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# Salo banned - again

As of February 17, 1998, Pier Paolo Pasolini's last film Salo: 120 Days of Sodom was no longer able to be screened in cinemas in Australia. Salo was banned in this country in 1977 and was granted an R-classification by the then Film and Literature Board of Review in 1994.

The banning is a result of a formal application by federal Attorney-General Daryl Williams at the request of his Queensland counterpart, Denver Beanland, to reclassify the film. The Classification Review Board decided to overturn the decision of the Classification Board in June 1997 to maintain Salo's R-rating.

In a press release on the day of its decision, the Review Board's convenor Barbara Biggins stated that the board members assessed Salo against the National Classification Code and the Guidelines and found that the film failed to meet the criteria for an R18+ classification. Instead, the board decided Salo warranted an RC (Refused Classification) which the Guidelines describe as a film which includes any of the following:

- depictions of child sexual abuse, bestiality, sexual acts accompanied by offensive fetishes, or exploitative incest fantasies:
- unduly detailed and/or relished acts of extreme violence or cruelty;
- explicit or unjustifiable depictions of sexual violence against nonconsenting persons.

Biggins stated that a detailed statement of reasons for the decision will be issued in due course.

#### **Rebecca Huntley**

(Thanks go to Pilita Clark, David Haines and David Marr. Watch on Censorship can be contacted via PO Box 950, Glebe, NSW 2037. Tel: 02 9660 3844, fax: 02 9692 8793)

# **Conference Diary Dates**

# March and April 1998

#### 18 & 9 March

Screen Producers Association of Australia, TV & Film Australia, the Asia Pacific Production Show, conference and exhibition, Sydney Convention Centre, Darling Harbour. Speakers include John Polson, director of Tropfest; Iain Fairweather of XYZ Entertainment; Ian Hogg, the Becker Group; and Sandra Levy, executive producer at Southern Star. Cost: Conference Pass, \$350; Day 1 Only Pass, \$195; Day 2 Only Pass, \$195. Entry to the exhibition is free. Contact: Meagan Benson, Festival Coordinator or Alison Nolan, Festival Director, tel (02) 9360 6396, fax (02) 9360 7654, home page http://www.dmw.com.au

#### 24 March

The Sydney Institute, Inside Media Watch, The Chifley Conference Room (Rm 102), Level 1, 2 Chifley Square, Sydney, 5.30pm for 6.00pm. Speaker is David Salter, former producer of the ABC's Media Watch television program.

#### 26 & 27 March

Institute for International Research (IIR), Payphones & Phonecards International Summit 1998, Hotel Nikko, Hongkong. Subjects covered will include new products, the latest technologies and best security systems. Speakers drawn from companies including BT Payphones, U.K.; Hongkong Telecom; Nokia, Finland; MTN South Africa; Telstra, Australia; Siemens Components; T&C Technologies, Singapore; PTT Telecom, The Netherlands; and Anritsu Corp., Japan. Cost: 2-day conference, US\$1,795. Contact: IIR, tel (+852) 2586 1777, fax (+852) 2507 5666, e-mail customersvc@iir.com.hk

## 31 March & 1, 2 April

Institute for International Research (IIR), Mobiles '98, Forum The Grace Hotel, Sydney. Topics include policy and regulation, marketing and business opportunities, technology choices and emerging mobiles technology. Speakers include Alan Horsley, managing director of ATUG; Dick Johnson, chairman of the Telecommunications Access Forum; and Jane Forster, partner, Clayton Utz. Companies taking part include Motorola, Siemens, Telstra, Optus Communications, Century 21, Iridium and Gemplus Technology Asia Pacific. Cost: any 2 days, \$1,795; all 3 days, \$2,395. Contact: IIR, tel (02) 9954 5844, fax (02) 9959 4684, e-mail iir@ozemail.com.au

# 1 & 3 April

Business Law Education Centre, CyberLaw. One day seminar, April 1 at the Sydney Hilton, April 3 at the Hilton on the Park in Melbourne. Issues include the rise of e-commerce, taxation, security and privacy concerns, cross-border disputes and the future of CyberLaw. Speakers drawn from companies including Baker & McKenzie, Gilbert & Tobin, Clayton Utz, Rigby Cooke, Simpsons Solicitors and LawNet. Cost: \$895. Contact: BLEC Customer Service, tel (02) 9210 5777, or fax (02) 9221 7773.

### 6 & 7 April

IBC conferences, *Internet Telephony '98*, The Millenium Hotel, Sydney. Presentations from companies including Cisco Systems Australia, Ericsson Australia, Lucent Technologies, Nokia Communications, Ozemail, Telecom New Zealand, Vodafone Australia and www.consult. Cost: 2 day conference, \$1,795. Contact: IBC, tel (02) 9319 3755, fax (02) 9699 3901, e-mail enquiries@ibcoz.com.au