



LEAH PURCELL AM – Actor/Director/Producer/Writer

Leah Purcell, AM, is an internationally acclaimed Actor, Director, Producer and Writer on stage and screen and a proud Goa-Gungari-Wakka Wakka Murri woman from Queensland, Australia.

Leah stars opposite Sigourney Weaver in the recent Amazon Prime Video limited series ***The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart*** (Amazon Studios/Endeavor Content/Made Up Stories). She also stars in both the drama series ***High Country*** (Curio Pictures/Foxtel/Binge), and the feature film ***Shayda*** (Executive Producer, Cate Blanchett) which had its world premiere at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival. As one of Australia's most in demand actors, Leah has appeared in films such as ***The Last Cab to Darwin***, ***Lantana***, ***Jindabyne*** and ***The Proposition*** and in TV series such as ***Wentworth***, ***Police Rescue***, ***Redfern Now*** and ***Janet King***.

Leah's debut feature film, ***The Legend of Molly Johnson***, had its world premiere screening in competition at SxSW 2021 and was released theatrically in the US by Samuel Goldwyn Films. Based on her multi-award winning play ***The Drover's Wife***, Leah produced, directed, wrote and stars in the film, winning the 2022 Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA) Award for Best Lead Actress in Film, 2022 Australian Directors' Guild Award for Best Direction in a Feature Film, 2023 Film Critics Circle of Australia Award (FCCA) for Best Actress, 2021 Asia Pacific Screen Award Grand Jury Prize and 2021 Australian Screen Industry Network Award (ASIN) for Best Writer/Screenplay.

Leah also directed 2 chapters of the recent anthology feature film ***Here Out West*** which premiered at the Sydney Film Festival in 2021.

The Drover's Wife play premiered at Belvoir in 2016 and swept the awards season winning Best New Australian Work, Best Play, Best Direction and Best Sound Design at the 2016 Sydney Theatre Awards and Best New Australian Work, Best Director, Best Actor and Best Play at the 2017 Helpmann Awards. The script was awarded Best Stage Play, the David Williamson Prize for Excellence in Writing and the Major Award at the 2017 Australian Writers' Guild Awards. Leah has also adapted the story into a novel of the same name which was published by Penguin Random House in 2019 and has recently been translated and released in China.

Leah has also worked extensively as a TV director and writer, setting up ***My Life Is Murder*** (Network Ten/CJZ) starring Lucy Lawless. She was also the set-up director on the hit series ***Secret Daughter*** (Seven Network/Screentime) and directed 5 episodes of the critically acclaimed genre series ***Cleverman*** (ABC/Goalpost) which was broadcast in the US on Sundance TV and in the UK on BBC3 and directed 2 episodes of the critically acclaimed series ***Redfern Now*** for ABC and has written 2 episodes on the AACTA Award winning series, ***The Twelve*** (Warner Bros International Television), ***Redfern Now***, ***Love Child*** and ***Ready For This***.