



MEDIA RELEASE

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SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL REVEALS A PROGRAM OF FILMS TO FREAK YOU OUT

The 62nd Sydney Film Festival today announces seven new films and a retrospective double feature of '50s horror classics in *Freak Me Out*, the Festival's horror, cult, macabre and extreme arthouse film program.

New to **Dendy Newtown** and returning to **Event Cinemas George Street**, as well as **Skyline Drive-In Blacktown**, *Freak Me Out* is dedicated to weird, wild and shocking cinema.

"Now in its fifth year, the program in 2015 continues with seven new cutting-edge gore, freak, horror, monster, ghost and other experimental films," said guest **Freak Me Out Programmer Richard Kuipers**, a *Variety* film critic specialising in cult cinema. "The Festival will also screen a double feature of 1950s sci-fi horror classics, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* and *Them!*, at Skyline Drive-In Blacktown," he said.

Freak Me Out is a diverse program. From New Zealand, *Deathgasm* will supply a gorefest combining horror and heavy metal, with director **Jason Lei Howden** and executive producer **Ant Timpson** attending the Festival. *Turbo Kid* (also produced by Timpson) is a New Zealand/Canadian co-production by a trio of directors known as the Road Kill Super Stars, described as "the lost kids movie you should never make your kid watch." It won the Audience Award in the Midnighters program at SXSW.

The Festival's fright fest showcases a broad range of genre material. From the arthouse horror realm comes *Goodnight Mommy* (best film, Stiges Film Festival), directed by **Severin Fiala** and **Veronika Franz**, partner of famed Austrian filmmaker **Ulrich Seidl**; artful romance-cum-monster movie *Spring*; and vintage haunted-house horror revived in *We Are Still Here*, starring **Barbara Crampton** (*Days of Our Lives*, *Re-Animator*). American indie thriller *The Invitation* brings white-knuckle psychodrama to the table, and three tales of love, horror and sex in Berlin are told in *German Angst*, by three of Germany's most prominent horror directors: **Jörg Buttgerit**, **Michal Kosakowski** and **Andreas Marschall**.

2015 Freak Me Out films:

- **DEATHGASM** New Zealand | 2015 | 86 mins | In English Australian Premiere
- **GERMAN ANGST** Germany | 2015 | 111 mins | In English, German and Polish with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
- **GOODNIGHT MOMMY** Austria | 2014 | 99 mins | In German with English subtitles | Australian Premiere
- **THE INVITATION** USA | 2014 | 90 mins | In English | Australian Premiere

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- **SPRING** USA | 2014 | 109 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
- **TURBO KID** New Zealand, Canada | 2014 | 95 mins | In English Australian Premiere
- **WE ARE STILL HERE** USA | 2014 | 86 mins | In English | Australian Premiere
- **INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS** USA | 1956 | 80 mins | In English
- **THEM!** USA | 1954 | 92 mins | In English

Sydney Film Festival runs 3 – 14 June 2015.

Tickets for Sydney Film Festival 2015 are on sale now. Please call 1300 733 733 or visit sff.org.au for more information.

ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

From **Wednesday 3 June** to **Sunday 14 June 2015**, the 62nd Sydney Film Festival offers Sydneysiders another exciting season of cinema amidst a whirlwind of premieres, red-carpet openings, panel discussions, international guests and more. Each year the Festival's programming team curates 12 days of cinema sourced from world-famous film festivals, including Cannes, Sundance, Toronto and the Berlinale; as well as Australia's finest local productions.

Sydney Film Festival also presents an Official Competition of 12 films that vie for the Sydney Film Prize, a highly respected honour that awards a \$60,000 cash prize based on the decision of a jury of international and Australian filmmakers and industry professionals. Previous Sydney Film Prize winners are: *Two Days, One Night* (2014); *Only God Forgives* (2013); *Alps* (2012); *A Separation* (2011), which went on to win an Academy Award; *Heartbeats* (2010); and *Bronson* (2009).

The Festival takes place across greater Sydney: at the State Theatre, Event Cinemas George Street, Dendy Opera Quays, Dendy Newtown, Art Gallery of NSW, Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace Cremorne, Casula Powerhouse, the Festival Hub at Sydney Town Hall and SFF Outdoor Screen.

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.

The 62nd Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Screen NSW and Destination NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia and the City of Sydney.

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