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Graduate's global ambition

AT the age of 24, talented Ben Kumanovski is arguably already living the film producer's dream.

Having graduated from JMC Academy in 2006 with a Bachelor of Communications in digital television production, Mr Kumanovski's passion for filmmaking combined with the vocational skills he picked up at JMC meant it was not long before this entrepreneurial producer and director had set up his own production company, Global Pictures.

Today he is busier than ever and has a pipeline of ongoing corporate video work with blue chip clients such as resources giant BHP Billiton.

However Mr Kumanovski has not lost sight of his own filmmaking goals.

In fact, by mixing production skills originally picked up at JMC with new animation and Green Screen technologies, he is finding his personal filmmaking continuously breaking new boundaries and in terms of his use of technology is now on a par with the bigger studios.

"Being taught by teachers with plenty of real-life industry experience and know-how was amazing.

"I got a good feel early on for managing client

expectations through scenario-based exercises such as the annual JMC Integration & Showcase project. This gave me plenty of client engagement skills that I have since used on many occasions.

"I also learnt to use the green screen at JMC and continue to use it in daily corporate production work, but less so with my films to date, although this is definitely changing."

Mr Kumanovski said his passion for filmmaking grew while he was at JMC.

"I produced a number of short films during my time there and my last, called *Tiger 1*, actually won the 2007 Diet Coke Short Film Festival Best Editor award.

"Aside from the \$5000, the industry kudos and recognition that comes with winning something like this is pretty amazing."

Global Pictures produces a cross-section of marketing and education content for clients in very different industries.

"I am out and about a lot and on any given day I could be suited-up in a city boardroom or in a suit of a different kind out at a coalmine."



WORLDWIDE: His JMC technical grounding is helping director-producer Ben Kumanovski build a company and a career.