## Solid Screen Festival showcases 'Solid Sisters'



Madeline Hodge by Jenny Fraser. Images supplied

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Indigenous women screenmakers will converge on Far North Queensland's Innot Hot Springs in less than a month for an exciting night showcasing and celebrating their unique and valuable contributions to screen culture worldwide.

The Solid Screen Festival will feature Queensland Murri screenmakers along others from around the country and International Indigenous interdisciplinary practitioners from artforms such as animation, performance art, documentary, theatre and digital storytelling arts backgrounds.

Kicking off on Sunday 20 July

at 5:30pm, the Festival will also feature the inaugural SOLID Awards for Indigenous women in Screen in honour of women with long-standing and also emerging careers in the screen arts both in Australia and overseas.

The night, which is free to the public, is the culmination of years of planning, and is a consolidation to the field of Indigenous Women Screen Makers. Solid Screen Festival is also reciprocal gift the local Far North Queensland community. cyberTribe will soon be marking the 15th anniversary of exhibitions and events and SOLID has been shaped to showcase and enhance the local, national and international wealth of creative talent in the variety of artforms made by and for the screen.

The SOLID SCREEN Festival focuses on the professional development and cultural safety of women, and it is appropriate that it is held in July, to mark NAIDOC week and also celebrate the Seven Sisters Dreaming, the star formation that is in the sky at this time of the year.

The Seven Sisters is a popular Aboriginal Dreaming story based on a constellation known to other cultures as well, like Matariki for Maori, Subaru in Japan, Pleiades to the Greeks and Madoo'asinug is the constellation of the seven sweating stones or "seven sisters" for Anishnawbe. This story reminds us that having a group of women who support and encourage, can help to persevere during times of stress. Thank goodness for the sisterhood.