

Press Invitation Release: Immediate Date: 7th August 2019

PR 19/19

Master Class on Scriptwriting

The Broadcasting Authority together with the Culture Directorate, the Arts Council, and the Malta Film Commission is inviting all drama producers to this master class on scriptwriting given by Dr John Collee. Dr Collee will be in Malta to present a series of master classes to local producers.

Local Maltese drama is one of the most sought programmes on local radio and television broadcasts and the Broadcasting Authority endeavours to promote and support producers and broadcasters in good quality productions.

Such programmes require a good plot, continuous development in characterisation, and a neverending oddity at the end of each programme leading to the next broadcast.

The Broadcasting Authority is committed to work on good quality in programming. Given the popularity of local drama, the Broadasting Authority recognises the need that such drama programmes are professionally produced notwithstanding the limitations of the Maltese industry.

To this end, the Broadcasting Authority together with the Culture Directorate, the Arts Council and the Malta Film Commission have joined forces and will be organising a Masterclass on Script Writing on the 9th, 10th, and 11th September 2019 at the *Spazju Kreattiv*, Valletta.

This course will be led by Dr John Collee who wrote the screenplay for *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World* which was nominated for 10 Oscars; wrote the animated feature *Happy Feet 1* & 2 which won the Oscar for Best Animated Feature in 2007; while his most recent script is for the thriller *Hotel Mumbai*" released in the US last March and which has already won the Audience Award at the Adelaide Film Festival.

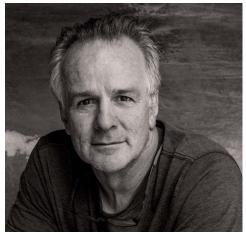
The participation fee is €50 for the three sessions and these will be held from 9:30am to 2:30pm on Monday, 9th to Wednesday 11th September, 2019 at *Spazju Kreattiv*, Valletta. A certificate of attendance will be given at this Master Class.

Those interested in attending are to send an e-mail to <u>culture@gov.mt</u> with their name, address, and contact number to register for this Masterclass on Script Writing by not later than **Friday, 23rd August 2019** while payment has to be made by not later than **Friday, 30th August 2019**.

Please circulate.

Dr Joanna Spiteri PhD Chief Executive 7 August 2019





DR. JOHN COLLEE

9, 10 & 11 SEPTEMBER, 2019 9.30 a.m. - 2.30 p.m.

AT SPAZJU KREATTIV, VELLETTA

Participation Fee: €50 for the three sessions

Register at: culture@gov.mt

John Collee was born in 1955. He grew up in Edinburgh. Studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and began practising medicine. In his third year of practice, he wrote the medical thriller *Kingsley's Touch*, which was published in 1984. He then wrote a second novel titled *A Paper Mask*, which was published in 1987. Rights to the novel were acquired for a film adaptation, and Collee wrote the screenplay for director Christopher Morahan, who released the film "Paper Mask" in 1990.

Collee moved to Sydney, Australia in 1996 to meet Australian directors like Peter Weir and George Miller. For Peter Weir, Collee wrote the screenplay for "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World" starring Russell Crowe and Paul Bettany. The film was nominated for 10 Oscars, including Brest Picture. It won 2. For George Miller, John Colle wrote the animated feature "Happy Feet 1 & 2" which won the Oscar for Best Animated Feature in 2007.

His most recent film is the thriller "Hotel Mumbai" which was released in the US last March. It already won the Audience Award at the Adelaide Film Festival.





