



## MEDIA RELEASE

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For further information please contact  
Ella Holmes  
ella@embassypictures.com  
M +61 (0) 406 726 178

### SUPERMAN VILLAIN FLIES INTO AUSSIE THRILLER

#### **This summer stay off the back roads...**

Last seen in *Superman Returns* as Grant, one of Lex Luthor's henchmen, Vincent Stone returns to the screen in Dion Boland's new film *The Backpacker*. He plays serial killer Vincent Malek. On playing villains, Stone says, "I love playing a nasty piece of work, especially when the character is as complex as Vincent Malek who has a heavy past and huge agenda. Exploring the sadistic side of human nature is extremely interesting. The cause of psychotic behaviour is often embedded in childhood and how a person has been treated."

Vincent Stone (McManus) is not just an actor. He's a writer, producer/director and youth projects co-ordinator who has designed and implemented award winning short film projects, script writing courses, music programs and many other arts based projects for disadvantaged youth (City of Sydney, DET, Juvenile Justice, Sydney City Mission).

Four years ago with the City of Sydney, Stone launched *Short Black Films*, an initiative aimed at creating the opportunity for Aboriginal young people to tell their stories through short films.

Now, *Short Black Films* is a community based film production company in huge demand. Local councils, community groups and schools are vying for Vincent's short filmmaking workshops. "It's so important for young people to feel a sense of pride in their skills and gain the confidence in themselves that comes with seeing a project through from script to screen. Through the filmmaking experience they develop a sense of belonging and value and they get to see their films screened online, in festivals and on TV (ABC, SBS, NITV)."

Stone's latest role as a psychopathic predator in the thriller takes us on a cat and mouse chase through the treacherous forests, mountains and rocky outcrops around Nundle and Murrurundi in NSW.

*The Backpacker* is an original action thriller in the style of the 1970's John Boorman classic *Deliverance*. *The Backpacker* has started post-production, and is due for completion early 2009.