

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE4959

## Armstrong, Gillian

(1950 - )

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**Born** 19501218, Melbourne Victoria Australia

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**Occupation** Director

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### Summary

Gillian May Armstrong, a celebrated Australian film and documentary director was born on 18 December 1950 in Melbourne, Victoria. A graduate of the Australian Film, Television and Radio School, she was the first woman in nearly fifty years to direct an Australian feature film with the release of *My Brilliant Career* in 1979. Her subsequent films, including *Little Women* (1994) and *Oscar and Lucinda* (1997) established her reputation internationally. Founding President of the Australia's Directors' Guild and a Member of the Order of Australia, Armstrong is a Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF) Ambassador in 2026.

### Published resources

#### Site Exhibition

The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia, Smart, Judith and Swain, Shurlee (eds.), 2014,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders>

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

### Author Details

Helen Morgan

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