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Wednesday 18th April 2007

'AUSTRALIA' welcomes BRANDON WALTERS

CAST of 'AUSTRALIA'

Baz Luhrmann's AUSTRALIA, a Twentieth Century Fox film, welcomes 11 year old **Brandon Walters** from Broome, Western Australia, to his feature film debut.

Walters will play the role of Nullah, a young boy who lives on Lady Ashley's (**Nicole Kidman**) cattle station in the north of Australia. When Lady Ashley's station is under threat, she and the rough hewn Drover (**Hugh Jackman**) recruit homestead staff to save the property and Nullah is the crucial last team member to join.

Luhrmann and his team have been searching for a young boy to fill the important role for over 12 months and discovered Walters through the results of nationwide radio call outs. Many young indigenous boys were auditioned and a small group attended workshops at Fox Studios Australia in December last year.

Luhrmann and his team recently travelled to Broome and had the privilege of camping with Brandon's family at 80 Mile Beach, WA. It was during this time that Luhrmann and the family decided they would take the leap and become involved in the film together.

"Brandon's a very capable young man with natural cinematic chemistry..." said **Luhrmann**.



Luhrmann adds, "The demands of filming extend over a 6 month duration which is a big challenge for an 11 year old boy with no previous acting experience, so in the end it was the incredible support that surrounds him in the form of his family, his school and the larger Broome community that was the final deciding factor".

While working with Jackman, Kidman and an array of Australia's acting talent, Walters will continue his schooling throughout shooting and in addition, through the film, will have the opportunity to develop his horse riding skills, learn to sing and play musical instruments.

Media Information

For further information please contact:

Edweana Wenkart

Unit Publicist

Tel: 02 8354 1830

Mob: 0407 663 156

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