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## FILM FULL SUBSCRIPTION

\$90 Adult  
\$80 Concession

## FILM FLEXIPASS

\$53 Adult  
\$48 Concession

## SINGLE TICKETS

\$14 Adult  
\$12 Concession  
\$10 Student/Kids

## PRESENTED BY SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

T 02 8220 6600 E tff@sff.org.au  
W sff.org.au

Front image: *Ali's Wedding*

# HOW TO BOOK

Book tickets online in advance at [sff.org.au/wollongong](http://sff.org.au/wollongong)  
For ticket enquiries please contact Sydney Film Festival on 02 8220 6600 or contact the cinema box office.

Greater Union Cinemas  
68 Burelli St  
Wollongong NSW 2500  
Phone: (02) 4228 4888

Opening Night includes a drink on arrival.

Subscriptions are transferable but admit only one person per screening.

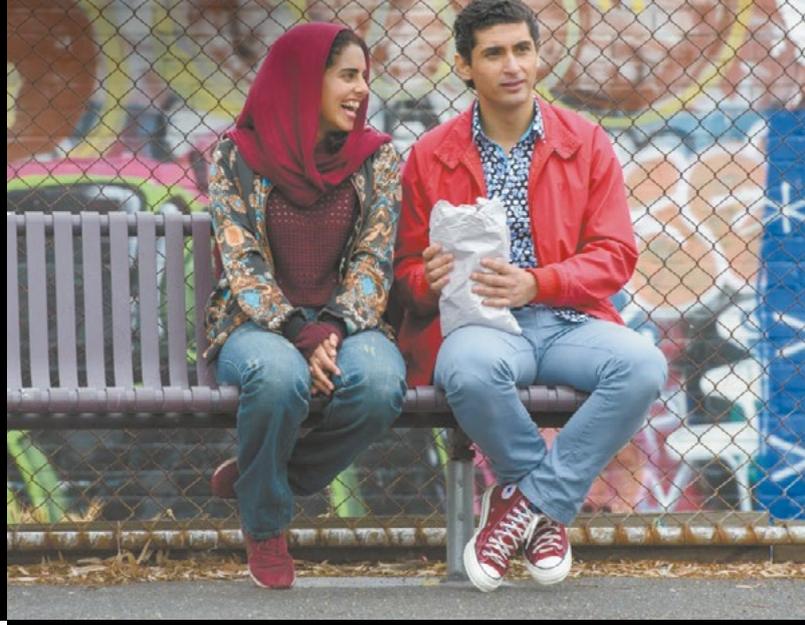
Concessions: unemployed, pensioners, seniors, members of *Sydney Film Festival* and members of the *Illawarra Film Society* – upon presentation of ID.

All films start at the advertised time – we do not screen ads.

UC = Unclassified 15+.

All details correct at time of printing but subject to change without notice.

# TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL



## TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL VISITS...

NT Alice Springs, Darwin, Katherine QLD Bundaberg, Cairns, Mackay, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville NSW Huskisson, Nambucca Heads, Newcastle, Port Macquarie, Sawtell, Tamworth, Ulladulla, Wagga Wagga, Wollongong TFF AT SEA Sydney to Tasmania



Travelling Film Festival acknowledges the financial assistance of Screen Australia and the New South Wales Government through Screen NSW and is supported by media partner ABC Illawarra.

# WOLLONGONG

## GREATER UNION CINEMAS 21–24 JULY 2017

Screens with short film *How The Light Gets In*

Please join us from 6pm for a complimentary drink on arrival.

True is stranger than fiction. *Ali's Wedding* is based on the real-life experience of lead actor Osama Sami, whose arranged marriage lasted less than two hours. The smart screenplay by Sami and Andrew Knight (*Hacksaw Ridge, Rake, Jack Irish*) tells a humorous, authentic and poignant tale about family life in multicultural Australia. Slightly directed by Jeffrey Walker (*Modern Family, Angry Boys*), the film boasts a terrific cast including Don Hany as Ali's father and delightful newcomer Helana Sawires as Diane, the Lebanese-Australian medical student who sends Ali's heartbeat racing. The time is right for a feel-good winner like *Ali's Wedding*.

