RUBY
entertainment

Ruby Entertainment option dramatic film/TV rights in

The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka

Ruby Entertainment is thrilled to announce that it has optioned the dramatic film and television rights for *The Forgotten rebels of Eureka* , the captivating, surprising , visceral and universally appealing story about the women of the Eureka Rebellion of 1854 , by Stella Prize-winning historian Clare Wright.

The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka is the most talked-about work of Australian history in recent years. Clare Wright's groundbreaking, award-winning study of the women who made the rebellion is one of Australia's foundation legends. Ten years in the research and writing, irrepressibly bold, entertaining, and often irreverent in style, *The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka* is a fitting tribute to the unbiddable women of Ballarat—women who made Eureka a story for us all.

Ballarat 1854, heart of the Australian Gold Rush, was the most desired destination for everyone in the world, a place where not only fortunes could be made, but where the raw freedom of Australia offered new possibilities of life and liberty to men - and women - desperate to escape the strictures of their old lives in Europe and even America.

These women were central to the working, family and cultural life of the goldfields, and instrumental in the creation of the Eureka Flag, depicting the Southern Cross, hoisted above the diggings by rebellious miners, in defiance of the police and British military garrison on December 1, 1854. Two days later , a short but bloody battle took place in which upwards of 30 people were killed, and which to this day is regarded as the birth of modern Australian freedom.

In the tent city of the Ballarat diggings one could find rebel Irish, fugitive negro slaves, industrious Chinese, European peasants and merchant. It was the world's first multicultural melting pot, and it was bound together by a community of spirited, dynamic women whose story has hitherto been untold.

The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka, won the 2014 Stella Prize and the 2014 NIB Award for Literature, was a finalist for the Walkely Book Award and was shortlisted for the Prime Minister's, WA Premier's and Queensland Literary Awards, the NSW Premier's History Awards, and the Victorian Community History Awards. The book has recently been published in a Young Adult edition as *We Are The Rebels*.

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Dr Clare Wright is a historian who has worked as an academic, political speechwriter, historical consultant and radio and television broadcaster.
Clare's essays and journalism have been published in *Griffith Review*, *Meanjin*, *Overland*, *The Age*, *The Guardian*, *The Conversation*, *Crikey* and *Women's Agenda.* She wrote and presented the ABC TV documentary *Utopia Girls: How Women Won the Vote* and created and co-wrote the ABC TV series *The War That Changed Us,* which was nominated for a Logie in 2015 for Most Outstanding Factual Program.
She is currently an Associate Professor in History at La Trobe University, where she holds an ARC Future Fellowship to research a new history of mining in Australia. Clare lives in Melbourne with her husband, three children and too many pets.

Ruby Entertainment is a boutique production company with a strong track record of quality and iconic programs. Most recently, they produced land mark mini-series 'The Secret River' for the ABC, which has recently won an AWGIE Award, Screen Composer's Award, and Screen Producer's of Australia Award, and is nominated for 8 AACTA Awards

"We are delighted to have won the rights for "The Forgotten Rebels of Eureka" and to be able to develop it for the screen. This wonderful book is rich in stories that take audiences on an amazing journey with characters who were part of forming Australia as a nation, moulding the Australian character and shaping the new world. The experiences and perspectives of the women of this time were pivotal in making us what we are and their stories have never been properly told. Now is the time. This is the perfect project to follow our mini-series, "The Secret River" and we are sure it will resonate profoundly with audiences here and round the world." Ruby principals **Stephen Luby and Mark Ruse**

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