

TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL



TOWNSVILLE

WARRINA CINEPLEX
24 - 27 NOVEMBER 2017

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/TravellingFilmFestival



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SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER

7.30PM ALI'S WEDDING (M)
9.30PM OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION

SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER

12.30PM FACES PLACES (15+)
2.30PM SAMI BLOOD (15+) screens with short BLIGHT
6.30PM THE OTHER SIDE OF HOPE (15+)
8.30PM MAUDIE (PG)

SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER

12.30PM THE TEACHER (M)
2.40PM POP AYE (M)
6.30PM LOVING VINCENT (15+)
8.30 PM ON BODY AND SOUL (18+)

MONDAY 27 NOVEMBER

6.30PM ALI'S WEDDING (M)
8.40PM LADY MACBETH (MA15+) screens with short film RED

OPENING NIGHT ALI'S WEDDING



FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER 7.30PM

Please join us after the film for the Opening Night Reception

Directed by Jeffrey Walker | Australia | In English, Arabic, Farsi with English subtitles
110 mins | M

WINNER: FOXTEL MOVIES AUDIENCE AWARD FOR BEST FEATURE, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017; THE AGE CRITIC'S AWARD, MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Ali's arranged marriage is looming, but he loves someone else. What's a Muslim cleric's son to do? This Australian comedy won the Foxtel Movies Audience Award for Best Feature at Sydney Film Festival.

Truth is stranger than fiction. *Ali's Wedding* is based on the real-life experience of lead actor Osamah 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. Stylishly 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 Dianne, 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, hilarious and flat-out charming, *Ali's Wedding* takes the conventions of a genre and uses them to hold up a mirror to a nation." – THE REEL BITS

Ali's Wedding will also screen on Monday 27 November at 6.30pm

SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE

Save 30% on regular ticket prices with a subscription - all ten films for only \$9 per film (\$8 concession), including Opening Night. Or dip into the festival with a 5-film Flexipass for just \$10.60 per film (\$9.60 concession)

FULL SUBSCRIPTION*

\$90 Adult \$80 Concession

*Please ensure to choose which session of *Ali's Wedding* you would like to attend when booking a subscription.

5-FILM FLEXIPASS**

\$53 Adult \$48 Concession

**Available online or via phone only

SINGLE TICKETS

\$14 Adult \$12 Concession
\$10 Kids/Student/Under 26

PRESENTED BY
SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

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HOW TO BOOK

Online: sff.org.au/townsville

By Phone: 02 8220 6600

In Person: from Warrina Cineplex*

*Single and subscription tickets only

Warrina Cineplex
164 Dalrymple Rd
Currajong QLD 4812
Phone: (07) 4725 7295

Opening Night includes complimentary drinks.

Subscriptions are transferable but admit only one person per film.

Concessions: unemployed, pensioners, seniors – upon presentation of ID.

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

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

Front image: *Faces Places*

TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL VISITS...

NT Alice Springs, Darwin, Katherine QLD Bundaberg, Cairns, Mackay, Nambour, 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 Queensland Government through Screen QLD and is supported by media partner ABC North Queensland and distinguished partner Princess Cruises.

FACES PLACES



SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 12.30PM

Directed by JR, Agnès Varda | France
French with English subtitles
89 mins | 15+

WINNER: GOLDEN EYE DOCUMENTARY PRIZE, CANNES FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Agnès Varda, whose unique cinematic vision since the 1950s has earned her a loyal following of enthusiastic cinephiles around the world, and the iconic photographer/muralist JR, boasting over a million followers on Instagram, have more in common than one might imagine.

Both share a lifelong passion for images and how they are created, displayed, and shared. Agnès chose to explore her passion through cinema and documentary, JR through his emotionally arresting open-air photo installations.

When JR, a long-time fan, went to meet Agnès at her home on Rue Daguerre, they both knew immediately they wanted to work together. *Visages Villages (Faces Places)* documents their heart-warming journey through rural France and the unlikely, tender friendship they formed along the way.

“Visages, Villages is a movie about itself: the subjects are so warm and wonderful, it’s a wise move.”

– THE GUARDIAN

SAMI BLOOD



SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2.30PM

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

WINNER: BEST NORDIC FILM, GÖTEBORG FILM FESTIVAL

The moving story of a reindeer-herding Sámi girl who severs ties with her family and her culture. An award-winner and hit at the Toronto, Sundance and Venice Film Festivals.

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.

“Sámi 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

Screens with short film *Blight*

THE OTHER SIDE OF HOPE



SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 6.30PM

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

Aki Kaurismäki's new film is a heart-warming, funny, melancholic tale of the friendship between a Syrian refugee and a restaurant-owner.

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.

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

MAUDIE



SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 8.30PM

Directed by Aisling Walsh | Canada, Ireland | In English | 115 mins | PG
Sally Hawkins and Ethan Hawke shine in this true story of gifted, arthritic Canadian folk painter Maud Lewis and her unlikely romance with the reclusive Everett Lewis.

