

## **Andrew Pearce Biography**

Andrew Pearce was born in 1989 in Wodonga, Victoria. He grew up on his family's beef farm in the Kiewa Valley, where he currently resides. In 2007 and 2008, Pearce studied both film and photography while undertaking the Victorian Certificate of Education at Wodonga Senior Secondary College. During this period, he obtained a Certificate IV in Multimedia and received positive feedback for his work, which encouraged him to continue with his photographic and film studies after graduating from high school. In 2010, Pearce graduated from Sydney Film School with a Diploma of Screen and Media. During his studies he was awarded 'Best Cinematographer', 'Best Screenplay' and 'Best Editing'.

Pearce's short film *The Black Pages* was screened at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne in 2008. In the following year, his photography work was exhibited in the Melbourne Museum as part of the group exhibition 'Top Designs'. In the same year the National Gallery of Victoria featured Pearce's work in the visual arts exhibition 'Top Arts', an annual event that showcases the best Year 12 artworks from across Victoria.

In 2009, in conjunction with the Albury Art Prize, Dr Gene Sherman, Chairman and Executive Director of Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation, awarded Pearce the Susan Moorhead Memorial Award. The award was established in memory of artist Susan Moorhead (1947–90). It serves to honour her commitment to art, and aims to assist emerging visual artists from the Albury-Wodonga region in the development and realisation of their professional career goals. For his work titled *Wolves are Withering*, Pearce was awarded a \$2,000 prize and a solo exhibition in 2011 at the Albury Art Gallery. The exhibition, titled 'The Wandering', will feature 13 photographic works and three short films.

In less than five years, Pearce has achieved national recognition and has exhibited internationally, nationally and locally. Highlights of Pearce's career to date include being awarded first prize by renowned Australian landscape photographer Ken Duncan, in the National Youth Week photography competition in 2010, for his work *A Silent Town*. He was selected as a semi-finalist in the world's richest photography competition, the Moran Contemporary Photographic Prize, in 2011, with two works, *The Tumour* and *One in Five*. And he was selected as the winner of the International Music Video Competition, for UK band Duran Duran, in conjunction with Genero.tv who provide a platform where filmmakers compete to make the official music videos for featured artists and songs, for his film clip *Before the Rain*.

Pearce currently runs AndyPictures, a business specialising in film, photography and design. Pearce would like to continue creating and exhibiting new work in the coming years in the hope of broadening his audience by being involved in art festivals and competitions.