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From: Progressive PR and Publicity on behalf of *Australian Book Review*

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James McNamara is the guest editor of *ABR*'s Film and Television issue (June 1)

Television writer and former *Australian Book Review* Fellow James McNamara will guest edit *ABR*'s second film and television issue, which will be published on 1 June 2018. The first issue was published in April 2015 and featured James's Ian Potter Foundation Fellowship essay [‘The Golden Age of Television?’](#)

James McNamara writes: ‘Our first film and television issue examined the brooding era of television drama. In our second we turn to film, celebrating the stellar movies of past decades with an exciting survey of readers, commentators, and industry professionals, while also looking at the immense changes in film today.

In recent months, the #MeToo movement has deposed Hollywood moguls and sounded a powerful call for equality and the end of abuses in a male-dominated industry. Hollywood's increasing and overdue recognition of filmmakers of colour, with awards glory and box office smashes, offers hope for a more inclusive film community. The medium is changing, as streaming blurs film with television and sparks new audiences and more diverse stories. At this pivotal moment in film history, *ABR* aims to start a spirited, timely conversation. From 1940s classics to today's superhero movies, we discuss the silver screen's achievements while examining its injustices and complexities. *ABR* plays a starring role in our cultural discourse.

It is a privilege to guest edit the publication where I began my writing career and to reflect on film with colleagues in a great magazine of ideas. I hope the issue will inform, delight, and stimulate discussion but, most of all, share our enthusiasm for Australian and international film.’



James McNamara is an Australian television writer based in Los Angeles. His television work includes comedy and drama writers rooms for the Academy Award-winning See-Saw Films, Matchbox Pictures/NBC Universal, Foxtel, ABC, Porchlight Films, and Endemol Shine, and developing shows for Goalpost Pictures and Playmaker Media/Sony Pictures. McNamara received *ABR*'s third Ian Potter Foundation Fellowship for his long-form essay, 'The Golden Age of Television?' (*ABR*, April 2015), praised by Clive James as 'a global contribution to cultural analysis'. McNamara's essays and criticism have also appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Times Literary Supplement*, and *The Spectator*.



Born in Western Australia in 1982, McNamara received degrees in English and Law from the University of Western Australia, graduated in screenwriting from AFTRS, and holds a doctorate in English from Oxford, where he was a Clarendon Scholar. Before becoming a writer, McNamara was a litigator specialising in international disputes at a top-tier US law firm.

He was recently named a [BAFTA LA Newcomer](#), BAFTA's new talent initiative, recognising and supporting international rising stars who have recently moved to Los Angeles.

James McNamara is available for interview

Further information

More information about *Australian Book Review* can be found on the *ABR* website.

Please direct interview requests to Darren Saffin at Progressive PR and Communications on (03) 9696 6417 or darren@progressivepr.com.au