### Original Screenplay.

Muslim cleric's son to do? This Australian comedy won an AWMG for Best

Ali's arranged marriage is looming, but he loves someone else. What's a

SELECTED: SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

110 mins | 15+

FRIDAY 21 JULY 7PM



# OPENING NIGHT ALI'S WEDDING

6.30PM	MADAME (18+)
<b>MONDAY 24 JULY</b>	
5.00PM	THE OTHER SIDE OF HOPE (15+)
2.30PM	I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO (M)
12.00PM	THE TEACHER (M)
<b>SUNDAY 23 JULY</b>	
8.30PM	FUN MOM DINNER (18+)
6.30PM	BLUE (PG)
3.30PM	SAMI BLOOD (15+)
1.00PM	POP AYE (18+) screens with short <i>Finding Maawitrangga</i>
11.30AM	MY LIFE AS A ZUCCHINI (PG)
<b>SATURDAY 22 JULY</b>	
7PM	ALI'S WEDDING (15+) screens with short <i>How The Light Gets In</i>
6PM	OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION
<b>FRIDAY 21 JULY</b>	

# SCHEDULE

Sign up for our e-newsletter and to receive a program in the post next year: [sff.org.au/tff](http://sff.org.au/tff)



@travellingfilmfestival



Travelling Film Festival Wollongong



Keep up to date with program and tour announcements, giveaways and more!

# STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL TFF...

## MY LIFE AS A ZUCCHINI



**SATURDAY 22 JULY 11.30AM**

Directed by Claude Barras | Switzerland, France | In English | 66 mins | PG

**NOMINATED:** BEST ANIMATED FEATURE FILM, ACADEMY AWARDS & GOLDEN GLOBES 2017

**SELECTED:** SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

An Oscar-nominated Swiss-French stop-motion family animation that's realistic and life affirming, dealing with real issues in a way that doesn't patronise or traumatise its audience.

When nine-year old Zucchini's alcoholic mother dies, he is taken to an orphanage filled with misfits who, like himself, have been dealt a rough hand by life. Little does he know, they will soon become his de facto family. Based on a best-selling young adult novel, *My Life as a Zucchini* is an unusual, affirming but honest film that calls on its young audience's ability to empathise with lives far tougher than their own. They'll come out heartened, strengthened and more resilient from the experience – and so will the adults who take them.

**"This beautifully tender and empathetic film addresses kids and adults alike in clear and compassionate tones that span – and perhaps heal – generations."** – THE GUARDIAN

This session is recommended for ages 10 and over.

## THE TEACHER



**SUNDAY 23 JULY 12.00PM**

Directed by Jan Hřebejk | Slovakia | In Slovak with English subtitles | 102 mins | M

**WINNER:** BEST FILM, BEST ACTRESS, BEST SCREENPLAY and AUDIENCE AWARD, CZECH ACADEMY AWARDS 2017

**SELECTED:** SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Zuzana Maurery gives an award-winning performance as an unscrupulous school teacher in this crowd-pleasing dark comedy set in Communist era Czechoslovakia.

Politically connected Maria Drazdechova's (Maurery) arrival at a school quickly leads to competitive sucking up. By carefully noting the professions of her students' parents, the unscrupulous teacher has a directory of services available to her: household repairs, free haircuts, grocery shopping and even the international smuggling of baked goods are all services required by Maria in exchange for favouritism. But some parents are unable, or unwilling, to give, setting the scene for a conflict between those who have acquiesced and those who resist.

