artist, performer or broadcaster.



*News Middle East truckfire
from ABC Library Sales*

June 2008

Targets exceeded for distributing royalties

With the deadline for distributing 2002 royalties falling on 30 June, the Member Services team look set to once again exceed targets by getting more than 98% of this money into the rightsholders' hands by this date.

Under its Articles of Association, Screenrights has six years in which to distribute the money it collects from educational copying and communication. After this, any undistributed money is carried over into the next year's distribution pool.

The team's target is to distribute 97% of royalties by the deadline. At the time of going to print, Member Services Officer Marc Carter said it looked as though only 1.3% of the Australian educational pool would be remaining, and approximately 1.5% of the New Zealand money.

Practical seminar with Google's Senior Copyright Counsel

Want to find out more about global and local copyright challenges? William Patry, Google's Senior Copyright Counsel, is conducting a series of practical copyright seminars in Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra during August.

Patry, who is the author of the seven volume **Patry on Copyright**, will address issues such as the impact of globalisation on copyright and moral panics in copyright discourse during his interactive one day sessions.

For more information about seminar dates and costs, visit www.thomson.com.au/catalogue/shopexd.asp?id=9002

June 2008

2008 Asia Pacific Screen Awards

The Asia Pacific Screen Awards (APSAs) 2008 are calling for entries from countries in the region.

The Asia-Pacific region encompasses more than 70 countries and areas, from Russia in the north, to New Zealand in the south, and Turkey in the west, to Samoa in the east.

The independent APSA Nominations Council, comprising distinguished international film industry members, will meet in Brisbane in September 2008 to shortlist works in all categories for final judging by the international Jury.

Academy-Award' nominated director Bruce Beresford is President of the APSA 2008 Jury.

Submitting organisations from each country in the Asia-Pacific region are encouraged to complete the submission process as soon as possible. Entries close September 1, 2008 with APSA winners to be announced at the Awards ceremony on November 11, 2008, on the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

The Asia Pacific Screen Awards is a collaboration with CNN International, UNESCO and FIAPF-International Federation of Film Producers Associations – to acclaim films that best reflect their cultural origins and cinematic excellence.

Submission details are available at www.asiapacificscreenawards.com

International payments

Screenrights International is currently contacting members with a claim to retransmission and private copying royalties collected from European societies.

International Services Manager Maha Ismail said the royalties cover a number of years and are principally for retransmission.

"We commence distributing the money as soon as it comes in from overseas," she said.

With agreements now in place with societies in North and South America, Europe and Africa, Screenrights can help rightsholders ensure that they collect any royalties owing to them from secondary uses of their work in these territories.

The administration fee for this service is a low 11%, making it one of the most competitive in international collections.

To find out more about registering titles for this service, email maha@screenrights.org

June 2008

Got an idea for a kids' series?

If you have a series concept for the highly competitive 10-12 year demographic, the Nickelodeon Land a Pilot initiative at the SPAA Conference 2008 could be for you.

With an increased funding offer of \$25,000 towards the production of a children's television pilot, the competition could be the kickstart you need to go from idea to reality.

Series concepts can be animation, live action, comedy, drama, reality or game show, with a look and feel that is original and surprising.

Applications close Friday 24 October 2008, with finalists to pitch at the SPAA Conference on 13 November. The winner will be announced on the day.

Guidelines and an application form are available from www.spaa.org.au/conference.