



MEDIA RELEASE

FEBRUARY 11, 2013

Sydney Film Festival celebrates its 60th anniversary 5-16 June 2013

Sydney Film Festival celebrates its 60th anniversary this 5-16 June bringing a packed program of screenings and special events to even more venues across our great city.

As well as screening around 150 films across 12 days and nights; a series of red carpet galas, talks and forums; and soon-to-be-announced international guests; Sydney Film Festival 2013 will present an extended program of free events at the 'Sydney Film Festival Hub' at Lower Town Hall, even more screenings at the heritage-listed State Theatre and Event Cinemas George Street and return to the opulent Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace on the city's North Shore after a near 30-year absence.

To mark this historic 60th year of the Festival's history, Sydney Film Festival will launch a comprehensive interactive eBook on 27 March. This free, living resource will be packed with original research, criticism and essays about the history of SFF and its role in the development of local art and culture, and gives users the ability to learn more about this prestigious Australian festival. For more information visit www.sff.org.au from 27 March.

From 5-16 June, Sydney Film Festival will showcase the best in cinema from across Australia and around the world, including features, documentaries, short films, retrospectives, restorations, animation and more.

The Sydney Film Festival programming team gathers an amazing selection from film festivals around the world, including Cannes, Sundance, Toronto and the Berlinale, then brings them home to add to our finest local productions, creating a packed program of more than 250 screenings for patrons to choose from.

Travelling way beyond the mainstream, there really will be something for all tastes and interests to select from, with many ways for patrons to map their own Festival adventure from a single ticket to a full subscription and all points between.

A sneak preview of the 2013 program will be announced on 3 April and the full program will be revealed on 8 May.

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This year marks Sydney Film Festival's second year with Festival Director **Nashen Moodley** at the helm. Moodley's impressive career includes roles as Manager/Head of Programming at South Africa's **Durban International Film Festival** (2001–2011) and Director of Asia and Africa programs for **Dubai International Film Festival** (2005–current) as well as curating Tehran's first South African Film Festival (2006).

ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Sydney Film Festival screens feature films, documentaries, short films and animations across the city at the State Theatre, Event Cinemas George Street, Dendy Opera Quays, the Art Gallery of NSW and the Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace. The Festival is a major event on the New South Wales cultural calendar and is one of the world's longest-running film festivals. For more information visit www.sff.org.au

Sydney Film Festival also presents twelve films that vie for the 'Official Competition'; a highly respected international honour that awards a \$60,000.00 cash prize based on the decision of a jury of international and Australian filmmakers and industry professionals. Previous Sydney Film Festival Official Competition winners include: *Alps* (2012), *A Separation* (2011) – which went on to win an Academy Award®, *Heartbeats* (2010), *Bronson* (2009) and *Hunger* (2008).

The 60th Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Arts NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia, and the City of Sydney. The Festival's Strategic partner is the NSW Government through Destination NSW.

What: Sydney Film Festival

When: 5-16 June, 2013

Tickets & Info: 1300 733 733 www.sff.org.au

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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