**"A surefire crowd pleaser... Maurery handles her character, a nasty piece of work to be sure, with such natural aplomb that she makes Mrs Drazdechova not only perfectly credible but pretty scary too."** – SCREENDAILY

## POP AYE



**SATURDAY 22 JULY 1.00PM**

Directed by Kirsten Tan | Singapore, Thailand | Thai with English subtitles | 102 mins | 18+

**WINNER:** SPECIAL JURY AWARD, SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL 2017

**SELECTED:** OFFICIAL COMPETITION, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Once a cutting edge architect renowned for his progressive buildings, Thana is having a hard time at work and with his wife. Wandering the streets of Bangkok he comes across Pop Aye, the elephant he grew up with in rural Thailand. Thana promptly buys the elephant and the unusual pair set off on a road trip back towards the idyll of their home village. Along the way they meet fascinating characters, from a wild-haired man who seems to foretell the future to a transgender roadside bar singer. In her debut feature Kirsten Tan has total control, taking advantage of the beautiful scenery, wonderful actors and a charismatic elephant to tell a story that is very funny, unsentimental but genuinely moving.

**"Warm yet unsentimental, graced with the lightest touch of surrealism, this opening-night offering from Sundance's world cinema dramatic competition is a joy."** – VARIETY

Screens with short film *Finding Maawirrangga*

## I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO



**SUNDAY 23 JULY 2.30PM**

Directed by Raoul Peck | France, USA, Belgium, Switzerland | In English | 93 mins | M

**NOMINATED:** BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE, ACADEMY AWARDS 2017

**SELECTED:** OFFICIAL COMPETITION, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

People's Choice Documentary Award-winner at Toronto, Oscar-nominated and a box office success in the US, *I Am Not Your Negro* takes as its starting point notes for a book James Baldwin intended to write about the lives and assassinations of his friends Malcolm X, Martin Luther King Jr., and Medgar Evers. That unwritten book finds life in this remarkable film which melds Baldwin's unpublished writing (powerfully narrated by Samuel L. Jackson), archival footage of his eloquent analysis of the times, and contemporary Black Lives Matter protests. Haitian Peck (*Lumumba; Moloch Tropical*, SFF 2010) is a stridently political filmmaker and here his profound and poetic cine-essay is, as The New York Times describes it, "life-altering".

**"It is a striking work of storytelling. By assembling the scattered images and historical clips suggested by Baldwin's writing, I Am Not Your Negro is a cinematic séance, and one of the best movies about the civil rights era ever made."** – THE GUARDIAN

## SAMI BLOOD



**SATURDAY 22 JULY 3.30PM**

Directed by Amanda Kernell | Sweden, Denmark, Norway | In Swedish, South Sámi with English subtitles | 110 mins | 15+

**WINNER:** BEST NORDIC FILM, GÖTEBORG FILM FESTIVAL  
**SELECTED:** SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Elle Marja is a 14-year-old girl growing up in 1930s Sweden at a time when the indigenous Sámi people were highly discriminated against. Elle is bright and ambitious, but finds herself stymied. When she is humiliated at her school and forced to endure race biology examinations, she becomes determined to build a new life for herself. To do so, she will have to take on a new identity, one that distances herself from her community and her culture. Lene Cecilia Sparrok is astonishing as the conflicted young woman in this very powerful debut by Amanda Kernell, which is inspired by the life of her grandmother. An award-winner and hit at the Toronto, Sundance and Venice Film Festivals.

**"Sami Blood features a winning combination of strong central performances... and an intimate, empathetic approach to a period of history which is not widely known outside of Northern Europe."** – SCREENDAILY

## THE OTHER SIDE OF HOPE



**SUNDAY 23 JULY 5.00PM**

Directed by Aki Kaurismäki | Finland, Germany | In Finnish, English, and Arabic with English subtitles | 98 mins | 15+

**WINNER:** SILVER BEAR BEST DIRECTOR, BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL 2017  
**SELECTED:** OFFICIAL COMPETITION, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Khaled, a young Syrian refugee, arrives in Helsinki as a stowaway and applies for asylum. Meanwhile, travelling salesman Wikström decides to change his life, and invests in an unprofitable restaurant. When the authorities deny Khaled's application for asylum, he decides to stay on illegally, and it is then that he meets Wikström outside the restaurant. After a minor disagreement, Khaled is hired to work in the restaurant and finally finds some refuge, but it's far from permanent. Kaurismäki says that the film is an attempt to shatter the "way of only seeing refugees as either pitiful victims or arrogant economic immigrants invading our societies." With his unique sense of humour and fundamentally optimistic vision of the world, he achieves a great deal more than that.

