

Tasmanian filmmaker wins international award

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Lara Giddings

Premier

Tasmanian filmmaker, Pawel Ahtel has been recognised at the prestigious Studiodaily Prime Awards in Las Vegas.

Mr Ahtel won the Innovation Award for his revolutionary underwater 3D film cameras at the event, which is the equivalent of the Oscars for film and television technology.

The Premier and Minister for the Arts, Lara Giddings, congratulated Mr Ahtel on the win.

“This is a wonderful achievement for a Tasmanian filmmaker who has dedicated his time to developing this innovative underwater camera system that produces outstanding 3D vision for film and television,” Ms Giddings said.

“Pawel was competing against inventions by multi-national companies including Sony and Canon, and came out the winner for cutting edge equipment developed at his workshop in Coles Bay on Tasmania’s East Coast.

“The government, through Screen Tasmania, has supported Mr Ahtel to attend the Australian International Documentary Conference to successfully pitch his documentaries which are filmed using his underwater cameras.

“Screen Tasmania has also supported him in gaining funding for his documentaries, one of which was filmed off the south-east coast of Tasmania.

“This international win will not only bring him worldwide attention, it will also generate interest in these exciting documentaries and shine another light on a rarely seen aspect of Tasmania’s natural beauty.

“The screen industry in Tasmania is the strongest it has ever been, with recent successes including Goddess, The Hunter and The First Fagan, driving investment to the state and creating jobs and training opportunities.

“The underwater filming work by this talented award-winning filmmaker will also promote our outstanding coastal locations the waters around Tasmania as spectacular filming locations.”