

**Duration:** 30 minutes

**Event Description:**

Sophia and Oli both grew up in the South West of Western Australia. They did not know each other and went to different schools in different locations, however through their schooling they were involved in CinefestOZ's schools program – Cinesnaps. In this discussion we find out what happened to them after they left high school. Did they pursue their filmmaking dreams? What has their journey been like and what experiences have they had? How have these contributed to Where are they now?

**Access/Cost**

N/A

**Prepare for participation:**

Review the film guest profiles, prepare a few questions for the Q&A section at the end of the session.

**HOST PROFILE**  
**CHANEL BOWEN**  
**FILMMAKER**



South West local Chanel Bowen has worked on film sets internationally. Graduating from Curtin University with a Bachelor of Arts in Film and TV, Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting and International Business, Chanel pursued the path less followed into the film and television industry. Having worked on notable feature films and television including *Mystery Road* starring Aaron Pedersen, *High Ground* starring Simon Baker, *Secret Bridesmaids Business* starring Abbie Cornish, *Go!* starring Richard Roxburgh and *I Met a Girl* starring Brenton Thwaites, Chanel is well versed in her role as 3rd Assistant Director. Currently, Chanel works to champion minorities as a Board Member for Women in Film and TV Australia and WA alongside her work as Film Program Coordinator at CinefestOZ



**FILM GUEST PROFILE**  
**SOPHIA ARMSTRONG**  
**DIRECTING/ PRODUCING**



Sophia Armstrong was born and raised in a small country town, nestled in the hills of the South West of WA. This is where her love and interest in film grew and where she continues to source her inspiration. Sophia made the big move to the city in 2016 to complete her Bachelor of Screen Arts at Curtin University. After completing her degree, she wanted to continue to further her experience and knowledge and was accepted into WA Screen Academy in 2019, specializing in directing and producing where she completed her Masters of Screen. She hopes to make films now, and in the future, that will inspire and change those who watch her work.



**FILM GUEST PROFILE**  
**OLIVER DEAR**  
**EDITING/ FILMING**



Oliver Dear is a freelance video editor living in Perth. He grew up in the southern West Australian town of Dunsborough, where he developed an interest and passion for filmmaking by making videos for his friends and for YouTube. In 2013, he and a fellow classmate came runner up in the Cinesnaps student film competition, propelling him to follow filmmaking as a career and artform.

After graduating Murdoch University in 2018, Oliver has worked on several drama, comedy, and documentary short films as a freelance video editor. In 2018 he edited the short film *'Payne's Find'*, and a documentary pilot episode for *'True North'*, both directed by Cinesnaps patron, Myles Pollard. In 2019, he completed editing and visual effects on the upcoming feature film, *Toxic Obsession*.

Oliver occasionally works as a data wrangler on the productions of short drama films. He also worked as an assistant on the 2019 films, *'Go!'* and *'Wild Butterfly.'*

He currently works as a video editor at health and safety company, Epigroup, creating educational & training videos, promotional videos, and videos for social media.

