



## LAUNCH LAB | Screenwriting with Ben Crisp

Ready to tell your story on screen?

The Mercury is excited to present this Screenwriting Launch Lab led by the highly accomplished **Ben Crisp**. This intensive workshop is perfect for aspiring writers, beginners curious about the craft, or anyone looking to further their understanding of the fundamentals of cinematic storytelling.

Ben will dive into the core principles of screenwriting, including **developing compelling characters and engaging plots to structuring your story effectively, writing impactful dialogue that serves your narrative, and understanding industry-standard formatting.**

With the next iteration of the **Quicksilver Production Fund** opening for applications soon, the day will culminate in a session focused on Mastering **the Art of the Award-Winning Short Film Script**. Here, we'll break down the elements that elevate a short film script from good to unforgettable, focusing on concise storytelling, powerful imagery, and the unique demands of the short form that capture attention and earn accolades.

### About Ben Crisp

Ben Crisp is an acclaimed screenwriter and filmmaker with a deep understanding of storytelling for the screen. His work has been recognised in numerous festivals and competitions, demonstrating his mastery of crafting narratives that resonate with audiences and critics alike. Ben's films are known for their sharp writing, innovative concepts, and emotional depth.

Ben has a unique blend of practical experience and teaching acumen. He possesses a rare ability to demystify complex screenwriting concepts, making them accessible and exciting for beginners. His own success in crafting award-winning short films means he can offer invaluable, first-hand insights into what makes a script truly stand out. Participants will benefit immensely from his clear guidance, constructive feedback, and inspiring passion for the craft, empowering them to confidently embark on their screenwriting journey.

**Date:** Saturday 23 August 2025

**Time:** Doors 9.30am | Lab 10.00am – 4.00pm | Networking 4.00pm – 5.00pm

**Venue:** The Mercury

**Cost:** \$75 or **FREE FOR MERCURY SUBSCRIBERS**

**Book** [here](#)

**FULL PROGRAM:**

<b>0930 – 1000</b>	<b>DOORS OPEN + COFFEE!</b>
<b>1000 – 1115</b>	<b>Screenwriting Foundations – Process, Formats &amp; Concepts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- What is a screenwriter? Roles &amp; career paths</li><li>- Formats: short films, features, TV, web</li><li>- Genre &amp; concept development</li><li>- Group brainstorm: story ideas</li></ul>
<b>1115 – 1130</b>	<b>MORNING TEA BREAK</b>
<b>1130 – 1230</b>	<b>Building Stories – Plot, Character &amp; Dialogue</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Story structure essentials</li><li>- Plot &amp; sequencing</li><li>- Character development</li><li>- Writing realistic, purposeful dialogue</li><li>- Group exercise: short scene writing</li></ul>
<b>1230 – 1330</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
<b>1330 – 1600</b>	<b>Mastering the Art of the Award-Winning Short Film Script</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- What makes a short film script stand out?</li><li>- Screening &amp; analysis of award-winning shorts</li><li>- Concise storytelling, visual writing, contained stories</li><li>- Group workshop: develop &amp; pitch short film concepts</li><li>- Tips for Quicksilver applications</li></ul>
<b>1600 – 1700</b>	<b>NETWORKING in Foyer</b>