

ORGANISE A SCREENING OF *FORGED FROM FIRE* - *THE MAKING OF THE* *BLACKSMITHS' TREE* IN YOUR COMMUNITY

CAN YOU ORGANISE A SCREENING OF FORGED FROM
FIRE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

secessionfilms.com/forgedfromfire





Forged from Fire

COMMUNITY SCREENINGS

Forged from Fire is a unique and important film documenting the transformation that took place among a small team of artisans in the wake of the Black Saturday fires.

We are coordinating screenings across the country to coincide with the 10-year memorial anniversary of Black Saturday and beyond. Screenings can be held from 1 February 2019 onwards.

Are you interested in arranging a screening in your community? If you are, book your screening from the Forged from Fire website (see below). A screening will require the purchase a screening licence.

The licence includes a package of resources to support communities to host screenings that are trauma-informed and sensitive to the possible exposure of audience members to the Black Saturday fires. The screening guide was developed by Swinburne University of Technology.

Licences are available for small (\$250 AUD) or large numbers of audiences (\$350 AUD) and are inclusive of GST. Bookings and licence purchases can be made online.

Forged from Fire is distributed by the filmmakers who created this film, all of whom live in fire affected regions of Victoria, Australia. We are a small team of independent film production professionals working together to bring this film to screens anywhere.

For more information please visit secessionfilms.com/forgedfromfire or click on other links below.

[Book a Screening](#)[Watch the Trailer](#)

SYNOPSIS

On Black Saturday, 7 February 2009, townships north-east of Melbourne were engulfed by fire-storms. Considered our worst ever natural disaster, these fires resulted in the highest loss of life peacetime Australia has ever known. After the horror of immediate losses, people embarked on various journeys of repair and recovery. The Blacksmiths' Tree was one of them.

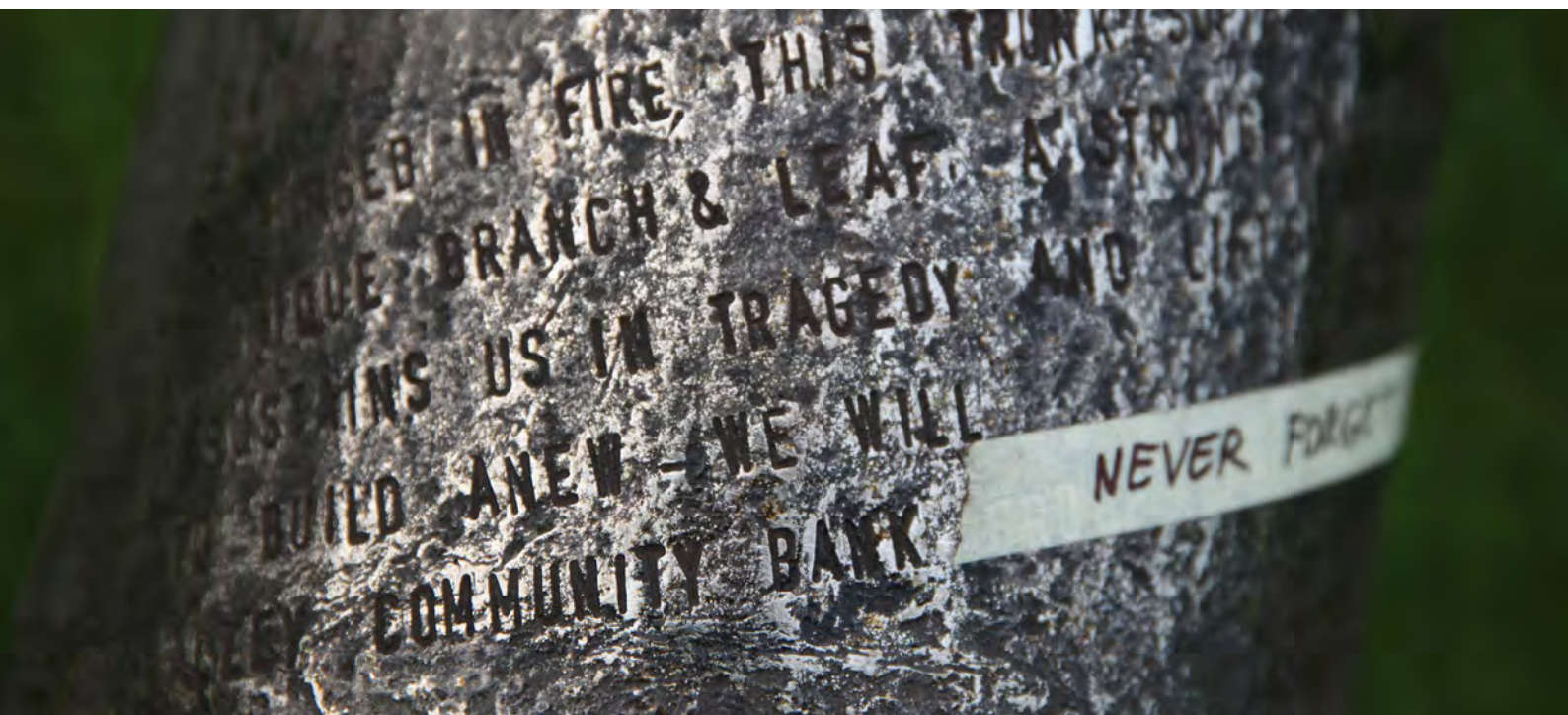
Designer and metal artist Amanda Gibson gathered a team of seasoned blacksmiths from around the world to create a life-size stainless steel and copper gum tree. This happened within a community traumatised by the Black Saturday Fires. The Blacksmiths' Tree would not be without its challenges, but what it became for the people involved is something no one could have imagined.

