

## **BYRON BAY WRITERS FESTIVAL PRESENTS *Romulus, My Father***

### **Meet Richard Roxburgh at Byron film preview.**

The Byron Bay Writers Festival is delighted to present an advance screening of the stunning new Australian film, *Romulus, My Father*. This preview will be held at Byron Cinemas, Byron Bay on Sunday 20 May at 4pm.

Based on Raimond Gaita's critically acclaimed memoir, this unashamedly emotional film is the big screen directorial debut for brilliant actor and stage director Richard Roxburgh. Eric Bana, one of Australia's most successful international stars, plays the title role. Developed with Richard Roxburgh over seven years, *Romulus, My Father* has been adapted for the screen by acclaimed poet and playwright, Nick Drake.

The Festival is thrilled to announce that Richard Roxburgh, together with film critic Peter Thompson, will conduct a Q & A after the showing. "The singular thing about this story, given its tragic dimension, its almost biblical reach, is how strangely uplifting it is. Somehow through the pain, there is not only a sense of possibility, but of promise, held in the relationship of that father and son" said Roxburgh

Appearing with Eric Bana is Franka Potente (*Run Lola, Run*; *The Bourne Identity* and *The Bourne Supremacy*) as his wife Christina. Kodi Smit-McPhee makes his Australian feature film lead debut as Rai. And be warned: he will break your heart.

The film burns with a European intensity set in an arid and unforgiving Australian landscape. We follow the tale of a boy, Rai, trying to balance a universe dominated by his deeply moral father, against the experience of heartbreaking absence and neglect from a depressive mother. Ultimately, this is a story of intense love that celebrates the unbreakable bond between father and son.

This special screening will begin at 4.00pm. Tickets are just \$15 for film and Q&A with Richard Roxburgh, and must be booked at the Byron Cinemas on 6680 8555