



# Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc

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## Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow

**MEDIA RELEASE – 7 September 2022**

### **Screening of award winning film “Message of the Lyrebird” to raise funds for Blue Mountains conservation**

A special screening of the multi-award-winning nature documentary **Message of the Lyrebird** will take place on September 21 at United Cinemas at Katoomba to raise funds in support of conservation efforts in the Blue Mountains.

The film features spectacular footage of lyrebird behaviour in the wild and includes interviews with a lyrebird researcher, a lyrebird sound recordist, a lyrebird keeper, an activist, and a First Nations knowledge-holder descended from the D’harawal nation.

“This is a film about the relationship between people and birds, set in a natural wonderland where an exquisite forest faery has been performing his astonishing song and dance routines for millions of years,” said director and producer Mark B Pearce.

“It is a timeless journey of self-reflection and connection, and a call to remember to live without destroying the things we love,” says Pearce.

The film showcases the fact that no other bird on the planet can do what the lyrebird can do. Cultural significant to many First Nations people, the famed mimic has fooled birdwatchers, bushwalkers and campers with its seemingly impossible skill of mimicking the sounds of anything it hears. The deep valleys and complex forests where lyrebirds make their home still exist – but as lyrebirds pick up human sounds from their environment, the film explores whether they are singing the sad story of human encroachment on their habitats.

The film features interviews with Carol Proberts, Blue Mountains local bird expert, along with a lyrebird researcher and local Blue Mountains resident, Dr Anastasia Dalziell, Vice Chancellor Research Fellow at the University of Wollongong. At the screening Dr Dalziell will introduce the film and take questions afterwards.

“The Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area is a stronghold for the lyrebird. Bushwalkers frequently encounter lyrebirds and many residents whose gardens back onto bush are lucky enough to have lyrebirds visiting”, said Madi Maclean, President of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society.

“A large area of the Blue Mountains forests where lyrebirds live and forage was impacted by the 2019-20 fires, raising questions of whether they will need more protection in future. The Society is proud to host the screening of this film which

emphasises the need to conserve our native forests in order to protect this beautiful bird.”

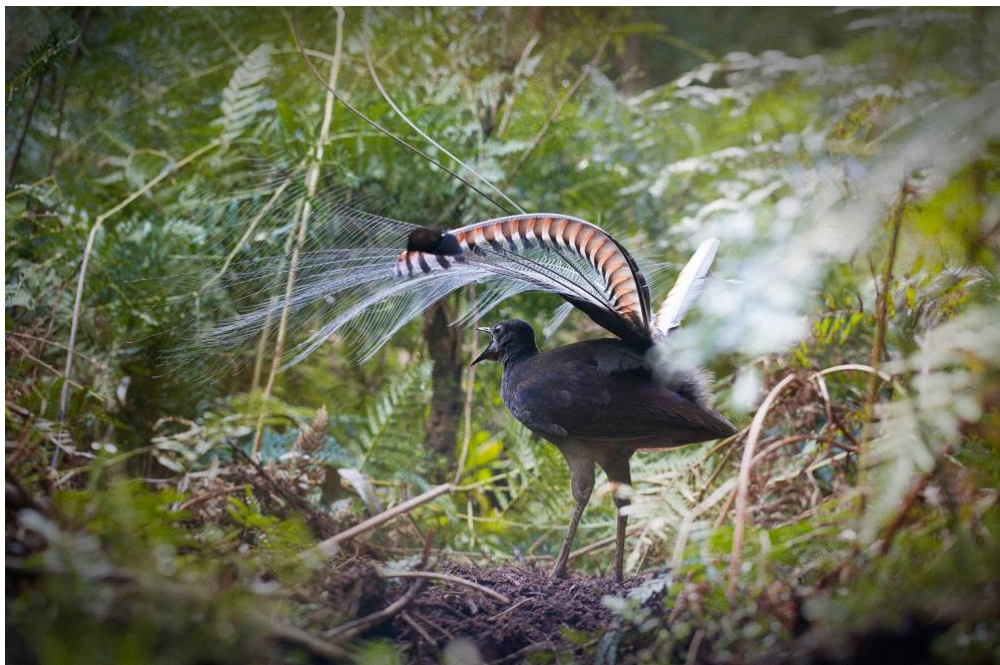
The screening is hosted by, and is a fundraiser for, the Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc, courtesy of Balangara Films and Dr Dalziell. Funds raised will assist the Society in its advocacy and campaigning for the natural environment.

The Message of the Lyrebird film screens at 6.50pm on Wednesday 21 September at United Cinemas Katoomba, 225 Great Western Hwy, Katoomba. Tickets are available through the United Cinema’s website or on the night. For more information and to watch the trailer, visit the Society website at [www.bluemountains.org.au](http://www.bluemountains.org.au).

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For more information or to request an interview with Dr Anastasia Dalziell contact:

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The Message of the Lyrebird Photo courtesy of Balangara Films.