**"It's difficult to imagine anyone coming away from Aki Kaurismäki's gorgeous tragicomedy... without feeling gentle elation sparked by the story's evidence of human kindness amid cruelty and indifference"** – THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

## BLUE



**SATURDAY 22 JULY 6.30PM**

Directed by Karina Holden | Australia | In English | 70 mins | PG

**SELECTED:** WORLD PREMIERE, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

*Blue* is an invigorating Australian documentary, a beautifully crafted wake up call to the state of the earth's oceans, dedicated to creating awareness and change.

As marine biologist and activist Lucas Handley explains, our oceans are in trouble and it's time we stopped thinking of them as both a place of limitless resources and a dumping ground. His call for action is echoed by passionate advocates for marine preservation, such as shark activist Madison Stewart, FNQ ranger Philip Mango, seabird specialist Dr Jennifer Lavers, sustainability promoter Tim Silverwood, Greenpeace SE Asia's Mark Dia and long-time campaigner Valerie Taylor.

Filmed over two years in Indonesia, the Philippines, Hawaii and Australia, this cinematic, galvanizing documentary comes at a time when we are making critical decisions that will decide the legacy we leave for generations to come.

## MADAME



**MONDAY 24 JULY 6.30PM**

Directed by Amanda Sthers | France | In English | 90 mins | 18+

**SELECTED:** WORLD PREMIERE, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Toni Collette, Harvey Keitel, Rossy de Palma and Michael Smiley star in this romantic comedy about an unexpected love affair that starts at dinner and spreads to the Paris streets.

Anne (Collette; *Fun Mom Dinner*) and Bob (Keitel), a wealthy, well-connected American couple, move into a manor in Paris. While preparing a luxurious dinner for sophisticated international friends, Anne discovers there are only 13 guests. So, she insists her loyal maid, Maria (Almodóvar regular Rossy de Palma; *Julietta*), disguise herself as a mysterious Spanish noblewoman to even out the numbers. Too much wine and some playful chat lead Maria to endear herself to a dandy British artbroker (Smiley; *My Name is Emily*). Their budding romance soon has Anne chasing her maid around Paris, reinventing the truth and finally plotting to destroy this most unexpected and joyous love affair.

## FUN MOM DINNER



**SATURDAY 22 JULY 8.30PM**

Directed by Alethea Jones | USA | In English | 81 mins | 18+

**SELECTED:** SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Four mothers connected by the elementary school their children attend decide to take a break from family life. A shared joint dissipates early tensions, and the women hit the town for a wine-soaked, fun night out. What follows is an increasingly rowdy party as the women, getting more inebriated, end up in an escalating series of madcap situations. Discussions on sex, marriage, vajazzling and the state of their careers and love lives – as impacted by being a mom – lead these women to the discovery that they are defined by far more than motherhood. Toni Collette and Molly Shannon, with Katie Aselton and Bridget Everett, are excellent in this delightfully naughty comedy with heart.

**"There's clearly a family resemblance here to Jones' award-winning short *Lemonade Stand*, a typically Australian bit of comedy quirkiness that also demonstrates Jones' knack for production design, whimsy and gross-out humor. With talents like those, she ought to go far in this town."** – THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

## SHORT FILMS



## HOW THE LIGHT GETS IN

Directed by Anya Beyersdorf | Australia | In English | 15 mins | 15+

A single mother living with her daughters on the fringe of society wakes in the night with a unique problem.



## FINDING MAAWIRRANGGA

Directed by Dylan River | Australia | In English, Wubuy and Kriol, with English subtitles | 15 mins | 15+

Indigenous actor Tom E Lewis, once uprooted from his Arnhem Land home, returns after 40 years, re-connecting through the Murrungun songline.