Bad-natured loner Everett (Hawke) places an ad for a housekeeper and doesn't know what to make of the applicant. Maudie (Hawkins) is hunched over with hands gnarled by arthritis, but she's eager to take the unappealing job. Gruff and boorish, Everett treats Maudie poorly, but she patiently chips away at his tough exterior. Her arthritis makes painting difficult but it's liberating for Maudie; soon, she's painted every corner of their house, and her paintings develop a loyal following that leads to her eventual fame. Joyfully showcasing the beautiful paintings of Maud Lewis, *Maudie* is a moving celebration of the power of art and a tender, complex love story.

“Captivating! Sally Hawkins’ performance splendidly carries the day.”

– THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

THE TEACHER



SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 12.30PM

Directed by Jan Hřebejk | Slovakia
In Slovak with English subtitles
102 mins | 1M

WINNER: BEST FILM, BEST ACTRESS, BEST SCREENPLAY and AUDIENCE AWARD, CZECH ACADEMY AWARDS 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. Hřebejk (*Cosy Dens*, SFF 2000; *Divided We Fall*, SFF 2001) is in top satirical form and uses this microcosm to make cutting points about society at large.

“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



SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2.40PM

Directed by Kirsten Tan | Singapore, Thailand | Thai with English subtitles
102 mins | 1M

WINNER: SPECIAL JURY AWARD, SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL 2017

A downtrodden architect and his long-lost elephant take a road trip across Thailand to find their childhood home in this offbeat and very funny Sundance screenwriting award-winner.

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

LOVING VINCENT



SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 6.30PM

Directed by Dorota Kobiela, Hugh Welchman | UK, Poland
In English | 94 mins | 15+

Loving Vincent is the world's first fully painted feature film, bringing together the paintings of Vincent van Gogh to life to tell his remarkable story.

Every one of the 65,000 frames of the film is an oil-painting hand-painted by 125 professional oil-painters who travelled from all across the world to the *Loving Vincent* studios to be a part of the production. As remarkable as Vincent's brilliant paintings, is his passionate and ill fated life, and mysterious death.

No other artist has attracted more legends than Vincent van Gogh. Various labels a martyr, a lustful satyr, a madman, a genius and a layabout, the real Vincent is at once revealed in his letters, and obscured by myth and time. Vincent himself said in his last letter: “We cannot speak other than by our paintings.” We take him at his word and let the paintings tell the real story of Vincent van Gogh.

“Brings a poetic sense of tragedy to the last act of van Gogh’s life, and fresh insight into the kind of man he was.” – VARIETY

ON BODY AND SOUL



SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER 8.30PM

Directed by Ildikó Enyedi | Hungary
In Hungarian with English subtitles
116 mins | 18+

WINNER: GOLDEN BEAR, BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL 2017; SYDNEY FILM PRIZE, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2017

Winner of the Sydney Film Prize, *On Body and Soul* is about the unconventional romance between two co-workers who discover that each night they have exactly the same dreams.

Endre is the director of a Budapest abattoir. Slightly grizzled, he seems to have lived an eventful life that has eventually come to a stage of solitude. When Maria begins working as a quality controller at his company, Endre is clearly attracted to her. Their interactions, however, are extremely awkward. By chance, the two discover that each night they share exactly the same beautiful dream of a pair of deer frolicking in the woods. Despite their incredulity, they feel compelled to attempt a romance to match their shared visions, but real life proves more difficult. Enyedi contrasts idyllic dream sequences with gory images in the slaughterhouse, creating a compelling metaphor for the struggle for human connection. Spellbinding and mysterious.

“It’s an exquisitely offbeat love story and I fell headlong for its angular, awkward charm.” – THE GUARDIAN

LADY MACBETH



MONDAY 27 NOVEMBER 8.30PM

Directed by William Oldroyd | UK
In English | 89 mins | MA15+

The arranged marriage between beautiful Katherine and wealthy landowner Alexander is the beginning of a gripping and violent psychodrama that's far from a traditional bodice-ripper.

Shakespeare's *Lady Macbeth* doesn't appear in William Oldroyd's mighty impressive feature debut but her manipulative spirit inhabits every frame. Nikolai Leskov's 1865 novella has been vividly transported to Northumberland, where teenager Katherine (Florence Pugh, in a star-making performance) has been sold into marriage with Alexander (Paul Hilton), a wealthy and disinterested middle-aged man. It's not long before handsome and cocky groomsmen James (Cosmo Jarvis) catches Katherine's eye. Oldroyd's intense direction and Alice Birch's razor-sharp script take *Lady Macbeth* way beyond the confines of a traditional Victorian bodice-ripper. Katherine's burning desire for sexual freedom evolves into gripping and violent psychodrama in which the roles of victim and oppressor become memorably blurred.

“Imagine Alfred Hitchcock directing Wuthering Heights and you’ll get an idea of William Oldroyd’s tense period drama.” – INDIEWIRE

Screens with short film *Red*

SHORT FILMS



BLIGHT

Directed by Perun Bonser | Australia
In English | 13 mins | 15+

Aided by a female Aboriginal tracker, a constable hunts a band of dangerous criminals on Australia's western frontier in the early 1900s.



RED

Directed by Del Kathryn Barton | Australia
In English | 16 mins | 15+

Artist Del Kathryn Barton explores the unusual sexual cannibalism of the Australian Redback spider. With Cate Blanchett.