

MEMO TO: Oscars Broadcast Director
FROM: Head Honcho
RE: Oscars Broadcast

D--, as you know, there have been some changes flagged for this year's Oscars Ceremony. Billy Crystal's out and Chris Rock will be hosting. Also, some winners will be receiving their Oscars in their seats.

Although these changes are aimed at the American audience, the good news is that this year we're sending our own crew, covering the awards with five cameras specifically for the Australian audience. You'll direct the broadcast live-to-tape.

Herewith are the guidelines to be followed for the broadcast:

Most importantly, the golden rule is: *Cut to Cate*. I want three of our cameras on Ms. Blanchett the entire evening. That leaves one for the host on stage and one for the winner in each category. That will be more than sufficient. Indeed, if the winner in a category is not famous, or doesn't speak English, cut to Cate.

Chris Rock is a famous comedian in the US but is barely known here. If you're finding his humour too "R&B" for Australian audiences, cut to Cate.

Russell's been back in the news with this whole *Eucalyptus* thing. I know he's not nominated but he's gonna be there because he wants an Oscar next year for *Cinderella Man*. If Cate's in the bathroom: Cut to Russ.

Adam Elliot stole the nation's hearts last year when he accepted that award for *Harvey Krumpet*. Have the tape of that speech standing by. If Sejong Park isn't announced as the winner for *Birthday Boy* in Best Animated Short, run the Elliot speech. No-one cares about the other nominees and they'll be happy to see Adam thank

his boyfriend again. NB: Make sure you cut out the bit where he mentions SBS.

Regarding those winners who receive their awards in their seats: They'll be minor winners - Documentary Short Subject, Sound Effects Editing etc. Whenever they present these awards, cut to Cate. She's a great actress - our viewers would prefer to watch her *listen* to their speeches than see the speeches themselves. If Cate's out getting a drink, cut to Russ. If he's out getting a drink, or in the bathroom, or in a fight, cut to Adam Elliot. (Actually, if Russ is in a fight, cut to Russ.) We're gonna stick Adam in a studio here in Willoughby with a "HOLLYWOOD" sign backdrop and a glass of champagne, his Oscar, and the Harvey Krumpet puppet. NB: What's John Michael Howsen doing at the moment?

If - and god forbid this should happen - *if* Cate doesn't win for Best Supporting Actress, cut to Russ' look of disgust, then cut to Adam Eliot, who will talk about how great Kate is. Then show clips of Kate in *The Aviator*.

Other points to consider:

Nic didn't get nominated this year so she might not attend. But if she does, cut to her as much as possible, but not as much as Cate. Unless Cate doesn't win, in which case start cutting to Nic more.

Mel's probably pissed off that *The Passion of the Christ* has so few nominations and might not attend, and even if he does, most Australians no longer regard him as one of us, so if he's there, by all means cut to him a lot, but less than Russ and Adam and Nic and Cate.

If Sejong Park wins, assess his speech. If it's funny and charmingly Australian, cut to him a lot after that. But not before.

Remember, when in doubt, cut to Cate. NB If Cate doesn't attend we're going to show a special quadruple episode of *Joey*.