The Blacksmiths' Tree was an instinctive response to the devastating effects of loss and the inspired flourishing of life that followed. *Forged from Fire* charts the valleys and peaks of this heart-warming project. It documents the remarkable social history of a tragic but important moment for Australia and its people.

VISION

As The Blacksmiths' Tree neared completion, it was evident it was having an effect on the wider community, among fire affected individuals and families, that revealed a deeper story, a story where the impossible became possible.

The Tree grew to be a symbol for healing that gave many people the courage to overcome their grief, allowing this unique stainless steel and copper sculpture to connect them to each other, irrespective of the differences that may have existed prior to Black Saturday. This is the story we are telling in *Forged from Fire*.



CREDITS

PRODUCER, WRITER, DIRECTOR Andrew Garton
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY Mike Wilkins
ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS Jenni Aldred, Rachel Lowe
COLOURIST Mike Wilkins
SOUND MIX Simon Polinski
CAMERAS Andrew Garton, Warwick Page, Barry Thomas, Lin Kerr, Donal Sheil

INTERVIEWS TRANSCRIPTIONS Lisa Inman, Chris Crowe
CREATIVE ADVISORS.....Lynda Watts, Mahony Kiely
MUSICALADVISOR Kate Adam
CHOIR DIRECTOR Kerry Clarke
MUSIC Invention in Time, Charles Brown, Ron McIntyre, Colin James
TITLING & DESIGN Viola Design
AERIAL FOOTAGE I-Drone, Brett Chilton and Michael Prinzi
ARCHIVAL FOOTAGE Warwick Page, Quentin Fogarty and Quotable Productions
TIMELAPSE FOOTAGE Mike Wilkins, Barry Thomas
LEGALS Shaun Miller

COMMUNITY VIDEO & STILLS Courtesy of Carolyn Chalton, The Davey's, Neil Grant, Amanda Gibson, Georgia Munroe, Joji Mori, Kerry Cross, Rachel Cavill, Rob Tarrant, Wendy Gottlieb

BUDGET & FINANCE MANAGEMENT Auspicious Arts

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A PRODUCTION of Secession Films.





FEEDBACK

In response to *Forged from Fire* preview screenings, teasers and exhibitions.

Seeing that tree all together was very affecting for me...like a community put back together after unthinkable devastation.

- JEANNETTE DAVISON (Warrandyte, Australia)

Forged from Fire is a beautiful film. So much passion in the the making of the tree. The film really brought that out well. Lovely shots of the tree..the end especially was so perfect.. It left me wanting more.. Just like when I reach the last page of a book I enjoyed. Difficult to explain. It's those shots of the tree at the end.

- GAYATRI HANDIQUE (Assam, India)

I'm pushing to think of a memorial more beautiful in the world, most are rigid, solid blocks of stone with plaques attached. This one is delicate, every inch an inscription of compassion from people around the world and beautifully put together as a "humanity" tree. Time will tell, but I hope Strathewen will be able to contain this wonderful memorial.

- KERRY CROSS (Warrandyte, Australia)

I thought that the tree with all its leaves was stunning and it was hard to walk away from it. The love, attention, compassion, and positive energy from many people who contributed to creating it was almost tangible! I keep thinking of the tree and its beauty - It's incredibly sad, and incredibly uplifting at the same time.. Such a mixed bag of emotions All the best with the documentary - I look forward to seeing it in its completion :-)

- CAROLYN CHALTON (Whittlesea, Australia)

*Oh Andrew!!! *sigh**

*I have just seen your vimeo movie on FB [Facebook]. *sigh**

AMAZing!!! I cried each of the 3 times I watched it back to back. Your amazing work is yet another heartfelt creative genius that makes 'The Tree' so so special! And I am thrilled, delighted, humbled, embarrassed, excited, proud and touched that two of my photos are included such a powerful experieince beyond words!

- LEANNE DAVEY (Melbourne, Australia)

There was a real desire to do something positive and not make this just about destruction, but to make it about creation.

- AMANDA GIBSON, The Tree Project

It's given people a way of being involved. I think that's a big difference, it's a grassroots creation that's come from an idea and thousands of people, which to me gives it so much more validity than a static memorial.

- SHANE PUGH, Artist and Tree Project Volunteer

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CONTACT

Rachel Lowe

rachel@secessionfilms.com

0405 435 569

Jenni Aldred

jenni@secessionfilms.com

0429 639 233

Andrew Garton

andrew@secessionfilms.com

+61 (0) 409948280

Images by Amanda Gibson, Mike Wilkins and Neil Grant

